

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC)



Session #8 – MINUTES

November 25-26, 2014

Edmonton, Alberta



Session Objectives:

1. Review of the Draft Recommendations Report – RAC’s Advice to the Government of Alberta.

Attendance:

<p>RAC Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wendy Boje (Chair)• Patrick Alexander• Cecil Anderson• Tim Burton• Nicholas Gafuik• Leslie Gammie• Rob Gibb• Ed Gibbons• Arnold Hanson• Lorne Hindbo• Tim Hofstra• Charles Newell• Ed Parke• Robert Phillips (<i>Day 1</i>)• Neal Sarnecki• Tracy Scott• David Taylor• Peter Vana• Liv Vors• Robert Winship• Allen Wright <p>RAC Members Absent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stan Delorme• Doug King• Cecil Janvier• Stephen Stanley• Leonard Wade• Marla Zapach	<p>Government of Alberta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crystal Damer (Land Use Secretariat - LUS)• Niki Atwal (Energy) (<i>Day 1</i>)• Jason Cathcart (Agriculture and Rural Development - ARD)• Tracy Howlett (Policy and Planning - Environment and Sustainable Resource Development -ESRD)• Tyrell Ludwig (Energy) (<i>Day 2</i>)• Chris Spytz (Parks, Land-Use Framework - Environment and Sustainable Resource Development - ESRD)• Chad Willms (Plan Development and Transition Section - Environment and Sustainable Resource Development - ESRD)• Joannes Wong (Municipal Affairs - MA) <p>Consulting Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elevate Consulting
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Agenda Items:

Tuesday, November 25, 2014 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	
8.1 FORMAL WELCOME	Wendy Boje, RAC Chair
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RAC Chair formally opened the eighth RAC Session in Edmonton, Alberta and provided a short recap of the topics covered in the previous session, including the Green Zone, White Zone, and the Integrated Storylines.• RAC reviewed the agenda for Session #8 and was given an overview of the process for the review of the recommendations report. The report is structured to reflect RAC’s discussions and response to government’s presentations and also reflects areas where additional thoughts or questions can be proposed.• The Chair reminded RAC that ownership of the report belongs to all of the RAC members and thanked them for all of their contributions and feedback to date.• RAC members were provided details for the Tuesday night wrap-up dinner with the Stewardship Commissioner.	
8.2 RAC’S GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT	RAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RAC members collectively provided their feedback and general impressions of the draft recommendations report to date.• Discussion included the following considerations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– The audience for the report– Readability and the precision around the language used– Ensuring the document could be used in an actionable manner by the Government of Alberta– The economic considerations of the proposed advice– Providing government with realistic recommendations that do not contravene current policy– Integration of all topic areas and recommendations– Creating an executive summary	
8.3 DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDATION REPORT TOPIC AREAS	RAC, LIT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RAC members engaged in a discussion on the following RAC advice topics in the recommendations report:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Wetlands– Lakes	



- Biodiversity
 - Conservation Areas
 - Biodiversity through Stewardship of Private Lands
 - Inclusion of Aboriginal Peoples
- Through discussions on the topic areas above, additional considerations and context were provided for advice areas.
 - RAC reached consensus on allowing the Chair to take the comments, modifications and suggestions discussed and incorporate them into the recommendations report.

8.4 RAC WRAP-UP DINNER WITH THE STEWARDSHIP COMMISSIONER

RAC, Bev Yee – Stewardship Commissioner

- A wrap-up dinner was held with the Stewardship Commissioner to provide an opportunity to thank the RAC members for their hard work and dedication across the eight sessions over the past half year.
- RAC members were asked to provide their feedback on three areas of importance:
 1. Once RAC was assembled as a team, were they given compelling direction? (From either the Chair or Government of Alberta)
 2. Were the right people convened in the process?
 3. Was an enabling structure and process created to allow RAC to give their best and most candid feedback in a safe environment?
- Each RAC member was given the opportunity to provide feedback to the questions and offer any other thoughts on improving the process to support regional planning in Alberta.

Wednesday, November 26, 2014

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

8.5 RAC DISCUSSION ON WETLANDS (...continued)

RAC

- Further discussion was held on the topic of wetlands, building off of the previous day's dialogue.
- RAC reached consensus on allowing the Chair to take the comments, modifications and suggestions discussed and incorporate them into the recommendations report.

8.6 DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDATION REPORT TOPIC AREAS

Wendy Boje, RAC Chair

- RAC members engaged in a discussion on the following RAC advice topics in the recommendations report:



- Management of Outdoor Recreation
 - Economic Development – Agriculture
 - Economic Development – Tourism
 - Economic Development – Energy (Oil & Gas and renewables)
 - Integrated Recommendations
 - Vision, Outcomes and Strategic Directions
 - Community Growth and Community Land-Use Planning
- Through discussions on the topic areas above, additional considerations and context were provided for advice areas.
 - RAC reached consensus on allowing the Chair to take the comments, modifications and suggestions discussed and incorporate them into the recommendations report.

8.7 CLOSING OF SESSION #8

Wendy Boje, RAC Chair

- The Chair provided a recap of the session and highlighted key points that were to be addressed in the report. The report will be amended and formatted and then passed on to the Land Use Secretariat.
- Each member of RAC was given the opportunity to provide final comments to their fellow council members at this last session of the North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council.
- Meeting adjourned by the Chair.