



**Community Development Committee Meeting
September 23, 2008
9:30 am**

Present:

Board Present: Wayne Anderson, Norway House Cree Nation (via conf. call)
Darlene Beck, Cross Lake CC (via conf. call)

Staff Present: Charlene Grant, Development Officer
Leann Brown, Development Officer
Michelle Pruder, Development Officer
Nomi Khan, Business Development Officer

Guest: Noelle Halcrow, Cross Lake CC (via conf. call)

Regrets: Frances McIvor, Wabowden Community Council
Glen Flett, Norway House Community Council
Gary Ceppetelli, Volunteer – Thompson
Liz Sousa, Development Officer
Laura Finlay, Development Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:43 pm by Tim Johnston.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call conducted of committee and staff present.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Two additions to the agenda:

5. a) Election of Chair

9.1 Board Meeting

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (June 13, 2008)

Minutes reviewed and no changes noted, Motion tabled to next Community Development Meeting.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Actions to be reviewed under agenda items.

5a. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Darlene Beck is willing to let her name stand as Chair of the Community Development Committee. It was recommended that at the next CDC meeting a Motion be passed noting Darlene as the Chair.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 September 2008 listing of proposals and reports

For information, a review of reports or proposals submitted in this time period.

6.2 September 2008 Community Futures Manitoba Futurescape

CFM's monthly newsletter for information. Info included on CFM conference, CF National Conference, EDP August intake, etc.

6.2 Letter to Tim Johnston from Murray Harvey re: Developing a Commuter Employment Option for Northern Manitoba.

6.3 Aboriginal Business Service Network (ABSN) Business Plan guidelines.

For information, this will also be sent directly to communities.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Tourism North

The Tourism North AGM was held June 24 in Snow Lake. CFNCD was approached to become the coordinator of Tourism North on a contract basis. A Letter of Understanding was prepared noting Tourism North will contract CFNCD at a rate of \$25 per hour to a maximum of \$10,000.00 for time period of July 1st, 2008 – June 30th, 2009.

Tourism North projects this year include customer service workshops, snowmobile trails project, website upkeep, travel industry database, 2008-2009 Operating Plan.

The next meeting is in Flin Flon next week. Charlene Grant will attend as well as the Manitoba Regional Tourism Network meeting in Flin Flon.

7.2 Junior Achievement

Leann Brown reported that CFNCD delivered 75 of the targeted 80 JA workshops and the final Northern Advisory Committee meeting was held in June to meet the 2007/08 contract. Tim Johnston met with Lisa Grist from JA Manitoba and it was decided that JA Manitoba will deliver the northern contract on their own with the assistance of Manitoba Hydro volunteers. JA Manitoba will look to CFNCD for support as needed.

CFNCD will be contact with communities throughout the year to ensure workshops continue to be delivered in Northern Manitoba.

7.3 Spirit Way

CFNCD received funding from the Youth Employment Strategy fund to cover staff time associated with admin assistance provided by staff to the Spirit Way committee. Funding ran until March 31st, 2008. CFNCD has continued to provide assistance as needed. Recently Spirit Way requested CFNCD's assistance in project managing a few of the unfinished Spirit Way projects. Tim met briefly with Volker to discuss. There are some concerns about the time staff has available. It was noted that there are a number of programs CFNCD can be involved in that have potential to earn revenue while Spirit Way does not.

ACTION: Charlene Grant to set up meeting for Tim Johnston and Volker Beckmann to discuss CFNCD's involvement with Spirit Way.

7.4 EDP

CFNCD has two EDP projects underway. This first is the marketing project, this is on track and the interim report was submitted this week. The second project is to update and revamp the CFNCD website to make it more accessible. REDP has verbally indicated up to \$2,000 will be allocated to CFNCD in order to complete this project. Both projects will be completed by March 31st, 2008.

7.5 Daycare Project

The Thompson Childcare Advisory Committee is meeting with UCN today to discuss partnership to access private funding to build up to 40 more childcare spaces in addition to the proposed 60 spaces that UCN plans to build in the new recreation complex this spring. If the TCAC cannot raise the funds, the project will be over. Presentations to corporations are scheduled for October and a deadline to commit by November.

CFNCD in partnership with TCAC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Childcare Coalition of Manitoba to research and prepare a discussion paper on a "new governance model for childcare centres in Thompson". This discussion paper will be presented at a provincial conference in April.

7.6 Vision Quest

Leann Brown attended the Vision Quest strategic planning session in August. Final evaluation from last year's conference was reviewed. At this point Vision Quest is looking to hire an administrator and a conference coordinator.

Vision Quest is experiencing a cash flow crunch (there are outstanding receivables and sponsorship donations from last year's conference) and has asked that all participating CFs provide a \$5,000 short term loan.

RECOMMENDATION: The Community Development Committee recommends that CFNCD provide Vision Quest with a \$5,000 loan.

7.7 Community Strategic Action Plan

Michelle Pruder has spoken with Frances McIvor regarding a plan to complete the Wabowden Strategic Action Plan. Michelle and Frances plan to meet to revise the timeline, the hope is to have surveying done by mid October. Frances McIvor has the Community Plan that was put together in the spring, this will be used as a starting point.

7.8 Thompson Skate Park

Community Development staff have reviewed the deadlines for final reports for the skate park on proposals written by CFNCD for the skate park committee. There are a number of final reports due in December. Meetings are taking place with funders and the skate park committee in order to keep on top of CFNCD commitments.

It was noted that Wayne Hall has been hired as a project coordinator for the Skate Park construction.

7.9 Commuter Service

Tim Johnston attended the wrap-up dinner for the students and sponsors of this past summer's commuter project. The dinner was attended by the Grand Chief and the Chief of Split Lake as well as some parents. There were nine students that travelled on a regular basis between Split Lake and Thompson for summer employment.

It was noted that there is a meeting this Friday for all participants to look at future plans. This conflicts with TEA training for CFNCD staff, but staff will touch base with Charles Nyabeze.

ACTION: CFNCD staff to touch base with Charles Nyabeze regarding the future of the commuter project.

7.10 Settlement Services

CFNCD received the Phase Two contract from the Manitoba Immigrant Integration Program. This project will see a Newcomer Settlement Services coordinator employed at CFNCD until March 31st. The coordinator will receive direction from the Settlement Services advisory committee. Interviews will take place this week.

7.11 Business Directory

This project completed.

ACTION: Remove agenda item 7.11 from the agenda.

7.12 Developing Aboriginal Volunteer Base

CFNCD received funding from Aboriginal Northern Affairs to carry out the "Developing the Aboriginal Volunteer Base" project. This

project was developed to increase volunteer numbers in the north. Presentations/training has taken place in Cross Lake and Norway House and will take place in Wabowden and Thicket Portage in the coming months. An interim report was submitted to ANA in July.

7.13 Via Rail

The committee met at the end of June to try to determine long and / or short term solutions to improve rail delivery service from The Pas to Churchill, however this goal was not accomplished, the meeting was spent addressing “problems and concerns”. Over the summer a small group met to look at some possibilities to bring back to the group.

The latest research is that no matter what type of rail car, new schedule, etc is proposed it will not work because the track is in such bad shape. There are delays with the maintenance of the lines and will take many years before any improvements are made. The small group plans to meet on October 3rd to debrief from the Keewatin Rail meeting and determine the next steps.

CBC featured a story on how there is a food shortage in Churchill due to the train delay. It was noted that lately it has taken 17 hours to get to Ilford and 22 to get to Churchill from Thompson.

7.14 Northern Region Literacy Strategy

About a year and a half ago the Province put forward a new Literacy Act which passed legislation. The Act calls for MB to undertake a Literacy Strategy. A focus group was held in Thompson to determine how this could be done, Liz Sousa attended. A report will be generated with outcomes of the focus group.

ACTION: Report from Thompson focus group on a new literacy strategy to be forwarded to board of directors once it is received to CFNCD.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Mineral Science

RD Parker Collegiate has approached CFNCD and requested assistance in writing a business plan for a new mineral science department in the high school. RDPC would like to see students attain a level one apprenticeship for taking the courses and then be employed at Inco to attain levels two through four.

8.2 RFP – Commuter Employment Option

Murray Harvey has been retained by the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs to take a look at training people in Northern MB to take advantage of employment opportunities based in the north. The idea is that people could commute to Thompson to work for a period of time (example - 10 days) and then return home.

Economic spinoffs would be beneficial to home communities as well as Thompson. Project would look outlining a pilot project for three communities. CFNCD's involvement would be being sub-contracted by Murray Harvey to do groundwork.

RECOMMENDATION: The Community Development Committee recommends CFNCD go ahead with Commuter Employment Option project.

8.3 Child Governance Model

Spoken to under agenda item 7.5 Daycare.

8.4 Bookkeeping Made Easy

CFNCD was chosen as a second location for a bookkeeping course offered by the Aboriginal Business Service Network. The course is being broadcast from Winnipeg at the C/MBSC. CFNCD did promotion of the 7-session course and at the first session there were eight participants in Thompson and four in Winnipeg. Project is a pilot, potential to have other locations in the future, for right now ABSN wants to see if having two locations is successful.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Board Meeting

A survey of potential dates was sent to board members, none of the dates are good. A new date that will be proposed is November 14 and 15th. Board meeting will be held in Thompson.

ACTION: CFNCD to send thank you to Dennis Dwyer for service on the Community Development Committee.

ACTION: CFNCD to advertise open volunteer positions in the Nickel Belt News.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Community Development Committee is scheduled for October 21st at 9:30 am.

13. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.