



ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

6:00 PM – CVRD Board Room
175 Ingram Street

AGENDA

- | | | PAGES |
|----|--|-------|
| 1. | <u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</u> | 1 |
| 2. | <u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES:</u> | |
| | M1 Adoption of minutes of Environment Commission from August 6, 2009 | 2 - 5 |
| 3. | <u>GUEST SPEAKER</u>
Angeline Tillmanns, Provincial representative on indicator reports. | |
| 4. | <u>BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:</u> | |
| | B1 Motion to send letter of support on alternative sources of energy to Board | |
| | B2 Sub-committee reports updates | |
| | a. Environmental Lens Development | |
| | b. Regional Sustainability Planning | |
| | c. Inventory Mapping/Indicators – | |
| | i. Request for Expressions of Interest responses | |
| | ii. Climate Change Workshop – Sept. 24th | |
| | d. Communication Strategy – webpage populating | |
| 5. | <u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> | |
| | NB1 350 Event – October 24 th Judy Stafford | |
| | NB2 Clean Technology staff report and newsletter | 6-10 |
| 6. | <u>CORRESPONDENCE:</u> | |
| | C1 | |
| 7. | <u>INFORMATION:</u> | |
| | IN1 | |
| 8. | <u>NEXT MEETING:</u> Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 6:00 pm | |
| 9. | <u>ADJOURNMENT:</u> | |

Minutes of the regular meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION held in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on August 6, 2009 at 6:05 pm.

PRESENT: Director Giles, Chair Rodger Hunter
 Roger Wiles Pete Keber
 Justin Straker Mike Kelly
 Judy Stafford Francis Hugo
 Bruce Sampson Director Duncan
 Director Hutchins John Wilson

ALSO

PRESENT: Kate Miller, Manager, Regional Environmental Policy
 Dyan Freer, Recording Secretary
 Director Morrison

ABSENT: Director Kent, Bruce Fraser, Ernie Elliott, Chris Wood

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be adopted with the addition of three informational pieces IN1, IN2 and IN3.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION
OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the July 9, 2009 Environment Commission meeting be adopted as amended, with the deletion of the words 'the 89' in NB1 on page 2, 2nd paragraph.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS
ARISING OUT OF
MINUTES**

B1 Update from Chair on Board's strategic plan retreat. Goals and objectives identified by the Board at that meeting included:

1. Resolving Regional Recreational Issues
2. Improving Water Quality and Quantity
3. Regional Growth Management Strategy Plan
4. First Nations Liaison
5. Waste Management Issues
6. Achieving Economic Development and Stabilization
7. Providing Environment Stewardship

Strategic plan for the CVRD evolving. Plan to work on addressing and resolving some of the top priorities. Directors Duncan, Morrison and Hutchins also gave their overview of the retreat. Strategic document anticipated to be released this fall. Discussion ensued.

B2 Feedback re CBWAC presentation

Chair would like some feedback on - a. was the information useful and b. would you like this information presented to this commission to get the holistic picture of some of the issues and work being done? Commission feels that presentations are very useful. Continued education out to the public is very important. Nature Conservancy Canada should present soon. One presentation per session would be excellent and we will strive for that.

Chair opened the floor to discussion. A tour is planned of the watershed soon. Working session in early fall on water stewardship necessary for water basin management.

A Cowichan Lake stewardship group forming.

B3 Sub-Committee Reports**a. Environmental Lens Development**

There are plans for lens to be presented to senior management staff in late August/early September. Chris and Bruce will present. Can it go up on the forum now for commission to give feedback. Action - Dyan

b. Regional Sustainability Planning

Bruce Sampson is organizing a workshop/presentation to senior staff and politicians on Thursday, September 24th with 4 speakers including Jim Hogan, on challenges and solutions of sustainable cities, Nola Kate Seymour of International Centre for Sustainable Cities, Guy Dauncey, and a Climate Secretariat representative, and end off with a panel of 3 people, John Robertson, (Quest model), Chris Core, green buildings, Colin Grant...Economic Development might run a second workshop. Interactive workshop. About 60 people.

c. Inventory Mapping/Indicators

Presented an expression of interest which will be put out for a 'Statement of the Environment Report'. Data mining exercise – what is there and where are we re invasive species, land use, protected areas, water, etc. We can then compare it in the future.

It was moved and seconded

“to support in principle that the Request for Expression of Interest can be sent out after editing by the committee.

MOTION CARRIED

A provincial representative, Angeline Tillmanns, will be invited to our next meeting to discuss the provincial experience in indicator reporting and the use and choice of indicators. Chair invites further discussion.

d. Communication Strategy

Chair showed the 12 things website front page and how with further development one click on each of the 12 things pictures will lead to a new page with much more information. Now we have to populate each of these 12 categories.

Can we put this website on all chambers and governments? Can we celebrate district accomplishments (perhaps in Lead the Way) – ie: vegetable garden at the Town of Ladysmith producing food not flowers. When it is finished we need to advertise and tell public about this great website. A progress report would be useful on how we are doing.

Request for volunteers to populate the web pages. Each group will take one category from 1-12.

1. Climate change impacts – Bruce Sampson, Kate, Pete (and others on 1,3,5)
2. Agriculture – Judy Stafford, Ian, Justin
3. Energy Smart – John W., Rob, Pete, Bruce S, Kate
4. Green Economy – Mike, and Economic Development
5. Reduce carbon emissions – same as 1 and 3, John W., Rob, Pete, Bruce S, Kate
6. Water - Francis, Rodger, Roger, Gerry
7. Regional growth management - Phil, Rob, Lorne
8. Biodiversity – restoration - Justin, Kate, Rodger, Roger, Bruce S, Lorne
9. Zero Waste - Francis, Kathleen M., Ladysmith- Rob H, John W.
10. Buses – transportation – Joe Barry, Jim Wakeham, combine with 1, 3, 5
11. Audit our assets – Justin, Kate, Judy, Lorne, DFO (committee 3)
12. Lead the Way – invite all CAO's in the region to tell us all the good things that they have done re 'green' economy and climate change reduction. Need a preamble that links to each government or a list. What we have done, and what are our plans! What are we proud of?

NEW BUSINESS**NB1 Drinking water issues and information**

The Environment Commission acts as the regions technical Drinking Water Advisory Group – background information to the commission is provided to assist them with that delegated task by the CVRD Board. Attached report and Memorandum of Understanding – Ministry of Health and Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) are leading the way.

- NB2** The CVRD Board is moving forward in the South Cowichan area on the development of a drinking water protection plan in concert with their South Cowichan Water Study and will be establishing a local Advisory Group which will work with the commission. Call for sub-committee members and Pete Keber volunteered.

- NB3** Bruce Sampson gave a verbal update on the Economic Development committee meeting he attended. They are receptive to economic development with an environmental footprint. Push for a LEED platinum bldg for VIU – made strong recommendations which will come to the board on future economic developments. Mike Kelly said Bruce Sampson introduced a whole new conceptual framework on economic development to the Commission. There was a lot of interest in the sustainable workshop and they will be invited.

INFORMATION

- IN1 Clean technology report** – a verbal update from Pete Keber and Bruce Sampson. The Economic Development Division is attracting clean technology businesses to the valley. BC Government says green energy is not in interest of the residents of BC. We need to provide background to the Board on why a letter should be sent in support of green energy. We could invite Guy Dauncey to speak to Board in September. Bruce Sampson will get a letter drafted. Discussion ensued regarding BCUC recent ruling.

It was moved and seconded

“to request the CVRD Board to send a letter to the government immediately, expressing their concerns over the implications of the recent British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) ruling and indicating that the board support alternative sources of power that do not damage the environment. Cc to Premier, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources, and BCUC.

MOTION CARRIED

- IN2** Vancouver Island University has committed to building their new campus building to LEED gold standard and they are hiring a sustainable building manager. It is very difficult to do as a small homeowner – rules are hard to change when BC building code says no to some innovations.
- IN3** Chair announced a grant from province – CVRD will receive \$164,000 to assist in remediation of former Meade Creek incinerator site to address the ashfill left from former days and plans to remine it to get the metal out.
- IN4** Regional Energy Plan moving forward. Commission requests active updates from the Economic Development sub-committee on that parallel program to ensure potential synergies.

NEXT MEETING Thursday, September 10, 2009

ADJOURNMENT It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.



5SR2

STAFF REPORT

REGIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE OF AUGUST 26, 2009

DATE August 19, 2009 FILE NO: EDCG
FROM: Kathy Lachman, Business Development Officer BYLAW NO:
SUBJECT: Clean Technology Program

Purpose:

To provide an update on Economic Development Cowichan activities related to clean technology.

Financial Implications:

None

Interdepartmental/Agency Implications:

This program has been developed with the involvement of the CVRD Environment Commission.

Background:

Economic Development Cowichan has developed an investment attraction strategy that will assist in diversify an economy that has been hit hard by the downturn in the forestry sector. The protection of the environment has become a major consideration and consequently, industries that solve environmental issues or operate in an environmental manner are desirable industries to attract. EDC recognizes that clean technologies can be a catalyst to revitalize the local regional economy and has developed a program to study the clean technology sector.

According to financial analysis firm Merrill Lynch, clean technology will rival the Industrial Revolution and every major technological development since then to become the "Sixth Revolution," as the world grapples with the threats of peak oil, global warming and the need for energy security.

While such revolutions occur only about every 50 years, and can deliver "a golden age" based on the new technology's transformative possibilities, we are now on the cusp of the next great change, says Merrill Lynch clean-tech strategist Steven Milunovich.

The end result will be significant long-term investment opportunities beginning as early as 2010-2011, when the potential impact of these changes bursts fully onto markets and the current financial crisis has eased, the report said.

Our geographic location close to Vancouver means the Cowichan Region can benefit by participating in what is clearly the next wave of innovation. Vancouver ranks among the top 10 new "Silicon Valleys" of the clean technology sector worldwide, according to U.S. authors Clint Wilder and Ron Pernick.

Clean Technology as a New Sector Priority

Economic Development Cowichan has begun a pilot project to develop clean technology as another foundation for the region's economy and as a key enabler of economic strength and environmental sustainability in the future. The project will be a multi-phase project that will include:

- Conducting an analysis of the clean technology sector,
- Identifying existing clean technology companies in the region,
- Understanding why they have located in the region,
- Identifying opportunities for applying clean technology to existing processes,
- Developing a marketing plan to attract additional clean technologies to the region.

Phase One

Phase One has been completed and includes the analysis of the clean technology sector, which includes the identification of existing clean technology companies in the region, information gathered through company interviews to determine their opportunities and challenges and the identification of new opportunities to attract additional clean technology companies to the region. The study provided a number of recommendations including:

1. Creation of cluster development marketing strategy targeting advanced building components and sustainable energy
2. Development of a Cowichan Region Clean Technology Advisory Council
3. Undertake review of local bylaws and regulations to ensure positive environment for clean technology companies
4. Formation of stakeholder committee's to champion and move sector forward
5. Development of Clean Technology Development Initiative

Formation of the Cowichan Sustainable Energy Team

Team members include: Jack Peake, Bruce Sampson, Pete Keber, Tod Spooner, Pat Foster, and Wayne Haddow. The team is looking at sustainable energy opportunities in:

- Waste wood fibre
- Municipal waste to energy
- Agriculture waste

Opportunities will be developed into investor projects that will be marketed to attract new investment and create jobs based on Phase Two results.

Phase Two

Phase Two of the study will be completed by the end of September and will:

- Identify specific clean technology companies
- Understand their needs
- Market investment projects based on matching their needs with our competitive advantages

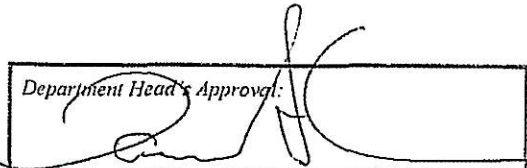
Recommendation:

For information only

Submitted by:



Kathy Lachman
Business Development Officer
Economic Development Cowichan

Department Head's Approval:

Signature

DISCOVER COWICHAN NEWS

Economic Development Commission

Issue 1 | Volume 1 | August 2009

Clean Technology Takes Another Step Forward

Economic Development Cowichan has awarded BMC Business Management Consultants to conduct Phase Two of the Clean Technology Study. Phase Two will identify potential companies that may be interested in locating in the Cowichan Region and develop a marketing plan to attract those companies.

The recommendations in Phase One of the study are underway with the formation of the Cowichan Sustainable Energy Team.

The Cowichan Sustainable Energy Team will:

- Assist with identifying issues and developing solutions to resolve impediments to bio-energy development,
- Act as ambassadors at-large, promoting bio-energy policies and encouraging the development of new bio-energy initiatives within the Regional District.
- Undertake a review of, and where appropriate, amendments to, local

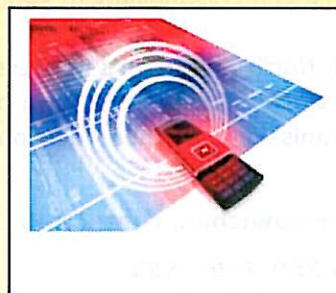
bylaws, regulations and administrative policies to provide support for the bio-energy sector. This could include modifying land use policies to provide developers with additional density for incorporating sustainable energy products and services in their developments; and eliminate cumbersome rules and regulations that hinder development of a sustainable energy sector.

If you would like a copy of the Clean Technology Study-Phase One, contact Kathy Lachman at 250-746-7880 or you can download the study from www.discovercowichan.com

Cowichan Sustainable Energy Team

Peter Keber
Bruce Sampson
Tod Spooner
Kathy Lachman

Pat Foster
Jack Peake
Wayne Haddow



this month

IN THE NEWS

Cowichan Culinary and Wine Festival

September 19-20, 2009
Cowichan Region

Next EDC Meeting

September 10, 2009
7:30 a.m. Economic
Development Cowichan

Congratulations to Cobble Hill Fair's 100th Anniversary



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Duncan, British Columbia
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DISCOVER COWICHAN NEWS

Economic Development Commission

Page 2 | August 2009

Business Retention Advertising Pays Dividends

Economic Development Cowichan ran a series of newspaper advertisements in the News Leader in June, 2009 to encourage businesses to contact us for assistance with business related issues. The advertisements generated a number of business calls and EDC provided assistance with marketing, access to finance, business planning and business start-up.

Funding will be built into the 2010 business plan to continue this program.

EDC Business Planning Process for 2010 Adds Performance Measures

EDC will be adding performance measurements and goals to the business planning process for 2010. Performance measures will allow the organization to measure the success of its activities and set goals to increase activities that are providing exceptional economic benefits to the region. Performance measures fit into the overall strategic planning process implemented by the CVRD.

Investor Templates

EDC is working with the Provincial Ministry of Community Development to develop investor templates that can be used to attract foreign investors to British Columbia. EDC has been asked to participate in the pilot project to test the template's effectiveness and the resultant program will be implemented in all BC communities in 2010. The template will be used by BC Ministry of Investor Services and the Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development. EDC has also met with the BC Provincial Nominee Program Directors to discuss ways of plugging investment opportunities into their program.

Sub-Regional Planning Process Update

Work continues with the Cowichan Lake sub-regional plan with a draft economic development strategy being presented to Town of Lake Cowichan Council, Cowichan Lake Chamber of Commerce and stakeholders in September.

EDC is involved in the District of North Cowichan's process to define their economic development goals. EDC is also assisting the Town of Ladysmith staff and Economic Development Commission in their economic development program.

**To submit copy ideas for Discover Cowichan, contact: Kathy Lachman,
Business Development Officer at 250-746-7880**

Economic Development Cowichan

*Let us help you
grow your
business*

Economic Development Cowichan has programs and services to help make your business successful in these challenging economic times

We can assist you with:

- Finance and marketing
- Access to new markets and customers
- Employee attraction and retention

To find out how we can help, contact:

Kathy Lachman,
Business Development Officer
at **250-746-7880** or
email klachman@cvr.bc.ca

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