

Minutes of Meeting		
Location: Causeway Bay, Sparwood Peter Fleury Room	Date: June 20, 2018	Time: 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Purpose: Steering Committee Meeting 2018 Q2	Version: Final	
Attendees: See attached	Issue date: September, 2018	

Meeting commenced at 9:05 a.m.

Welcome, Housekeeping, Safety Share

Simon welcomed everyone then asked people to introduce themselves for the benefit of the new ENGO representative, Allie Ferguson. Allie is the acting Executive Director of Elk River Alliance, replacing Lee-Anne Walker who retired.

Sharon identified the location of exits, the muster point and restrooms. She also noted who sent their regrets for their inability to attend (see attached).

Lois volunteered a safety share. She reminded everyone that traffic on Highway #3 is increasing with the season and cautioned those travelling through the intersection with Highway #43 to be aware of the construction.

Review of Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Objectives Update

Childcare – Sharon did not have any childcare updates. Anita was pleased to announce that the Province made 30 extra Early Childhood Education (ECE) training spots available for the East Kootenays starting July 30. The training will be online.

Youth and Local Employment – Amy is still trying to get the group introducing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to high school students to include some information about non-STEM roles at Teck. Allie asked if there is an initiative for high school students to have internships with Teck to get experience that can be difficult to come by. Amy noted that the minimum age to work for Teck is 18. Teck has so many applicants that it looks for those with experience who have already put in time and effort to develop their work skills.

Elkford Senior Housing (Healthcare Task Force) – There was a good number of respondents to the Elkford Senior Housing Needs survey. Phoebe provided a report with recommendations based on the responses. Sharon will circulate the survey report. Gordon asked if the senior housing would be affordable, based on income. Sharon said there will likely be a multi-level structure set up based on actual needs in the community. Those details will be decided as the project advances.

Post-secondary Education – Anita said there was no information on a new campus for Fernie. Someone heard that only renovations were approved.

Simon said there is not much to add to the discussion with Teck regarding the development of a focused coordinated research station/training facility in partnership with UBC. Discussions took place in the past with Bill Fleming, Nic Milligan, Marcia Smith and George Green. There is a genuine interest in the

project. There are 800 acres managed for Ridgemont Holdings available. Simon asked the Steering Committee if they would provide a letter of support around the development of such a research centre. Lois asked for more clarity around the letter of support. Simon recommended that he provide an idea of what he was expecting for the committee to review without his presence. Allie asked what stream of research he was considering – forestry, water? It would be a proprietary project. UBC would like to study 100 years of mining. Allie asked if the University has contributed funding. Simon said they had not.

Housing – Fernie has 120 years supply of land available for housing. Currently, in the community, affordable rental housing is needed. The BC Government and Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) are providing funding for 35 new affordable housing units to be built between Isabella Dicken Elementary School and Tom Uphill.

Community Safety – Scott absent

Ktunaxa Nation – Vickie absent

Allie asked to have a standing item on the objectives update section for Environment. The committee agreed to the request.

Old Business

Action Items Review - None

New Business

Teck Feedback Received – Sharon explained that there was a dust event in Sparwood on May 16 associated with a blast at Elkview Operations and coinciding rain and wind. It prompted 29 counts of feedback from the community. Those who complained and provided photos of the impact were compensated \$500 for cleaning. There were a small number of general dust complaints regarding Elkview Operations.

Teck Announcements/News Releases

- May 25 - Construction Begins on Fording River Water Treatment Facility
- June 7 – Teck Named to 2018 Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada
- June 11 – Teck Releases Results of Ongoing Research and Monitoring
- June 18 – Teck Donates \$1 Million to College of the Rockies

Steering Committee Elections – Sharon said she invited nominations for the Steering Committee for the upcoming Partners meeting. She asked current members if they were going to let their names stand for the Steering Committee election in July. Everyone confirmed his or her intention to remain on the committee.

Partners Meeting Guest Speakers – In addition to the usual update from Teck and the Steering Committee, suggested topics for guest speakers for the July Partners meeting were:

- An update on housing
- Teck dust mitigations
- Elk Valley Water Quality Plan research and development
- Municipalities and marijuana legislation
- Southern Rockies grizzly bear study update

Sharon will check on the availability of speakers

Round Table

Allie – Allie heard from Ayla Bennett that Environmental Monitoring Committee’s research and development meeting was one of the best and most informative meetings she attended. The summary with infographics was easier to absorb than just a lot of text. She hopes there will be more like that but with at least a month notice rather than a week. The meetings should be more frequently (quarterly) with smaller amounts of information provided.

Gordon – The Elkford ATV Club did one sampling for the grizzly bear study this year. They collected 34 samples. Gordon suggested an update on the Southern Rockies Grizzly Bear study would be a good topic for the upcoming Partners meeting.

Lois – The District of Sparwood hosted a successful community forum with the Ktunaxa Nation Council (KNC) a month ago. The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and the municipality funded the forum. It was held in an effort to become more aware of the First Nations and to increase and improve relationships with them. Sparwood is considering putting its name in Ktunaxa on welcome signs as well as flying a Ktunaxa flag at the visitor information centre. There will be another session in Cranbrook in the fall. It may take place at the KNC school at Aqam (St. Mary’s).

The District began looking into property encroachments in the community two years ago and was shocked at how many there were. Of the 190 properties discovered, 150 have become compliant.

The District of Sparwood is one of a small number of municipalities in Canada participating in the Municipal Natural Asset Initiative. The District is currently tackling unfiltered storm water under the program.

Anita – The College of the Rockies Fernie Campus received extra funding to offer the Healthcare Assistant Program for up to 16 people in September. The program is in person at the Fernie Campus.

Amy - Nothing to add

Sharon – Nothing to add but thanked everyone for attending

Simon – Nothing to add

Closing Remarks

Simon thanked everyone for attending and participating.

Next Meetings:

Partners– July 12, 2018
Steering Committee – September 2018

Action Items

Action Items	Who	Deadline
OLD		
None		
NEW		
Send Elkford Senior Housing survey results to SC	SS	Following the meeting

Attendance

Name	Representing	Role	
Ferguson, Allie	ENGOS/Fernie		
Galloway, Gordon	Motorized Recreation/Elkford		
Halko, Lois	Municipal Government/Elk Valley		
Howse, Simon	Business & CHBA / Fernie	Chair	
Mac Con, Amy	Teck/Human Resources		
Palmer, Anita	Education/RDEKA	Vice Chair	
Strom, Sharon	Teck / Communities	Secretary	

Unable to attend:

	Representing	Role	
Anonson, Terry	Metis Nation/Elkford		
Bauer, Kim	Social Programs/Elkford		
Craig, Andrew	Youth/Fernie		
Drain, Joanne	Seniors/Crowsnest Pass		
Robinson, Scott	Community Safety/Fernie		
Thomas, Vickie	Ktunaxa Nation		
Wall, Kerri	Health		
Wedderburn, Shelley	Michel Crk Rd Residents/Sparwood		