

**Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Area A Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting Minutes
18th April 2017
BC Visitor's Centre, 111 Golden Donald Upper Road, Golden, BC**

Present:

- Craig Chapman (Chairperson)
- Derek Smith (Secretary)
- Ian Rowe
- Lynda Conway
- Diana Taufer
- Blair Hudson
- David Perez
- Kathy Simpson
- Doug Whiting.
-
- Karen Cathcart (Electoral Area "A" Director)

Regrets: Ian Rowe
Stephanie Knaak

Gallery: One members of the public attended the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Craig Chapman (Chairperson, Area A LAC CSRD) called the meeting to order at 6:03pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Information Session and presentation from flexiNet Broadband

Dave Monson – General Manager

Patricia Monson Sales and Marketing

- flexiNet has ambition to provide broadband network and high speed internet to the rural residents of South East BC.
- 100% owned by Ktunaxa Nation based in Cranbrook,
- In previous rounds of federal funding through Industry Canada in 2015 (Industry Canada 150) 2015/16 flexiNet received funding to advance services to southern BC. Funding initial applications came through the gas tax (50%), regional district (17.5%), Columbia Basin Trust (17.5%) and the balance from flexiNet (15%).
- The target service was to provide a minimum of 5 MB (megabytes) download and 5 MB upload speeds.
- The next round of funding through Industry Canada and the CRTC (Canadian Radio- television and Telecommunications Canada) will target 50 MB download and 10 MB upload. (These are targets, not contractual minimums).
- Funding levels and cost are out of synch. For example, the Industry Canada is planning to spend \$500M over 5 years to support this initiative spread across all provinces and territories in the country.
 - It costs \$8000/km to bury fiber optic lines. Early estimates would see 1.1 million km of fiber optic lines to service targeted population which would mean \$8.4 B

would be required for the basic infrastructure alone.

- flexiNet Broadband proposes a hybrid network using Radio Frequency transmitters and receivers (line-of-site towers) to remote parts of the community then distribution via fiber optics from the receiving tower to the home or office. This technology is successfully employed in many locations world-wide.
- The line-of-site range between towers is approximately 20 to 30 km depending on transmission frequency
- Tower cost are approximately \$100k per tower. They require minimal operational maintenance costs as they are solar powered and require minimal support.
- There would need to be a minimum of 30 customers to a tower to make the economics worthwhile.
- flexiNet has been in business for 10 years. It is privately owned so no financial information is available.
-

BUSINESS ITEMS:

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Doug Whiting, Seconded by Linda Conway:
that the agenda for the 18th April 2017 Area A Local Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES

Moved by David Perez, Seconded by Blair Hudson:
that the minutes of the 30th March 2017 Area A Local Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Director's Report:
 - a. Issues concerning safety, infrastructure impacts, noise and pollution with respect to the Heemskirk Canada expansion of Moberly Frac Sand Project are on-going. Heemskirk have asked for another month extension for discussions as there is an acquisition offer from Northern Silica.
(From Northern Silica website click [HERE](#))
On 9th December 2016, Northern Silica submitted a takeover proposal to the Board of Heemskirk.
On 13th February 2017, the Heemskirk Board of Directors announced their support for the proposal and a recommendation that Heemskirk shareholders accept the cash offer from Northern Silica.
Heemskirk shareholders are encouraged to regularly check this website for supplementary information on Northern Silica's takeover offer.

There is no change in intention to move forward with a purpose-built private haul road to address concerns with the Hartley Road access. First step is to get all approvals in place, including Heritage Inspection (Ministry of Forest, Lands and

- Natural Resource Operations) before the road can go through. Mark Connors CEO for the northern Silica is engaged and supportive.
- b. Landfill outflow onto residents property - CSRD is handling this matter. Litter is a problem. Samples have been taken by environment consultant. Results show low levels of nitrate but higher than acceptable levels of iron and other metals. Impacts both Area A and town of Golden. Residents of Golden are on municipal water supply while Area A relies on well water. The concern is being actively addressed by CSRD.
 - c. Noise abatement in Habart. Noise study was done prior to erecting a noise abatement fence. At that time, noise meters indicated levels above Health Canada minimum standard. Since then, noise has increased and the construction of noise abatement fence has had little impact. The Director will be seeking support from the CSRD Board of Directors in May for a formal submission to Transport Canada to weigh in on this issue.
 - d. The GEAR (Golden Eco Adventure Ranch) made an application to the ALR (Agricultural Land Reserve) to increase non-farm usage of their site in Nicholson. CSRD supported application to the ALR. Local residents are raising a petition to stop the change in land use at GEAR. There are limits to what the Director and the CSRD can control in this matter as there is no Community Plan / Land Use Plan to govern control and the application was made directly to ALR. Issue is ongoing.
 - e. Mosquito control is in motion. Additional funding is in place to assist with the increased cost using aerial sprays. Contract is with Morrow Bioscience (more info [HERE](#)). If there are any questions or concern, we are encouraged to contact Jeff Jackson (250) 272-1168 or Dirk Lewis directly at Morrow Bioscience (604) 317 1413 jeff@morrowbioscience.com

Moved by Linda Conway, Seconded by Kathy Simpson to accept the Director's Report for 18th April, 2017 as presented.

Motion Carried

2. Budget

As this was the first time the newly constituted LAC has been introduced to the budget, the Director went through the details of the budget 2017 and comparison to 2016. Each line item was presented for discussion and clarification (Thanks to CSRD for excellent information, analysis and clarity of presentation.)

Some questions regarding:

Home Owners Grant as it relates to tax base. Director Cathcart to follow-up.

Television re-broadcasting. How is it being used? Director Cathcart recommends contacting Ron Van Vogt. (contact information to follow)

3. Area A Updates and Discussion

- Nicholson Volunteer Fire Department update. Building extension now fully in use. The 10,000 gallon water storage tank is installed and tested. Will result in much improved cycle time to fill up Water Tender to support fire suppression.
- David Perez brought forward community concerns regarding the Heemskirk operations and impacts on the residents of the area. Concerns over the lack of defined deadlines for haul road construction and the introduction of new information regarding Heritage Permits and archeology work prior to construction. Director commented

that Art Mc Clean is doing everything he can to get the permits in place. Working directly with MOTI (Ministry Of Transportation and Infrastructure). Haul road will not be completed till at least the fall and would not be surprised if it rolls into next year.

- Some questions regarding the Tipping Fee and bag fee increases at the Land Fill. Doug Whiting provided clarification on the fee approach and minimal impact of the changes in fee structure. Director to follow-up with any relevant information.
- Some discussion around the best method of bringing topics forward through LAC – particularly if they are lengthy and complicated. This 2 hour forum may not be the best way to advance these kinds of topics. No conclusions but important to consider as this new LAC move forward.

OTHER BUSINESS:

4. New Business:

1. On the agenda for next LAC – more information on the landfill water quality issues affecting Area A residents
2. On the agenda for next LAC – more information on what invasive weed control/herbicides being used along the roads in Area A. (Blair Hudson)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 23rd May 2017
British Columbia Visitor Centre (BCVC)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by David Perez, Seconded by Doug Whiting that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM, 18th April 2017

Certified Correct

Chair