

## TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

MINUTES

SESSION NO. #6

July 7, 2021

The meeting of Economic Development Executive Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held virtually in the Civic Centre on July 7, 2021 from 1203 to 1245 hrs.

PRESENT: Chairperson D. Judson, Councillors M. Behan and J. McTaggart, Mayor J. Caul (ex-officio) 1208 hrs

ALSO PRESENT: D. Cridland, J. Pryde, C. Vangel, CBO / Municipal Planner, G. Gillon, RRFDC, J. Forbes, Human Resources Manager, E. Slomke, Clerk, Joerg Ruppenstine, CAO, FFPC, K. Haney, Deputy Clerk, M. Emara, Fort Frances Times, R. Thoms, B93.1, Heather Grupp (Guest)

REGRETS: T. Drysdale, Economic Development Consultant, T. Ryll

**1. Call to Order @ 1203 hrs / Roll Call**

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

**3. Approval of Previous Committee Minutes**

3.1 Session no 5 - 09 June 2021 - Accepted as presented

**4. Items Referred from Council**

4.1 International Bridge - Mayor Caul and Councillor McTaggart met with Minister Rickford. Meeting to be organised with TOFF, to include Federal government (Marc Powlowski) for further discussion re International bridge status.

**5. New Business - None**

**6. Outstanding Items**

**6.1 Standing items for updating:**

**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.

**Orea White Paper Small Towns Big Opportunities** - Further information re action plan/seeking organizations that can assist in lobbying to be sought. Item identified at RRDMA - on radar, may assist in lobbying going forward. Query pilot project.  
2021/06/09: Item to proceed to NOMA in January with CAO involvement. 2021/07/07: No updates. Keep as item on agenda

**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.

**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

**7. Information**

7.1 TOFF 2 year workplan - Report to EDEC - Accepted as presented

**8. In-Camera - none**

**9. Adjourn @ 1245 hrs / Next Meeting Date - 04 August 2021**

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Executive Committee Chair

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, Acting CAO