



**RAINY RIVER FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**
A Community Futures Development Corporation

July 30, 2014



Mr. Mark McCaig, CAO
Town of Fort Frances
320 Portage Avenue
Fort Frances, Ontario
P9A 3P9


Dear Mark:

Please find attached the Rainy River Future Development Corporation's (RRFDC) invoice for services for the period April 1/14 – June 30/14. The Activity Report for the enhanced services is also attached.

We look forward to presenting our activities to Council on a date to be determined.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours truly,



Geoff Gillon
Regional Economic Developer





**RAINY RIVER FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**
A Community Futures Development Corporation

30-Jun-14

Invoice # 001-06-2014

INVOICE

To: Town of Fort Frances
Attn: Mark McCaig

From: Rainy River Future Development Corporation

For: **Fort Frances Economic Development**
For the period of April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

Amount: **\$19,143.32**

Description:

Forest Industry Re-Positioning	
Consultants	\$0.00
Travel/Meetings	\$0.00
Diversification Activities	\$0.00
Mining Supply and Services	
Consultants	\$0.00
Travel/Meetings	\$0.00
Diversification Activities	\$197.76
Tourism Product Development	
Consultants	\$16,309.27
Travel/Meetings	\$1,093.53
Diversification Activities	\$9,247.03
Existing SME Support	
Consultants	\$4,542.25
Travel/Meetings	\$0.00
Diversification Activities	\$362.75
Value Added Products	
Consultants	\$0.00
Travel/Meetings	\$0.00
Diversification Activities	\$0.00
Enhanced Services Economic Development	
Travel/Meetings	\$399.16
Advertising/Distribution	\$0.00
Consultant	\$6,611.54
Economic Development Intern	\$8,105.25

Total Project Expenses **\$46,868.54**

Less Diversification Project Claim Apr 1/14 to Jun 30/14
And Other Support **-\$27,725.22**

AMOUNT DUE **\$19,143.32**

Any questions, please give us a call.
Thank you!

Due Upon Receipt



601 Mowat Avenue
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1Z2
www.rrfdc.on.ca

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Email info@rrfdc.on.ca
Fax 807.274.6989

RRFDC ACTIVITY REPORT

April to July 2014

RAINY RIVER FUTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
601 MOWAT AVENUE, FORT FRANCES, ONTARIO P9A 1Z2
PH: 807-274-3276***FAX: 807-274-6989

Fort Frances Economic Development Activities:

1) Forestry

The RRFDC has hired Mr. Mike Willick, RPF to assist the Town in its efforts to become for involved in the forest tenure process.

We have also acquired funding to provide accounting and/or business consulting support for the logging industry in effort to assist them in this difficult time. A qualified firm will be engaged to provide confidential advice and guidance.

2) Mining – Industrial and Residential Preparedness

We continue to advertise the future opportunities related to the New Gold – Rainy River Project by highlighting industrial park lots and electricity prices. We believe that both Fort Frances and the District will benefit from the new mine in two ways:

- We will be the location of choice for some smaller auxiliary industries who service this mine and perhaps some Iron Range mines.
- By becoming residence of choice for the workforce. Largely all the work that has been done over the past few years on social media and internet presence promotes us as the great place to live that we are, is to set the stage to inform these potential new residents.

Fort Frances Industrial Park and Property

The RRFDC/FFEDO has developed a brochure for the new Huffman Estates Subdivision. (See attached)

Condominium Development

Another condominium developer has been found and is working with Fort Frances Council, we believe that this project is currently on hold.

3) Tourism

The past few months has seen an increase in tourist related activities at the RRFDC. The **Harmony of Nations Music Festival**, planning and implementation took up significant staff and volunteer time. The Festival which brought together Canadian, American, First Nations, and Métis performers and instructors took place on the Fort Frances waterfront (July 18th and 19th). The event featured two nights and one afternoon of entertainment for visitors under the RRFDC event's tent.

The RRFDC and the FFEDO has hired three summer students and our intern to assist us in supporting Town summer events such as the Canada Day parade, the music festival, the Bass Championship, Pulling for Peace, and the Dragon Boat races.

A new intern with a specific focus on tourism will begin work at the RRFDC in September.

Fort Frances Border Crossing and Ontario Tourist Information Center (OTIC)

The RRFDC and the FFEDO also worked to finalize the lease for the former Ontario Tourist Information Center (OTIC) which is now occupied and functional.

The students are now stationed at the OTIC for 50 or more hours each week all summer long to greet tourists and provide information. We also kept the Sorting Gap and Museum brochures stocked.

The RRFDC has had a new Tourist Information Sign installed at the OTIC as well as displays. Agreements with partners to mitigate the costs are being worked out.

Other Tourism Projects

We applied on behalf of the museum to create a walking tour. This tour will link the downtown and the waterfront area and create a new tourism product. Unfortunately Trillium did not fund this project, so we will identify an alternative funder and continue our efforts.

We have joined Heart of the Continent and will also be creating a geo-caching tourism product. We are also exploring possibilities with charter services for summer tours.

We continue to remain active on all the Town's social media platforms.

Branding

The new brand is being incorporated into all Fort Frances related advertizing which the RRFDC does.

We are still waiting for FedNor approval for two projects in support of the recent re-branding of Fort Frances. The funds will be used to update the Town's marketing through digital media and tourism signage.

Rainy Lake Market Square

We are still waiting for this project to go before the NOHFC Board. We have been told it is in the queue for review but the recent provincial election has slowed the process.

The Rainy Lake Market Square will house a market building that will be open most of the year with interior and exterior spaces for vendors. The site will offer a community space that could be used for concerts, events and downtown celebrations. The market square will offer additional access to the downtown that will include pull-through parking stalls and will dramatically increase the access to Scott Street for the 400,000 US visitors who cross at the Fort Frances border each year. The RRFDC/FFEDO completed the concept plan and NOHFC applications for the \$1.9 million project.

4) Value Added Products

The RRFDC has reviewed the ancillary healthcare and personal services sector study with the Riverside Healthcare Services Board and the Fort Frances Clinic. We are still determining next steps but a following study for expanded services is in the works.

6) Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Support

The RRFDC has held business start up sessions and social media presentations.

7) Regional Strategic Planning

The third meeting of the Local Government Networking Group (LGNG) took place on June 26th in Emo to review the economic development initiatives of the partners. The group appears to be interested in developing a long term regional project which will support the entire region.

8) Telecommunications

The RRFDC has developed an Expression of Interest for improved telecommunication services. This EOI has been sent to all major telecommunications companies to gauge the appetite for upgrading the region's services. It closes in early September at which time we hope to have a partner to work with us in developing applications to senior government.

9) Go Local

Over the course of its first year, Go Local Fort Frances has witnessed a positive shift towards local shopping within the community.

- Awareness of the Go Local Rewards Program is very high (82%) in Fort Frances.
- ½ of households surveyed in Fort Frances have at least one membership in the household.
- High agreement (73%) that encouraging residents to shop at locally owned and operated businesses helps to build a stronger community.
- There was a net increase (+20%) in local spending by Go Local Reward Program member households compared to non-member households.

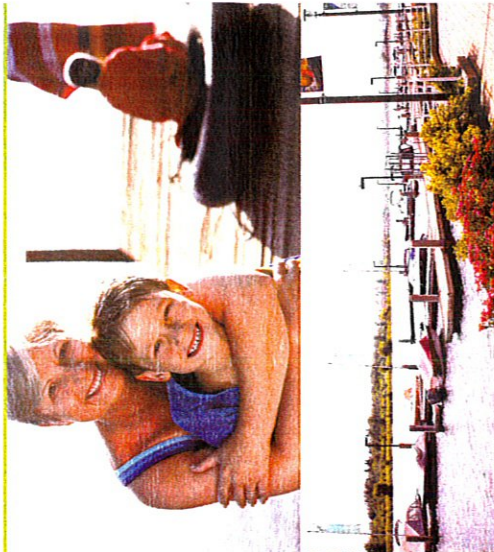
We have distributed Loyalty Rewards Cards to half the households in Fort Frances and re-invested over \$30,000 into the community. The recent enrollment of more local merchants has brought our business membership to over 35 businesses.

The RRFDC assists this project by marketing the advantages of the program to Fort Frances and area businesses, encouraging them to sign on. We also do all the project reporting, bookkeeping and statements.

10) Community Foundation

The RRFDC found individuals interested in moving the Community Foundation ahead and we will begin discussion in earnest following the summer. Cathy Emes has agreed to Chair this effort and we will be facilitating the working group's efforts to form a foundation this fall.

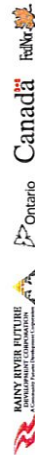
LIVE BOUNDLESS



LIVE MINUTES AWAY FROM
WORLD CLASS FISHING ON RAINY LAKE

LIVE WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE
TO LIBRARY'S, SCHOOLS, SHOPPING &
FULL RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

LIVE IN A PLACE THAT YOUR
FAMILY WILL CALL HOME



BUILDING YOUR DREAMS ON SAVINGS

You'll have the **LOWEST ENERGY RATES** in the Province. Your household could **SAVE UP TO \$2,000** per year on electrical bills vs. HydroOne.

TAX DOLLAR VALUE. Your Property taxes/users fees will be a fraction of cost of the Toronto Area. The 20 year **SAVINGS** is \$9,000.

BUYING & BUILDING IS AFFORDABLE for everyone. The average home cost in Fort Frances is only \$138,000. We offer a variety of housing options and tax breaks to help you renovate and rebuild existing properties.

ENJOY YOUR TIME. Keep a rural lifestyle with all the hassle-free amenities of urban living.



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PRIME OVERSIZED
RESIDENTIAL LOTS
START
SAVING
NOW!

FORT FRANCES
LIVE BOUNDLESS

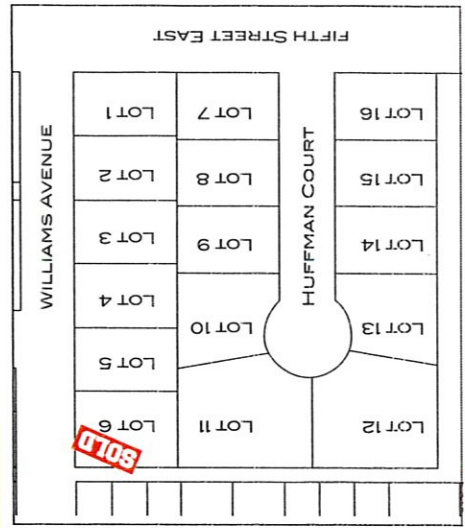
WWW.FORT-FRANCES.COM

HUFFMAN COURT / WILLIAMS AVENUE

RESIDENTIAL LOTS
FOR SALE

LOT	PRICE	FRONTAGE	SQ. M.
1, 2, 3, 4 & 5	\$39,900.00	21.5	752.5
6	\$45,500.00	29.05	1016.75
7, 8 & 9	\$41,500.00	22.75	796.25
10	\$49,500.00	IRREG	1040
11 & 12	\$65,000.00	IRREG	1697
13	\$49,500.00	IRREG	1040
14, 15 & 16	\$41,500.00	22.75	796.25

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TOWN OF
FORT FRANCES