

Minutes of Meeting		
Location: Causeway Bay, Sparwood Peter Fleury Room	Date: December 5, 2017	Time: 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Purpose: Steering Committee Meeting 2017 Q4	Version: Final	
Attendees: See attached	Issue date: February 22, 2018	

Meeting commenced at 1:05 a.m.

Welcome, Housekeeping, Safety Share

Simon's arrival was delayed so Anita welcomed attendees to the meeting. Sharon provided information regarding exits and restrooms.

Andrew volunteered to provide a safety share. He reminded everyone to watch their footing outdoors with the icy conditions. One of his friends slipped and fell while coming off an icy curb and she ended up with a fat lip and a broken arm.

Review of Agenda

Item 5.4 was added to the agenda by Lea-Anne: EVCEMF Open House and Workshop.

Item 5.5 was added by Simon: Compensation by companies to employees for time on Council/Committees

Objectives Update

Childcare – Terry and Gordon asked about the NDP's announcement the day before around funding for childcare in BC. Some information provided was that the \$10/day childcare campaign promise was not part of the announcement but is supposedly going to be addressed in the February 2018 budget report. \$33 million has been allocated to provide 3800 new daycare spots over 52 communities. Sharon realized that Elkford has a large number of infants and toddlers when she attended the Moonlight Madness Craft Fair there. Anita noted that Fernie does as well. Lee-Anne added that there is a shortage of swimming and ski lessons for children in Fernie. A brief discussion was had around the loss of facility use in Fernie from the ammonia gas accident at the arena. The Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Government is supposed to be hosted in Fernie in April but there is a likelihood and concern that the arena/curling rink facility will not be open by then.

Kerri asked if anyone in the Elk Valley communities applied for the capital funds from Columbia Basin Trust to open more childcare spaces. Anita confirmed the Fernie Child Care Society submitted an application. Lois asked if the Society covers all child care providers in Fernie. Anita said it was its own provider. She heard that they have 62 families on a waitlist.

Youth and Local Employment – Andrew had an opportunity to talk to peers at The Fernie Academy in Grades 11 and 12 regarding their plan post-high school ie. Where are they going, what are they going to do? Most plan to attend post-secondary school but many don't know why they plan to go or what they will take. Terry asked if any were interested in trades and was surprised when Andrew replied no. Lois suggested students have good discussions around finances before choosing their path.

Healthcare – Sharon and Kerri explained that there is strong interest in forming the Elkford Housing Society to address the need for affordable seniors’ housing in the community. A well-attended public meeting was held after which several people volunteered to sit on the Board of Directors while others offered to assist with task forces. Sharon added that Phoebe Scotland, who did the child care survey and created the child care resource brochure for the Elk Valley, has agreed to prepare a survey for Elkford to determine current needs and wants for senior housing and follow up with data analysis and a report of recommendations. Kerri suggested the timing is right because the National Housing Strategy was just released. Joanne said the Senior Housing Project in the Crowsnest Pass will be going up for tender in February. There have been many intense planning meetings.

Post-secondary Education – Simon had nothing much to report around the post-secondary facility project other than to say it is not a dead topic. A friend of his had a conversation with Don Lindsey in the recent past.

Housing – Simon said he will put together to present at the upcoming Partners meeting that will cover rentals and ownership. Lee-Anne said she was appalled by the living conditions of some of the MAST students in Fernie. Anita said College of the Rockies president and CEO, David Wall, announced there is going to be a need for student housing in Cranbrook because of the new trades facility. The plan for the Fernie Campus will be finalized in the next quarter according to Anita who emphasized that it was just that: a plan. Every campus has a plan. Simon reminded everyone of the BC Energy Step Code designed to assist in the transition from current energy-efficiency requirements to net zero energy ready buildings by 2032. A net zero energy ready building is one built to high energy-efficiency standards such that it could, with additional measures, generate enough onsite energy to meet its own energy needs.

Community Safety – Scott was absent. Lee-Anne pointed out that the BC government’s report on its assessment response and readiness for floods and fires will be coming out in the New Year. The Elk River Flood Strategy will also be looked into. Gordon mentioned that some towns are considering installing sprinklers around their perimeters.

Old Business

Action Items Review

Items that were completed were reviewed. Some remain outstanding.

New Business

Teck Feedback Received

Sharon advised the committee that in the last quarter, Teck received two level 3 concerns. One was from a District of Elkford Councilor to whom several constituents complained about the intensity of blasts from Greenhills Operations in the recent past. Another concern was from a District of Elkford employee concerned about the dust from trucks hauling coal between Greenhills and Line Creek Operations.

Teck Announcements/News Releases

- Update Regarding 2014 Fish Mortality at Line Creek
- Teck Named One of Canada’s Top 100 Employers for 2018 by MediaCorp
- Teck Named One of Canada’s Most Admired Corporate Cultures

Lee-Anne suggested there needs to be a way to keep Teck accountable. There have been three incidents in two months. The selenium plant is offline. What is being done and when will it be up and running again. How can local ENGOs access the funds from the fines Teck is paying in compensation for the 2014 Fish Mortality event.

Terms of Reference 2017/2018

Sharon distributed the Terms of Reference as revised following feedback from the committee. Changes were reviewed and accepted.

Elk Valley Cumulative Effects Management Framework

Lee-Anne shared that the Elk Valley Cumulative Effects Management Framework (CEMF) Working Group will be hosting an Open House at the Fernie Seniors Centre January 30th to reveal the new tool that was created to monitor cumulative effects. The eminent scholar and expert on cumulative effects, Dr. Bram Noble, from the University of Saskatchewan will be a guest speaker. There will also be a workshop at the Elkford Community Conference Centre on January 31st by invitation only. Lois acknowledged and thanked Lee-Anne for sticking with this challenging project for the duration.

Compensation to employees for time on Council or Committees

Simon had been approached by someone asking his opinion about whether or not companies should compensate employees for time away from work to sit on councils, for example. Kerri felt that it was not appropriate and could create negative optics. Lee-Anne agreed, noting it was outside the employer's responsibility. If people choose to run for positions, they must take into account how it will affect their job. In addition, municipal Members of Council get paid an honorarium for their services from the municipality they represent. Other committee members agreed that it was not something employers should be responsible for.

Round Table

Joanne – said there have a number of intense public and private meetings regarding the possible realignment of Highway 3 going through the Pass. There is consideration being given to bypassing the communities starting at the end of the lakes coming out at Lundbreck. There is concern around the impacts to businesses and private landowners.

Lois – was pleased to be in attendance to be updated. She noted that Sparwood is glad to be able to help the City of Fernie's arena user groups by providing ice time following the tragic closure of the Fernie Arena. She noted that Elkford and the Crowsnest Pass are also providing support. Lois noted that the District of Sparwood is drilling for a new well as #3 is being decommissioned, not because it is obsolete but because it is being replaced due to traces of selenium in the water.

Lee-Anne – expressed she was also glad to hear the feedback provided. She added that she recently participated on a Cumulative Effects Management Framework call with a group out of North Carolina around materiality as an index for sustainability. Lee-Anne also participated in a water conference in Invermere where the focus was on water monitoring in general. Teck, ERA, relevant ministries were some of those represented with discussion around central data collection and storage and access to it. This led to some discussion around a post-secondary research centre for the area and using COTR Fernie Campus to house it. Lee-Anne added that a successful wetland restoration project took place in Hosmer in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada which owns the land. The nearly 5 hectare project was preeminent in North America due to its size. Lee-Anne committed to sending before and after pictures for inclusion with the minutes. On another note, Lee-Anne added that put in and take out

sites on the Elk River are disgusting with an unbelievable amount of toilet waste being left. The Morrissey Provincial Part site is bad. The parking lot at Silver Springs has been full most days with people parking on the roads. Logging trucks pass by making the situation dangerous. If we keep inviting throngs of people to visit our region, we have to consider ways to protect the environment. Kerri suggested there needs to be some push back from residents regarding land use and they should demand regulations/guidelines/framework.

Andrew – was curious about the landscaping that is taking place across from the Aquatic Centre in Fernie was for. Anita explained that it was for an outdoor, natural ice arena that was in most part a donation from the Fernie Lions and of boards from the Calgary Flames.

Kerri – noted that a report on an assessment on drinking water in Interior Health can be found at: www.drinkingwaterforeveryone.ca. She participated in the Building Knowledge & Capacity in BC Small Communities in Affordable Housing session in Cranbrook in November. Kerri was pleased to share that she had been appointed to the Columbia Basin Trust Social Advisory Committee and will assist in developing a Social Advisory Plan.

Gordon – shared that a fellow member of the Elkford ATV Club, Murray Haight, was invited to sit on Teck's Closure Task Group. There was discussion with Greenhills Operations six weeks ago around opening of certain boundaries. Gordon thanked Teck for providing fuel and sandwiches for the third year to the ATV Club as they assisted with the Grizzly Bear Study.

Terry – said it was a good meeting as usual with everyone participating and providing information. Although overwhelming at times, it was good to get stories first hand rather than listen to rumours.

Anita – felt it was another good meeting with lot of valuable information shared. She took a moment to thank all of the support from other communities and their residents for coming together to support Fernie following the tragic event that took place at the Fernie Memorial Arena.

Sharon – updated the members of the status of the Closure Task Group that rests under the umbrella of this Communities of interest Advisory Initiative. Several meetings/workshops were held and the Terms of Reference was near completions. A Coal Mountain Operations closure information session is planned for January 2018 for members' continued understanding. Although not a Teck initiative, Sharon was pleased to share that the second Festival of Trees in the Elk Valley was a success with 12 not-for-profit organizations receiving funds from the sponsored trees. Sharon decorated a tree for Black Gold with over \$1300 raised going to the Sparwood Community Fund.

Simon – apologized for arriving late. He was double-booked this morning. He thanked Anita for leading the meeting in his absence.

Closing Remarks

Simon thanked everyone for their active participation and the sharing of information.

Next Meetings:

Steering Committee – March, 2018

Partners – July 2018

Action Items

Action Items	Who	Deadline
OLD		
Find out how long resumes are kept on file at Teck	AM	By next meeting
Find out if FRO extension project will include 60 wiggle wagons	AM	By next meeting
Identify who on committee will speak with school councillors regarding students interested in working for Teck Simon – TFA/Anita – FSS/Sharon – ESS, SSS, CCHS	All	At next meeting Done
Have casual conversations with peers regarding post-grad plans and information they would like regarding potential future employment	AC	By next meeting Done
NEW		
Speak to school councilors (as above)	SH/AP/ SS	End of April
COTR Fernie Campus renovation plan update	AP	When available
Post 'Get it in Writing' on COIAI website	SS	ASAP Done
Confirm if FRO will be hiring 100 new recruits in the near future	SS	ASAP
Send Hosmer wetland restoration project before and after pictures to Sharon	LW	Before minutes are distributed Done
Send wetland restoration before and after pics with minutes	SS	During minute distribution
Arrange for EVWQP/treatment plant update for March 2018 SC meeting	SS	By end of Feb 2018

Attendance

Name	Representing	Role	
Anonson, Terry	Metis Nation/Elkford		
Craig, Andrew	Youth		
Drain, Joanne	Seniors/Crowsnest Pass		
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation		
Halko, Lois	Municipal Government/Elk Valley		
Howse, Simon	Business & CHBA / Fernie	Chair	
Palmer, Anita	Education/RDEKA	Vice Chair	
Strom, Sharon	Teck / Communities	Secretary	
Walker, Lee-Anne	ENGOS/Fernie		
Wall, Kerri	Health		

Unable to attend:

	Representing	Role	
Bauer, Kim	Social Programs/Elkford		
Mac Con, Amy	Human Resources		
Robinson, Scott	Community Safety/Fernie		
Steinke, Lance	CNP		
Talarico, Janice	Interior Health		
Thomas, Vickie	Ktunaxa Nation		
Wedderburn, Shelley	Michel Crk Rd Residents/Sparwood		