

**SOUTH ALMAGUIN HIGHLANDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE/
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER COMMITTEE**

JOINT MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2014

The regular meeting of the South Almaguin Highlands Economic Development Committee (SAHED) and the Community Development Officer Committee (CDO) was held at the Burk's Falls Municipal Office on Monday April 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Councillor Lewis Hodgson, Councillor Rosalind Hall, Councillor Rod Blakelock, Wendy Whitwell, Emilio Foffano, Tom Tota, Louisa Moffat, David Gray, Anna Branch, Andrew Farnsworth, Nghe Tran, Tim Hainsworth.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes from the regular meeting March 10, 2014 were approved. Moved by Anna Branch, seconded by Tom Tota. (Carried)

Community/Visitor Guide

Nghe Tran and Mike Hainsworth from the Almaguin Business Community (ABC) proposed merging the Community Guide with their Business Directory publication for a more regional document. David Gray presented an updated draft layout. The new Guide would feature a business directory for the entire Almaguin area (Novar to Powasson) and the addition of sponsored photos of the Almaguin Highlands from the Almaguin Photography Project. The Committee agreed in principle on a price of \$200 for sponsored photos. The committee discussed upgrading the Guide to full glossy and increasing the run size to 20,000 copies. Cyndi Culbert of the Great North Arrow will estimate the cost of the changes, and it is expected that the ABC will bring enough revenue to cover the additional costs.

The Committee voted to merge the SAHEDC Community Guide with the Almaguin Business Community publication. Moved by Emilio Foffano, seconded by Anna Branch. (Carried).

A Community Guide sub-committee was formed, consisting of David, Anna, Tom, and Nghe. In the coming weeks they will work to source the information required for the Guide content. In recognition of the extra work required, the Committee acknowledged that the launch date may have to be delayed several weeks from the intended Victoria Day weekend launch.

Festival of Almaguin Businesses (FAB) 2014

Emilio, Tom and Louisa discussed the Chamber of Commerce's plans for FAB '14, including the closure of Ontario Street in Burk's Falls for vendor booths and live music. The event will run on Saturday, May 24, with shuttles moving people to the downtown event from the parking lots at the Dream Centre and the Arena.

Investment Readiness Study

Any further updates to the Investment Readiness study must be submitted to John Finley, through David, by April 22, 2014. Mr. Finley will make a presentation of the finalized study at the next SAHEDC meeting. The finalized Community Profile will be made available to the three municipalities to post on their websites.

Almaguin Careers and Trades Day (ACT) 2014

David discussed the upcoming ACT 2014 event to be held at Almaguin Highlands Secondary School from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014. The event will include booths and presentation materials for students and residents concerning careers, education and skills development.

Humaniga

The Humaniga human resources system is now available at the Burk's Falls Armour and Ryerson Union Public Library for access by community residents. The Committee discussed advertising and hosting a free information session to inform residents of the service and its benefits.

New Business

The Burk's Falls Active Living Assessment Report is available for review through David.

Next Meeting

May 12, 2014 at 6:00 pm, Burk's Falls Municipal Office

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, Anna Branch. (Carried)