

Disclaimer: These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.



Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting

June 17, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Meadows Room

12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2B5

Voting Members:	C. Hamm A. Jaschke K. Marion J. Sidhu *
Council Liaisons:	Councillor MacDonald Councillor Meachen
Regrets:	A. Aquilini A. Evans P. Gordon M. Hamfelt D. Kosicki C. Perron S. Robinson
Guests:	K. DeVries, WorkBC J. Vann Struth, Vann Struth Consulting Group
Staff:	C. O'Byrne, Acting Director of Planning & Development
Recording Clerk:	T. McCaw, Committee Clerk II

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was general consent amongst the Committee to proceed with the Agenda for information purposes only as quorum was not achieved.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Due to lack of quorum, the Minutes from the May 19, 2022 Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting will be carried forward to the next meeting for adoption.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 WorkBC Employment Services

K. DeVries, Program Manager, WorkBC Employment Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee on the ways WorkBC Employment Services can assist local employers with recruiting, hiring, wage subsidies for new staff, and new staff training forming a part of the minutes as **Attachment 1**.

The Committee participated in a roundtable of discussions with the following themes noted:

- The recommendation was made for promotions of upcoming job fair events to be shared on social media by the City's Communication Department;
- Concerns were raised around the number of vacant positions in Pitt Meadows & Maple Ridge;
- The recommendation was made to create an area on the City's EDAC webpage for business and economic development resources and updates; and
- The recommendation was made to invite WorkBC to present to Council.

** K. DeVries left the meeting at 10:25 a.m.*

5.2 Economic Development Strategy

J. Vann Struth, Vann Struth Consulting Group, provided a PowerPoint presentation to update the Committee members on the Economic Development Strategy, forming a part of the minutes as **Attachment 2**.

The Committee participated in a roundtable of discussions with the following themes noted:

- Recommendations were made for the draft surveys that will be distributed to residents and local businesses regarding economic development in Pitt Meadows;
- The Committee collaboratively brainstormed ideas on redefining the guiding vision statement for Economic Development in the City;
- Dates and time options for focus group discussions will be circulated to Committee members to share with their local business contacts;
- Discussions were held around building connections with larger local businesses including embracing and acknowledging big businesses that have moved into the City; and
- The recommendation was made to have Committee members reach out to their networks to create smaller working groups to gather data for economic development in Pitt Meadows.

5.3 Economic Development Advisory Committee Road Map

Committee members engaged in a collaborative discussion on whether development of a committee road map would help identify Committee direction and progress.

- The recommendation was made for Staff to share what they see as a vision of success for the Committee and invite Committee members to share their visions of success for the Committee.

5.4 2023 Economic Development Week

Committee members participated in a brainstorming activity to discuss potential initiatives for the next Economic Development Week:

- The recommendation was made for the committee to work on planning a work fair in May/June 2023 as something to support the community and Economic Development Week in 2023.

** J. Sidhu exited the meeting at 11:35 a.m.*

5.5 EDAC Action Item Tracker

C. O'Byrne, Acting Director of Planning & Development provided an update on the EDAC Action Item Tracker.

The Committee did not engage in further comments or discussions.

6. ROUNDTABLE

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion. There were no motions or recommendations put forward.

7. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

1. Staff to invite K. DeVries, from Work BC Employment Services to provide a presentation to Council at a future meeting.
2. Resource guide to be added to the Economic Development Advisory Committee webpage.
3. Members to reach out to other interested and informed residents and business owners and provide contact information to the consultant from Van Struth Consulting Group Inc.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

*The next **Economic Development Advisory Committee** meeting is set for **August 19, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.** through video conference.*

Certified as correct:

Tatiana McCaw, Committee Clerk II