



Minutes

Of a Meeting of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission of the City of Kenora Friday, May 18, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. City Hall, Council Chambers

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**With** Graham Chaze - Chair, Teresa Gallik - Treasurer, Colt Manson, Lindsay Koch, Crystal Kast, Councillor Mort Goss, Ken Behrsin, Taras Manzie

**Staff** Karen Brown – CAO, Megan Dokuchie - Economic Development Officer, Corey Jones – Economic Development Intern, Josh Nelson - Tourism Development Officer, Kelly Galbraith, Administrative Assistant, Matt Boscariol – Manger of Community & Development Services

**Regrets** Torin Bergagnini, Chief Lorraine Cobiness, Keff Kurz

### 1. Call to Order

Graham called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

There were none declared.

### 3. Confirmation of Minutes

#### a) Moved by Lindsay Koch, seconded by Teresa Gallik and Carried -

That the Minutes of the Commission meeting held on April 20, 2018 be confirmed as written and filed.

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

Graham provided a recap of the 5 priority goals for the LOWDC as outlined in the strategic plan. The past two meetings have focused on Collaboration on Housing Development and Graham would like to see the group move forward with pursuing Opportunities for Indigenous Engagement.

Corey shared that in his Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) Year 1 courses in Waterloo, Carolyn King (formerly the Chief of Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation) is championing a moccasin identifier project. The project is a significant educational project and public intervention to promote education of the ongoing presence of First Nations in cities throughout Ontario. The Moccasin Identifier Project stencils images of First Nations footwear

to remind us that we are on the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples. The project is in the early stages of partnering with the Ministry of Education and working on curriculum to host a one day event in schools.

Josh shared that from a Tourism perspective, they are working on becoming engaged in promoting Indigenous culture. The Powwow circuit was discussed. It was commented that the LOWDC members should attend the events to help build a relationship. National Indigenous People's Day is on June 21<sup>st</sup> and events put on by Ne-Chee Friendship Centre will be held at Anicinabe Park. The events will include the Juno nominated group The Jerry Cans along with other featured performers.

Megan has been in contact with the Business Development Officer at Treaty 3 and she will be extending an invite for him to attend the LOWDC monthly meeting. Last year Cultural Engagement Training sessions were hosted by the LOWDC and were well attended. Budget has been allocated for additional training sessions in the fall of 2018.

It was noted that the LOWDC meetings are held on Treaty 3 land and that this should be acknowledged in the opening of each meeting.

## **5. New Business:**

### ***Financials***

The financial reports were reviewed. It was noted the 862 – Special Events budget is showing a small deficit however this will be adjusted with the summer market revenue.

## **6. Other Commission Business**

### **a) Economic Development**

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

As part of the Investment Readiness Implementation Plan, Corey drafted a community profile. Budget dollars for the community profile had been allocated however, because the profile was completed in house no budget dollars were used.

The Super Summer Sundays campaign will be taking place again this year in partnership with Habrourtown Biz. The program has been drafted and support has been confirmed. Participants have requested additional programming to support businesses being open. A new component will be giant outdoor games under the Whitecap Pavilion.

A job fair was held at Seven Generations on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 as part of the local Service Sector Work Plan. Feedback at the event was positive and positive connections were made with interviews done on site. A survey has been sent to vendors for further feedback on the event.

A number of site visits have taken place in the beginning of May, as well as a Community Improvement Plan open house. Megan provided an update on a new Economic Development project that is in the early stages. Two new business welcomes are being held proceeding the LOWDC meeting at 1885 Whiskey and Wine and Boardanyone.

### **b) Tourism**

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

An update on the walking tour app was given. To date it is on schedule and should be released in late June or early July. Josh will bring mock-ups to the next LOWDC for the group to review. Once the app is finalized City staff will be able to make adjustments and load new content.

The City Map handout is being redesigned. The format will be changed from the booklet style, back to the fold out map as done in previous years.

Helena Devins, Special Events and Market Coordinator will be attending a Think Hub Program through Science North. The Extreme Sports exhibit will be in Kenora in August. Science North is interested in coming to Kenora with innovative technology. The touring exhibit Beyond Human Limits is possibly coming to the area during the shoulder season.

Tourism Kenroa along with Crystal Stokes, Aquatics Supervisor are working on Blue Flag Beach designation. Blue Flag is a certification given to beaches by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). A beach that has been awarded the blue flag means that it meets the organization's standards of environmental management. Josh informed the group that there are some costs associated with the application which may be brought forward to the LOWDC. Coney Island Beach and Anicinabe Beach are the two beaches which are being considered for the application.

The relocation of the McMillan tugboat is being reviewed. MNR approvals will be required for the new location at the Discovery Centre and Hydro will need to be involved due to the crane work that is required to move the tugboat.

## **6. Communications and/or Announcements Roundtable**

Josh shared that events in the community have put a call out for volunteers.

Lindsay informed the group of the Northwest Health Unit (NWHU), All Staff and Community conference being held at Seven Generations in the fall. The event will bring people to the Kenora area.

Graham shared his excitement for the direction the LOWDC is going. He is excited to see a lot happening in the community through projects such as the community improvement plans (CIPs) and hopes to see the momentum continue.

## **7. Next Meeting Date**

- Friday, June 15, 2018

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.