



Minutes

Of a Meeting of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission of the City of Kenora Friday, June 15, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. City Hall, Council Chambers

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**With** Teresa Gallik - Treasurer, Colt Manson, Councillor Mort Goss, Taras Manzie, Crystal Kast, Mayor David Canfield, Ken Behrsin

**Staff** Karen Brown - CAO, Megan Dokuchie - Economic Development Officer, Corey Jones - Economic Development Intern, Josh Nelson - Tourism Development Officer, Kelly Galbraith - Administrative Assistant, Adam Smith - Special Projects & Research Officer

**Guest** Douglas Judson - Chief Executive Officer, Treaty 3 Investment Group, Allyson Pele - Manager, Northwest Business Centre, Councillor Dan Reynard

**Regrets** Graham Chaze - Chair, Lindsay Koch, Jeff Kurz, Torin Bergagnini

### 1. Call to Order

Teresa called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

There were none declared.

### 3. Guest Speaker - Douglas Judson, Chief Executive Officer at Treaty 3 Investment Group

Douglas shared that the Treaty 3 Investment Group (T3IG) is an economic development and investment company created under Grand Council Treaty 3 resolutions. The T3IG mandate is to identify and develop investment opportunities that will benefit the Treaty 3 First Nations, who will be the primary investors. By making investments that generate independent sources of wealth from the Treaty 3 First Nations, Treaty 3 communities can become more economically self-sufficient.

Types of investments include viable businesses that can be scaled up and align with economic and social priorities of First Nations, working in concert with other likeminded corporations and organizations. Provincial and Federal government commitments have been given to the project.

**Discussion:**

It was asked if projects are limited to reservations. Douglas informed the group that projects are not limited to reservations however they must be on Treaty 3 land and must not compete with other First Nation projects. Cultural based tourism was discussed and Douglas shared that it is on their radar. Criteria was discussed and it was noted there is not strong criteria around project stream intake other than the principal based criteria.

The group thanked Doulas for his presentation and shared that they look forward to working with T3IG in the future.

***Douglas and Allyson left the meeting at 9:15am.***

**4. Confirmation of Minutes**

**a) Moved by Taras Manzie, seconded by Ken Behrsin and Carried -**

That the Minutes of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission meeting held on May 18, 2018 be confirmed as written and filed.

**b) Follow-Up on Previous LOWDC Meetings**

**i) Update on the Strategic Plan**

Progress is being made on the LOWDC strategic plan on a number of fronts. Community Improvement Plans (CIPs) and New Business Welcomes are ongoing. A coffee break event was held in early May to market the CIPs and was well attended. The Investment Readiness project is on track and plans are underway to hold a housing forum in the fall.

**ii) Blue Flag Beaches**

**Moved by Councillor Goss, seconded by Teresa Gallik**

That the Tourism Committee recommends the Lake of the Woods Development Commission commit \$500 to the Blue Flag program application for Anicinabe Beach.

**The motion was defeated.**

**Discussion:**

A background on Blue Flag beaches was given and it was explained to date there are 27 beaches in Canada, 6 of which are in Ontario which currently hold the designation. Costs and benefits associated with the Blue Flag designation were discussed as well as the various levels of blue flag designations available.

The application fee is \$500 per beach and the Tourism Committee recommended that Anicinabe Beach be selected as the location for the application. The Tourism Committee is not seeking beach officer or lifeguard status.

Concerns with geese waste and rainwater runoff at Anicinabe Beach were brought forward by some LOWDC members. The motion was brought forward but was defeated.

### **c) Tourism Committee Minutes**

#### **Moved by Councillor Goss, seconded by Taras Mazie and Carried:**

That the Minutes of the regular Tourism Committee meeting held on March 22, 2018 and May 24, 2018 be confirmed as written and filed.

### **5. New Business:**

#### ***Financials***

The financial reports were circulated to the group for their review. Staff provided a brief update on the status of the accounts and no questions were asked.

### **6. Other Commission Business**

#### **a) Economic Development**

##### **i) EDO Update**

The RFP for the Harbourfront Redevelopment closes Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. A community consultation component will be part of the project and include three sessions; two external community sessions and one internal session.

The second phase of the Downtown Revitalization application has been submitted to Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario (FedNor). Some delays are expected with the Provincial Election. The City completed a land swap with Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig (WHNAC) in anticipation of the proposed road realignment.

Super Summer Sundays will launch on July 1<sup>st</sup> through to August 19<sup>th</sup> with a total of 40 local businesses participating. Some participants are new to the campaign this year. This year will include free programming downtown incorporating bouncy castles, buskers, and yoga as well as large outdoor games under the Whitecap Pavilion. The last Sunday of the campaign will include a concert.

Three business development meetings were held this past month. A non-profit organization is interested in a partnership with the City of Kenora to bring 100 affordable housing units, targeting those 65 years of age and older. Council will be voting on the partnership at the June 19<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

## **b) Tourism**

### **i) Tourism Officer Report & Special Events Update**

The Walking Tour App is scheduled to be released by the end of July or early August. Mock-ups of the App were circulated to the group for their viewing.

A 2018 Advertising Report was provided to the group with a detailed overview of the dollars that have been allocated to the various advertising campaigns. The report also included statistics from the stayingkenora.com website for 2015-2018 showing an increase in unique visitors, number of visits, hits and bandwidth.

Science North has expressed interest in developing the amphitheatre at the Lake of Woods Discovery Centre. The venue would be based on the seasons of the North and include interactive seating with approximately 50 seats. Local content such as the Lake of the Woods: A History by Water can also be incorporated. The project costs would be primarily absorbed by Science North with very minimal cost to the City.

The event season is picking up. National Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21<sup>st</sup> with events scheduled throughout the day. The Matiowski Farmers' Market shuttle will be available once again this year with the service commencing on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. Communications and/or Announcements**

### **a) Roundtable**

Ken informed the group that he has been in contact with Lynn Carlson, who will be the 2018-2019 President of the Rotary Club of Kenora. Graham and Ken will be presenting to the Rotary Club of Kenora on the ambassador program.

Taras shared that final preparations are underway for the Smoke on the Water event being held at the Whitecap Pavilion June 22-24. The event will include BBQ judging, free seminars on barbecuing and smokers, music, food and beverages. Ticket information was provided.

Councillor Goss encouraged everyone to attend the National Indigenous Peoples Day event. The event was describe as a real showpiece for Nechee Friendship Centre. 400 school kids will be attending the events during the day and entertainment will begin at 5:00pm.

Crystal informed the group that the Harbourtown Biz banners have been installed and flowers baskets are being hung.

Mayor Canfield expressed his enthusiasm for the great summer ahead. He provided a recap from the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) conference that was held in Kenora in May. The conference was a sellout and as a result registration closed a few weeks prior to the conference. Attendees were envious of the amazing work being done in Kenora and he received great feedback from his peers in Ontario. He thanked City staff and community volunteers for their hard work.

Karen provided an update on the Community and Development Services department. The City of Kenora is reviewing the department structure and investigating all potential options moving forward.

Teresa along with Kenora Hospitality Alliance (KHA) toured the new airport and met the new business development intern. The LOWDC group shared their interest in having the intern attend a LOWDC or Tourism Committee meeting.

### **8. Next meeting Date**

July & August meeting dates will be determined as needed.

### **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05am.