

Minutes of Meeting		
Location: Sparwood Chamber of Commerce	Date: Nov 21, 2016	Time: 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Purpose: Steering Committee Meeting 2016 Q4	Version: Final v.2	
Attendees: See attached	Issue date: December 16, 2016	

Meeting commenced at 1:05 p.m.

Welcome, Housekeeping, Safety Share

Simon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sharon pointed out where the nearest exits and restrooms were to the room in which they were meeting. Lois reminded everyone that the temperatures have been hovering just above and below freezing and extra care should be taken when driving. Sharon added that Mainroad had just sent out an advisory warning around the same topic.

Review of Agenda

Lee-Anne added item 5.6 – Teck International Communities of Interest Advisory Panel/Sustainability Report

Gordon added item 5.7 – Grizzly Bear Study

Objectives Update

Childcare – Sharon has applied for funds from the BC Rural Dividend Program for the EVCCAI to hire someone to compile childcare resource information including simplified guidance around the hiring of a Nanny. Anita and Sharon met to discuss the possibility of accessing any of the BC Job Grant funds to increase the number of trained ECEs in the area. Anita was aware that the Golden Campus, supported by the Cranbrook Campus, offered some ECE training to help a new childcare facility with staffing. Anita followed up with her colleague and acquired some contact information. Sharon was to contact ASPECT, the company managing the grant, to get clarification around eligibility and deadlines. She hadn't yet done that but committed to getting it done within the next week.

Youth and local employment – Sharon noted that she had scheduled a meeting for Andrew and she to talk with Teck recruitment's Steven Thurmeier to see what forms of job information Teck may be introducing/presenting at the high schools. Steven postponed the meeting due to his busy schedule and being short-staffed. Amy indicated that she talked with Steven and Glen Campbell, Director of Human Resources and the question that arose was, if there was to be a career session in the schools, who would own it. Would it be Teck or the COI Advisory Initiative or the schools? After Amy explained more about what Teck considers when hiring, Terry suggested that it may be that all that is needed is a Q & A sheet which is made available to the public. After further discussion it was decided that Terry's suggestion would be the best route to take. Amy will compile a general Teck hiring information sheet to be reviewed by Simon, Andrew and Sharon. Lee-Anne shared a good news story of an area resident who went away to train then work was laid off. He applied to work for Teck in the Elk Valley and he was the successful one of 84 candidates. He is happy to be back in the area where he and his family like to call home.

Healthcare – Neither Janice nor Kerri were able to attend. Sharon mentioned that Janice had been trying to get Shirley Mercier to attend this or another meeting to discuss the status of the Elk Valley surgeon recruitment but scheduling was a problem.

Post-secondary Education – Simon said that he met with UBC and Teck representatives the previous week and identified 3 programs that may possibly fit Teck’s and UBC’s needs in the Elk Valley. Shelley asked how it was determined the facility would be in Fernie. Simon replied that it was always planned to be in Fernie as potential sites for the College of the Rockies had been reviewed, previously, and Fernie was found to be the best fit. Anita added that it makes sense to offer certain programs in Sparwood while others are better suited to Fernie. Simon said that the proposed building can be repurposed if any programs offered by UBC in Fernie are discontinued. There will be another meeting with UBC and Teck early in December. Simon felt he satisfied the attendees at the last meeting by being realistic and suggesting three tangible programs to benefit UBC and Teck while remaining cost neutral.

Anita noted that the College of the Rockies Fernie Campus at 10,000 square feet is too small for their needs. The building Simon is proposing is 5000 square feet including student housing but it has room to grow.

Highway Safety/Fatigue and Driving – Scott confirmed that he will create a blog for the COI website around safe highway driving.

Old Business

Action items were reviewed - see table below.

New Business

Teck Feedback Received – Sharon reported that there were no level 3 or 4 grievances to report for Q4. With regard to previous concerns about fugitive dust from the Elkview Operations, Lois said that the District of Sparwood Councillors had an extensive, all-day tour of the site several weeks ago. They were able to see that Teck is working hard to manage fugitive dust. The sprinklers on the edge of Natal pit can be seen from town. The Big Boss is a huge mister that captures dust particles, there are water trucks running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A camera has been placed in the downtown area so that photos of the upper ridge can help staff to see what residents in town are viewing. Lois explained that the challenge of the unique wind pattern in the Erickson valley that hasn’t been observed elsewhere and therefore there are no mitigation strategies to call upon from other operations in the world.

Teck Announcements/News Releases

- Oct. 18 – Teck to Acquire 10% of Teena/Reward Zinc Project
- Nov. 4 – Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Nov. 18 – Teck Announces Ticker Symbol Change to “TECK”
- Nov. 21 – Teck Signs Agreement to Acquire AQM Copper

Strategic Objectives 2016/2017

It was decided that Sharon would schedule a special meeting in January for the group to go over the objectives. Lunch will be provided.

Partners Meeting agenda/speakers

Topics chosen and suggested speakers included:

- Teck update – Nic Milligan
- Surgeon recruitment update – Shirley Mercier or alternate
- Grizzly Bear Study – Gordon to provide contact name to Sharon
- Alexander Creek stream bank restoration – Lee-Anne Walker
- Elk Valley Trans Canada Trail – Duane Lawrence

Internet Safety Presentation

Because of the full agenda, Sharon quickly explained about the Telus Wise program and that she and Tammy Ogden were ambassadors for the program for four different target groups. Some material was handed out. If a future presentation is desired, one can be delivered by Sharon.

Teck's International Communities of Interest Advisory Panel

Lee-Anne reminded the members that she and Ryland Nelson (Wildsight) were part of a panel that participated in discussions on topics found in Teck's sustainability report. They were provided with documents to review before they will participate in a four hour conference call. They were asked to look for weaknesses or omissions. Lee-Anne noted that the First Nations communities previously provided a lot of feedback. She was intrigued by the power of their voice. Lee-Anne will provide an update at the Q1 2017 Steering Committee meeting.

Grizzly Bear Study

Gordon shared that the Elkford motorized recreations groups participated in the South Rockies Grizzly Bear Project for the third year with the ATV Club being the most active. 143 samples of grizzly fur were collected. This year Teck donated \$1268 for fuel and lunch for the study volunteers. In order to stay within Teck's budget, the ATV Club provided an additional \$100. This is the second year Teck provided this kind of support to the project

Round Table

Lee-Anne – said this year's Shoreline Clean Up went well with the three Elk Valley communities participating. She was disappointed by how much new garbage accumulated over the year.

Andrew – had nothing new to report but added that he liked the idea of having general Teck hiring information accessible and to more people. He prefers that over presenting in the schools.

Amy – was intrigued by Simon's ideas around the building of a facility for Post-Secondary education and would like to hear more about. The possibilities could be endless.

Gordon – had nothing to add.

Shelley – mentioned that Teck had recently provided an update on the BRE project to the Michel Creek and GN Road residents. They discussed dust and dust suppression. Shelley noted that they are seeing more light and vehicle traffic behind them now. At the Teck meeting, residents showed concern over the heavy truck traffic. Magnetite hauls are using the road and sometimes they aren't covered. Teck is looking into this. There was good information provided and good discussion was had at the meeting.

Terry – found the Steering Committee meeting to be very informative. He shared that he ran for President of the Metis Nation of BC but was unsuccessful. The new President is Clara Morin Dal Col, the VP is Lissa Smith and the Kootenays Director is Marilyn Taylor.

Anita – was pleased to share that the College of the Rockies (COTR) Fernie Campus completed its 6th initiative targeted to older workers 55 to 64 years old. Each time the maximum of 12 students was met. They are offered soft skill such as computer training.

The Mountain Hospitality Program is offered with support from the Provincial government. It is for those who are not EI and not working. It offers 6 weeks of training to work in the hospitality industry with on-the-job experience for the last week. Registration capacity was reached with students from Jaffray through Elkford.

The Industrial Training Authority (ITA) granted COTR Fernie Campus \$32,000 for each of 3 years to run trade sample programs in conjunction with area high schools. She is hoping to begin the first session in February 2017. It is a full-time 12-week program for grades 11 and 12 students who will receive 8 credits for completing it.

Scott – shared the good news that the ElkEx, a mock emergency exercise, took place in October. The exercise takes place annually but rotates locations and is here every three years. The aim is to improve and renew first responder’s skills and to test the Emergency Management Program for the Regional District of East Kootenays, South Country and the Elk Valley. There were two separate scenarios, one in Elko and one, a spill, at the Sparwood Transfer Station. On December 8, the team will meet for a debrief and to discuss lessons learned.

Lois – asked when the BRE approvals were expected for the amendment applications. Sharon and Amy are going to look into it. Lois shared that the District of Sparwood put forth a proposal to host a community to community forum with the Ktunaxa Nation Council in Sparwood in 2017. She also updated the group on the status of the Balmer North Memorial stating that the ground breaking for the statue took place the previous week.

Simon – had nothing to add.

Sharon – added to Lois’s comment about the Balmer North Memorial by sharing information about the Elk Valley Festival of Trees. She note that she decorated a tree sponsored by Black Gold bussing with proceeds going to help fund the memorial. She encouraged people to go to Park Place Lodge in Fernie to see the 10 decorated trees which will benefit 10 different worthy organizations.

Closing Remarks

Simon thanked everyone for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting just before 10:00 a.m.

Next Meetings:

Steering Committee – March, 2017

Partners – December 8, 2016

Action Items

Action Items	Who	Deadline/Results
OLD		
Add Wall of Wins to COI Advisory Initiative website <i>Will schedule meeting with Simon to discuss by mid-October within a week</i>	SS	Oct. 20, 2016 <i>Not done</i> Done
Determine if Scott is able to produce a blog around safety <i>Sharon to follow up on timing of article</i>	SS	Confirmed to write one <i>Not done</i> Done
Write article/blog about benefits of new college to Elk Valley	SH/SS	Oct. 20, 2016

Will schedule meeting with Simon to discuss by mid-October		Done
Discuss updating housing assessment for City of Fernie It was an agenda item at a Fernie Council meeting where it was approved for inclusion in the budget.	SH	Done
Form Healthcare Task Force Sharon to arrange meeting with Janice, Kerri, Lois, Anita and herself in the near future	SS	By mid-November Not done By end of January 2017
Send Phoebe's draft journal article		Done
Reconnect with secondary schools in EV and CNP for reps Sharon to do before the end of October next Partners meeting	SS	Oct. 31, 2016 Not done Done
Schedule meeting between Amy and Sharon re: Retirees Amy said the retirees should approach their respective sites HR/Benefits personnel for help. Kim confirmed there wasn't enough information for retirees from her husband's recent experience. A general information package would be helpful.	SS	Done
Review BC Job Grant and a Wage Subsidy Program to see if they can help with child care situation in the Elk Valley	SS	Asap Reviewed but application not made
Schedule a meeting with Steven Thurmeier and Andrew to discuss Teck's HR youth outreach	SS	Asap Done but postponed
Follow up on surgeon recruitment	JT	End of October Attempted Done
Follow up with Elkford Council regarding affordable housing grants and the need for seniors housing	KB	End of October Unsure
Get photo and bio from Andrew for uploading to the website	SS	By end of week Done
NEW		
Contact ASPECT regarding potential application for funding from BC Job Grant	SS	Asap Done
Create a Teck hiring info sheet to be accessible by general population	AM	Asap
Arrange for Simon, Andrew, Sharon to review Amy's draft Teck hiring info sheet	SS	Asap following receipt of the draft
Find out about BRE permit amendment applications and expected date of approval	SS/AM	Asap
Follow up with site clerks regarding benefit information for retirees	SS/AM	Before end of December

Attendance

Name	Representing	Role	
Anonson, Terry	Metis Nation/Elkford		
Craig, Andrew	Youth / Fernie		
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation/Elkford		
Halko, Lois	Local Government/Sparwood		

Howse, Simon	Business & CHBA / Fernie	Chair	
Mac Con, Amy	Teck / Human Resources / Fernie		
Palmer, Anita	Post-Secondary Education/RDEK A		
Robinson, Scott	Community Safety/Fernie		
Strom, Sharon	Teck / Communities/Sparwood	Secretary	
Walker, Lee-Anne	ENGOS/Fernie		
Wedderburn, Shelley	MCR/GN Road Residents/Sparwood		

Unable to attend:

	Representing	Role	
Bauer, Kim	Social Programs/Services / Elkford		
Drain, Joanne	Seniors/Crowsnest Pass		
Talarico, Janice	Healthcare co-rep/Sparwood		
Wall, Kerri	Healthcare co-rep/Crowsnest Pass		