

<b>TECK COAL ELK VALLEY COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST INITIATIVE</b>	
<b>FACILITATED STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING</b>	
Version: Final	Issue Date: November 13, 2012

Minutes of Meeting		
<b>Location:</b> Provincial Building – 12501 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Blairmore AB	<b>Date:</b> Oct. 30, 2012	<b>Time:</b> 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
<b>Purpose:</b> Steering Committee Meeting		
<b>Attendees:</b> See attached		

Meeting commenced at 1:00 pm

Lois Halko welcomed the committee members and the invited guests to the meeting. Committee members introduced themselves for the benefit of the guests. Mike Mertz, who arranged the venue and invited the guests, introduced them prior to giving them each an opportunity to tell who they were, who they represented and what they did:

**Robert Anderson, Senior Biologist – Alberta Conservation Association**

Robert, based out of Blairmore, explained that the Alberta Conservation Association is a non-profit non-governmental organization (NGO) with projects studying such fields as wildlife population sustainability and migration patterns. Because of the proximity of British Columbia to the Crowsnest Pass, wildlife corridors in the area cross into British Columbia.

In Southwestern Alberta, one of the projects is the *Wildlife Habitat Initiative in Low Disturbance Zones – Habitat Resources and Movement Corridors*. The primary project goal is to identify important wildlife habitat features that lie within areas of currently low levels of human disturbance with the specific objectives of identifying areas of low disturbance, mapping coarse-scale habitat features within those areas, and documenting use of a select number of resource-rich, fine-scale habitat features. If this process is done effectively, it will help conserve Alberta’s wildlife and promote the maintenance of recreational opportunity for future generations to use and develop their own conservation ethic for wild species and wild places. This project is supported by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Fish and Wildlife Division, Anatum Ecological Consulting (Dale Paton) and Devon Canada.

Another project is the *Wildlife Habitat Initiative in Low Disturbance Zones – Wolverine Distribution Mapping*. This project, supported by Shell Fuelling Change and the Alberta Trappers’ Association (ATA), is working to identify which areas of Alberta wolverines occupy and to determine the major factors that influence their distribution. As the project moves forward, the project staff hopes to better understand the genetic relationships of wolverines across the province and the importance of genetics in conserving the species over the long term. The ATA would like to maintain its role in wildlife/furbearer management using modern technology and services.

When asked by Randy Moody if Teck sponsors any of the programs, Robert stated that they do not but clarified that his organization did not approach Teck for funding. As Devon no longer operates in the Crowsnest Pass (CNP), it is likely that Teck will be approached to partner for future projects.

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### **Nicole Pearse, Program Director – Boys and Girls Club of the Crowsnest Pass**

Nicole explained that the Boys and Girls Club of the Crowsnest Pass (BGCCP) provides after school and critical hours programs which contribute to the healthy development of young people, especially those who need them the most in the community. The club seeks to engage children and youth in healthy, primarily outdoor-based programs and activities. Examples of activities undertaken by the club are skiing, hiking, mountain biking and art sessions.

Strong community partnership is a key to the success of the programs for the club. Nicole indicated that, currently, the programs are going very well with lots of children and volunteers involved. A lot of Teck employees reside in the Crowsnest Pass and have children who are members of the club.

The programs offered by the BGCCP are for primary/intermediate school aged children (6 to 12) at this time but leadership programs for high schools students are being given considerations. Nicole shared with the group that Teck recently supported the club financially in the amount of \$25,000 to assist with the programming.

Mike Mertz, who is the lead for the 40 Developmental Assets for youth in the CNP, which Teck also supported financially, conveyed that there is an overlay - interagency relationship - between the BGCCP and the 40 Developmental Assets' building blocks for healthy, caring and responsible development.

### **Randy Moody, Ecologist – Keefer Ecological Services and Chairperson – Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada**

Randy explained that whitebark pine has recently been listed as Endangered under the Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). The Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada (WBPEFC), a non-profit society, hosted its Annual International Whitebark Pine Science Meeting from September 14 – 16, 2012 in Kimberley, BC. The purpose of such a meeting is to bring together researchers and managers to discuss ideas and options for restoration, research, and hopefully, recovery. Teck, among other contributors, supported the meeting financially to help offset expenses to host it.

Randy stated that there were about 60 attendees with the large majority of them from outside the East Kootenay area. Three guest speakers were present: a Forest Pathologist from the BC Ministry of Forests, a Wildlife Biologist from the University of Colorado and a Grizzly Bear Biologist from Glacier National Park.

Randy went on to explain that the whitebark pine grows at higher elevations in western North America, including British Columbia. It is considered to be a keystone or foundation species in subalpine ecosystems because a large number of other plant and wildlife depend upon its existence. The seeds are an important source of food for several wildlife species, especially the Clark's nutcracker and red squirrels. Both start to harvest the seed in the middle of August and through September. Ground squirrels, chipmunks, black bears and grizzly bears also eat the seeds. The relative abundance of cones can have a significant influence on the health, and well-being of bear populations in a region. The whitebark pine seeds contain high concentrations of fat, carbohydrates and protein.

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### **Randy Moody continued**

One factor that has contributed to the rapid decline in whitebark pine is blister rust which affects all five-needle pines with severe consequences. In addition, the epidemic of the mountain pine beetle infestation in British Columbia over the last decade has affected some whitebark pine stands in British Columbia.

Keefer Ecological Services Ltd and Tipi Mountain Eco-Cultural Services Ltd have been in discussion with key personnel at some of Teck's Elk Valley coal sites involved with reclamation with the hope that the whitebark pine can become part of Teck's reclamation program including off mine mitigation. One barrier to moving forward has been the inability to supply enough seedlings when needed.

### **Dale Paton, Conservation Biologist – Anatum Ecological Consulting Limited**

Following a presentation by himself and to the District of Sparwood Council at the October 29, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting, Dale Paton was invited to attend the Steering Committee meeting by Mayor Halko, Chair of the Committee.

Dale is part of a team studying wildlife vehicle collisions along Highway 3 who have identified high-collision sites and have provided recommendations on a suite of mitigation strategies to facilitate wildlife movement and reduce wildlife vehicle collisions. This was the basis of the presentation made to council.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Presentation on the Initiative**

Sharon Strom gave a brief overview of the initiative to the guests which included examples of some of the sustainability-related organizations with which Teck is a member and whose standards help to inform Teck's sustainability policies and practices.

A copy of Teck Resources Limited's Code of Sustainable Conduct was distributed to give a clearer understanding of Teck's sustainability strategies.

Sharon took this opportunity to invite the attendees to a presentation of the Westslope Cutthroat Trout Population Study, sponsored by Teck that will be held in the evening at The Causeway Bay in Sparwood at 6:30.

### **Community Perspectives**

Guests were invited, by Bob Johnstone, to provide their perspectives on Teck's impact in the Elk Valley and the Crowsnest Pass.

- Nicole Pearse and Randy Moody mentioned the benefit to their organizations from the funding provided by Teck

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- Dale Paton, who worked in the area mines for over 20 years, noted the benefit to the area from the jobs Teck provides. He also stated he has seen an increase in Teck's addressing of environmental issues and although there is more to do, there has been good progress made
- Rob Anderson noted that his perspective is mostly regarding the social end of things since he has two young children. He sees more young families and a benefit to them and their communities from Teck sponsoring youth oriented clubs and organizations. Rob pointed out that certain communities whose residents are making big salaries suffer negative social impacts such as increased drug use but he is unsure if this area is suffering any such impact.
- It was brought up that our communities may live in fear of future closure of the mines and may wonder what commitments Teck has for the communities' futures. Sharon Strom took the opportunity to address the recent news that Teck Resources quarterly earnings were down considerably from this quarter last year. She noted that the Coal Business Unit has been asked to cut back on spending, including its community investments, until further notice. She pointed out that this is part of an historical cycle with coal mining and would not likely last more than six or eight months. Sharon indicated that the slowing down of community investments was, in fact, timely because of an upcoming launch of a new company-wide Community Investment Policy.
- Mike Mertz asked if thought had been given to a legacy fund for communities which will be impacted by Teck Coal mine site closures. Sharon Strom replied that Nic Milligan made mention of that possibility at the first Advisory Panel meeting held March 28, 2012.
- Nicole Pearse mentioned that she would like to see more Teck employees involved with volunteerism. Sharon noted that employee volunteerism is included in the new Community Investment Policy and may assist with Nicole's wishes.
- The suggested lack of involvement of many of the Teck parents (particularly fathers) in the community activities, in which their children participate, led to a discussion about the potential cause for the issue. The existence of 4 X 4 schedules came up as a possible root cause since it is difficult for such shift workers to schedule structured volunteerism.
- Lorne Craig thought that it might be an idea for communities, with Teck's assistance perhaps, to host more family-based events such as fishing derbies.
- Randy Moody suggested that Teck Coal did not seem to have an open-door policy regarding its Community Investment requests and that only those who happened to know that money was available benefited. Sharon Strom said there is definitely an open-door policy with the proof being the heavy donation-request traffic (face-to-face or via letter, phone or email) through the office of Teck Coal's Community Liaison in the Elk Valley.

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### **Foundation Statements/Strategic Direction/Task Force Report**

Bob Johnstone advised the invited guests that the committee was going to review the outcomes of its last meeting and what steps have been taken between then and now. He welcomed the guests to stay for the remainder of the meeting if they wished or to feel free to leave at this time.

Bob distributed the first page of the Terms of Reference which included the initiative's strategic direction, as well as copies of the two Task Force meeting reports. Bob summarized the content of the handouts. He noted that he referred to one of the task forces in two different ways: Data Collection Task Force and Benchmarking Task Force and wondered if one was preferred over the other by the committee members. It was agreed to use Benchmarking as the name of the task force.

### **Next Steps**

The group was reminded that the biannual Advisory Panel meeting is being held at the Park Place Lodge in Fernie from 1:00 – 4:00 pm November 14, 2012. Members were asked to invite other members of their, or any, Communities of Interest who may wish to attend.

Chair Halko reminded the members that the next Steering Committee will be in January 2013 with the venue being in either Sparwood or Elkford.

The first Biannual Advisory Panel Meeting for 2013 will be in June with the intention of having it at St. Eugene's Mission Resort.

### **Closing Remarks**

Members were asked to give their assessment of the session and any other feedback they would like to provide. The comments were generally that having the guests present was very positive and to listen to them share their backgrounds was quite enjoyable. In addition, several commented that they were pleased with the progress the Teck Coal Elk Valley Communities of Interest Initiative was making considering the first meeting was less than 8 months ago.

Mayor Halko thanked everyone for their attendance and input and called the meeting to a close at 3:45 pm.

**The next Steering Committee meeting date options will be circulated by mid-December 2012.**

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## JULY 31, 2012 ACTION ITEMS STATUS

Version: Draft

Issue Date: November 5, 2012

Create a simplified, concise, clear version of TSM and its reporting system	Sharon	By end Aug
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prior to September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Distribute summary of TSM to AP	Sharon	Early Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sent to AP September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Distribute minutes of July 31 <sup>st</sup> meeting to AP	Sharon	Early Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sent September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Distribute revised ToR which include Strategic Direction for 2012/2013	Sharon	Early Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sent September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Invite AP members to submit their interest to sit on either of the task forces	Sharon	Early Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Invitation in body of September 4, 2012 email to AP</b></li> </ul>		✓
Send email to AP outlining TFs and inviting a show of interest by specific date	Sharon	Early Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Determine potential dates for next meetings as above	Sharon	Mid Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communication Task Force meeting held October 15, 2012</b></li> <li>• <b>Benchmarking Task Force meeting held October 29, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Secure venue for SC meeting in October in the CNP and consider speakers	Mike	Mid Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mike secured a meeting room in the Provincial Building in Blairmore and invited several guests to dialogue with the committee</b></li> </ul>		✓
	Sharon	asap
Complete unfinished action items for last AP meeting minutes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>See below:</b></li> </ul>		
Provide hard copy of Line Creek TSM Report Card to those who asked	Sharon	June 13 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Distributed at June 13, 2012 meeting</b></li> </ul>		✓
Provide TSM Verification Guidance documents to all	Sharon	Mid July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Included with summarized version of TSM as appendices sent to AP members September 4, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓
Provide schedule of sites' external verification and for which indicator	Sharon	<del>Mid July</del> October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>See table at bottom of section ***</b></li> </ul>		✓
Determine verifying company and extent of their verification for other mines	Sharon	<del>Mid July</del> October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environmental Resources Management (ERM)</b></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.erm.com/en/About-Us/Sustainability/">http://www.erm.com/en/About-Us/Sustainability/</a></li> </ul>		✓
Reschedule a tour of one of the EV coal sites	Sharon	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mines overwhelmed with tours over summer and fall. Will await Spring for slow down and better visibility</b></li> </ul>		
Arrange date for Steering Committee meeting	Sharon	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scheduled for and held July 31, 2012</b></li> </ul>		✓

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Reporting year	Calendar year for 3 <sup>rd</sup> party verification	Info
2008	2009	First year that self-assessments were completed at Elkview, Greenhills, Line Creek, Coal Mountain. Second year that self-assessments were completed at Fording River. No 3 <sup>rd</sup> party verification. Everyone doing annual self-assessments from this point forward
2009	2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> party verification at all 5 sites (but note that each protocol was not verified at every site)
2010	2011	No 3 <sup>rd</sup> party verification at any of the 5 sites
2011	2012	Line Creek had 3 <sup>rd</sup> party verification
2012	2013	Verification planned for Fording River and Elkview
2013	2014	Verification planned for Greenhills
2014	2015	Verification planned for Coal Mountain and Line Creek

**TECK COAL ELK VALLEY COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST STEERING COMMITTEE****OCTOBER 30, 2012 ATTENDANCE LIST**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Phone #1</b>	<b>Phone #2</b>
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
Johnstone, Bob	Meeting Facilitator	250-427-3277	
Mercier, Shirley	Interior Health	250-423-8250	250-423-1742
Mertz, Michael	Social - Prov of Alberta	403-562-3241	403-563-0674
Strom, Sharon	Teck Community Affairs	250-425-3343	250-433-1096
Walker, Lee-Anne	Elk River Alliance	250-423-3322	250-423-1682
Wedderburn, Shelley	Michel Creek Residents	250-425-6642	250-425-3761

## Guests:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Phone #1</b>	<b>Phone #2</b>
Anderson, Rob	Alberta Conservation Assoc.	403-562-3288	403-563-0689
Moody, Randy	Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Assoc. of Canada	250-489-4140	250-421-7910
Paton, Dale	Anatum Ecological Consulting Ltd.	403-562-7272	
Pearse, Nicole	Boys and Girls Club CNP	403-562-8664	

## Unable to attend:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Phone #1</b>	<b>Phone #2</b>
Mercereau, Bunny	Seniors' Society	250-425-7009	250-425-5851
Regular, Keith	Education - ESS	250-865-4674	250-865-2035
Voysey, Ben	Youth - FSS	250-423-4883	250-278-0725