

**TOWN OF BLACKFALDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Civic Cultural Center – 5018 Waghorn Street
Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ray Olfert, Chair
Denise Sumner, Vice Chair
Brenda Dennis, Town of Blackfalds Deputy Mayor
Rebecca Stendie, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Kala Pandit, Member at Large
Tyler Mitchell, Member at Large
Cory Twerdoclib, Member at Large
Craig Schroh, Member at Large
Robert Hogan, Member at Large
Cliff Soper, Member at Large

OTHERS ATTENDING

Mayor Hoover, Town of Blackfalds Mayor
Marina Appel, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Rick Sadick, Economic Development Officer
Lorrie Logan, Municipal Clerk

REGRETS

Christa French, Member at Large
Melissa MacLeod, Member at Large
Kyle Braithwaite, Member at Large

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Olfert welcomed all attending and called the Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Addition of Bylaw 1289.23 - Section 33.07 - Council Procedural Bylaw – Change of Order to Minutes & Agenda – Verbal by Rick Sadick

Member Denise Sumner moved That the Economic Development & Tourism and Advisory Board receive the agenda as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INTRODUCTIONS

New and present Members introduced themselves.

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TREATY SIX LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A Land Acknowledgment was read to recognize that the Town of Blackfalds is on Treaty Six territory.

BUSINESS

Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee appointed Member Ray Olfert as Chair for a second term, and Member Robert Hogan as Vice-Chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Member Soper moved That the Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from September 11, 2023, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Report for Committee

The Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee reviewed and discussed the following items.

Apollo Update – Dr. Gbenoba

The Town of Blackfalds approved a one-time loan to the Clinic.
Dr. Gbenoba has started at the Clinic the third week of October 2023.
There is a high probability that another Doctor will be here by December of 2023.

BHPARC – (Blackfalds Health Practitioner Attraction and Retention Committee)

Committee that helps attract and support health practitioners in the community.

Received minutes from the Primary Care Network.

The Town of Blackfalds has now amalgamated into the Primary Care Network which is also responsible for the City of Red Deer, and the Village of Delburne. This group started in May of 2023 and will direct Doctors to clinics that will work well with them.

Rural Renewal Stream

It is a government program where Rural Townships can apply for sponsorship to get international workers to come into the Community to fill jobs that cannot be filled by local workers.

Blackfalds cannot qualify for the program as there is nowhere for the applicants to live in the Town.

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Exploratory Visit – Mr. Wancheng from Vietnam and Mr. Badrakh Ganbold

Mr. Wancheng and Mr. Badrakh have been invited to come to Blackfalds to see if it will be a good fit for their businesses, a gym with boxing lessons, and a pet store.

Red Deer Symphony Orchestra

Would like to have the Red Deer Symphony come to Blackfalds, in 2025. To manage costs the Town could apply for grant funding.

Apartment Complex – South Street

A developer has made an offer to build a 4-building apartment complex with sites available for commercial businesses.

Bolt Report

Would like to have the Bolt transit stop at the Red Deer Recovery facility.

Red Deer Recovery Community Development

The Recovery Centre is a brand-new facility that is now open to help adults with addictions.

Centex Convenience Store & Gas Bar

New owners recently renovated the store and gas bar, and a Grand Opening was held on Nov 3, 2023, with a very good response from the community.

Available Retail Space in Blackfalds

There are many retail spaces within the Town for rent or sale.

CIBC & TD

Reached out to the head offices of CIBC and TD Canada Trust Banks extending an opportunity for a branch to operate within the Town of Blackfalds.

Newcomers & Catholic Social Services

A meeting was set up with Newcomers & Catholic Social Services to promote Blackfalds as an optional place to live for new people arriving to this country.

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Bridge Road Development – Tutty Park

Bridge Road Developments a company out of Manitoba, that builds Senior facilities called “Adult Active Living” has been invited to come to Blackfalds for a tour in December to see if they may be interested in building within this community.

Blackfalds has also met with the developer Colliers.

Central Alberta Tourism Alliance

They are developing Tourism development zones where the Town can coordinate together with other tourist zones.

Economic Developers Alberta – Ministry Dinner

At the Ministry Dinner, our EDO met with Minister Shannon Marchand, he mentioned that Blackfalds could apply for funding for the TransCanada trail from Blackfalds to Red Deer to make it safer.

Blackfalds Chamber of Commerce

The office will be relocating to the Eagle Builders Arena.

Elkay Development – Blackfalds Crossing

The developer wants to proceed but has concerns with the railway crossing for students going to and from the Iron Ridge Elementary Campus.

Train Cessation – CPR

This item is still ongoing.

Tree Removal

The trees have now been removed on Highway 2A and Parkwood Road.

Dress Code – Town of Blackfalds

Just wanted to inform this committee of the new dress code as information.

EC Dev – Budget –

The budget has gone to Council and there is no information to report at this time.



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Member Denise Sumner moved That the Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting receive the Committee 2023 Review Report as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Olfert adjourned the Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting 8:25 p.m.

- Original Signed -

Ray Olfert, Chair

- Original Signed -

Lorrie Logan, Recording Secretary