

## TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

SESSION NO. #9

November 3, 2021

The meeting of Economic Development Executive Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held virtually in the Civic Centre on November 3, 2021 from 1204 hrs to 1232 hrs.

PRESENT: Chairperson D. Judson, Councillors M. Behan and J. McTaggart, Mayor J. Caul (ex-officio)

ALSO PRESENT: F. Anwar, CAO, D. Cridland, J. Pryde, T. Ryll, C. Vangel, CBO / Municipal Planner, G. Lecuyer, Municipal Clerk, A Hansma, Human Resources Manager, K. Haney, Deputy Clerk

REGRETS: T. Drysdale, Economic Development Consultant, G. Gillon, RRFDC

**1. Call to Order @ 1204 hrs/Roll Call**

**2. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof - none**

**3. Approval of Previous Committee Minutes**

3.1 Session no 7 - 04 August 2021 - Amended - Accepted as presented.

3.2 Session 8 - 08 September 2021 - Accepted as presented

**4. Items Referred from Council - none**

**5. New Business**

5.1 NW Ontario Presentation - Item has been brought forward to next meeting

5.2 Labour Market Final to OCT 29 - Item has been brought forward to next meeting

5.3 Fort Frances-International Falls Bridge - Preliminary correspondence to be drafted by Administration and forwarded to Transport Canada with an invitation via deputation to the Council meeting of 22 November 2021.

**6. Outstanding Items**

6.1 **Ranier Bridge** - Letters to Stauber and Klobuchar - Concerns re rail bridge. C. Vangel to communicate with CN Public Affairs group and bring further information back to next meeting. Working group to be created and consist of C. Vangel, J. Caul, J. McTaggart and D. Cridland. **2021/06/09:** Working group to meet within next two weeks **2021/07/07:** Conversation with CN Public Affairs and C. Vangel re future status of Ranier Bridge. Concerns identified included flood risk and economic gateway between two communities. Project in infancy stage with 3-5 year potential. TOFF requested to be kept apprised of consultation process. **2021/09/14** - No new developments. Decision made to keep on agenda for future updates. **2021/11/03:** No developments to share at this time.

**Winnipeg to Thunder Bay tourism route initiative** - Work in progress. NOMA tourism panel aware - possible intent to draw people to Hwy 11 and onto 71 corridor. **2021/06/09:** No updates. **2021/06/29:** Heart of Canada Touring Route **2021/07/07:** In final stages of touring route between Winnipeg and Thunder Bay. Regional initiative and a focus on Highway 71 corridor. Recommendation via Committee for Council to support RRFDC by way of resolution a seat on affiliated steering committee. Public launch of initiative to occur at 2022 Rendez-vous Canada. **2021/08/04:** We need to ensure we are included in marketing and get our message out there. RRFDC is our representative at the Steering Committee. **2021/09/07** Part of RRFDC Workplan. Tourism panel fully aware

of Fort Frances' support and information has been forwarded on our Tourist attractions. Draft for website coming. Regional meeting planned. **2021/11/03:** Committee discussed the importance of keeping this item active on the agenda.

**Cross Border Fishing Activity** - Status of reciprocal agreement re walleye report to be determined. **2021/06/09:** Correspondence forwarded. No further updates. **2021/07/07:** Correspondence outstanding. Keep as item on agenda. **2021/08/04:** Greater police presence observed on the lakes. Mayor Caul to initiate discussion with Marcus Powlowski at the meeting scheduled for Friday, 06 August 2021. **2021/09/07:** Concerns re fishing following border opening forwarded to Minister Rickford and Marcus Powlowski forwarded via email. Confirmation of receipt of email received. Item to remain on agenda. **2021/11/03:** No response yet received. Consensus was to leave on agenda for final report prior to removal from agenda.

**7. Information**

- 7.1 Sept - TOFF 2 year workplan REPORT to EDEC - Item to be brought forward to next meeting.

**8. In-Camera - None**

**9. Adjourn @ 1232 hrs/ Next Meeting Date - 08 December 2021**

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Executive Committee Chair

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F. Anwar, CAO