

SUMMARY REPORT
CHETWYND, BC
Chetwynd 3rd Local Government & First Nations
Regional Community to Community Forum

Forum Objective

This meeting will be a step towards better communication between First Nations and local government. Building a good flow of communication between First Nations and Mayor and Council is important at this stage and would provide both First Nations and local government with an opportunity to become aware and appreciate each others goals and values. This would also provide the opportunity for First Nations and local government to discuss future joint plans for the area and discuss new development and activities. Chetwynd and area are extremely busy with new development due to the increase in mining and oil and gas. This forum will be instrumental in cementing the relationships between our respective governments.

Things have progressed from last year's successful meeting Chetwynd and area are extremely busy with new development and increase in mining and oil & gas. This forum will be very instrumental in cementing the relationship between our respective governments.

Participants

Present: Evan Saugstad, Mayor
 Bob Nicholson, Councillor
 Brenda Maisey, Councillor
 Laverne Norris, Councillor
 Merlin Nichols, Councillor
 Wayne Rose, Councillor
 Ellen Calliou, Economic Development Officer
 Elaine Davis, Economic Development Assistant
 Mike Redfearn, Chief Administrative Officer
 Sheree Smith, Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce
 Tim Caton, Area E Director
 Bob Inkpen, Economic General Manager - MLIB
 Brandi Scott, Councillor - WMFN
 Clarence Willson, Councillor – WMFN
 Derek Orr, Youth Councillor – MLIB
 Geraldine Solonas, Councillor - MLIB
 Harold Martin, General Manager - MLIB
 John Samm, Economic Development Officer - WMFN
 Karen Davis, Northeast Health Services
 Lucy Martin, Councillor - MLIB
 Patrick Prince, Councillor - MLIB
 Roland Wilson, Chief – West Moberly FN
 Tracey Casimir, Guest – MLIB

Absent: Saulteau First Nations Members

Issues Discussed

Agenda Items and/or Presentations

District of Chetwynd – Discussion Topics
Community Forest
Motor-cross Track
Hospital
Long Term Care Home
Opportunities to Share Resources
Urban Systems - Interim Economic Development Report
Comments from McLeod Lake Indian Band
Comments from West Moberly First Nations
Wind Energy
Other

Recommendations /Outcomes

Recommendations:

Joint Community Forest

Outcome:

West Moberly First Nations, Saulteau First Nations and the District of Chetwynd working to set up a meeting to finalize structure and start application process.

The group commented on the problems within town boundaries and within First Nation areas for biking and quad use on the highway and roads. The District is working with the Chetwynd RCMP and ATV club on proposal of a site and access to the area for safe riding. West Moberly commented they are in the process of working with local RCMP on safe riding and laws for riding on the West Moberly area.

Recommendations:

Continue process and comments for the proposed site for the Motor-cross Track.

Outcome:

The proposed site would benefit both the municipal and local First Nations areas.

Recommendations:

The demand for more hospital beds is obviously needed in Chetwynd as there are a far amount of seniors here.

Outcome:

Karen would like to meet with the District of Chetwynd along with the bands in the future to keep everybody up to date.

Everyone agreed that working together on health care was an advantage for everyone and recognizing the need for Seniors Housing development.

Recommendations:

There is an opportunity for better long term facility in Chetwynd

Outcome:

We look for appropriate location for seniors housing, we are not going to pull beds while decisions are still being made.

We all agree that everyone would benefit by a joint venture of developing a long-term facility close to the Hospital with Assisted and Supported Housing.

Recommendations:

The District of Chetwynd, West Moberly First Nations and McLeod Lake Indian all agreed to accommodate all our needs, by using each others experts like Water Treatment.

Outcome:

Work together on the problem at hand and if we can assist each other in needs, bylaw development access to trades network when necessary.

Recommendations:

Urban Systems will have the report completed soon for distribution.

Outcome:

The report will be distributed when it is complete, estimated to be done is the end of October, 2005.

Recommendations:

Sharing resources.

Outcome:

“Share” Policies and Procedures.

Recommendations:

The whole group was very interested and all were supportive regarding wind energy.

Outcome:

The business is in the middle of environmental assessment. Everyone will be informed on the business development of the proposed Windmill project for Chetwynd and area.

Recommendations:

Discussion on the drug problems in Chetwynd and on the reserves.

Outcome:

The District of Chetwynd meets with the Chetwynd detachment to talk about what can be done to stop the drug problems, and asks the bands to do the same. Together come up with a solution. There is a Community Services Provider Representatives meeting, re: Action Plan to Address Problems of Drugs and everyone is invited to participate. West Moberly is also having a meeting on the use of drugs and specific to effects of the use of drugs and everyone is invited to attend as well. Both will follow up on dates of proposed dated of the mtgs.

Recommendations:

The group closed agreeing to try to have more discussions to improve relationships.

Outcome:

Meeting again in 2006, continue networking on common goals.

Financial Summary

Budget Break-down Summary Chetwynd 3rd Local Government & First Nations Regional Community to Community Forum

Description	Actual Expense	Amount Proposed
Dinner for 27 people at \$16.75 per plate	\$452.25	\$630.00
Beverages and Snack Trays	\$158.75	\$125.00
Room Rental, Chetwynd Recreation Centre	\$350.00	\$300.00
Facilitation Services (EC – Economic Consultation Services)	\$1700.00	\$1700.00
Preparation of materials, information packages and displays	\$300.00	\$300.00
Contingency	\$100.00	\$100.00
Final report production	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total	\$3361.00	\$3455.00

Total Funding Requested (50%)

\$1727.50

**Chetwynd & District 3rd
Local Government and First Nations
Regional Community to Community Forum**

Itinerary

- 5:00 p.m. Social
- Welcome from Mayor Saugstad, MC
- Introductions
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Agenda Items and/or Presentations
- District of Chetwynd – Discussion Topics
 - Community Forest
 - Motor-cross Track
 - Hospital
 - Long Term Care Home
 - Opportunities to Share Resources
 - Urban Systems - Interim Economic Development Report
- Comments from McLeod Lake Indian Band
- Comments from West Moberly First Nations
 - Wind Energy
- Other
- Closing remarks

Chetwynd & District 3rd Local Government & First Nations Regional Community to Community Forum

Notes

Date: September 15, 2005
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Cottonwood Hall, Recreation Centre

Present: Evan Saugstad, Mayor
Bob Nicholson, Councillor
Brenda Maisey, Councillor
Laverne Norris, Councillor
Merlin Nichols, Councillor
Wayne Rose, Councillor
Ellen Calliou, Economic Development Officer
Elaine Davis, Economic Development Assistant
Mike Redfearn, Chief Administrative Officer
Sheree Smith, Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce
Tim Caton, Area E Director
Bob Inkpen, Economic General Manager - MLIB
Brandi Scott, Councillor - WMFN
Clarence Willson, Councillor - WMFN
Derek Orr, Youth Councillor - MLIB
Geraldine Solonas, Councillor - MLIB
Harold Martin, General Manager - MLIB
John Samm, Economic Development Officer - WMFN
Karen Davis, Northeast Health Services
Lucy Martin, Councillor - MLIB
Patrick Prince, Councillor - MLIB
Roland Wilson, Chief - West Moberly FN
Tracey Casimir, Guest - MLIB

Absent: Saulteau First Nations Members

1. 5 p.m. Social

2. Welcome from Mayor Saugstad, MC

3. Introductions

Everyone attending gave introductions of names and titles.

4. 5:30 p.m. Dinner

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5. 6:30 p.m. Agenda Items and/or Presentations

6. District of Chetwynd - Discussion Topics

Chetwynd & Area Economic Development Commission Initiatives

- ◆ Community Forests
- ◆ Motor-cross Track
- ◆ Hospital
- ◆ Long Term Care Home
- ◆ Opportunities to Share Resources
- ◆ Urban Systems – Interim Economic Development Report

Community Forest

Mayor Saugstad gave a verbal report on Community Forest. The District is working with West Moberly First Nations, Chetwynd NL College. Saulteau is making their final decision on participation. We are working on another meeting this month on structure and plans for application for the Community Forest for Chetwynd.

Recommendations:

Joint Community Forest

Outcome:

West Moberly First Nations, Saulteau First Nations and the District of Chetwynd working to set up a meeting to finalize structure and start application process.

Motor-cross Track

An application has been proposed for a Motor-cross Track on the hillside across from the existing community forest on highway 29 towards Moberly Lake.

The group commented on the problems within town boundaries and within First Nation areas for biking and quad use on the highway and roads. The District is working with the Chetwynd RCMP and ATV club on proposal of a site and access to the area for safe riding. West Moberly commented they are in the process of working with local RCMP on safe riding and laws for riding on the West Moberly area.

Recommendations:

Continue process and comments for the proposed site for the Motor-cross Track.

Outcome:

The proposed site would benefit both the municipal and local First Nations areas.

Hospital

Mayor Saugstad introduced Karen Davis from North East Health Services. Karen spoke about upturn in the economy and the needs for Health Services for Chetwynd and area.

Recommendations:

The demand for more hospital beds is obviously needed in Chetwynd as there are a far amount of seniors here.

Outcome:

Karen would like to meet with the District of Chetwynd along with the bands in the future to keep everybody up to date.

Everyone agreed that working together on health care was an advantage for everyone and recognizing the need for Seniors Housing development.

Long Term Care Home

We all agree that Chetwynd is in need of long term affordable senior housing, assisted and supported living. Karen Davis commented that there is funding available for this type of development. Coun. Norris addressed the group and invited everyone to attend the Chetwynd Health Services Committee – meets every 3rd Thursday of each month to keep informed and noted that Mrs. Davis attends some of these mtgs.

Recommendations:

There is an opportunity for better long term facility in Chetwynd

Outcome:

We look for appropriate location for seniors housing, we are not going to pull beds while decisions are still being made.

We all agree that everyone would benefit by a joint venture of developing a long-term facility close to the Hospital with Assisted and Supported Housing.

Opportunities to Share Resources

Comments across the table were that it is very hard to find contractors in and around the Chetwynd area.

Recommendations:

The District of Chetwynd, West Moberly First Nations and McLeod Lake Indian all agreed to accommodate all our needs, by using each others experts like Water Treatment.

Outcome:

Work together on the problem at hand and if we can assist each other in needs, bylaw development access to trades network when necessary.

Urban Systems – Interim Economic Development Report

Mayor Saugstad reported that project timelines and employment projections on an industry basis over a 20 year timeframe. This timeline reveals that the Chetwynd area is projected to experience a significant amount of employment growth over the next three years. Additional employment growth is expected as a result of the construction of the Dokie and Wartenbe Wind Energy Projects. In total, it is estimated that there are currently between 1,515 and 1,665 FTEs among the companies interviewed. This

figure is expected to grow by about 650 to 750 employees by 2008, representing an increase of over 40% over this timeframe. The majority of the mining projects have an anticipated lifespan of approximately 10 to 15 years. It should also be noted that impacts related to these projects may not accrue entirely to Chetwynd, as some projects are located closer to other centres in Northeast BC. For example, although the employment impacts of the Wolverine Coal Mine project are included in Figure 1, the impacts of employment growth generated by this mine are more likely to be felt in the Tumbler Ridge area.

Recommendations:

Urban Systems will have the report completed soon for distribution.

Outcome:

The report will be distributed when it is complete, estimated to be done is the end of October, 2005.

7. Comments from McLeod Lake Indian Band

McLeod Lake Indian Band commented on projects and development that they are working on. Business is good. The members commented on the need of these meetings to keep everyone working together and addressing needs for all the members of the community.

Recommendations:

Sharing resources.

Outcome:

“Share” Policies and Procedures.

8. Comments from West Moberly First Nations

McLeod Lake Indian Band, Chief Willson spoke about West Moberly Economic Development activities and updated the group on projects for the area. Spoke about the Wind Energy – Dokie Windmill Project in detail.

Recommendations:

The whole group was very interested and all were supportive regarding wind energy.

Outcome:

The business is in the middle of environmental assessment. Everyone will be informed on the business development of the proposed Windmill project for Chetwynd and area.

9. Other

Verbal comments from Mayor Saugstad (DOC), Chief Willson (WMFN) and Patrick Prince (MLIB).

We are all open for discussion and we all agree that communication is the best way to get results.

Questions around development, hotels, Site 'C' and sharing reports were discussed.

Discussion among the Groups

Recommendations:

Discussion on the drug problems in Chetwynd and on the reserves.

Outcome:

The District of Chetwynd meets with the Chetwynd detachment to talk about what can be done to stop the drug problems, and asks the bands to do the same. Together come up with a solution. There is a Community Services Provider Representatives meeting, re: Action Plan to Address Problems of Drugs and everyone is invited to participate. West Moberly is also having a meeting on the use of drugs and specific to effects of the use of drugs and everyone is invited to attend as well. Both will follow up on dates of proposed dated of the mtgs.

10. Closing Remarks

Recommendations:

The group closed agreeing to try to have more discussions to improve relationships.

Outcome:

Meeting again in 2006, continue networking on common goals.

Adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Community-to-Community Forum held in Chetwynd

By Stan Siegenberg

A First Nations Community-to-Community Forum was recently held in the Chetwynd community, and a number of First Nations representatives from around the region -- as well as a number of District of Chetwynd officials -- attended the gathering.

The purpose of the event was to help build relationships, network, and to form strategies regarding common issues and opportunities facing the region, the District of Chetwynd, and the assorted First Nations bands. Saulteau First Nations representatives were unable to attend, but officials with the West Moberly band, as well as the McLeod Lake band, were in attendance.

According to West Moberly Chief Roland Willson, this year's Community-to-Community forum, which is the second time the event has been held in the Chetwynd community, was much more relaxed and productive.

"It was a little more relaxed this year," Willson commented. "The first year, nobody really knew what to expect. This time, it was a little more relaxed and we came in knowing what the meeting was kind of about. We all brought ideas in. And I think that happened all the way around... Everybody came in with fresh ideas."

"A big issue that we determined was common to all of us is drugs," Willson continued. "The drug abuse and the alcohol abuse in our communities...we're all facing that. And the crimes and the stuff that comes with that. That's a big issue for our community... because we're such a small community, it scares the hell out of us. But it's an issue that we all have. And it's an issue that we can all work together on trying to combat. It's not a losing proposition to work together on this one."

"For the health and safety of our communities... we all felt the pressures of drugs in the area was very relevant."

Another main issue that was discussed at length, according to

Willson, dealt with the oil and gas drilling in the region, and the accompanying concerns and opportunities that come part and parcel with that development.

"The area is in a boom right now," he said. "We're trying to understand how everybody can kind of benefit from (the opportunities) and work together. That's one issue that's really relevant to all of us... Not that oil and gas development is bad, but there's a dark side to that, that comes along with it. It's good to have the jobs and stuff like that, but a lot of the people that are getting the jobs are young people. And they may not have the maturity to be able to handle the large incomes that are generated from these things. And more often than not, they turn to the partying. When you're 20-years-old, the last thing you can think of is making a mortgage payment. So that negative aspect creeps in, underneath the prosperity of oil and gas, and then it gets rooted like a weed; those roots get into the community."

"We don't want it to become a problem that we're not prepared to deal with. To me, that's great

that we're in an economic boom. But we have to be cognizant of the other issues that come with it. So we have a lot of the same issues and concerns and challenges in that regard, and we all realize that. So there are areas that we could possibly work together on... where we could be good neighbours to each other... We felt that we need to pay attention and make preparations. We can't let people fall by the wayside on this."

Another topic that also applies to much of the region is the lack of skilled trades workers to fill positions, and Willson said that issue also took up a bit of time at the Forum.

"We all have the same visions, pretty much, and the same goals. But the one thing that we did realize is that we have a lack of skilled trades people in the region. We've identified it as an issue here (in West Moberly)... It's been identified everywhere... We've got jobs -- we just don't have the people to fill those jobs. We're pulling people in from all over the place. Chetwynd is facing the same thing. And so is Saulteau and McLeod Lake."

While Saulteau First Nations representatives were unable to attend, members and representatives with the McLeod Lake Indian band did attend, including Bob Inkpen, who's with the McLeod Lake economic development wing. According to him, the evening was fairly productive to say the least.

"That kind of environment breaks down a lot of barriers," Inkpen commented. "It shows that we're not all that different -- that we all have the same issues and the same challenges that we're all trying to deal with. We do have a lot of interaction with Chetwynd, and Saulteau and McLeod Lake -- so there is on-going dialogue -- but it is nice that there's one evening where we can sit down and have a dinner together, where everybody gets a chance to talk. About success, challenges, what-


ever."

Although the McLeod Lake band actually resides quite a ways away from Chetwynd, Inkpen did say that his band employs a lot of individuals in Chetwynd and in the other bands, and that he and other McLeod Lake representatives feel comfortable and welcome as part of the networking chain in the Chetwynd region.

"We employ a lot of people from the other bands, and we employ non-aboriginals, and we're in Chetwynd to do business," he said. "So that was kind of our message for being there... But the Forum was good... It's always good to talk. Plus, it was a great meal."

For more information on the Community-to-Community Forum, contact Chetwynd Economic Development Officer Ellen Calliou at: 401-4113.

Smile of the Week




This week's "Smile of the Week" belongs to long-time Chetwynd resident, Sandy Shook, of Shook's Xtreme Performance. The Wetaskawin, Alberta native's hobbies include snowmobiling, drag racing and reading -- though she says she never has the time.

Sandy, clip out your picture and take it to the Red Lion Tavern to receive a free lunch or pizza, compliments of the The Red Lion Tavern.

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If you would like to nominate someone for Smile of the Week, give us a call at the Echo at 788-2246.

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Seniors Hall
Tuesday, November 1
 9:30pm - 3:00pm

 northern health

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