

Minutes of Meeting		
<b>Location:</b> Sparwood Chamber of Commerce	<b>Date:</b> Mar 23, 2017	<b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 11:30 am
<b>Purpose:</b> Steering Committee Meeting 2017 Q1	<b>Version:</b> Final	
<b>Attendees:</b> See attached	<b>Issue date:</b> Oct. 04, 2017	

Meeting commenced at 9:05 a.m.

### Welcome, Housekeeping, Safety Share

Simon welcomed members and noted there was a new member, Lance Steinke. Lance shared some information about himself. Other member introduced themselves for Lance's benefit.

Sharon reviewed where the exits, muster point and restrooms were.

Amy volunteered to provide the safety share based on recent personal experiences. She reminded people to be cautious and aware of potential to slip and fall. She described a situation where one of her daughters slipped while at the pool and another where she slipped and fell outside. In both cases, injuries were minor but there was potential for them to be worse.

### Review of Agenda

A discussion of meeting locations was added to 5.6.

### Objectives Update

Childcare – Sharon:

- Phoebe Scotland's journal article based on the childcare study done in the Elk Valley is published and can be found at [www.journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ijcyfs/index](http://www.journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ijcyfs/index).
- BC Rural Dividend Program application for funds was approved for the Elk Valley childcare resource information gathering and compilation. Phoebe Scotland was asked if she would be interested in taking on the project remotely. She accepted.
- Another round of Major Capital Funding to increase childcare seats was announced with an application deadline of May 15, 2017.
- The Federal Budget 2017 contained some proposals to increase support for early learning and child care. One of the proposals is to waive the \$1000 processing fee to obtain to obtain a work permit for a foreign caregiver/nanny.

Youth and local employment – Amy:

- In discussion with other HR personnel, the value of a one-page hiring information sheet was questioned. An example of a job posting from the Teck website was shown to the members to highlight that qualifications section of postings identifies such things as required level of education and preference for those with experience.

- Discussion followed with some suggestions of what is missing from job postings that should be added. Amy confirmed that some things cannot rightfully be included in job postings.
- Regarding presentations at high schools, it was felt that the onus should be on the school councillors to request them, in which case, Teck would accommodate the request.
- It was decided that where the Steering Committee stands in regard to informing youth of local hiring practices needs to be revisited. Sharon will set up a meeting between herself, Simon, Amy and Anita for further discussion.

#### Healthcare – Janice/Kerri:

- Janice was pleased to share that there have been no code oranges (an external disaster or event that may increase the capacity of the hospitals) since the previous meeting.
- There is increased awareness about what has been a hidden epidemic, mostly among the middle class – fentanyl overdose. Naloxone kits are available as the antidote for overdose of fentanyl. There have been five cases in the East Kootenays.
- Healthcare workers will be required to take violence prevention courses as part of Occupational Health and Safety. 100% compliance is expected.
- A number of potential Health Care Aids who completed their training at the College of the Rockies have been interviewed to help provide home support. A full staff is expected.
- Kerri added that as part of its healthy public policy, the City of Fernie is undertaking an Affordable Housing Strategy survey that will launch March 31, 2017 to update the Strategy that was developed in 2007.
- Kerri also noted that she is helping stakeholders arrange for a Cranbrook Housing Summit to take place on June 5, 2017.
- Joanne Drain as the Chair of the Crowsnest Pass (CNP) Senior Housing Board shared that the ground breaking for the new facility will take place in fall 2017. The location of the 61 bed facility will be near the Coleman Sports Complex on land donated by the Municipality. The \$23m project is being fully funded by the provincial government. This facility will contain 24 dementia units. There are some residents of the CNP who are displeased with the location of the new facility.

#### Post-secondary Education – Simon:

- Simon noted that communication with UBC and Teck regarding a post-secondary institution in the Elk Valley has been quiet since Christmas. Some communication took place in February and he hopes to resume again soon.

#### Housing – Simon:

- Some discussion was had around the shifting of the type of housing young people seem to be accepting. Seem more accepting of condo and apartment living according to Simon.
- Lee-Anne noted that Millenials tend to be looking to own a home but it may be that all they can afford are strata or tiny homes (300-400 sq. ft.)
- Simon talked about modelling some homes in the 500 – 700 sq. ft. range. Families tend to be able to live in a minimum of about 700 sq. ft.

- The topic of the increasing number of Air B&Bs in Fernie was discussed. Lee-Anne said the fact that people going that route with their homes are encouraged by the fact that their mortgages and taxes are paid more rapidly than if they rent their homes out longer term. Anita is concerned that the Air B&B option in Fernie is going in a direction that will make it so COTR students will be unable to find 9 month rentals. Systems aren't in place yet to govern the process.

#### Community Safety – Scott absent:

- Lee-Anne noted there were concerns about flooding in the area and some preparations will start next week with the possibility of flooding at the end of April.
- Recent article in E-Know and The Free Press noted provincial government is investing \$900k in flooding prep for the Kootenays with each of Elkford, Fernie and Sparwood to receive \$150k. It is for flood risk assessment, floodplain mapping and flood mitigation planning. The municipalities and Elk River Alliance (ERA) will meet to discuss the plan(s). The ERA sees this as an opportunity to increase watershed literacy.
- Anita added that it isn't just flooding that is a concern. The ground water level is high and frozen and some sewers/drains are blocked.

#### Old Business

Action items were reviewed

Retiree benefit information – Amy

- Each coal operation manages retirees differently. Fording Rivers procedures have changed since Gordon retired. An information package is given to retirees which includes contact information and a one hour exit interview is conducted.

#### New Business

Teck Feedback Received – In Q1 2017 Teck received three concerns around what was perceived to be coal dust on residents' property. Teck continues to work on fugitive dust mitigation measures for Elkview and other Elk Valley operations.

#### Teck Announcements/News Releases

- The Mining Association of Canada released its 12<sup>th</sup> annual Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) Mining Progress Report. It recognized Teck's Elkview Operations and Highland Valley Copper for their outstanding performance. For this they will be receiving the TSM Leadership Award.
- Teck and Fort McKay Metis signed a participation agreement for Teck's proposed Frontier oil sands project located in the traditional territory of the Fort McKay Metis.

#### Website Domain Renewal

- Sharon renewed the Go Daddy domain contract for evcnpvoice.com for three more years.

#### Update on Closure Task Group

- An invitation to join the Closure Task Group (CTG) was sent out to targeted individuals as well as to a broader distribution list. A good mix of representatives put their names forward. A consultant was secured to assist with the initial steps of forming the CTG and moving it forward. The committee members were selected. The inaugural meeting will be held in May.

#### Elkview Annual Community Summary Meeting

- The Elkview Baldy Ridge Extension Annual Community summary is scheduled for April 19, 2017 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at the Sparwood Seniors Drop In Centre
- A report on 2016 noise and air quality management, blasting and vibration and the progress on BRE will be provided

#### Partners Meeting Speaker Suggestions

- Lois Halko suggested by email that Jeff McKay with WorkSafe BC could speak about Project Heavy Duty
- Steve Thomson from Capasiti Consulting suggested by email that a presentation about FireSmart by Alan Westhaver, a resident of Fernie who consults on Wildfire Protection, would be good for a future Partners meeting
- Lee-Anne suggested a presentation on back-country trash awareness as another possibility.
- A presentation by a representative of the Youth Action teams in the Elk Valley was also suggested.
- Potential presentation to provide update to the Fording River Westslope Cutthroat Trout study.

#### Meeting Locations

- While the Terms of Reference suggests rotating the quarterly steering committee meetings so each of Elkford, Sparwood, Fernie and the Crowsnest Pass hosts one per year, it seems the preference has been to hold them in Sparwood as a central location. When asked if Sparwood should be the default meeting locations going forward, the committee members agreed.

#### **Round Table**

Joanne – added that there were some complaints about the chosen location for the new senior's complex as it is far away from the grocery store, for example.

Janice – shared that the community paramedic program is coming to Sparwood and Elkford to provide supportive services to seniors 65+ with chronic illness. Two BC Ambulance workers are currently in training and will supplement their hours with their additional responsibilities.

Shelley – there has been some flooding in her area due to blocked culverts. She added that it is difficult to walk on Michel Creek Road (MCR) because much of the traffic is travelling at excessive speeds. This includes Teck employees, contractors and residents. There are also a number of cases where work vehicles travel on the MCR with their strobe and/or buggy whip lights on. This is illegal and fines will be levied by DOT if caught.

Kerri – had nothing to add.

Lance – advised that the Alberta Government released a draft of the Castle Wilderness Management Plan which includes the phasing out of off-road vehicle use. This is a contentious issue for many local

users. Anita added that these users will have to go elsewhere where they may have an impact. It may just be moving a perceived problem around. Lee-Anne announced the Director of the Crowsnest Lake Bible Camp is planning a back country clean up event. People are trashing places as behaviors, such as leaving cigarette butts behind, become normalized. Lee-Anne noted the importance of educating people to promote appropriate behavior.

Lee-Anne – Elk River Alliance and Teck continue to partner with their joint interest in educating students during Mining Week. Previous topics included: Water Quality and Why it Matters and Soil Secrets.

Amy – had nothing to add.

Anita – thought the meeting’s conversation topics were great and there was great input from committee members. She enjoys being a part of the committee.

Sharon - noted that Teck will be undergoing an update to the Social Baseline and Impact Assessment work that was done for the Elk Valley in late 2013 early 2014. She thanked everyone for attending.

### Closing Remarks

Simon thanked everyone for their attendance and participation and closed the meeting just before 11:00 a.m.

### Next Meetings:

Steering Committee – June, 2017  
Partners – July, 2017

### Action Items

Action Items	Who	Deadline/Results
<b>OLD</b>		
Form Healthcare Task Force <i>Sharon to arrange meeting with Janice, Kerri, Lois, Anita and herself in the near future</i>	SS	<del>By mid-November</del> <del>Not done</del> Done
Follow up with site clerks regarding benefit information for retirees. <i>Amy followed up – see in minutes</i>	SS/AM	<del>Before end of December</del> <del>Not done</del> Done
<b>NEW</b>		
Get photo of Lance	SS	Asap
Reconnect with secondary schools in EV and CNP for reps again	SS	Mid-June 2017
Set date for next SC meeting	SS/SH	Mid May
Determine speakers, date, location of July Partners meeting	SS/SH	Early June

**Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Role</b>	
Drain, Joanne	Seniors/Crowsnest Pass		
Howse, Simon	Business & CHBA / Fernie	Chair	
Mac Con, Amy	Teck / Human Resources / Fernie		
Palmer, Anita	Post-Secondary Education/RDEK A	Vice-Chair	
Steinke, Lance	Environmental interests/CNP		
Strom, Sharon	Teck / Communities/Sparwood	Secretary	
Talarico, Janice	Healthcare co-rep/Sparwood		
Walker, Lee-Anne	ENGOS/Fernie		
Wall, Kerri	Healthcare co-rep/Fernie		
Wedderburn, Shelley	MCR/GN Road Residents/Sparwood		

**Unable to attend:**

	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Role</b>	
Anonson, Terry	Metis Nation/Elkford		
Bauer, Kim	Social Programs/Services / Elkford		
Craig, Andrew	Youth / Fernie		
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation/Elkford		
Halko, Lois	Local Government/Sparwood		
Robinson, Scott	Community Safety/Fernie		