



Bulletin - January 2017 from pete.lovering@southgrow.com

South Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership (SAAEP)

Solar Optix is the new contractor for the SAAEP group and Randyn Seibold will be spearheading this initiative. They are currently making contacts in Renewable Energy industry in Southern Alberta and further afield. Aside from gathering and meeting a list of contacts, they are working diligently in building a body of reports that will help build the renewable industries in this corner of Alberta. You may come across Randyn in your meetings and feel free to pass on any information that you think we can use.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

We are moving forward to getting a better idea about the cost of electric chargers and hope to be able to review material in February to help move this process forward. No word as yet whether our application for funding has been approved by the federal government NRCan program. In the meantime, you may have noted that TESLA has installed a Level 3 charger in Fort Macleod.

Broadband

We are finally in a position to move forward with a contract after receiving input from a few interested parties. Our contractor will be acquiring information and resources over the next few weeks. When they are ready to talk with our members, we will send out a letter of introduction to the CAOs of member communities and ask them to appoint a contact person in their organization to be the point person for conversations with the contractor.

Investment Attraction

We have heard that funding approval is on its way. We will be looking for expressions of interest in late February to secure a team that will begin working with our members. In the interim, if you have some thoughts on your community investment attraction process, please let us know. We would like to make this process as interactive as possible and to include some training.

Chinese Business to Business

Due to the success of our B 2 B program and trading on the partnerships already established between the City of Lethbridge and Lethbridge County, a trade mission is in the works to visit Anyang in February to discuss more business opportunities. This will include school representatives as attracting students will provide parents a connection to the region and ideas for investment. Much of the literature that has been printed previously can be used and many of the contacts already made will be deepened. Greg Robinson, Chair and Pete Lovering, Manager will accompany the mission as part of our ongoing commitment to Business Investment and Attraction for the region. We have spent January refining business presentations and travel plans.

Information for Members

We would be happy to reach out to Councils and Staff of any of our members to update them on the progress we are making. Please feel free to contact me if you wish to schedule a visit or a meeting with your organization.

13 Ways to Kill Your Community – February 9 2017

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER. Late registrations will still be accepted as long as you act fast. The cost is only \$75 which includes a very nice supper along with the opportunity to hear Doug Griffith talk about his experiences over the past few years since he released his book in 2010. Now he has completely re-written it and we wanted him to come back to this region to talk to us. Registrations are available on the Lethbridge Chamber website. Networking at 6:00 pm and Supper at 6:30.

<http://www.lethbridgechamber.com/events/details/13-ways-to-kill-your-community-an-evening-with-doug-griffiths-5996>

On Farm Energy Reduction Extension program

SouthGrow has been successful in a proposal to have an extension person operate using our office as a point of delivery for a program. You may see an ad in the papers. For more information, go to our website or e-mail the office.

Save the Dates

We have set the dates for our Recognition Event (March 30) and our AGM (June 15). We have also been discussing some changes to our Economic Summit and are tentatively scheduling it in early to mid-May. Stay tuned for the firm date.