



BRAED KNOTICE

Newsletter for the Battle River Alliance for Economic Development

December 2009

BRAED MEMBERS

Beaver County
Camrose County
City of Camrose
County of Paintearth
Flagstaff County
M.D. of Provost
M.D. of Wainwright
Town of Bashaw
Town of Castor
Town of Coronation
Town of Hardisty
Town of Killam
Town of Provost
Town of Sedgewick
Town of Tofield
Town of Viking
Town of Wainwright
Village of Alliance
Village of Bawlf
Village of Bittern Lake
Village of Chauvin
Village of Consort
Village of Edberg
Village of Edgerton
Village of Ferintosh
Village of Forestburg
Village of Galahad
Village of Halkirk
Village of Heisler
Village of Holden
Village of Hughenden
Village of Irma
Village of Lougheed
Village of Rosalind
Village of Ryley
Village of Strome

WAINWRIGHT AND TOFIELD HOST MEETINGS

Wainwright was the host of the Board of Directors' meeting held at the Ramada Inn on September 24th.

The day began with an interesting and informative bus tour of the Town, led by Laurie Abthorpe. The meeting began with a welcome from Norm Coleman, Mayor, Town of Wainwright.

The round table was held and followed by approval of a revised operational plan for 2009-2010 re-focusing the Alliance initiatives within the deliverable objectives of BRAED's four task teams.

A presentation by Doug Cameron, and Drew Hutton, International and Intergovernmental Relations, on Ports-to-Plains discussed the new membership from the Province of Alberta as the first international member. Benefits of membership include potential economic development to rural areas of North America.

The Board of Directors' meeting in December was held at the Tofield Legion. Nabil Chehayeb, Mayor, Town of Tofield, welcomed the group.

Teresa Callihoo, BRAED Regional Ec. Dev. Coordinator, updated the group on her survey with administrators in the region, as well

as the presentations that she has made to various Chambers of Commerce re "Thinking Outside the Tank", the defence industry DVD.

Larry Davidson reported on the trip he and Bud James took on behalf of BRAED to Texas to attend the Ports-to-Plains AGM and Conference. He outlined the objectives of Alberta and BRAED of enhancing economic opportunities by supporting the REDA's in Eastern Alberta and their communities.

Kal Polturak of K. Polturak Management & Consulting Inc., presented the group with the completed agricultural inventory project highlighting the diverse opportunities within the BRAED region.

Charlotte Curtis, Chair, Agricultural Task Team, lead a discussion on the next steps for the Agricultural Task Team.

A Tourism Development Project update by Marilyn Backman Morton, Strategem Plus Consulting, updated the group on the tourism project. Round table followed.

Congratulations to Charlotte Curtis who was elected to the Executive Committee as a member-at-large!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Wainwright and Tofield Host Meetings
BRAED Small Business Award
Winners
Ports-to-Plains AGM and Conference
Upcoming Events
Community Ties – Village of Edberg

BRAED SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS WINNERS

BRAED recognizes and supports communities and their businesses in the celebration of their significant contributions. As a result, BRAED partnered with award ceremonies taking place during small business week in October to sponsor a “BRAED Award of Appreciation”. This award was given to businesses that provided a product or service to a significant part of the BRAED region, contributed to making the BRAED region a better place in which to live and conduct business, and demonstrated a high level of customer service excellence.



BRAED Director, Eric Jerrard (far left) presents the Award to Vital Effect at the Camrose Chamber of Commerce Small Business Week Gala.



The Wainwright award was won by Dave Repp (left) and presented by Norm Coleman Mayor, Town of Wainwright, at the Wainwright and District Chamber of Commerce Awards Night.

Events were held in conjunction with the Camrose Chamber of Commerce Small Business Week Gala, Flagstaff County Small Business Appreciation Night, Tofield and District Chamber of Commerce Small Business Week Banquet and Awards Night, and Wainwright and District Chamber of Commerce Awards Night.



Harold Conquest, BRAED Vice-Chair, presents the Award of Appreciation to Vincent Reid (left) and David Reid (right) of Reid Developments at the Tofield Chamber of Commerce Banquet and Awards Night.

Flagstaff County named their award, the “BRAED Municipality Involvement Award” and gave it to the BRAED member municipality that they felt contributed significantly to the organization over the year.



Teresa Callihoo, BRAED Regional Economic Development Coordinator (far right), presented the BRAED Municipality Involvement Award to the Town of Killam.

Ports-to-Plains Annual General Meeting and Conference

By Larry Davidson

First, I would like to thank the membership of BRAED and the Government of Alberta for providing me the opportunity to participate at the Ports-to-Plains conference in Lubbock, Texas, in October. For people who may not know, Ports-to-Plains is a lobby organization and marketing corridor stretching from the southern boundary of Texas (Laredo) to Alberta Canada.

Being representatives of BRAED, Bud James and I were tasked with partnering with reps from HUB, PEP, and International and Intergovernmental Affairs to promote eastern Alberta, and the newly created partnership with Ports-to-Plains. We were there to observe, learn and understand the role of Ports-to-Plains and the communities they represent.

I heard many times how wonderful it was that Alberta sent such a large contingent (eight). From the time we left to our arrival back in Canada, my objective was to meet as many individuals and understand some of the challenges they face as a community.

The Ports-to-Plains will provide many opportunities for communities. Being it focuses on the Heartland of the United States and Eastern Alberta, we share many similarities. It is interesting to note that while there are significant pockets of population scattered around the state of Texas, much of the Ports-to-Plains region is inhabited by smaller communities averaging less than 25,000. Many communities are of a similar size to our own. The key ingredient that makes this exciting partnership possible is the transportation network.

Alberta's membership with the Ports-to-Plains means all communities within Alberta are members. While municipalities along the highway #2 corridor may develop opportunities as a result of this membership, Alberta's focus is on the redevelopment of Eastern Alberta. You may remember a presentation given in Viking, when MLA Len Mitzel spoke of the governments desire to create another 24 hour crossing at Medicine Hat called Wild Horse. The government of Alberta feels that by creating this new border crossing increased trade opportunities will be realized as a result.

In closing, I would like to thank the membership for the opportunity to represent you at Ports-to-Plains. As opportunities for projects and business come forward, I will ensure others are made aware so we continue to develop the cooperative spirit that is so important to BRAED.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AgChoices 2010 Conference
Wednesday, February 10
Capri Centre, Red Deer
www.agriculture.alberta.ca/agchoices

SouthGrowN Sustainability Conference
Creating Opportunities...
Viable, Responsible, Quality Today for a
Prosperous Tomorrow
March 4, 2010
Lethbridge Lodge Hotel & Conference Centre
www.southgrow.com

Growing Rural Tourism
"The Perfect 10"
A Decade of Growing Rural Tourism
April 12 – 14, 2010
Camrose, Alberta
www.growingruraltourism.ca

2010 EDA AGM and Conference
April 21 – 23, 2010
Delta Lodge, Kananaskis
www.edaalberta.ca



BRAED COMMUNITY TIES - Village of Edberg -

Edberg is located in the Alberta heartland, an area known for its incredible prairie landscape with never ending fields, beautiful lakes, rolling foothills, and a limitless skyline. Edberg lies within Central Alberta in Camrose County and is 34 kilometers south of Camrose and 119 km south of Edmonton. Edberg is on the western banks of the Battle River and Dried Meat Lake. Edberg has the legacy of being one of the first villages west of Ontario to have its own water and sewer system.

The community, with its agricultural roots, acts as a retirement center and as an agricultural service center for outlying farmers. Edberg offers residents the benefits of low property taxes, locally treated clean soft water, and an above average economy that is positive for commerce.

Edberg has long been an enthusiastic village with many community organizations and summer events in the area for residents and tourists. The Canada Day Celebration and fireworks, Edberg Slow Pitch Tournament and Open Gardens at plantlilies.com are yearly events.

The park in Edberg is an ideal place for family reunions, picnics, and other outdoor activities. It contains a dumping station, public toilets, playground, cookhouse and scenic park.

The Village also contains a number of recreational facilities such as a sports grounds, tiny tot playground, outdoor skating rink, school gymnasium, and tire playground.

The close proximity of the Battle River Valley and Dried Meat Lake allows for more recreational fun, including snowmobiling, tobogganing, horseback riding, cross country skiing, boating and swimming.

The Village is grateful to be working with the Provincial Government to construct a new wastewater lagoon, as well as replacing all water and wastewater infrastructure. This will allow the Village to expand its population and opportunities in the near future.

For more information on the Village of Edberg visit: www.villageofedberg.com

PLAN TO ATTEND THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ON FEBRUARY 25TH AT THE OHATON COMMUNITY CENTRE.

If you have questions or comments about the
BRAED Knotice email:

dale.beddoes@braedalberta.ca or call
(780) 679-1235.



**Battle River Alliance for
Economic Development
5023 – 50 Street
Box 373
Killam, AB T0B 3L0**

**Phone: (780) 385-2450
Fax: (780) 385-2480**