

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC)



Session #5 – MINUTES September 23-25, 2014 Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta



Session Objectives:

Provide recommendations, strategies and advice to:

1. Identify mechanisms to strengthen relationships and increase the current level of aboriginal peoples' involvement in regional planning
2. Enhance efficient land use in areas where petroleum and petrochemical investments are expected to occur
3. Enhance collaboration between Government of Alberta, municipalities, landowners and industry in the implementation of the efficient use of land principles
4. Increase the current level of involvement and partnership by and between various groups (e.g., non-profits, private sector, aboriginal and local governments) and the Government of Alberta, in the area of land-use planning
5. Strengthen regional infrastructure, community planning, and development in order to support economic expansion and population growth
6. Facilitate efficient transportation of products to local, national and international markets
7. Maintain a viable agricultural land base to support growth and diversification of the agricultural industry
8. Attract tourism investors and developers (specific to Crown land) through longer-term tenure

Attendance:

RAC Members	Government of Alberta
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wendy Boje (Chair)• Patrick Alexander• Cecil Anderson• Tim Burton• Nicholas Gafuik• Leslie Gammie• Rob Gibb• Ed Gibbons• Arnold Hanson (<i>Day 1 am, 2 & 3</i>)• Lorne Hindbo• Doug King• Charles Newell• Ed Parke• Robert Phillips (<i>Day 1</i>)• Neal Sarnecki• Tracy Scott	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crystal Damer (Land Use Secretariat - LUS)• Sue Armstrong (Municipal Affairs - MA) (<i>Day 1 am & 2</i>)• Niki Atwal (Energy) (<i>Day 2 & 3</i>)• Jason Cathcart (Agriculture and Rural Development - ARD)• Shaun Hammond (Transportation) (<i>Day 3 am</i>)• Tracy Howlett (Aboriginal Engagement and Planning - Environment and Sustainable Resource Development - ESRD)• Scott Milligan (Environment and Sustainable Resource Development - ESRD) (<i>Day 1 & 2</i>)• Paul Radchenko (Tourism, Parks and Recreation – TPR) (<i>Day 1 pm & 3</i>)• Gary Sandberg (Municipal Affairs - MA) (<i>Day 1 am</i>)• Chris Spytz (Tourism, Parks and Recreation – TPR)• Chad Willms (Environment and Sustainable Resource Development - ESRD) (<i>Day 3</i>)



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Stanley • David Taylor • Peter Vana (<i>Day 1 pm, 2 & 3</i>) • Leonard Wade (<i>Day 1</i>) • Robert Winship • Allen Wright • Marla Zapach <p>RAC Members Absent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stan Delorme • Tim Hofstra • Cecil Janvier • Liv Vors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joannes Wong (Municipal Affairs - MA) <p>Guest Presenters: Elmer Ghostkeeper (Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement) Joe Pimlott (Métis Nation of Alberta)</p> <p>Consulting Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate Consulting
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Agenda Items:

Tuesday, September 23, 2014 8:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.	
<p>5.1 FORMAL WELCOME</p>	<p>Wendy Boje, RAC Chair</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RAC Chair formally opened the fifth RAC Session in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, provided a short recap of the topics covered in the previous session, and walked RAC through the agenda for session five. 	
<p>5.2 COMMUNITY LAND-USE PLANNING AND GROWTH</p>	<p>Gary Sandberg, MA</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Assistant Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs spoke to RAC and presented on <u>Community Land-use Planning and Growth</u> which included an overview of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The role of the Municipal Affairs ministry and how it supports municipalities – The <i>Municipal Government Act</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Municipalities’ roles, responsibilities and authority for decision making • RAC members engaged in a round table to provide feedback around municipalities and land-use planning. 	
<p>5.3 MÉTIS PRESENTATION</p>	<p>Elmer Ghostkeeper, Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement; Joe Pimlott, Métis Nation of Alberta</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest presenters provided an overview of aboriginal involvement in land-use planning from a Métis perspective. Topics covered aboriginal title, aboriginal and treaty rights, history, culture and traditional ties to the land. 	



5.4 MÉTIS LUNCHEON

RAC

- RAC and LIT members attended a luncheon at the North Saskatchewan Métis Organization Workshop at the Dow Centennial Centre in Fort Saskatchewan. The lunch provided an opportunity for sharing of perspectives and learnings with members of the Métis community.

5.5 INCLUSION OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES IN LAND-USE PLANNING

Tracy Howlett, ESRD

- ESRD presented on *Inclusion of Aboriginal Peoples in Land-Use Planning for the North Saskatchewan Region* which included an overview of the following:
 - Context setting and current state of aboriginal inclusion in regional planning for the North Saskatchewan Region
 - Opportunities and challenges
 - Approaches utilized in other regional plans

5.6 RAC ADVICE ON INCLUSION OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES IN LAND-USE PLANNING

RAC

- Through a facilitated discussion RAC reviewed the Government of Alberta's approaches towards inclusion of aboriginal peoples in land-use planning. RAC discussed and deliberated what has been working well, and provided suggestions for improvement.
- RAC reached consensus on approaches and considerations for strengthening and increasing the current level of involvement of aboriginal peoples in regional planning.

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

5.7 REVIEW OF MINUTES AND NOTES FROM SESSION #4

RAC

- RAC reviewed the Minutes from the fourth session in Banff, Alberta
 - Call for vote to accept the Minutes from the meeting held September 9 - 11 in Banff, Alberta
 - Accepted
- RAC reviewed the Notes from the fourth session.



5.8 RAC DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT ADVICE FOR THE RECOMMENDATION REPORT

LIT, RAC

- RAC reviewed the draft advice from the fourth session in Banff for the RAC Recommendations Report.
- RAC reviewed the draft cumulative maps of geographic areas synthesized from the recommendations developed by RAC. The maps illustrate:
 - Conservation areas with RAC consensus
 - Conservation areas with No RAC consensus
 - Recreation Areas with RAC consensus
 - Private lands conservation
 - Priority wetland conservation and restoration
 - Priority lakes for management
 - Priority recreation management planning areas
 - Priority private land conservation offset pilot areas
- RAC provided feedback and supplemental perspectives to be considered when RAC reviews the full Recommendations Report in the sixth session.

5.9 COMMUNITY LAND-USE PLANNING AND GROWTH

Joannes Wong, MA

- Municipal Affairs presented on Community Growth and Community Land-Use Planning which included an overview of the following:
 - Context underlying the drivers and challenges of land-use decision-making
 - A review of the Municipal Government Act
 - Tools for regional land-use planning, including Efficient Use of Land Principles, Comprehensive Regional Infrastructure Sustainability Plans
 - Roles in community land-use planning, including the province, municipalities, the Capital Region Board, Industries and land owners, aboriginal peoples and other stakeholders
 - Planning, co-operation and integration including a review of the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan

5.10 RAC ADVICE ON COMMUNITY GROWTH AND COMMUNITY LAND-USE PLANNING

RAC

- Through a facilitated full-group discussion, RAC discussed and deliberated the material presented by the Government of Alberta and added their own knowledge, experience and perspectives on these questions:
 - How can the Government of Alberta, municipalities, landowners and industry



- collaborate in the implementation of the efficient use of land principles?
- Enhancing efficient land use in areas where petroleum and petrochemical investments are expected to occur.
- What are the opportunities to strengthen regional infrastructure, community planning, and development in order to support economic expansion and population growth?
- What are the opportunities to enhance the current level of involvement and partnership by and between various groups (e.g., non-profits, private sector, aboriginal and local governments) and the Government of Alberta, in the area of land-use planning?
- RAC reached consensus on the considerations resulting from their deliberations.

Thursday, September 25, 2014 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	
5.11 TRANSPORTATION OF PRODUCTS TO IMPROVE OUR ACCESS TO MARKETS	Shaun Hammond, Transportation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation presented on <u>Transportation of Products to Improve our Access to Markets</u> which included an overview of the following<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Context of current and future transportation trends- Opportunities and challenges posed for maintaining and gaining access to international and domestic markets- The province’s approach and long-term transportation strategy- Municipalities’ roles and responsibilities• A round table discussion was held for RAC members to provide feedback and suggestions to the Transportation Assistant Deputy Minister.	
5.12 RAC ADVICE ON TRANSPORTATION	RAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RAC members discussed and provided feedback for the Government of Alberta consideration on the area of facilitating efficient transportation of products to local, national and international markets.• RAC reached full consensus on the considerations and suggestions discussed to present to the Government of Alberta regarding transportation issues.	
5.13 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - FRAGMENTATION AND CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND	Jason Cathcart, ARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ARD presented on <u>Economic Development - Fragmentation and Conversion of Agricultural Land</u>, which included an overview on:	



- Key factors that influence the loss and fragmentation of agricultural land
- The Government of Alberta's current approach and direction to municipalities and land owners
- Expectations under regional plans

5.14 RAC ADVICE ON FRAGMENTATION AND CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

RAC

- RAC members discussed and provided feedback for Government of Alberta consideration on the area of maintaining a viable agricultural land base to support growth and diversification of the agriculture industry.
- RAC reached consensus on the considerations resulting from their deliberations.

5.15 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - TOURISM LEASE TENURE ON CROWN LAND FOR RECREATION AND TOURISM

Chris Spytz, TPR

- Tourism, Parks and Recreation presented on Economic Development - Tourism Lease Tenure on Crown Land for Recreation and Tourism, which included an overview on:
 - Context on tourism from a regional planning perspective
 - The Government of Alberta's approach to tourism, including:
 - Alberta's Tourism Framework
 - Alberta Tourism Recreational Leasing on Public Land
 - Lease tenure process

5.16 RAC ADVICE ON TOURISM LEASE TENURE ON CROWN LAND FOR RECREATION AND TOURISM

RAC

- RAC members discussed and provided feedback for Government of Alberta consideration on the area of attracting private sector investment to support recreation and tourism development opportunities on crown land.
- RAC reached consensus on the considerations resulting from their deliberations.



5.17 CLOSING OF SESSION #5

Wendy Boje, RAC Chair

- RAC was provided with a verbal overview of the Session 6 agenda and will be sent an electronic reminder of the key discussion topics.
- Meeting adjourned by the Chair.
- Next Session – October 7 - 9 in Lloydminster, Alberta.