

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 7TH, 2015

PRESENT: MAYOR FRANK KONRAD
 COUNCILLOR CHRIS HAMMETT
 COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
 COUNCILLOR COLLEEN ROSS
 COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CORPORATE OFFICER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
CORPORATE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT
 AND ENGINEERING
MANAGER OF BUILDING AND
 BYLAW SERVICES
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS
FIRE CHIEF
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

D. Allin
D. Heinrich
R. Shepherd
D. Popoff

S. Bird

W. Kopan
D. Reid
D. Heriot
K. McKinnon

GALLERY

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR JULIA BUTLER

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Adopt agenda
April 7, 2015, COTW

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW adopt the April 7, 2015, COTW agenda as presented.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Interior Health - Kerri Wall

Introduction and updates from Kerri Wall as the Community Health Facilitator for the East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary

Overview:

- Healthy Communities Initiative
- Municipal planning
- Local gov. & community health re: recreation, agriculture, affordable housing, smoke-free spaces, healthier eating
- What to offer: dedicated staff to work with local gov., community health facilitators
- External support: Ministry of Health, BC Healthy Communities, Plan H: useful resources

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COTW receive the presentation from Kerri Wall of Interior Health.

CARRIED.

Interior Health - Cindy Crane

Introduction and updates from Cindy Crane as the Acute Health Services Manager for Grand Forks

Overview:

- 5,000 volunteers work in the program
- Chronic disease rates overview, population projection, Ministry of Health strategy
- Programs such as: Breathe Well, Surveillance Nurse, Cardiac Surgery, HART-High Acuity Response Teams, Hospital Heliport, Boundary Hospital Services, Mental Health/Substance Use, Diabetes, Nurse Practitioners
- Key partnerships
- Hospital Auxiliary - funded through Thrift Store to bring in new equipment

Discussion:

- Young families to community re maternity ward? Population smaller, limited physicians, pediatrician required, difficult to support
- Threshold of births before service returns to Grand Forks? Usually population based
- Mental Health anxiety support in Grand Forks? Clinical depression Psychiatrist comes from Nelson/Trail to Grand Forks
- Severe addictions? Mental Health outreach workers liaise with clients. Clubhouse has trained social/mental health workers

MOTION: ROSS

RESOLVED THAT COTW receive the presentation from Cindy Crane of Interior Health.

CARRIED.

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary - John MacLean

Provide an overview of the RDKB with information on services and programs

Overview of budget items:

- RDKB largely under Local Gov. Act
- 32,000 residents including municipalities
- Service oriented, established by bylaw, referendums, petitions, citizen input
- Costs shared, province sets tax rate
- No fund transfers among services (ie pool/arena), separate budgets
- Region-wide services and sub-regional services, local area services, specified area services

Discussion:

- Aquatic Center increase due to capital and personnel
- Fire protection & vehicle replacement
- Solid waste services increase - not in programming, in post closure funds for testing, preparation
- Composting program - diversion rates, tipping fees, expand organics
- 75 years remaining approx. on Grand Forks Landfill
- City acceptance on composting? Widely accepted, more education this Summer
- Illegal dumping

MOTION: ROSS

RESOLVED THAT COTW receive the presentation from John MacLean from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

CARRIED.

Jacob Noseworthy

Invitation to Jacob Noseworthy to do a presentation on behalf of the BC Youth Parliament

Overview:

- History of BC Youth Parliament
- Components - Regional Youth Parliaments, Camp for underprivileged children - Project Phoenix
- Fund raising events, service projects - Youth Serving Youth

Discussion:

- Trying to raise funds for Youth Parliament to continue
- What influence could there be with Youth Parliament in Provincial and National levels?
- Any interest in becoming a Parliamentary Page? Mr. Noseworthy advised that he was looking into this option.
- Charitable status? Mr. Noseworthy advised that the organization does have charitable status.

Mr. Noseworthy was advised by Council that the City does not have a grant in aid policy, and that personal donations only would be the best course of gaining funds

MOTION: HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT Council receive the presentation made by Jacob Noseworthy regarding the BC Youth Parliament for discussion.

CARRIED.

The Mayor recessed the COTW Meeting at 10:22 am
The Mayor reconvened the COTW Meeting at 10:37 am

PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

Manager of Development and Engineering
City of Grand Forks gravel pit adjacent to the RDKB Landfill

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT the COTW request that staff proceed with compiling a detailed report regarding The City of Grand Forks gravel pit and bring back to Council for a decision to proceed with the remediation and to amend the City's 2015 Financial Plan.

CARRIED.

Manager of Development & Engineering Services
Application for a development variance permit to construct an accessory building on the property located at 7580 - 16th Street

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT the COTW receives the report and recommends to Council to consider the development variance permit application, requesting an interior setback variance from 5 feet to 2 feet and to vary the ratio of principal bldg. to accessory bldg. from 50% to 93%, in order to construct an accessory bldg., on property located at 7580 - 16th Street, legally described at Lot 4, Block 6, DL380, SDYD, Plan 586 and the Committee direct staff to send letters to the adjacent property owners, inviting them to attend the May 4, 2015, COTW Meeting, if they have any comments or concerns regarding the proposed variance. Approval will be contingent on the structure being of similar colour and form and character of the existing buildings.

CARRIED.

Manager of Emergency Services
Fire Hall rear parking lot entrance
Discussion:

- Guide through rear bays for parking
- Landfill has recycling, safe/easy volunteer firefighter parking important, new fire truck access
- Parking lot across street belonging to City, a possibility
- Time is of the essence and crossing main road safety

-
- Commercial core usability would be lost if relocation of the recycle bins occurred
 - Could the hours possibly be adjusted for the landfill?
 - Donaldson Drive location?
 - More vegetation and curbing?
 - Possibly install a camera to watch the site?
 - Outside of fence line of landfill possibly?
 - Parking lot realignment?
 - Safety for community main concern without delays
 - Reduce number of bins? Relocate others? Possibly relocate behind CIBC or behind Christian Center

MOTION: KROG

RESOLVED THAT the COTW refers the matter back to staff to research alternatives and identify options for properties in the downtown core and allow for feedback from the public.

CARRIED.

Monthly Highlight Reports from Department Managers
Staff request for Council to receive the monthly activity report from department managers

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council receive the monthly activity reports from the Department Managers.

CARRIED.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

Chief Financial Officer
2015 waste water rates amendment
Discussion:

- Borrowing process for lift station
- Elements of costs are shared such as public washrooms, park facilities

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to give first three readings to Bylaw 2013 Sewer Regulations Amendment 2015 at the April 20th, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Chief Financial Officer
2015 water rates amendment
Councillor Wirischagin advised that there should be a correction made in the presentation to water rates, not waste water rates as presented.

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to give first three readings to Bylaw 2014 Water Regulation Amendment 2015 at the April 20th, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Chief Financial Officer
2015 Tax Rates presentation

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to give first three readings to 2015 Tax Rates Bylaw 2012 Option 2 at the April 20th, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Manager of Development & Engineering Services
To amend the current Zoning Bylaw by rezoning property located at 832 - 64th Avenue from the current R-1 (Single and Two-Family Residential) to R-4 (Rural Residential); and review the Sustainable Community Plan designation to determine if an amendment is required

MOTION: KROG

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to direct staff to draft the appropriate amendment bylaw(s) and proceed with the notification to surrounding property owners, publish notice in two consecutive issues of the Grand Forks Gazette and hold a public hearing in accordance with the Local Government Act.

CARRIED.

Manager of Development & Engineering Services
To amend the current Zoning Bylaw by adding the permitted use of tool and equipment rental facilities to the I-2 (General Industrial) Zone

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to direct staff to draft the

appropriate amendment bylaw and add the permitted use of tool and equipment rental facilities to the I-2 (General Industrial) Zone; and to proceed with the statutory requirements for amending bylaws in accordance with the Local Government Act.

CARRIED.

INFORMATION ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

LATE ITEMS

REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (VERBAL)

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Abe Martens - owner of OK Car Wash

- Has come to ask the City for help and is willing to pay City workers for use of equipment instead of shoveling dirt from the car wash by hand
- Required twice a year approx., service would be flexible-no on demand
- This service used to be done by the City in the past
- No other business in Grand Forks does this type of service
- Will provide written request

Ms. Gloria Koch

- Spoke in regards to input from the public, working together
- Consider costs, affordability. We want people to move here

IN-CAMERA RESOLUTION

Chief Administrative Officer

Immediately following the COTW Meeting, Council will hold an In-Camera Meeting

MOTION: HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT COTW recommends Council convene an In-Camera Meeting as outlined under Section 90 of the Community Charter to discuss matters in a closed meeting which are subject to Section 90 (1)(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the

municipality; and 90 (1) g litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
Be it further resolved that persons, other than members, officers, or other persons to
whom Council may deem necessary to conduct City business, will be excluded from
the In-Camera Meeting.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

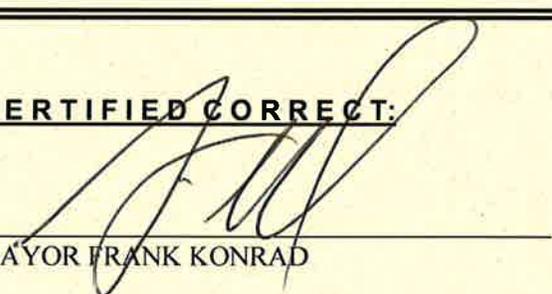
Motion to adjourn

MOTION: THOMPSON

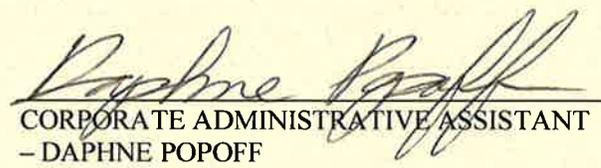
RESOLVED THAT the COTW Meeting be adjourned at 12:47 pm

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



MAYOR FRANK KONRAD



CORPORATE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- DAPHNE POPOFF

REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Councillor Christine Thompson
DATE: April 07, 2015
SUBJECT: Report to Council

The Grand Fords & District Fall Fair Society held their Annual General Meeting on March 31, 2015 followed by a brief general meeting of the Board. Casey Hazzard was elected as a Director for a 2-year term, filling the vacancy caused by my resignation.

The 2015 Fall Fair is scheduled for August 28th thru 30th. The Board is very busy in planning the events and entertainment for this year's Fair. Hopefully the weather will be more co-operative than in 2014. The rainy weather caused fewer people to attend than the previous year.

In addition to the Oyster Fest Gala scheduled for June 20th, the Fall Far will be having a duck race on July 1st. Tickets are on sale now and I have 2 books to sell, so if anyone here tonight is interested in purchasing some, please see me after the meeting.

Barry Brandow of the Gilpin Grasslands Committee asked me to extend an invitation to Council to go on a field trip with aquatic ecologist/fisheries expert Mike Pearson on Friday, April 10th. Those of us interested in going are asked to meet at the ATV Club staging area at 9:00 a.m. The intention is to examine and discuss three water sources that have been seriously compromised by cattle ranging in those areas in the Overton Creek area. Following that, Mr. Brandow will take us on a tour of Gilpin Creek at the Boothman Ranch home site, about 3 kms up the Gilpin logging road. He has suggested that these tours should be over by 1:00 p.m. and that it might be an idea to bring a lunch. The Boundary Environmental Alliance will be sponsoring a community gathering this Friday evening in the Seniors' Centre in City Park starting at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this meeting to hear a presentation by Mr. Pearson on the topic "Where Water Matters".

As a member of Council, I have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers and electorate of our City. Decisions that I make will not be popular with everyone, but they are made in what I believe to be is in the best interest of Grand Forks. And they are made when I have enough information at hand to make an informed decision. And so tonight, I wish to speak to the MAAPS issue. At a March 4th Special Meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

"RESOLVED THAT Council determines to proceed with the request from MAAPS to

potentially extend the lease from five years to ten years, AND FURTHER that the request is contingent on funding and public notice.”

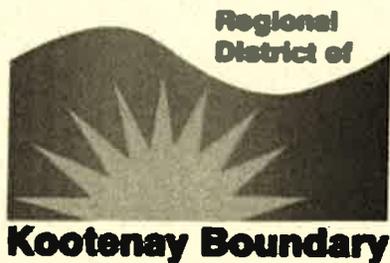
I leaned very heavily toward supporting the lease extension, and said so at the Strategic Open House on March 23rd. However, the City was not in receipt of a copy of any letter to Habitat Humanity Boundary from BC Housing advising that Council’s contingent approval was sufficient to meet their needs to grant \$100,000. In order to fulfill my responsibility as a Councillor, I would need to have that documentation before I would agree to any lease extension. After hearing the debate, and in particular Councillor Krog’s concerns that no budget had ever been presented to Council (previous and current), nor had any Business Plan been made available, I had second thoughts about supporting this request. Therefore I voted in support of a feasibility study to look into the need for transitional housing in our City.

The Vital Signs Report from the Phoenix Foundation of the Boundary Communities speaks to the need for “affordable housing”. There is transitional housing for abused women and children available here. The City has worked with Habitat for Humanity Boundary by donating land for affordable homes and the multi-unit complex for men with challenges. The City leased land in order for the Gables to be built to assist low income families. Yes, we have homeless people living in our City that need help. But what kind of help? Are they people who have lost their jobs and then their homes? Are they people who have addiction issues? Are they people with mental challenges? What are the needs? Where is the best location for transitional housing? Should Council react without having the necessary information to make an informed decision? This Councillor surely won’t.

As a Councillor, it is my job to work within our Community and for our Community. It is very unfortunate that an issue such as this has divided our City. I hope that the division is not irrevocable, and that we can work together with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Whispers of Hope and BETHS to make our City one that we can all be proud to call home.

Respectfully,

Councillor Christine Thompson



Boundary Economic Development Committee

Thursday, April 2, 2015 - 9:00 am

**The Regional District of Kootenay
Boundary Board Room, Grand Forks, B.C**

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order
2. Consideration of the Agenda (additions/deletions)
 - A The agenda for the April 2, 2015 Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting is presented.

Recommendation: That the agenda for the April 2, 2015 Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting be adopted as presented.
3. Consideration of the Minutes
 - A The minutes of the Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting held March 5, 2015 are presented.

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting held March 5, 2015 be approved as presented.
[Minutes-Boundary Economic Development Committee - 05 Mar 2015.Pdf](#)
4. Delegations

5. Unfinished Business

A **Boundary Economic Development Committee
Memorandum of Action Items - Ending March 31,
2015**

The Boundary Economic Development Committee Memorandum of Action Items for the period ending March 31, 2015 is presented.

Recommendation: That the Boundary Economic Development Committee Memorandum of Action Items for the period ending March 31, 2015 be received.
Committee Action Items - BEDC - Ending March 31 2015.pdf

B **Richard Toperczer
Re: Strategic Planning/Visioning Session Review
Discussion**

A summary report from Richard Toperczer, Strategic Planning Facilitator, regarding the March 18, 2015 Strategic Planning Session is presented.

Recommendation: That the summary report from Richard Toperczer, Strategic Planning Facilitator, regarding the March 18, 2015 Strategic Planning Session, be received.
BEDC Strategic Planning Visioning Session.pdf

6. New Business

A **Community Futures Monthly Report - March 2015**

The Boundary Economic Development Committee Monthly report, as prepared by Boundary Community Futures for March 2015, is presented.

Recommendation: That the Boundary Economic Development Committee Monthly Report, as prepared by Boundary Community Futures for March 2015, be received as presented.

[CF Update March 2015.pdf](#)

7. Late (Emergent) Items
8. Discussion of items for future agendas
9. Question Period for Public and Media
10. Closed (In camera) Session
11. Adjournment



**Boundary Economic Development Committee
Minutes
Thursday, March 5, 2015
RDKB Grand Forks Boardroom
10:00 am**

Committee members present:

Director R. Russell, Chair
Director R. Rotvold
Director E. Smith
Director N. Krog
Director V. Gee
Director G. McGregor

Staff and others present:

J. MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer
M. Forster, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
W. McCulloch, Community Futures
S. Elzinga, Community Futures

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Consideration of the Agenda (additions/deletions)

The agenda for the March 5, 2015 Boundary Economic Development Committee was presented.

Moved: Director Rotvold Seconded: Director Krog

That the agenda for the March 5, 2015 Boundary Economic Development Committee be adopted as amended.

Carried.

The amendment to the agenda was the inclusion of two delegations.

Consideration of the Minutes

The minutes of the Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting held February 3, 2015 were presented.

Moved: Director Rotvold Seconded: Director Gee

That the minutes of the Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting held February 3, 2015 be approved as presented.

Carried.

Delegations

Dyan Stoochnoff, Boundary Creek Times

Ms. Dyan Stoochnoff, a representative from The Boundary Creek Times, provided the Committee members with a brief presentation on the proposed regional publication, Boundary Vacation Guide 2015. Ms. Stoochnoff sought financial support from the Committee in the form of advertising in the publication.

Simone Carlisle-Smith, Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association (TOTA)

Ms. Carlisle-Smith, of TOTA, provided the Committee members with a presentation on TOTA activities and a Community Opportunities Summary of programs and services to assist communities with cooperative marketing opportunities. The Committee was informed that there are only 2 opportunities for the development a tourism plan through Tourism BC and the BEDC has been given the first rights of refusal.

The Committee members requested further clarification on usage and ownership of its image bank. Ms. Carlisle-Smith explained that the images can be used in an official tourism guide that is endorsed by the Committee although care must be used in order not to weaken the brand by allowing usage of the image bank by anyone outside of the Committee. The Committee was also informed that historically there has been a misunderstanding between the Committee and TOTA as TOTA had 50% ownership of the image bank when the Committee bought into the TOTA program.

After the TOTA presentation was over, the Committee members discussed the process around receiving delegations. It was noted that the Committee would like to develop a

formal policy around receiving delegations from groups who are seeking funding of advertising and other business. The Committee would like to move away from making business decisions reactively. There will be a fulsome discussion around this topic during the BEDC Strategic Planning Session taking place on March 18, 2015.

Unfinished Business

Boundary Economic Development Committee Memorandum of Action Items - February 28, 2015

The Boundary Economic Development Committee Memorandum of Action Items for the period ending February 28, 2015 was presented.

Moved: Director Rotvold Seconded: Director Krog

That the Boundary Economic Development Committee Memorandum of Action Items for the period ending February 28, 2015 be received.

Carried.

Boundary Economic Development Service 2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan

The Boundary Economic Development Service 2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan for the Boundary Economic Development Service was presented.

Moved: Director Gee Seconded: Director Rotvold

That the proposed Boundary Economic Development Service 2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan be received.

Carried.

The Committee members discussed various revisions to the Boundary Economic Development Service 2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan.

Moved: Director Gee Seconded: Director Rotvold

That the Boundary Economic Development Committee approves the Boundary Economic Development Service 2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan with the removal of last year's surplus, the addition of \$4,000 into Miscellaneous Revenue and the

addition of \$4,000 into BEDC Projects. **Further** that once the revisions have been made, the Five Year Financial Plan be referred to the Finance Committee with a recommendation that it be included in the overall Regional District of Kootenay Boundary 2015-2019 Five Year Financial Plan.

Carried.

Strategic Planning Session – March 18, 2015

The Boundary Economic Development Committee discussed the upcoming Strategic Planning Session scheduled for March 18, 2015. Richard Toperczer, Regional Manager, Economic Development, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training will facilitate the session.

New Business

Monthly Report from Community Futures

The Boundary Economic Development Committee Monthly Report, as prepared by Boundary Community Futures for February 2015, was presented.

Moved: Director Krog Seconded: Director Smith

That the Boundary Economic Development Committee Monthly Report, as prepared by Boundary Community Futures for February 2015, be received as presented.

Carried.

S. Elzinga provided the Committee members with a review of the Community Futures report which included:

- TOTA Website and funding request
- Business Advisory Program - Pilot
- CF Business Loans/Inquiries
- Destination Marketing Organization
- BC Economic Summit and Econ Dev Marketing Workshop
- Workforce Development Pilot Project
- West Boundary Rail Trail Information Session
- Community Economic Development Forum
- BC Rural Network
- Rock Creek Visitors Centre

The Committee members discussed the TOTA funding request for 2015/16. The Committee also discussed the possibility of developing an image bank independently of TOTA. There was consensus amongst the Committee members to not proceed with revising a tourism plan with TOTA.

Moved: Director Rotvold Seconded: Director Krog

That the Boundary Economic Development Committee hereby directs Community Futures to proceed with developing a proposal for an image bank. **Further** to notify TOTA that the Boundary Economic Development Committee will not be revising a tourism plan.

Carried

The Committee members further discussed the West Boundary Rail Trail and a question arose around the possibility of hiring a part time trail coordinator or developing a partnership agreement with RDKB involvement. Concerns were expressed on liability and risk issues. Discussion ensued on the possibility of forming a society, independent of RDKB, to deal with coordinating activities of all trail groups involved.

Moved: Director Krog Seconded: Director Gee

That the Boundary Economic Development Committee hereby directs staff to research models from other Regional Districts partnering with societies, on how to facilitate the development of rail trails.

Carried

Late (Emergent) Items

Black Press Ads

The Committee members discussed advertising in the Black Press brochure.

Moved: Director Rotvold Seconded: Director Krog

The Boundary Economic Development Committee hereby approves purchasing a prominently placed one page ad, in the Black Press brochure, in the amount of up to \$1,800.

Carried.

SIBAC - Rural Development Conference

Director McGregor informed the Committee members of an upcoming SIBAC Rural Development Conference in Salmon Arm on May 26-28, 2015

Discussion of items for future agendas

1. Discussion of May 26-28, 2015 SIBAC Rural Development Conference.
2. Have a strategic discussion on advertising and promotions at the April meeting.

Question Period for Public and Media

A question period for public and media was not necessary.

Closed (In camera) Session

A closed (in camera) session was not necessary.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

**RDKB MEMORANDUM OF
COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

Boundary Economic Development Committee

Revised: March 26, 2015

Pending Tasks

Tasks from February 3/15 meeting

Item/Issue	Actions Required/Taken	Status - C/IP
Student Recruitment	S. Elzinga will send out a bulletin to the Regional School District for the upcoming Career Days, to encourage recruitment of students to Okanagan College.	C
TOTA Image Bank	S. Elzinga will contact the TOTA Community Development Specialist to discuss access to and control of the image bank.	C
Strategic Planning Session	The next Strategic Planning Session will be held on March 18, 2015. J. MacLean and S. Elzinga will meet to discuss and develop a plan and report back to Committee.	C

Tasks from March 5/15 meeting

Item/Issue	Actions Required/Taken	Status - C/IP
Policy re: Delegations	There will be a discussion around developing a formal policy regarding receiving delegations from groups who are seeking funding of advertising and other business. This will be a discussion during the Strategic Planning session in March 2015.	C
2015-2019 Budget and Five Year Financial Plan	Staff will remove last year's surplus, add \$4,000 into Miscellaneous Revenue and add \$4,000 into BEDC Projects.	C
TOTA	Community Futures will proceed with developing a proposal for an image bank. CF will notify TOTA that the BEDC will not be revising a tourism plan.	IP
Rail Trails	BEDC directs staff to research models from other Regional Districts partnering with societies on how to facilitate the development of rail trails.	
Black Press Ads	A prominently placed one page ad will be purchased for up to \$1,800 in the Black Press brochure.	

Discussion of Items for future agendas:

1. Discussion of May 26-28, 2015 SIBAC Rural Development Conference
2. Have a strategic discussion on advertising and promotions at the April 2015 meeting.

**Boundary Economic Development Committee
Visioning Session
March 18, 2015
Regional District Office – Grand Forks**

Our expectations for the visioning session

- Gain a sense of being on the same page.
 - How we want BEDC to operate
 - Whether the BEDC is the best tool to move forward
 - Ideas for conversation
- Other opportunities outside of the committee to assist in ec dev
- Clear direction on paths that communities want to take
- Sense of priority areas rather than projects
- A summary document
- Ways to support activities at the staff level
- Opportunities for collaboration and to hone in on commonalities
- Ways to increase our tax base through industry development
- What we can do to help small communities attract investment
- Clarification of BEDC – past, present and future
- Defining ec dev – what is out there for small communities?

What is your community doing with respect to economic development?

Greenwood

- Request for proposal for a water bottling plant
- Improve the look of the city for tourists and residents
- Increase the number of residents
- Potential boundary expansion

Midway

- Working on social infrastructure (library, rec centre, curling, etc) – keep and attract people
- Keeping village tidy and looking good
- Strategic Ec Dev plan
- Airport and ALR issue
- Focusing on smaller business
- Expand riverfront park and trails
- Community forest just signed off
- Supporting sawmill

Community Futures

- Branding and signs for the boundary
- Holding focus groups in communities

- Looking to engage with industry
- Helping the regional chamber of commerce grow

Grand Forks

- Land development showcase
- Seeking foreign investment
- Looking to clean up the downtown, considering revitalization plan and breaks

Area D

- Interested in growing home based business and small agriculture
- Opportunities to grow large agriculture
- More recreational opportunities for visitors
- Focus on business retention and expansion

Area E

- Focusing on commonalities between the smaller dispersed communities
- Trails development especially the trans Canada trail
- Interested in a boundary wide community forest to keep fibre in the area
- Grow agriculture in the west boundary. Potential for organic "market" gardeners.

What are our most important regional assets that could be leveraged for economic development?

- Awesome governance
- Human Capital
 - Industry
 - Employers
 - Business (includes Selkirk College, health/hospitals, Interfor, Vaagen)
 - Brand identity (new and existing)
 - Residents skills and knowledge (new and existing, often not recognized)
- Built Capital
 - Lands – commercial and agricultural
 - Airports – Midway and Grand Forks
 - Housing costs – reasonable
 - Proximity to the border and Okanagan – large markets
 - Hwy #3 – accessibility and 3M vehicles/yr passing through
- Natural Capital
 - Lakes, rivers, mountains – natural beauty
 - Trails
 - Recreation
 - Nice climate
 - Forests and agriculture
 - Deer and other wildlife
- Financial Capital
 - Big White tax \$\$

- Social
 - Diverse heritage
 - Social programs and services
 - Arts and cultural
 - Safety and security
 - Rural attitude and energy
 - Work BC to help individuals
 - Quality of life
 - Rural vs urban choice
 - Cost of living is low

What are some of the critical factors that we need to pay attention to with respect to regional economic development?

- Demographics – aging workforce
- Inclusion of small communities – the uniqueness of each community
- Lack of info and options for the region
- Infrastructure – roads/hwy, connectivity/internet, healthcare
- Inventory of assets
- Supporting business and industry
- Year-round sustainability of business – commercial variety, seasonality
- Spend locally
- Climate change – water, agriculture, forestry, mining
- Proximity to the US border
- Capacity in communities
- Lack of financial support – provincial, CBT
- Appreciation of what we have
- Vision for opportunities
- Mixed population age groups
- Sustaining existing business/industry/services
- Program rollouts and timing – CFDC/Selkirk/school districts
- Over saturation of target audiences
- Environmental and social aspects
- Provincial regulations/forestry tenure/trails
- Critical of timing

What kind of model for regional economic development delivery for the boundary would work best for you? (process, structure, roles/responsibilities, etc)

- Marketing of the BEDC – who/what
- Expanded and inclusive advisory group(s), identifying and making recommendations on regional/local issues
- BEDC to manage larger, regional issues (assets)
- BEDC responsible for funding decisions
- Expanded role for BEDC to include social infrastructure and education
- Flexible, less formal

- Key partnership development

What do you see as some potential areas/themes that the region could collaborate on to move regional economic development forward?

- Community controlled resources (eg. Community forest)
- Trails – walk the boundary – boundary passport
- Recreation
- Events
- Small agriculture including agri education
- Transportation
- Connectivity/wifi/cellular
- Youth involvement
- Education – Selkirk
- Affordable realestate
- Tourism
- Services for young families
- Promote and support existing branding
- Expand regional chamber of commerce
- Linking communities – regional thinking
- Healthcare
- Development of natural resources – mining, water, agriculture
- Preservation of natural resources
- Standard of living
- Cost of living
- Commercial lands for development
- Some community assets are under utilized
- More access to school facilities

What are the possible next steps that the BEDC could take?

- Community Futures and Roly with the help of others will organize stakeholder engagement –
 - Option 1: each community to host and facilitate stakeholder engagement
 - Option 2: everyone goes back to their community/council and bring back ideas on how to engage with stakeholders
 - Option 3: gather input (advisory group) to help prioritize and focus conversation to specific areas/core themes
 - Business, education, Selkirk, councils
 - Other input:
 - Focus on regional themes, existing pieces and follow the energy of what is being done.
 - Market BEDC – what do we do
 - Communicate with councils
 - Utilize an advisory group to help determine themes

BEDC – monthly report – March 2015

Updates indicated in RED

CURRENT			
Activity	Details	Action	Timeline
Tourism/Culture	TOTA Website	<p>www.boundarybc.com Boundary Country Regional Chamber of Commerce (BCRCC) & CF have received training to maintain the site. There are several changes that have been noted including the addition of 3 communities (Beaverdell, Bridesville and Westbridge). Information for Beaverdell, Bridesville and Westbridge has been completed piled, and currently being formatted by TOTA.</p> <p>A website audit is currently being conducted.</p> <p>Regional Brochures are currently being distributed to information centres. A supply will be available for marketing outside of the community. A variety of swag items have been ordered for future promotions such as tradeshow.</p> <p>TOTA funding request for April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016 was submitted February 23rd – requested \$12,500 as per January BEDC meeting.</p>	March 31/15
Business Advisory Program – Pilot	A program to provide one on one mentoring services for businesses/not for profits at no cost to help increase skills/profits levels.	This program is now underway and the mentors/consultants have been contracted. We have approximately 10 businesses/associations assigned a mentor. The contract calls for 14 businesses to receive 10 hours of one on one mentoring at no cost to the business. There will be 3 -5 workshops that will be offered in the West Boundary at no charge to participants and this schedule is under discussion at this time. The Grand Forks Credit Union has contributed \$1,000 to support the program and will provide referrals to their customers.	Feb-March 2015
February 2015	CF - Business Loans/Enquires	Stats not available at time of report	
DMO accommodators meeting and presentations	Presented by Christina Lake Gateway Association	<p>Cindy Albas has made presentations to CF Board and held meetings throughout the area. CFB is supporting this initiative as a committee of the Regional Chamber as opposed to another Boundary organization. It is in the very preliminary stages and will look forward to future information as the project moves forward.</p> <p>Sandy attended a follow up meeting with Cindy Albas and TOTA representative to discuss next steps for the DMO.</p>	

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		Cindy organized a follow up meeting scheduled for April 1 st in Midway.	
BC Economic Summit and Economic Development Marketing and Attraction Workshop	From the Ground Up	Wendy and Sandy will attend. The Regional Chamber will also attend. This year's Summit, is designed for the engaged, the innovators, the leaders, and the learners who strive to unlock and execute strategies that will achieve new levels of economic growth and prosperity in our communities. Connect with forward-looking strategic leaders to learn how to increase productivity, competitiveness, and make the most of your community's economic development potential. The program features keynote presentations by distinguished experts, relevant, highly practical and interactive workshops on hot topics.	April 28-30 Richmond
CED Forum	– hosted by Community Futures in the Kootenay Boundary and the Lower Columbia Initiatives	<p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p> Date: May 28 & 29 Address: Red Mountain Resort RSVP: 250.364.6461 or kjackson@kic.ca </p> <p> <small>Join us May 28 for an informal social evening at Rafter's Lounge, including discussion on the financial impact and footprint of tourism by local experts Don Thompson and Deanne Steven.</small> </p> <p> <small>Full day workshop May 29, focussing on the 'ECONOMICS OF TOURISM', featuring guest speaker Ingrid Jarrett, Owner of Ingrid Jarrett Management Consulting and the Vice President Business Development and General Manager for Watermark Beach Resort in Osovoos.</small> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	May 28-29
BC Rural Network	Conference Call	Member driven provincial rural organization supported by the Fraser Basin Council – Project Comeback – bringing youth home to rural communities is a provincial project that was completed last year. The following is the link to the final report: http://www.bcruralnetwork.ca/bcrn/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/PC-Final-Report.pdf The Network also is focusing on “Doctors” in rural communities and provides a newsletter to their members and others of funding/programming available throughout the Province.	
Workforce Development Pilot Project	Community Futures Boundary, Selkirk College, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute.	Meeting with Selkirk with regard to funding for a pilot project for a workforce development table including the Boundary. An invitation to attend an economic development forum focused on Workforce Development in the Boundary region has been issued to Employers. A project outline is attached for your perusal. A Workforce Development Table was hosted by Community	

		<p>Futures and facilitated by Dr. Terri MacDonald Selkirk College. Data collected from the Boundary Business Retention & Expansion Study was reviewed by the group which included representation from 15 businesses in the Boundary region. A regional workforce development table is going to be funded by CBT and hosted by Selkirk College. Wendy McCulloch has been requested to sit at the table with an alternate, Sandy Elzinga. This request is based on our relationships with local business and our background with the labour market force in the Boundary region. Selkirk College is going to work to be responsive to local training needs and expand their curriculum where possible. A copy of the study is available if anyone wishes a copy.</p>	
Trails Meeting		<p>The purpose of this meeting is to gauge local support for designating a section of rail trail as non-motorized, to discuss opportunities for partnership on stewardship of the rail trails in RDKB and to look at management of the rail trails in other jurisdictions. The meeting will be moderated by Wendy McCulloch of Community Futures.</p>	<p>April 17th 1:00 PM RDKB Board Room Grand Forks</p>
Canada Jobs Fund		<p>ASPECT is continuing to accept Canada-BC Job Grant Applications. Employers can receive up to two-thirds of the cost of training to a maximum government contribution of \$10,000 per grant; employers must contribute the remaining one-third.</p> <p>There is currently no maximum number of employees from any one business that can access the grant nor a cap on the overall dollar value of grants that any one business can receive</p> <p>These applications can include training that is scheduled to commence prior to February 2016.</p> <p>It is important to note that <i>all applications must be submitted prior to the start of training</i> in order to be eligible for reimbursement. www.ASPECTCanadaBCJobGrant.ca or call 1-888-287-4957 ext 233.</p>	
ONGOING/IN PROGRESS			

Activity	Details	Action	Timeline
Agriculture	1. Rent this land	Nothing at this time	Nov 2014
Invest Kootenay	Business Attraction – Region Online business listings www.investkootenay.ca	Boundary community information has been uploaded on the site. Sandy also attended the steering committee “strategic planning” session held in Invermere September 15th. Sandy is has ongoing contact with realtors and business owners. She has entered 25 listings in October. There were 3 enquiries.	ongoing
Venture Connect	Business Attraction – Region Online business listings www.ventureconnect.com	Sandy is providing business listings with permission of realtors and business owners. Winter brochures are now available and are being distributed to realtors and key locations.	Ongoing
BC Rural Network	Board Meeting October Discussions focused on Project Comeback – funding for Phase 2 (Youth returning to their rural roots); the Rural Summit final report; Membership Survey and a draft scope for the health care sector.	Follow up on the committee activities over the coming months with specific issues being discussed with the BEDC around their impact in our communities.	Ongoing
Provincial Nominees Program	City of Grand Forks made presentation in Vancouver late October	CF & BCRC assisted with developing a business listing package (specifically for Grand Forks). Following the presentation in Vancouver, 2 potential investors along with their consultant, travelled to Grand Forks and met with the City and CF. Representatives from the City of Grand Forks and Christina Lake made presentations at the PNP.	ongoing
Agricultural Meeting	Wendy/Roly met with the Greg Tegart, Ministry of Agriculture and Richard Toperczer, Economic Development to discuss ongoing issues in the Region.	Follow up discussions will take place and a plan for moving forward will be made following the November election. Topics will be the Food Coop, seeds, etc. More information will follow.	ongoing
Boundary Basin Economic Development Practitioners’ Network	Regional Practitioners	Wendy continues to sit at the Board Table representing the Boundary. Meetings are held quarterly. Purpose is to engage in a collaborative dialogue to share learning, discuss economic development issues, showcase innovation and economic development initiatives and build and strengthen	March 31, 2016

		the network in the region.	
Job Options Program	Employability & Life Skills Training Program	<p>Community Futures has been awarded 2 more sessions (session 7 & 8). The 10 week sessions will start January and run concurrently until mid-June. Both sessions will be offered in Grand Forks. Sessions consist of 6 weeks workshops and certificate training, followed by 4 weeks of Community based work experience. Participants must be non EI eligible. 10 participants per session will be selected.</p> <p>  Poster Jan15.doc Poster Mar 23 2nd session.doc</p> <p>20 applicants were interviewed for Session #7. 10 participants were selected. We currently have a waitlist for Session #8 starting March 23rd.</p>	Jan. – June 15, 2015
Bridging Program for Women	6 week life skills program – 3 days/week	<p>Facilitated by Natasha Knox. This program will be held at Community Futures Boundary – Greenwood office. The program offers a series of employability life skills workshops for women who have survived violence or abuse and are ready to transition into the workforce.</p> <p> Poster April 2015.docx</p>	April 14 – May 21, 2015
Boundary Country Billboard		The billboard located near KV Golf course is currently being re-designed. This billboard has been leased for another 2 year period.	

COMPLETED

Activity	Details	Results	
Wi Fi	Rotary Initiative	Wi Fi now available in the Grand Forks downtown core. Midway and Greenwood declined.	
Marketing	Kettle River Express Destination BC	Complete (2 page feature in 2014 guide) Complete	
Welcoming Inclusive Communities		Completed March 31, 2014	
Rock Creek Visitor Centre		Open for Business! Signs were installed June 6 th . Boundary Creek Times featured article. We are currently in the process of trying to gain permission to relocate the building across the highway in the Provincial Park. This will require also require a permit from the Min. of Highways for access. The applications for permits will be completed by RDKB.	
Vital Signs	Vital Signs is a grading	Vital signs was presented to the public on October 7th, at	Oct

	survey that measures the vitality of our communities, identifies significant trends, and invites community graders to assign grades in areas critical to quality of life. Vital Signs is based on a project of the Toronto Community Foundation and is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations Canada.	Gallery 2. Sandy to attend post Vital Signs committee meeting in Nov.	31/14
Small Business Excellence/Volunteer Awards	Thursday, October 16 th 5 – 7 p.m. At the Curling Club	Over 200 attended. This year the City of Grand Forks also presented Volunteer of the Year awards. Midway, Greenwood and Christina Lake were invited to present during the event, however declined.	October 2014
Boundary/Basin Economic Development Practitioner's Dialogue	October 22/23 Creston BC Wendy McCulloch Will be attending and sits on the steering committee for the Boundary Basin Economic Development Practitioner's Network representing the Boundary.	The Columbia Basin Economic Development Practitioners Network Dialogue is happening October 22-23, 2014, at the Ramada Inn, in Creston. Welcomed annually as an opportunity to expand knowledge, learn from peers across the Columbia Basin, and share your experience, over 20 economic development professionals from around the Basin are expected to attend the third annual event.	
Venture Connect	Marketing/Businesses for Sale	2 information sessions were held at CF on September 23 rd . One session (Supply and Demand) targeted community stakeholders, while the evening session (Succession Planning) targeted business owners thinking about selling their businesses. Approximately 40 people attended both sessions.	
Job Options Program	10 week program – Grand Forks For unemployed, non-EI attached participants. Program includes job search workshops, certificate training and	Completed	Sept 2 – Nov 7/14

Open for Business Award	BC Chamber award	CF assisted the City with the application. Congratulations – City of Grand Forks was the successful recipient of \$10,000.	Sept. 25 2014
ATV Trails - JCP	Job Creation Project	CFB assisted the ATV club with submitting a proposal to develop 3 landing sites, clear trails and install signage between Christina Lake and Grand Forks. The project also assisted the Grand Forks Fall Fair event, as participants worked on set up and assisted during the event. Two weeks were allocated specifically to assisting the Fair. This project provided over 12 weeks of work experience for 3 participants. CF staff attended opening ceremony at Morrissey Creek landing site. Another extension was been granted. The project completed Nov 7 th . The ATV club has indicated an interest in applying for another JCP to enhance trails in the North Fork area.	June 30 – Nov 7/14
Agriculture	Mobile Abattoir	The mobile abattoir is up and running. The abattoir is located at Carl Sidwell's farm in Grand Forks.	
Greenwood Economic Development Committee	Sandy is attending meetings. The committee has identified a number of projects and will focus on improving signage.	Projects are currently underway (see Greenwood JCP above). Signage project is complete.	
Marketing	Kettle River Express	Draft article was approved in November by John MacLean.	Jan 30/14
Information Session	West Boundary Rail Trail	 West Boundary Rail Trail notes Feb 5 2014 52 attended the session – details above	