



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018 OKANAGAN LAKE ROOM

PRESENT: VOTING:

Alex Reid, Accelerate Okanagan
Leigha Horsfield, Community Futures North Okanagan
Susan Lehman, Downtown Vernon Association
Dan Proulx, Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce
Jane Lister, Okanagan College
Richard Toperczer, Province of B.C. – Regional Ec. Dev.
Annette Sharkey, Social Planning of North Okanagan
Bud Mortenson, UBCO
Mayor Akbal Mund
Councillor Catherine Lord

ABSENT: Tannis Nelson, Regional District of North Okanagan

STAFF: Kevin Poole, Manager, Economic Development & Tourism
Janice Nicol, Legislative Committee Clerk

ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

**ROUNDTABLE
INTRODUCTIONS AND
OVERVIEW OF TERMS
OF REFERENCE**

Roundtable introductions were held. The Manager, Tourism and Economic Development provided an overview of the Committee Terms of Reference and the reasoning for the new structure of the Committee.

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Leigha Horsfield:

THAT the agenda for the Thursday, April 19, 2018 meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee be adopted.

CARRIED.

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES**

Moved by Leigha Horsfield, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT the minutes for May 24, 2017 meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee be adopted.

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION

Bud Mortenson, Director, University Relations from the University of British Columbia – Okanagan campus provided a PowerPoint on initiatives from UBCO. Some of the statistics and information were reviewed as follows:

- Since its opening in 2005, UBCO has expanded substantially more than tripling the floor space and more than doubling the original acreage
- A western gateway will open in mid-August allowing another access other than Highway 97
- Transit exchange to be completed offering a core linkage for Kelowna/Vernon
- UBCO offers 62 Bachelor
- Student housing offers 1,680 beds, will be expanded to 2,200 by 2020
- Currently there are 9,120 students (8,264 undergrads, 856 grads):
 - 200 from the Vernon School District
 - 27% from this region
 - 37% from outside Okanagan
 - 20% from Canada
 - 16% International
 - 48% of graduating students stay in the region.
- In 2014 there were 405 Aboriginal students, in 2018 – 493 with 36 students pursuing masters and PhD studies
- Since 2005, there have been 14,236 degrees conferred
- UBCO has its own Academic Senate to decide which programs are in demand in the area
- They actively recruit for international students around the world, most popular graduate programs are engineering
- 20% of student population as international students is ideal
- Currently 1,473 international students from 99 countries
- UBCO has no faculty housing
- Many students living within 1.5km in private market housing
- Rental housing market in Kelowna is currently 0.2%
- Currently 9,000 domestic students – university is at capacity
- International students pay full tuition but also help to fund programs for other students
- 2,249 faculty and staff (575 faculty, 565 staff, 1018 student staff)
- Operating budget is \$139M for 2017/18 (up 39M since 2005/06)
- 1.5B annual economic impact in the Okanagan

- Many new projects underway including doubling the size of library
- New programs since 2005 – Medicine (capped at 32 MD seats per year), Engineering (electrical, civil and mechanical), Human Kinetics, Bachelor of Management, Master of Science and PhD in Nursing, Master in Social Work, Masters and PhD in Education
- Recent additions – Masters and PhD of Science, PhD in Medical Physics, Bachelor of Media Studies, Bachelor of Education, Masters of Engineering Leadership
- Partnerships with many regional and international universities
- More than 150 medical students completed clerkships at Vernon Jubilee Hospital over last three years
- UBCO has connections throughout the community - partnerships with Kal Tire, Capstone, Community Service Learning, Universal Packaging, Silver Star, Vernon Public Library, local watersheds and transportation, Vernon Community School
- Co-op education has been expanded across all faculties this year
- There has been 189% increase in research funding
- UBC Innovation Precinct – will be a hub for academic research, innovation and collaboration – partnering with industries regionally, nationally and internationally – looking for partners who would have proximity to research capacity
- Next steps – 18,500 universities in the world, UBC in top 40 – raising awareness of the Okanagan and UBC's presence here with an ongoing marketing campaign
- Requests that Committee helps to share the UBC Okanagan story, Bud is happy to share any promotional materials/videos
- Thank you to Bud for a very informative presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:**POTENTIAL SPEAKERS
AND TOPICS FOR
UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The Committee was canvassed on potential discussion topics and guest speakers for 2018. The following suggestions were made:

- Southern Interior Construction Association
- Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association
- Canadian Manufacturing Association
- Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to provide housing outlooks

- School District to provide new initiatives on how they are preparing new students
- Interior Health Authority – new initiatives and human resources requirements
- Province of B.C. - Provincial Rural Strategy

INFORMATION ITEMS:

The proposed schedule of meetings for 2018 was discussed. Proposed dates are:

- Thursday, June 28 @ 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, September 27 @ 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, December 13 @ 8:30 a.m.

Consensus – these dates should work for everyone.

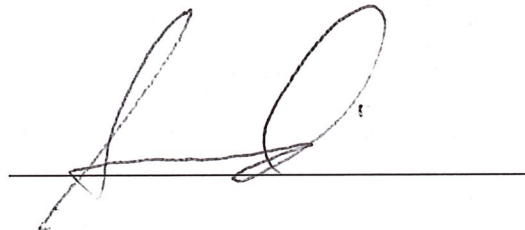
**DATE OF NEXT
MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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