



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 31, 2016

**ATTENTION**

*The EDAC minutes are draft and subject to amendment. Final approval and adoption by the EDAC will follow a resolution to receive the minutes by the CCRD Board of Directors, at their next scheduled meeting.*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – March 31, 2016

In Attendance: Randy Hart (NNDC) - Chair  
Lori Campbell (Community)  
Wilma Hallam (Community) – by phone  
Ana Santos (Denny Island) – by phone  
Tanis Shedden (CEDO) – Recording secretary

Apologies: Garrett Newkirk (Harbour), Chris Quinn (Community), Ernest Hall (Community)

Absent: Director Sam Schooner (CCRD), Tracy Switzer (Ocean Falls)

No members of the public attended

**1. Call to Order**

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**EDAC 16-03-01** M/S Hallam/Santos that the agenda be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

**EDAC 16-03-02** M/S Hallam/Hart that the EDAC Meeting Minutes dated January 28, 2016 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**4. Community Economic Development Delivery Plan**

Discussed as a block.

The CEDO spoke to the plan and explained that in an effort to ensure that any economic development plan moving forward is actionable and attainable that an interim Community Economic Development Delivery Plan be tested. This will help ensure that community members, societies, and organizations are creating the economic development in the region and that it aligns with and helps create additional community capacity moving forward.

EDAC members in attendance had the following comments on the Community Economic Development Delivery Plan (CEDDP) as presented.

They felt the document:

- Was well structured.
- Enables the CEDO to act as a conduit of information/facilitator.
- Has the potential to link individual societies/organizations with the big picture.
- Allows the EDAC to see connections and help the CEDO identify areas where further efficiencies can be made.

- Focused on enabling the community
- Needs further debate regarding societies that are approached to be part of a trial period.

Additional discussion surfaced about what should be supported with any contribution agreements that get structured moving forward.

Ana Santos had concerns that given the different levels at which the communities in our region find themselves with regards to their priorities, how can this plan help us all in the same way? The CEDO suggested that ongoing and open communication is crucial.

Lori Campbell suggested that there is a possibility to discuss a Jobs Creation Partnership project that can work on town beautification. Details and ideas are being discussed informally. Randy Hart mentioned that Nuxalk Nation should be brought into the discussion as there may be an opportunity to collaborate as they are working on structuring a beautification project themselves. Linda Winje, Manager of the Bella Coola Williams Lake and District Credit Union, should also be approached as she has expressed a desire to be active and involved with community initiatives. CEDO is scheduling a meeting with the WLDCU in the upcoming week to touch base and will add this as a topic for discussion.

**EDAC 16-03-03** M/S Hart/Campbell that the Bella Coola Valley Learning Society will be approached about the opportunity for a Jobs Creation Partnership town beautification project.

**CARRIED**

Goal 1 in the draft CEDDP mentions Bella Coola Valley Tourism Visitor Information Booth. Concerns were brought up about providing support for an initiative that already receives funding. A preferred use for tourism support would involve the ferry, Bella Coola Harbour, and Bella Coola Valley Tourism such that a new initiative would be created. The EDAC expressed a desire for BCVT to prioritize any future CEDDP funds to local initiatives (vs. for example, travel and trade shows). There are opportunities for proactive outreach and engagement. For example, having someone at the ferry when it arrives (regardless of timing) and having staff at the Visitor Information Booth be more engaged within the community and act as travel counsellors.

Additional organizations to consider approaching and/or acquiring more information about their mandate/structure

- Denny Island Community Development Association
- Bella Coola Harbour
- Bella Coola Valley Learning Society
- Bella Coola Resource Society
- Williams Lake and District Credit Union

**EDAC 16-03-04** M/S Hart/Santos that the EDAC supports the draft Community Economic Development Delivery Plan in principle.

**CARRIED**

CEDO suggested that Ana Santos be given a chance to give her Denny Island community report before moving to discussion of the OCPAC final report.

## **5. General Information**

### **a. Community Updates**

Ana Santos gave her Denny Island community report explained that the community is working to set priorities. There was a setback regarding moving the recycling initiative forward as the structure of Bella Bella's recycling program will not allow for the Denny Island community to join. With some help from a CCRD grant-in-aid the community garden shelter project behind the community hall is moving forward. They are working to find a means to alleviate issues with roadwork and drinking water. Ana expressed that things are happening and the community is excited about the possibilities. People are working together to achieve their common goals.

## **6. OCPAC Final Report**

Discussed as a block.

With regards to points 1 (Housing – to identify and inventory vacant or underutilized land outside of the ALR) and 2 (Rural Residential opportunity outside Primary Settlement Areas).

Randy Hart raised concerns about the outcome of the land inventory. The inventory will serve to identify potentially developable lands and may attract some outside developers, however, this does not serve to address the issue that some local people have who currently own land in the ALR and are interested in pursuing development. Most people want to develop land they already own and are not interested in pursuing additional property/investment.

Pertaining to point 3 (Home-based Businesses).

Questions that the EDAC would like answered on some level include defining what a “business” is and what a “home-based business” is.

In the current context, it may be a moot point attempting to regulate home-based businesses. As there is little existing commercial infrastructure to support transitioning to a more concentrated core. Local residents have invested in their home-based businesses and implementing and enforcing restrictions on the type of businesses that can be practiced in residential areas may be impractical. It would require a community vision and will to adjust the current status quo.

Discussion about point 4 (Tourism and Recreation) was minimal.

## **7. Adjournment**

Due to the Victoria Day (May 23, 2016) the EDAC has rescheduled the next meeting to be 7 pm May 19, 2016.

**EDAC 16-03-04** M/S Hallam/Santos that the regular meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee be adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

**CARRIED**