

TECK COAL ELK VALLEY COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST INITIATIVE	
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING	
Version: Final	Issue Date: March 6, 2013

Minutes of Meeting		
Location: Sparwood Fire Hall #1 – 479 Pine Avenue	Date: Feb. 14, 2013	Time: 9:00 am – noon
Purpose: Steering Committee Meeting		
Attendees: See attached		

Meeting commenced at 9:15 am

Introductory Remarks

Chair Halko welcomed the committee members and guest, Duane Lawrence, to the meeting. Committee members introduced themselves for Duane’s benefit.

Ben Voysey gave a safety message reminding everyone that the weather this time of the year can create dangerous driving conditions where roads appear to be dry and safe but in fact may be icy. When the roads are sloppy, people need to ensure they have sufficient washer fluid to keep the windshield clear. In addition, people should travel prepared in the event of a mishap. Sharon Strom added that with the sloppy roads, backup cameras need to be cleaned regularly. Simon Howse reiterated the need to be wary of the road conditions and how they may adversely affect driving. He noted that on a recent early morning road trip he had to pull off the highway to clean his headlights because they were obscured by road spray.

Chair Halko reviewed the agenda with those present, noting that two of the invited guests, Lyndsey Gerscht and David Beranek, would not be in attendance. She did, however, confirm that Bev Bellina, School District #5 (SD#5) Trustee will likely arrive during the meeting since she requested the opportunity to attend.

The minutes from the October 30, 2012 Steering Committee meeting were distributed and accepted as written.

Summary of Communities of Interest Advisory Initiative

To help Duane Lawrence understand the purpose of the meeting, Sharon Strom gave a brief summary of why the initiative was launched. She noted that Teck has numerous external and internal sustainability goals and commitments for which they want to achieve and maintain the highest level of performance. One commitment, in particular, is to the Mining Association of Canada’s Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) initiative. Under the initiative, companies are guided to have a process in place to provide effective Communities of Interest (COI) engagement and dialogue where their input is actively encouraged. This was the impetus for the formation of Teck Coal Elk Valley COI Advisory initiative.

Chair Halko provided the timeline of the initiative meetings, beginning March 28, 2012, to date.

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Duane Lawrence, Director of Community & Facility Services, District of Sparwood

Duane Lawrence addressed the group, outlining his roles within the District of Sparwood. In addition to ensuring the recreational facilities are maintained in good and safe condition, he facilitates the District's support of community/not-for-profit groups and their activities to help ensure their success.

Duane noted that the face of volunteerism is changing and it is increasingly more difficult to get people to commit to volunteering long-term. Most people will commit to one-offs of several hours, at most. It tends to be the same people from communities who volunteer over and over and for longer terms, consequently leading to their burnout. Duane explained that it is important to increase the number of volunteers in the community to keep it sustainable and a place where people want to live. Sharon Strom stated that Teck is close to launching its Team Teck Community Giving Program with the goal of enhancing a culture where its employees give back to the communities in which they live. She will inform the committee once the program is in place.

A discussion, regarding shortage of childcare in the Elk Valley arose when Duane talked about The Society for Kids Care, on whose Board he and Sharon Strom sit. The board governs the Sparwood Treehouse Daycare located in the former Mountain View School building. The daycare has been operational for about a year and a half and is proving to be successful. Unfortunately, it cannot accommodate all parents requiring childcare and there are significant waiting lists for the various age groups. After the discussion, it was clear that lack of childcare is a concern for the sustainability of our communities. Simon Howse suggested that if this group is to make recommendations to Teck, investigating the childcare issue should be one of the top five.

Duane took the opportunity to announce that the Sparwood Leisure Center will be receiving significant upgrades due to a successful application for funds from the Government of Canada's Gas Tax Refund. The funds of approximately 757 thousand dollars will go to improving the Center's aged heating system. The upgrades will reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions and cut operating costs. Duane, who has been in the community and his position for about a year and a half, said he was surprised to find out the Leisure Centre was over 30 years old because it had a contemporary look and feel to it and he guessed it to be only 15 years old. Because of its actual age, it is time to modernize the facility with more efficient equipment. The committee congratulated Duane on his successful application and thanked him for his attendance before he left the meeting.

Terms of Reference Suggested Changes

Sharon Strom provided copies of the original Terms of Reference (ToR) and the ToR with the changes she recommended at the November 14, 2012 panel meeting. She explained that Teck's goals, regarding sustainability, encompass more than the specific requirements and recommendations of the TSM initiative and it would be simpler, clearer and a current reflection on Teck Sustainability Strategy to remove reference specific to TSM and replace with Teck's sustainability goals.

Those in attendance were asked for their feedback and all were supportive and in favor of the changes as suggested. Terry Anonson explained he is in favor of the changes because the ToR now reads like Teck is striving for its sustainability goals because it is "the right thing to do" and not because it is a TSM mandate.

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Feedback Mechanism Update

Sharon Strom apprised the attendees of the status of the Feedback Mechanism and its launch. She noted that by the end of December 2012, all but two feedback boxes have been placed securely in key locations throughout our communities as discussed previously. The Fernie Historical Society never responded to several requests for permission to install a feedback box at the museum as recommended by the panel. Rather than wait any longer, Sharon had it placed outside of the Fernie Chamber building. In addition, the feedback box intended for the Teck office in the Ktunaxa Nation Council building will have to await approval of the location for its installation.

The advertisement announcing the feedback mechanism and means of communicating with Teck was placed mid-December. There have been a number of feedback submissions since then, either via the feedback specific email address or the paper form. A third means of communicating is by calling a feedback specific toll-free number and leaving a voicemail. A couple of submissions were anonymous but were researched and addressed where necessary. Teck may respond to anonymous submissions in local newspapers, if appropriate.

Terry Anonson relayed a concern he would like brought to a Teck Benefits representative concerning retirees not having prescription cards like current employees. He said the retirees have to pay for the medication then submit receipts for reimbursement and he wondered why retirees cannot have the ease of using a prescription card. Sharon told Terry that his concern would be an appropriate one to bring to her attention using the feedback email to assure she did not miss any important details. She committed to sending Terry the email address for feedback. Gordon Galloway echoed Terry's concern about prescription cards and added a concern of his own. He doesn't understand why retirees and spouses of deceased employees cannot get benefit help from the appropriate coal site rather than having to work with strangers in far off cities. Sharon advised Gordon to submit his concern in an email to ensure his concern was adequately captured before she investigated.

Teck's Sustainability Distinction

Chair Halko took a moment to congratulate Teck on being named to the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations list for 2013. She read the January 23 new release Sharon Strom distributed. There was an overall reaction of congratulations and satisfaction from the group. Sharon Strom responded to the committee members by saying that they are assisting Teck to achieve such distinctions by their participation on this Steering Committee and she thanked them for their dedication.

Benchmarking Task Force Follow Up

Following the October 29, 2012, Benchmarking Task Force meeting, Sharon Strom was to investigate potential companies to provide assistance with the baseline study. She communicated with Tim Moro, Senior VP, Ipsos Reid North America, based in Calgary. She explained to him the Steering Committee's thoughts on how they would like to see the process unfold, that is, with public forums facilitated by panel members. Mr. Moro explained why he recommends the baseline be done using a third party and to perform targeted phone interviews rather than host public forums. For him to better understand what the Task Force and Steering Committee are looking for, Sharon emailed him relevant COI Advisory Initiative documents.

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Benchmarking Task Force cont'd

He responded with a written research proposal of which Sharon distributed copies with noted areas highlighted. After discussing key elements of the document, it was agreed that the Task Force will move forward with the proposal by meeting with Ipsos personnel to ensure that the committee has adequate input and a clear understanding of the process. The fee of \$20,000 plus incentives and travel were approved by Teck.

Bev Bellina, SD#5 Trustee

Bev Bellina arrived at 10:00 am and was introduced to the committee by Chair Halko. In turn, those with whom Trustee Bellina was unfamiliar introduced themselves to her.

Trustee Bellina explained that she has been a school trustee in District #5 for many years and currently sits on the BC Public School Employers' Association's (BCPSEA) ad hoc committee and the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council's ad hoc committee, among others.

A sample publication from the 'A Legacy of Learning Project' was passed around by Trustee Bellina. She explained that some retired teachers and others from SD#5 in partnership with the Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History initiated the project to research and assemble the history of education in the East Kootenay region. The project is seeking old photographs, documents, publications, crests and other memorabilia related to school events, staff and students with the hope they can be assembled to evoke memories of what school was like and how it tied into the larger community. Trustee Bellina ensured everyone that all items will be returned to their owners.

A number of questions were posed to Trustee Bellina:

Simon Howse asked if there was an opportunity for synergies between the public and independent school system and Teck, regarding transportation of school children. He addressed his concern with seeing more than half empty public school buses travelling in the communities and wondered if there could be an agreement with Fernie's independent school for its students to ride the bus as well. He believes that Teck buses sit empty and unused for a good portion of the day and wondered if there could be value gained by utilizing them for transporting school children. Sharon responded that there are a lot of complexities and legalities regarding use of Teck buses. Trustee Bellina suggested Simon speak with the Secretary-Treasurer of SD#5, Rob Norum, about the possibility of a transportation partnership between the public school system and the independent school system.

Sharon Strom asked Trustee Bellina how the future school enrolments were looking and if there will be a need to build more schools in the Elk Valley after downsizing several years ago. Trustee Bellina indicated that the demographics point to increasing enrolment and to emphasize the point, Lee-Anne Walker confirmed that there are currently more than 50 expectant women in the Fernie area.

Lee-Anne Walker explained that she offers environmental education in SD#5 schools and was dismayed at the apparent lack of discipline and respect in many classes. She asked if there was consideration given to providing parenting classes to mitigate poor student behavior before children enter school. Trustee Bellina said that BC's Ministry of Education supports Strong Start programs being offered in a number of SD#5 schools to provide parents new ways to support learning, at the program and at home.

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Next Steps/Action Items

Action Items	Who	When
Provide Lee-Anne Walker with the name of the Teck Champion for the Water Key Focus Area of Teck's strategy for sustainability	Sharon	End Feb
Provide the committee with Teck's definition of sustainability	Sharon	End Feb
Inform the committee about the details of Team Teck Community Giving Program once it is launched	Sharon	TBD
Change the ToR to better reflect Teck's sustainability goals and circulate to current panel distribution list	Sharon	End Feb
Provide feedback email address to Terry Anonson	Sharon	Asap
Contact Tim Moro, Ipsos to set up meeting with Benchmarking Task Force	Sharon	Asap
Find contact info for SD#5 Trustee Rob Norum and forward to Simon	Sharon	Asap
Select several dates for next SC meeting and circulate as a poll	Sharon	End March
Arrange venue in Elkford for next SC meeting	Sharon	End March
*Investigate the possibility of Marcia Smith touring the area communities	Sharon	Asap

Closing Remarks

Prior to ending the meeting, Chair Halko asked everyone to comment on the session and the initiative in general.

- Simon Howse is pleased with the action items and how the initiative is progressing.
- Bunny Mercereau said she learns more and becomes better informed about Teck at each meeting.
- Gord Galloway likes the changes to the ToR.
- Shelley Wedderburn gave thanks to Teck for following through on its commitment to assist Michel Creek Road residents get connected to the District's public water system. It is so much more convenient for residents and is greatly appreciated. Sharon Strom noted that Cal McDougall deserves the credit for persevering with the project in addition to extending residents' leases from one to three years.
- Terry Anonson noted that initially he was suspicious of Teck and its invitation to be part of this initiative but he no longer feels that way. Changing the wording of the ToR makes him feel more valued and less of a means to acquire high scores.
- Ben Voysey is pleased with the progress of the initiative and is particularly looking forward to seeing the baseline study process and results.
- Lee-Anne Walker found today's meeting effective in stimulating significant dialogue.
- Lorne Craig noticed that the committee members seem to be more comfortable in their roles and with each other making for a very good meeting.
- Sharon Strom is pleased with the dedication and high attendance of the committee members.
- Chair Halko commented that she appreciated the focus and engagement of all committee members and guests during the meeting.

Chair Halko thanked Trustee Bellina and Committee Members for their attendance and input then called the meeting to a close at 12:00 noon.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held late in April 2013 in Elkford. Date options will be circulated by the end of March for members' votes.

TECK COAL ELK VALLEY COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST STEERING COMMITTEE**FEBRUARY 14, 2013 ATTENDANCE LIST**

Name	Representing	Phone #1	Phone #2
Anonson, Terry	Metis Nation BC	250-946-6765	250-865-2401
Craig, Lorne	Community Safety - RCMP	250-425-6233	
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation	250-865-2674	
Halko, Mayor Lois	District of Sparwood	250-425-7256	250-425-6271
Howse, Simon	Business-Parastone & CHBA	250-423-8674	250-423-4136
Mercereau, Bunny	Seniors' Society	250-425-7009	250-425-5851
Strom, Sharon	Teck Community Affairs	250-425-3343	250-433-1096
Voysey, Ben	Youth - FSS	250-423-4883	250-278-0725
Walker, Lee-Anne	Elk River Alliance	250-423-3322	250-423-1682
Wedderburn, Shelley	Michel Creek Residents	250-425-6642	250-425-3761

Guests:

Name	Representing	Phone #1	Phone #2
Duane Lawrence	DOS Recreation/Volunteerism		
Bev Bellina	SD#5 Trustee		

Unable to attend:

Name	Representing	Phone #1	Phone #2
Mercier, Shirley	Interior Health	250-423-8250	250-423-1742
Mertz, Mike	Social - Prov of Alberta	403-562-3241	403-563-0674
Regular, Keith	Education - ESS	250-865-4674	250-865-2035

***NOTE:**

Following the meeting, Simon Howse told Sharon Strom he was aware that Teck has Marcia Smith acting as General Manager of Line Creek Operations until the end of April. Marcia is the Senior Vice President Sustainability and External Affairs normally based out of the Vancouver office. Simon suggested using the opportunity of Marcia's presence in the Elk Valley to showcase our communities and Teck's involvement and contribution to them. He thought it would be a valuable experience for her and the Advisory Initiative if tours are led by members of the Initiative. Sharon thanked Simon for the suggestion and noted that she thought it was an excellent one. She will investigate the possibility.