

## **BACC Meeting October 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am, MODL Chambers**

Jayme, Shawn, Jim, Liam, Lee, Brooke, Leitha, Dan, Stacey, Rae, Debra, Bruce, Cheryl

**Guests:** Paul Pickering, Faye Patey

**Correspondence:** From Mr. David Richardson of Blandford re: foreign ownership property taxes. Concerns raised. Should request info/clarification from Province. Dan can ask for some information from the Premier's Office.

**Minutes:** approved.

**Presentation:** Paul Pickering. From education committee – diversity and inclusion in the work place. Workplace Culture. Skill sets and competencies. Recruitment and Retention. Presentations available online and in person, also workshops. Discussion Groups – whatever is needed for employers, chambers, government, sector councils etc. Also understanding what immigrants bring o the table. ISANS works with people already in Canada, also facilitate the recruitment of people from overseas. Have certification recognition. How can the Chamber do some education to get employers to engage with this process? ISANS and Paul Pickering have many programs to help facilitate and guide. Barriers? Fear of the unknown, fear it won't work out, worry about the financial responsibilities. Workshop Idea: NS Office of Immigration?

Paul should and will host a three part series on this. Needs to be outside of working hours to catch more people. And more advertising. A promotional video with Paul and Faye talking about what will be covered – will draw people in. Promote an evening event at a suitable venue. Do it in January. Local representative. Suggest Amanda Fancy – perhaps create a video with Dante Damiani.

Next steps: Dan and Faye pitch to Amanda about a promotional video. Look at a January time frame for an event to have promotional lead time.

## **REPORTS**

**Leitha:** Rural internet well underway, anticipated completion end of 2023. Wayfinding Strategy is underway. Issued RFP for the Community Hub Feasibility Study – business community will be a part of that consultation when public engagement starts. Looking at a transit feasibility study (Shawn – do we really need another study??) and MODL is looking for a letter of support from BACC – Leitha to double check the deadline for that letter, but there is support from the chamber. Also looking at a BRE in 22/23

**Cheryl:** Christmas on the LaHave – still working on some of the logistics about moving ahead with the event, should be an update soon. Thank you to Rae for promoting the Tire Snowman event. Cheryl will send an update on the Christmas on the LaHave meeting before the next meeting. Anticipate some kind of Xmas related contests. Might still be looking for a sponsor. (ie the SANTA FLOAT – very important). BACC Newsletter could be circulated on a different platform through the Town. Could MODL share the link to the newsletter?

Some staffing changes – Mark Powell has moved on so they are recruiting. Energize Bridgewater Manager is no longer with them, Jessica MacDonald is filling in along with Nick Brown. More discussions on 12A – a workshop around marketing and planning with the lands in a few weeks – a lot of effort

being put into the planning. Looking at future development, zoning, current interest – staff are being very thorough. Nick Brown would be a good contact for discussing opportunities at 12A.

**Brooke** – already done. There is a Lunch and Learn October 28 with CRA Tax Tips and Tricks. 7 people registered yesterday.

**Jayme** – Government Involvement. Minutes of meeting October 6<sup>th</sup> was circulated. We need to ensure we are representing Chamber's voice. What's the most valuable format to get this data. Rae will help with this – thank you Rae. Business Owner's Insight Group – really goes hand in hand with this effort. Especially with this labour crisis. Need to have a consistent method of communication. Get a survey out in early November. 4 part process. What are your top three concerns about running your business? Elaborate? What steps do you want to see the Chamber take to address it?

When this comes back – do we need an insight group of businesses to give us feedback? YES. This is also a really good outreach and connection opportunity with the membership. It also gives us a stronger position. Let people self identify their interest in further participation. Leitha departs at 9:53 am

Concise minutes by Jayme – thank you!

### **Community Engagement**

Debra sent minutes

Christmas contest – pizza party for the business not to exceed \$500

Winners picked for Passport for taste – video on TOB Facebook, will be posted to ours today

### **Nomination Committee**

No Report

### **Financial Report**

Budget will be voted on over email to the board

Changing from TD Bank to BMO

### **Executive Governance**

No Report

### **Directors Report**

It was sent before the meeting – no questions

## **New Business**

- a. Budget Approval – Email will be sent to be voted on by the board
- b. Social Media Proposals – On Hold
- c. Online Programs – ?? Jayme wasn't paying attention
- d. New Committee Structure – On Hold
- e. Nov 11<sup>th</sup> participation – Wreath will be laid by the Chamber
- f. Website will be updated – Shawn P, past president. Leitha H, secretary, Josh, removed
- g. Name tags will be ordered for the board members
- h. Email will be sent to each committee chair to ask for the mission statement for their committee – Jim to send
- i. Jim's email for the chamber isn't working, please use the staples email

It was discussed to put some discussions on hold until the survey to the members comes back. This survey will give the board direction on what the members want from the chamber.

On Hold – Social Media Campaign. We need a plan

New proposed structure of the chamber

Submitted with Errors and Omissions by Leitha Haysom and Jayme Rhyno