

## TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

### MINUTES

August 10, 2015

The meeting of Economic Development Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Committee Room on August 10, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: G. Rogozinski, M. McCaig, J. Lampi-Hughes, K. Perry, K. McCaig, C. Mallory, E. Faragher, J. Gillon, C. Cumming, G. Gillon, T. Drysdale.

ALSO PRESENT: F. Flatt and K. Lawson, Secretary.

REGRETS: J. McTaggart, D. Fortes, M. Caron.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Non-agenda Committee items which because of urgency cannot be deferred to a subsequent meeting, identified to be considered later in the meeting.**
3. **Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof**
4. **Approval of Previous Advisory Committee Minutes**
  - 4.1 **July 13th, 2015 meeting minutes.**

Perry-K. McCaig THAT the minutes of the July 13th, 2015 meeting having been circulated be approved.

CARRIED

5. **In-Camera - None**
6. **Items Referred from Council - None**
7. **Standing Items**

- 7.1
  - 1) Land Sale Policy Review (materials to be distributed).
    - the Municipal Planner presented a revised Land Sale Policy for review by members. Direction was given that a final draft be brought to the next regular meeting of EDAC to include revisions as discussed.
  - 2) Harmony of Nations Festival
    - Tannis advised that the actual numbers and dollar figures are still being broken down to determine if there is an economic need for this event; did the event do what it needed to do; and how engaged RRFDC needs to be. She expressed her thanks for the assistance that Public Works provided with the event tent.
  - 3) Tourist Centre
    - Tannis gave an overview of changes to the interior of the tourism centre and described the panoramas which now have been installed.
  - 4) Planning Market Square Committee.
    - Tannis advised formation of a planning committee to include input from members of the BIA, EDAC, Museum, Farmers Market, Chamber of Commerce and Council. Tannis will further a letter to Council respecting this item.
  - 5) Community Foundation
    - Tannis advised she is still searching for a new chair; and that she is having difficulty finding volunteers.

## **8. New Business**

### **8.1 Strategic Plan Initiatives - Economic Development Advisory Committee Responsibilities (for future discussion - Time lines to be adopted by Council).**

1) Beautification/revitalization of the Town of Fort Frances

- *examine the recommendations put forth from the Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce regarding the beautification & revitalization of the Town of Fort Frances.*

2) Investigate the expansion of free WiFi offerings

- *investigate the viability of expanding free WiFi offerings in the community*

3) Industrial park strategy

- *examine the current policies regarding the marketing of the industrial park lots and make possible amendments*

4) Sports tourism initiative

- *examine all aspects and potential opportunities related to sports tourism within the community, including the potential for expansion of existing services and event offerings*

6) Branding

- *ensure that a complete and effective implementation of the Town's recent branding initiative is implemented throughout the Community & its operations*

7) Kiwanis Sunny Cove Camp

- *will investigate the long-term use and potential of the camp for youth programming and economic development opportunities*

This item will be further discussed at upcoming meetings of the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

## **9. Non-agenda Items**

K. Perry re:

1) Heart of the Continent;

2) Rail Taxation Issue;

- Councillor Perry advised that he will be speaking on behalf of NOMA regarding the CN Rail taxation issue.

R. Avis re:

1) Duncan Keith Day;

- Mayor Avis and M. McCaig spoke about the event. They advised that they have received nothing but positive feedback and extended their thanks to the committee and volunteers who worked to make the event an overwhelming success. Mayor Avis announced that Duncan Keith was making a personal donation of \$5,000.00 each to Fort Frances Minor Hockey, LaVerendrye General Hospital, Rainycrest Long-Term Care Home and Couchiching First Nation.

2) Association of Camp Owners Meeting.

- Mayor Avis gave a brief update on his recent attendance at the Camp Owners meeting.

## **10. Adjourn / Next Meeting Date**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

### **10.1 Next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2015**