



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 24 September 2015

ATTENTION

The EDAC minutes are draft and subject to amendment. Final approval and adoption by the EDAC will follow a resolution to receive the minutes by the CCRD Board of Directors, at their next scheduled meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDAC)

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 24 September, 2015

In Attendance: Randy Hart (Chair) (Nuxalk Economic Development Corporation)
Markus Schieck (Community at Large)
Ernest Hall (Community at Large)
Lori Campbell (Community at Large) by telephone
Ana Santos (Denny Island Community) by telephone
Wilma Hallam (non-voting volunteer to committee)
Bo Reid (Heiltsuk Economic Development Corporation) by telephone
Tanis Shedden (CEDO)
Kyle Mettler (Local Government Management Intern and Recording Secretary)

Absent: Director Richard Hall (CCRD Director, Electoral Area D)
Garrett Newkirk (Bella Coola Harbour Authority)
Tracy Switzer (Ocean Falls Community)

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7.03pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

EDAC 15-09-01 M/S Hall/Santos that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

EDAC 15-09-02 M/S (E) Hall/Schieck that the EDAC Meeting Minutes dated 23 July, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Action Items

Business Walks

- (a) Set a date
- (b) First wave business identification
- (c) Business Walks package
- (d) Media release

Discussed as a block.

There was a group discussion on format and relevance of questions provided by NDIIT BRE Interview platform. Some minor changes were made to make the questions more relevant to the Regional District. Randy Hart asked about clarifying the “succession planning” questions. Hart brought up adding an explanation portion of selling a business or closing it and giving a new entrepreneur the

opportunity to start up their own business. An additional explanation portion was added to the question surrounding current constraints businesses are facing to include examples such as limited internet, transportation, ferries, trained personnel, etc.

Date was discussed and set at October 15th. Two groups will be visiting local businesses as an inaugural Business Walks for the Bella Coola Valley. The two groups will be Markus Schieck and Tanis Shedden and Lori Campbell and Ernest Hall. The businesses that will be approached will be discussed by the teams. Additionally, the Business Walks event on Denny Island will take the form of a Business Fair on Oct 24th. More on this on p.3.

EDAC 15-09-03 M/S (E) Hall/Campbell that the inaugural Business Walks take place October 15th in the Bella Coola Valley. That (E) Hall will write an article for the CM news to meet the October 1st deadline, and Shedden will create bulletin board/social media announcement.

CARRIED

EDAC Vision Statement

Noted there are many competing visions of what the valley should be. The EDAC will create an economic development vision statement (very high level/general) for CCRD Board approval. To gather community input there is an opportunity to engage people around the Federal Election. The vision needs further discussion and the subcommittee should do this via e-mail/telephone before the next EDAC meeting in November. The CEDO will follow up with the OCPAC to get a better idea when they will be needing the vision for their process. The subcommittee is Tanis, Markus, Lori, Ana.

EDAC 15-09-04 M/S Schieck/Santos that the subcommittee discuss and bring an economic development vision to the next EDAC meeting November 26th for approval.

CARRIED

5. Discussion

(a) Collaborative Project Funds – Food Security

The CEDO has connected with Bella Coola Valley Sustainable Agricultural Society through Dayna Chapman. The goal of this project is to bring local food to local retailers (including Outer Coast Communities). The project will be by invitation and will bring transporters, retailers, and producers together this November to answer the “how” question. Bo Reid suggested working to get this organized around the November CCRD Board meeting to leverage resources and ensure that the people who need to be there can be there. The CEDO will follow up with BCVSAS and see if November 6 will work for the invited parties.

(b) Workshops - Grants and Location Scouting

The CEDO has a date for a potential NDIIT grant writing workshop in Bella Coola on Oct 16. There needs to be at least 20 attendees. Ernest Hall and Randy Hart expressed interest in attending and have suggested that the CEDO reach out to Nuxalk Nation. Ernest will bring the date to BCVT and the BCVAC to gauge their level of interest in attending. It was suggested that the CEDO explore funding

opportunities to bring individuals from Outer Coast communities to attend the workshop. The CEDO will look into funding Outer Coast participants through the collaborative funds.

The CEDO has been in contact with an individual who is interested in hosting a location scouting workshop to get more local locations on the British Columbia Film Association scouting website: creativeBC. The goal is to create one or two templates for residents to view at this event. The goal is to get other residents to put their land/property on the site as a potential location for filming.

EDAC 15-09-05 M/S Hall/Santos that the CEDO will send e-mails gauging Grant Writing Workshop interest to Wilma Mack (Nuxalk Nation) and organizations in the Bella Coola Valley and Outer Coast communities.

CARRIED

(c) Adopt-a-bin

Project costs are projected at approximately \$20,000 for ten bear proof bins. The issue is structuring the long run upkeep and maintenance of the bins. Randy Hart suggested using Business Walks as a platform to gauge interest from local businesses in participating in the program. This "Adopt-a-bin" project was designed to be a first step in town beautification. The Central Coast is known for its 'pristine' environment and the lack of access to garbage cans is a problem. The teams participating in the October 15th will informally collect and gauge community interest in hosting a bin.

6. General Information

(a) The OCPAC is behind deadline having not met in July or August. Their next meeting is tentatively scheduled for early October.

The meeting has been scheduled for October 13th and the CEDO will find out more about where in the process they are in terms of the review and where the EDAC vision statement for Economic Development in the CCRD will fit.

(b) Letter to Ministry of Forest, Land and Natural Resources; Future JSP meeting

The letters written to the ministry about the Great Bear Rainforest Order will not be released to the public. Joint Solutions Project has cancelled their meeting in Bella Coola with no date rescheduled.

**(c) Community Updates:
Bella Bella – Bo Reid**

Heiltsuk Nation is currently building a new band store following the fire several years ago. An airport expansion is in the works within the next 6 months and there is talk about a clay project being established.

Denny Island – Ana Santos

Businesses on Denny Island can come and go quickly. There is not a lot of "togetherness" in the business community. Ana hopes that being a part of EDAC and having closer ties with

the CCRD will improve the dynamic in the business community. There are problems with the roads, airport building, recycling, etc. and community members are always looking for ways to upgrade and improve the situation. October 24th the Central Coast Chamber of Commerce (CCCC) is hosting an informal Business Fair to coincide with the Business Walks taking place in other communities. The CCCC will use this event to collect the required information from local businesses and to facilitate interaction among them.

Bella Coola Valley – Ernest Hall

Ernest is unsure about the results following this tourism season and will follow up with local operators to get a picture of how the season went as a whole. Markus Schieck indicated that there are less tourists in the Bella Coola Valley due to the ferry cuts. Ernest indicated that he was uncertain about this due to accommodators being very busy.

7. Adjournment

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 26th. A Business Walks report will be circulated at this time with findings and recommendations for future Business Walk efforts.

EDAC 15-09-06 M/S Schieck/(E) Hall, that the EDAC meeting of Thursday 24 September 2015 be adjourned at 8.57 pm.

CARRIED