



Lesser Slave Lake
Economic Alliance

**Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance (LSLEA)
Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2009
Municipal District of Opportunity, Wabasca, AB**

1. Present:

Alvin Billings - M.D. of Big Lakes
Greg Radstaak - Alberta Finance & Enterprise
Georges Jadot - M.D. of Opportunity
Gary Pollock - Town of Swan Hills
Arnold Aarts - Town of High Prairie
Darcie Acton - M.D. Lesser Slave River
Randy Renauer - Community Futures
Rick Noskey - Peavine Métis Settlement
Miles Auger – EDO, M.D. of Opportunity
Brian Holmberg- EDO, Town of High Prairie
Linda Cox- Project Manager, LSLEA

2. Meeting Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order 10:40 AM

3. Introductions:

Chair Billings asked for introductions and a brief review of activities of their organizations.

4. Agenda:

Chair Billings asked if there were any additions or amendments to the agenda.

09- 2009/10 Motion to adopt the agenda with amendments. Moved by Arnold Aarts.

CARRIED

5. Minutes:

10- 2009/10 Motion to adopt the Minutes from the September 17, 2009 meeting as presented. Moved by Arnold Aarts.

CARRIED

6. Correspondence:

a) Land use Framework- BRAED
SouthGrow

- b) MD Lesser Slave River – CBC Radio Coverage
- c) Town of High Prairie – Alternate representative

7. Treasurers' Report:

Review of income and expenditures. Majority of projects are up and running; majority of expenses will be incurred in next six months. Funding is still available for new projects or can be carried forward to next fiscal year.

11- 2009/10 Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Moved by Rick Noskey.

CARRIED

8. Project Updates

a) Pennycress Project:

Greg to see if initial findings could be available for distribution before final report which is due in March.

b) Wabasca Region Bus Study:

Cancelled. An independent operator if fulfilling requirements for transportation Allocated moneys may be transferred to a different project or rolled over into next years budget.

c) Tourism Video Project:

Ongoing; winter activities will be included.

d) Next Place Publication:

New articles and text updating progressing.

e) Agri-Food & Services Directory

Interest and participation is increasing. Greg will attend Flatbush Beef Producers evening November 8 to increase awareness in that area.

f) Lake Access & RV Needs Assessment

Terms of Reference will be circulated before RFP is issued. It is anticipated the RFP will be issued in early December with completion date of summer 2010.

g) Big Lakes Country Tourism video contribution

Allocation of up to \$5000 to BLCTA for their winter tourism video. Invoices to be submitted to LSLEA for verification of eligible expenses.

h) Mitsue Cogeneration

\$50k allocation; feasibility study for conventional cogeneration study completed; waiting for direction from Mitsue industry group for next step

i) **Socio-economic Profile**

Project is designed to create an investment attraction profile for each of the communities in the Region. Consultant will gather employment rates, infrastructure available; payroll circulation, trading area, and other data not readily available, provide a profile for each community and an overview for the entire region.

LSLEA is partnering with Community Futures on this project. The Terms of Reference are currently being drafted. Greg is to discuss with Edmonton Head Office whether, in the interest of a speedy conclusion to this, it is possible to direct award the project rather than go through the RFP process.

9. **New Business**

1. **Economic Development course on Agriculture** will be hosted in High Prairie during the first week of December. Anyone interested should contact Greg.
2. **Producers' Night–Flatbush** – sponsored by Lesser Slave River Ag Service Board, November 8. Greg will attend representing LSLEA.

12-2009/10 Motion to donate \$500 towards underwriting the cost of the guest speaker for the Flatbush Producers' Night. Moved by Darcie Acton.

Carried

3. **Value Added Agri-food Facility Feasibility Study** – A consulting firm has been retained to write an application for funding for a small scale agri-food feasibility study.
4. **Economic Trends for the Region-** A presentation by an economist will be held November 30; sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, Slave Lake
5. **Ag Food Leadership Program** – Information is available. Contact Greg.
6. **Professional Building, Wabasca** – the MD of Opportunity is looking for investors to construct a single level building, 35-4500 square feet for use as a medical clinic. The MD will provide serviced land at a nominal cost and guarantee a 10 year lease. An RFP will be circulating shortly. The MD wishes all Alliance members to circulate this info to any potential investors they might be aware of.
7. **Bank** – Georges Jadot expressed the need for the information from the


Socio-Economic Study to attract a Bank to locate in Wabasca.

8. **Lumber** –Georges Jadot expressed the need for a facility to use the lumber in the Wabasca area. Currently some of the FMA's are in default and other wood users may be able to access the product.
10. **Next Meeting:**
Date: December 17, 2009
Time: 10:00AM
Location: Town of Swan Hills Conference Room, Swan Hills
- 11 **Adjournment:**
2:00 PM

The meeting was followed by a bus tour of the hamlet of Wabasca, guided by Miles Auger, EDO for M.D. of Opportunity.



Chairman Alvin Billings



Secretary/Treasurer or Vice Chair