

PROJECTS...
to keep the
region
progressive

Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership



Update to the Membership We're doing it!

We are proactively supporting the growth of a healthy and viable alternative energy industry in southern Alberta...and we mean business; the business of wind, solar/geothermal and bio-fuels.

We've been busy!

We've been busy gathering input for our Green Growth Plan, a report that documents the views of residents, industry leaders, and government representatives on the future of developing alternative energy production and manufacturing in southern Alberta.

The Green Growth Plan also includes recommendations for future action.

We believe!

We believe our communities, industries and the environment can all benefit and we've confirmed that through:

1. Conducting ten public consultations in nine communities in our region. Meetings were held in Vulcan, Claresholm, Pincher Creek, Blairmore, Coaldale, Warner, Taber, Cardston, and Lethbridge
2. Holding an industry forum with representatives from local alternative energy businesses
3. Interviewing industry leaders from outside our region
4. Consulting with government representatives

By the time you read this, the Green Growth Plan report and recommendations will be available on our website. In addition, we've prepared an extensive amount of data for the area that can help investors and companies make informed decisions.

What's in it for me?

As one of the 26 communities of SouthGrow, your municipality is positioned to take advantage of the strength in numbers of the Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership. The Partnership is exploring opportunities for municipal applications and investment attraction in the growing alternative energy sector. Working with our partners, we are 37 municipalities strong and believe that by building on our natural resources, wind, solar and agriculture and by developing a strategic plan we can achieve our goal... to become the leader in alternative energy production and manufacturing.



SouthGrow Regional Initiative



Alberta Southwest
Regional Alliance



Economic Development Lethbridge

Please visit the southgrow.com website and follow the links to
www.saaep.ca
to learn about us, review our Green Growth Plan, and discover all the opportunities
in our region for alternative energy development.



SouthGrow

Regional Initiative

PH: (403) 381-5414 • FX: (403) 381-5741
info@southgrow.com • www.southgrow.com

Summer 2007

PH: (403) 381-5414
FX: (403) 381-5741
info@southgrow.com
www.southgrow.com



SouthGrow

Regional Initiative

Creating Opportunities...

We Are...

City of Lethbridge
Town of Cardston
Town of Claresholm
Town of Coaldale
Town of Coalhurst
Town of Magrath
Town of Milk River
Town of Picture Butte
Town of Raymond
Town of Taber
Town of Vauxhall
Town of Vulcan
Village of Barons
Village of Carmangay
Village of Coutts
Village of Champion
Village of Milo
Village of Nobleford
Village of Stirling
Village of Warner
Cardston County
County of Lethbridge
MD of Taber
Vulcan County
County of Warner
Blood Tribe

SouthGrow Holds 4th Annual General Meeting

On June 14th, 2007, SouthGrow Regional Initiative held its 4th Annual General Meeting. During the meeting, membership was informed of the progress of the alliance's three committees. Manager of SouthGrow, Linda Erickson also detailed the 2007-2008 Operations Plan, which includes projects to be spearheaded by each committee:

Strategic Collaboration Initiatives

- Develop and Build Regional Partnerships
- Provide Community Economic Development Training
- Initiate an Inter-Municipal Shared Services Project
- Develop an Agriculture Sector Ad Hoc Committee
- Develop Formal SouthGrow Policies and Procedures

Marketing and Communications Initiatives

- Update Website
- Continue with Branding and Marketing
- Continue with Internal and External Communications
- Initiate a Recognition Event
- Produce Success Stories
- Develop Industry/Sector & Opportunity Profiles

Economic Development and Innovation

- Spearhead an Alternative Energy Initiative & Seminar(s)
- Initiate an Opportunity Identification Study
- Build Sector Information Databases
- Partner on Regional Labour Initiatives

Election of the new board also took place at the meeting. Members are:

Chairman – Roelof Heinen, Town of Picture Butte
Vice Chair – Mayor Bob Bagozzi, Town of Cardston
Treasurer – Deputy Mayor Larry Thomsen,
Village of Nobleford
Secretary – Deputy Mayor Danna Higa, Town of Raymond
Director – Mayor Bob Tarleck, City of Lethbridge
Director – Councillor Debi Charlesworth, Cardston County
Director – Councillor Don Wentz, Town of Coaldale
Director – Mayor Jamie Woodcock, Village of Coutts
Director – Mayor Ken Vooy's, Village of Milo
Director – Harley Frank, Blood Tribe Council, Standoff.

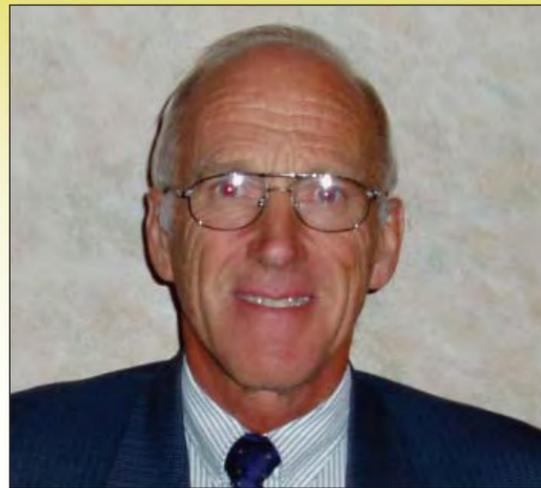
The Board and the staff are looking forward to another successful year.



Mayor Bob Tarleck, City of Lethbridge (right) and Doreen Lloyd, President, Coaldale Chamber of Commerce at the SouthGrow AGM.



**PEOPLE...
make the
SouthGrow
region proud.**



**SouthGrow Chair named on
Foundation Board**

SouthGrow Regional Initiative Board Chair, Roelof Heinen, was named to the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation (formerly the Lethbridge Regional Hospital Foundation) Board. The Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation's mission is to seek support to help provide the best possible healthcare in a positive, healthy, compassionate environment. The Foundation ensures that all funds are managed prudently and that funds are dispersed in keeping with the wishes of the donor. Congratulations Roelof!

Duban in Dragon's Den

Justin Duban won last year's Chinook Entrepreneur Challenge (of which SouthGrow is a proud sponsor) with his plans for a bio-diesel refinery. The 2006 graduate of the University of Lethbridge then went on to Edmonton as one of five finalists in a province-wide business plan challenge, winning the top award in the first year of the student business plan challenge. Duban's presentation was strong enough to earn him an appearance on CBC Television's Dragon's Den, where he will be given the opportunity to pitch his idea to a panel of five well-known Canadian business people. The network show is scheduled to launch its third season this fall.

**PRODUCTS...
Showing
diversity in our
region.**

Space Adventure Launches in Vulcan

Vulcan Space Adventure is a new virtual reality game at the Vulcan Trek Station, allowing trainees to save the earth from alien invaders. The \$250,000 attraction has been built exclusively for the Trek Station and starts with a video outlining the game. A spaceship corridor leading to a scale model of the bridge of the starship provides consoles for three players, a captain, a navigator and a first officer. Sensors pick up the motions of the players and translate them into action on the screen using technology called Gesturetek. Local actors were hired to be characters in the game.



**Lethbridge College Instructors Achieve
Highest Certification**

John Vermeer and Mike Wehrwein recently received certification in Europe's highest level of training in wind turbines from BZEE, an educational centre for renewable energies in Husum, Germany. As part of the agreement, Lethbridge College has exclusive rights in Alberta to pass on the internationally recognized certification here in Canada. This new development will allow Lethbridge College to work towards becoming an international school for alternative energy training and development.

Henry Bergen named to Order of Canada

Coaldale's Henry Bergen was one of three southern Albertans named to the Order of Canada in February. Bergen has been the leader of GEN Manufacturing Ltd. for almost 30 years, a company which is known for its production of precision seeding and ground tillage tools for agriculture. The company has received accolades for innovative thinking and more recently, Bergen's promotion of zero tillage as a means of reducing greenhouse emissions. Bergen has also started a new company, Hope for Humanity, which will focus on ideas that will foster dialog and reduce suffering in other parts of the world.

BSE Expert at Home in Lethbridge

Stefanie Czub, a German-born veterinarian and pathologist with a specialty in neuropathology and virology, has made Lethbridge her home. She is considered to be Canada's foremost authority on bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). Previously with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency lab in Winnipeg, Stefanie is running the CFIA facility in Lethbridge and is one of two inaugural scholars named to Alberta's Prion Research Institute, which supports top researchers who are leaders in their field.

**PRIDE...
in the region's
accomplish-
ments.**

Partnering for Water

Grant funding from a Water for Life program has made a partnership between the Village of Barons and Village of Nobleford possible whereby a pipeline will bring municipal water north from Nobleford to Barons, ensuring both communities have enough water for the next 25 years. The partnership between the communities will also extend to the operation of the plant. Staff from both municipalities will be trained on the Nobleford water plant operation so there is coverage when the plant operator is sick or on holidays. The communities share common goals and the water pipeline will make both communities more sustainable.

Stimulating Growth

Taber Economic Development Committee has developed a variety of initiatives to address the labour shortage in the area and strengthen Taber and district. The group is promoting the amenities of the area including community schools, hospital, shopping and recreational facilities through branding and marketing. In addition to creating a regional logo and website that would involve the M.D. inclusive of the hamlets, and Barnwell, Taber, and Vauxhall, a kiosk will be developed that can be used at job fairs in other locales. Recognizing that there are not many places for people in Taber to live, the group is also addressing affordable housing, water, power and land. All of these efforts are aimed at ensuring people know what Taber and region has to offer, thereby stimulating growth. SouthGrow will also collaborate on this community driven initiative.

Twister in Nobleford

How does Twister end up in Nobleford? Easy ... Twister Pipe Ltd. has been manufacturing grain storage bins, aeration equipment and bin unload systems in Calgary. Its assets were recently acquired by Ag Growth Income Fund which will move production to its Edwards facility in Nobleford. The community is a solution to the organization's labour woes with the move being strategic to retaining employees. Twister employees have been provided a financial incentive to relocate to the community. For Nobleford, it's a move towards sustainability. Nobleford has gone from three years ago rationing water due to lack of capacity, to two years ago adding 91 new lots to its 256-home community and now selling out a 37-lot subdivision in less than one week during the month of May. The formula for this community seems to have worked: Growth leads to stability which leads to sustainability.

Extreme School Makeover in Magrath

Magrath Elementary School has won a provincial nutrition award sponsored by Alberta Milk in partnership with Dieticians of Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society and Breakfast for Learning. The award was won in large part by the leadership efforts of parent Jennifer Sabey. In addition to cutting fried foods from the cafeteria menu and rewarding children with healthy treats, interactive programs were organized encouraging kids to make healthy choices. Games ranged from "Meal or No Meal" for Grade 2 to Family Food for Grade 5 students. Response amongst the children has been good, with the entire community being proud of the school's efforts.

Stamping Wheat Heart of the West

The Village of Barons' logo with "Wheat Heart of the West" will now be featured as a cancellation stamp for letters mailed from Barons, thank to the efforts of Post master Bonnie McIntyre and assistant worker Anne-Marie Erdman. Not only does this initiative show community pride, the stamp will also recognize Barons' centennial in 2010.



Field of Dreams in Vauxhall

Vauxhall was recently the site of a documentary shooting by Bravo Productions. The documentary is about the writer of the "Field of Dreams" and included local extras. Deputy Mayor and SouthGrow Member, Peter Van Uden noted that "It was a positive experience for the entire town. It was kind of a neat concept - we take a gamble - build our field of dreams and land a motion picture. It's true, life imitates art sometimes. The director was overwhelmed with the friendly people and hospitality. Of course, that's just business as usual around here." SouthGrow communities are still "on the radar screen"!

**PROGRESS...
success in the
region.**



**Creating
Opportunities...**