

Thompson Rivers Economic Accord A Statement of Co-operation

WHEREAS we the Mayor of the City of Kamloops, the Chief of the Kamloops Indian Band, the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the provincial riding of Kamloops, the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the provincial riding of Kamloops-North Thompson, the Member of Parliament for the federal riding of Kamloops, Thompson and Highland Valleys, and the Chair of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (co-operating under the name Team Kamloops) recognize the need to work together for the economic benefit of the residents within our jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS in order for local businesses to take advantage of emerging opportunities, comprehensive regional advantages must be presented to potential investors, and efficient use of regional infrastructure and human resources must be encouraged;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to jointly promote the positive attributes of our region and to make use of local capabilities more effectively for the benefit of the regional economy;

AND WHEREAS we believe co-operation among economic development groups, Team Kamloops and other committed business associations and businesses is the most effective way of creating new economic opportunities for Kamloops and region;

AND WHEREAS we believe in the importance of co-operation on cultural and social issues as they pertain to the economic well-being of our region.

NOW THEREFORE we agree to:

- 1. Maintain an open communication with one another on economic development and to work co-operatively and proactively in the best economic interests of the region; and*
- 2. Support and encourage positive communication and co-operation among economic development stakeholders in the Thompson Rivers economic zone, defined for the purposes of this Accord as being the area within the boundaries of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District; and*
- 3. Co-operate with other stakeholders in the development of such strategies as may be appropriate in keeping with the principles of this Accord; and*
- 4. Act as ambassadors for our region and promote awareness within our communities, among potential investors and at all levels of government, of the benefits of a regional economic strategy that is inclusive of municipal, First Nations, provincial and federal interests; and*
- 5. Meet from time to time as necessary, but not less than biannually to further the aims of this Accord; and*
- 6. Act in rotation as Chair, in the order of signatures appearing below, to encourage and coordinate the aims of this Accord.*

Signed this 15th day of February in the year 2002 at Kamloops, British Columbia, by:

*Mel G. Rothenburger
Mayor, City of Kamloops*

Bonnie Leonard
Chief, Kamloops Indian Band

Betty Hinton, MP
Kamloops, Thompson Highland Valleys

Al Kemp
Chair, Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Claude Richmond, MLA
Kamloops