COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM FINAL REPORT – CITY OF VERNON

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03-24-2006







THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM HELD APRIL 14, 2005

CITY OF VERNON FINAL REPORT

1. FORUM OBJECTIVES

The City of Vernon and the Okanagan Indian Band had several objectives in holding the Community to Community Forum. At the meeting, the City presented updates on the Sub-Regional Growth Strategy, The Rise, Turtle Mountain /East Bella Vista Highlands and the Strand Resort. A cultural protocol was discussed. Both the City and the Okanagan Indian Band used the opportunity to continue the good relationship established in terms open discussion and debate.

2. PARTICIPANTS

Okanagan Indian Band:

12 participants including Band Council members and Administration staff

City of Vernon

8 participants including City Council and Administration Staff

3. ISSUES DISCUSSED

Attached are the following:

Agenda Attendance Sheet Meeting Notes

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4. RECOMMENDATIONS:

The plans for next steps as a result of the forum include:

- Mayor and Chief are to organize a meeting with the Minister of Community Service in Victoria to discuss partnership with regard to the Sub-Regional Growth Strategy.
- b. The Developer of The Rise be requested to make a presentation to the Okanagan Indian Band Council on the progress of the development.
- c. Meeting to be scheduled with the Mayor and Chief to further discuss Lake Access Study.
- d. City of Vernon will forward Lakeshore Road / Kin Beach improvement Proposal for the Band's consideration.

5. FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Dinner & Room Rental (invoice attached) \$ 559.00
Preparation of Materials and Final Report Production 300.00

Total: <u>\$ 859.00</u>





Okanagan Indian Band

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2005 - 6:00 PM SCHUBERT CENTRE BANQUET ROOM

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions and Welcome to Chief and Council
- 2. Sub-Regional Growth Strategy CoV
- 3. Status Updates CoV
 - Outback Resort
 - > Okanagan Hills
 - > Turtle Mountain
 - > Strand Resort
- 4. Airport Update CoV
 - Runway Extension
 - > Creek Realignment
 - > Proposed Terminal Building
- 5. East Bella Vista Cultural Protocol OKIB
- 6. Commonage Area Structure Plan CoV
- 7. Lake Access Study OKIB
- 8. Environmental Protection and Management OKIB
- 9. New Developments CoV
- 10. Signage for Heritage Sites OKIB
- 11. Lakeshore Road CoV

Community to Community Forum April 14, 2005 City of Vernon and Okanagan Indian Band

List of Participants

City of Vernon

Mayor Sean Harvey

Councillor Patrick Nicol

Councillor Pat Cochrane

Councillor Derek Hall

Ron Campbell, CAO

Grahame Go, Airport Manager

Leon Gous, General Manager

Marja Sam, Executive Assistant

Okanagan Indian Band

Chief Fabian Alexis

Rob Hutton

Ray Marchand

Kevin Ned

Bill Cohen

Peggy Jo

Sherry Louis

Allan Louis

Jenelle Brewer

Jon Spotted Eagle

Bob Osborne

Tim Isaac

NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM April 14, 2005

- Welcome and Opening Remarks Mayor Harvey welcomed the new Chief and Council and returning Council members and presented the Chief with a City of Vernon blanket and Camp Vernon book. Introductions were made around the table.
- 2. Sub-Regional Growth Strategy Ron Campbell updated the group stating that a presentation was made to GVSC. The OKIB has already begun on their strategy and have received \$140,000 from the federal government. A partnership between the City and the OKIB will assist with applying and receiving funding through the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services. Mayor Harvey suggested that a meeting be set up with the Minister in Victoria. Mayor Harvey, Chief Alexis and the Chair of GVSC be invited to attend. While the delegation is in Victoria, it would also be useful to meet with other Ministers. From the City's perspective, \$300,000 would be the top of the cost to have a final strategy in place.
- 3. Status Updates Mayor Harvey gave a brief introduction and introduced Leon Gous to update the group. Leon updated the group on the Outback Resort, Okanagan Hills The Rise, Turtle Mountain/East Bella Vista Highlands, and Strand Resort.

Chief Alexis stated that the OKIB sent a letter regarding the Strand Resort where they presented some concerns regarding communication re: the development between the City/OKIB and the developer. Mayor Harvey discussed the fact that municipalities are under Provincial jurisdiction and the OKIB is under Federal jurisdiction and that sometimes these two jurisdictions don't meld easily. However, the City's intention is to honor the protocol agreement and certainly be responsible for providing communication avenues with the Band. Ron Campbell indicated that the City had previously asked for the Band's input with regard to the Waterfront Plan. The correction to the zoning bylaw was due to a previous error.

The OKIB requested the City review the new laws that have been developed and introduced by the Province with regard to access to water and fishery. Any time the waterfront is impacted, it affects fishing access. Mayor Harvey reassured the OKIB that the waterfront will be opened up and made accessible to the public all along Lakeshore Road. The City is not trying to interfere with Claims the Band has made and recognize the importance of those claims. Rob Hutton stated that

the Province has not been very accommodating with providing information and detail.

Bob Osborne asked about the environmental implications and stated they would like to be apprised of the impact to the environment and wildlife in the Okanagan Hills development. Mayor Harvey explained that extensive environmental studies have been completed and the developer was very supportive. Dale Danallanko will contact Bob and provide him with a copy of the various environmental reports. Covenants are being put in place to protect the environmental areas. The City will provide the 20 Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan to Bob Osborne. Bob also stated that the OKIB may wish to build on the land where it borders the Okanagan Hills development and concerns regarding roadways, water and sewer through the corridor will need to be discussed.

Tim Isaac asked if there were any archeological assessments done on the site. Rob Hutton stated that there weren't but it would be useful to have archeological tools on site. Leon Gous will ask Leona to come and present the OKIB with any new information.

- 4. Airport Update Mayor Harvey handed the table over to Grahame Go. Grahame updated the group on the runway extension, the creek realignment and the proposed terminal building. The City is making the creek a priority to enhance it by cleaning it up and make it fish bearing again. Mayor Harvey explained that the City of Vernon is not trying to become the air transport hub of the Okanagan by developing the airport, but develop an Aviation and Avionics Business Park. Mayor Harvey confirmed that the City will consult with the OKIB for both environmental consultations and Provincial discussions. Chief Alexis asked if there were going to be partners in the terminal building and Grahame responded saying not at this time.
- 5. Cultural Protocol Rob Hutton updated the group and the OKIB will forward a request to the City along with a template of what exactly they'd like to see for a cultural protocol. Allan Louis mentioned that the OKIB have several artifacts that they'd like to see on display and suggested possible museum space. The OKIB and the City will meet and discuss the needs of the Museum and the OKIB. Marja Sam will set up a meeting with the Mayor, staff, OKIB and Ron Candy, Museum Curator. Discussion ensued regarding giving select sites aboriginal names (ie. A specific mountain peak, the City). Mayor Harvey stated that it's not something Council has considered in the past, but if the OKIB put forth a formal request, he will bring it forward for discussion.
- 6. Commonage Area Structure Plan Leon Gous updated the group and informed that public hearings were expected to take place in September. The City is communicating with stakeholders, one of which is the OKIB. Rob Hutton requested that the OKIB not be considered a "stakeholder" as they have submitted a claim on the property which has been accepted by the federal

- government. Mayor Harvey confirmed that when looking at claims, the Band's policy is still for land in lieu of compensation.
- 7. Lake Access Study Rob Hutton explained that he and Ron Campbell had been trying to meet to discuss this issue since the last Forum. Marja Sam to schedule a meeting Rob Hutton and Ron Campbell. Mayor Harvey and Chief Alexis to also be invited to attend.
- 8. Environmental Protection and Management Rob Hutton reinforced the need for both the City and the OKIB to keep each other informed regarding safeguarding environment and managing it accordingly. Mayor Harvey explained that the City has created an Environmental Services Division to ensure that the highest standards are met. Patrick Nicol mentioned that the Sensitive Ecosystem is not yet legislated and how does that affect the OKIB's position. Chief Alexis stated that they're definitely concerned. Rob Hutton suggested taking a hard look at the sensitive ecosystem in the Sub-regional Growth issue, especially where Species at Risk is concerned.
- 9. New Developments The Mayor asked for input regarding any other new developments taking place in the Greater Vernon area. Bob Osborne asked if Rock Heights was still proceeding. Leon Gous explained that Rock Heights is referred to as the Tavistock Properties at Adventure Bay. Bob had been informed by the developer that lots were to be sold later this year. Leon responded saying that the development has not been advanced to the City's knowledge but the developer has a PLA. Peggy Jo asked who was involved in the technical consulting in the Outback Resort? Rob Hutton explained that the band was very involved and found the process very useful and would like to encourage this involvement in future developments such as Bella Vista Highlands. Rob Hutton suggested that the City duplicate the process used for OKIB consultation in the Outback with the other developments.
- 10. Signage for Heritage Sites Dealt with under Agenda Item #5.
- 11. Lakeshore Road Mayor Harvey again tabled the offer to the OKIB to fix up the area at Kin Beach and the OKIB beach. Chief Alexis stated that they'd like to see the original proposal. Marja Sam will forward the information to Bob Osborne. Bob will bring the proposal forward to the appropriate Committee for discussion. Tim Isaac suggested the possibility of closing the road at Vernon Creek and making it a pedestrian only roadway in order to solve the problem. Peggy Jo stated that the band will have to take a good look at what they'd like to do on their prime waterfront land and she's not sure that dog park is the best use of land.

Schubert Centre

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