Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee held via electronic communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, commencing at 9:00 AM.

Present:

Bryce Kumka, Chair, Business Community
David Secord, Vice-Chair, Business Community Representative
Bilal Abbas, Public-At-Large
Justin Ellis, Public-At-Large
Steven Hale, Education Sector
Dan Soupal, Land Development Industry
Ijeoma Uche-Ezeala, Public-At-Large
Jennifer Vardy, Public-At-Large
Raj Vasal, Community Development
Rene Wells, Public-At-Large
Stu Wigle, Councillor

Absent:

Alex McKenzie, Land Development Sector
Curtis Williams, Community Development

Administration:

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Amanda Haitas, Senior Manager, Planning and Development
Monica Lance, Manager, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Heather Fredeen, Clerk, Legislative Services

1. Call to Order

Chair Bryce Kumka called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

RESULT:	**CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Steven Hale
SECONDER:	Bilal Abbas
FOR:	Kumka, Abbas, Ellis, Hale, Secord, Vardy, Vasal, Soupal, Wells
ABSENT:	McKenzie, Uche-Ezeala, Williams

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1. Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Meeting - October 5, 2022

MOTION:

THAT the Minutes of the Wood Buffalo Development Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2022, be approved as presented.

RESULT:	**CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Justin Ellis
SECONDER:	Steven Hale
FOR:	Kumka, Abbas, Ellis, Hale, Secord, Vardy, Vasal, Soupal, Wells
ABSENT:	McKenzie, Uche-Ezeala, Williams

4. Presentation

4.1. Kevin Weidlich, Chief Executive Officer, and Lisa Sweet, Director, Business and Investment Attraction, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism re: Attracting New Business & Private Investment

Kevin Weidlich, Executive Director, and Lisa Sweet, Director, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism (FMWBEDT), provided a presentation on activities and associated key performance indicators in which the FMWBEDT has undertaken to promote new business and private investment in the Region. It was noted that the FMWBEDT recently attended the "Innovating Commerce and Serving Communities" Conference in Toronto during which meetings were held with over thirty developers and retailers. A recap of the 2021 Commercial Retail Analysis was also provided.

Entrance, Exits and Returns
IJ Uche-Ezeala connected to the meeting at 9:08 a.m.
Justin Ellis exited the meeting at 9:57 a.m. and returned at 9:59 a.m.
Jennifer Vardy exited the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

5. New and Unfinished Business

5.1. Parsons Creek Development Update

Amanda Haitas, Senior Manager, Planning and Development, provided an overview of the Parson's Creek development, and indicated that the Municipality's preference for the land is commercial development. A Request for Expression of Interest was recently issued for the land and once a developer is selected, negotiations for a sale price will commence and will be presented to the Province of Alberta for final approval.

5.2. Update on Alberta's Red Tape Reduction Portfolio

With consensus of the Committee, a congratulatory letter will be sent by the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, to the Honourable Dale Nally on his appointment as Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction, and to the Honourable Brian Jean on his appointment, as Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development. A letter of thanks will also be sent to Ms. Tanya Fir, former Associate Minister, Red Tape Reduction, for her work with the Committee.

5.3. Committee Priority Identification Process and Status

Committee Member Justin Ellis indicated that the Committee Priority Identification Working Group will be collecting member feedback on the Committee's priorities via the online tool "IdeaBoardz" and that two additional information gathering sessions will be held on November 7 and November 14, 2022. The Working Group will then prepare a draft of the Committee's priorities for Committee approval in preparation for a presentation to Council in January 2023.

Exit
Councillor Stu Wigle exited the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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Chair