

Public Consultation Meeting Summary

Meeting Location: Pincher Creek	
Date: May 15, 2007	
Start and end time: 6:00 – 8:30pm	
Number of Attendees from the Public: 23	
Community Features Identified	Recommendations from Community
<p>Social and Cultural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers – readily available • Affordable housing – disappearing; need to maintain affordable housing • Southwest Alberta Sustainable Community – has roadmap available at www.sasci.ca; gives lay of land from regulatory perspective • Services and amenities – police, fire, service clubs, churches • Green space, parks, library, pool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve cultures: small town, First Nations, ranching, e.g. powwows, cowboy poetry, rodeo • Want deliberate community design • Want to attract and retain young families • More schools, hospitals, medical care, daycare etc. are needed to keep up with growth • Consider social impact of development from start to end of business • Consider “Smart development” approach using scenarios • Need on-going, transparent planning process where people have true input through consultation and participation with decision making power; find and use best practices; keep public well informed • Work toward collective consensus on balanced development • Community needs to make room for change; this will happen if information is shared so that people understand benefits; welcome newcomers • Community support needed for future development; need more information on structure and ownership of current alternative industry; who benefits from it? • Want construction workers to have benefits and safety programs • Make apprenticeships available • Need strong leadership at MD level, need to have MD work collaboratively with province • In future years have events to celebrate renewable energy culture • Develop in a way that does not result in conflict between landowners
<p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and tourism – culture supports tourism industry, campsites and dam are readily available • Increased awareness of alternative energy – now is the time for development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider cooperatives for energy producers or users • Legislation needs to be more accessible for loops, small businesses • Province and town should provide

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural anchor – current economic focus for community, but financially not sustainable; family farms are struggling; agri-business is thriving, agri-culture is declining • Sour gas – can see impact of sour gas in community; prefer alternative energy • Clean air, clean water, biodiversity – high value for community • Green growth – community is aware of and open to possibilities; hinges on economics 	<p>incentives for alternative energy use and conservation, e.g. low flush toilets; incentives should be part of development guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer apprenticeships to encourage young people to stay • Jobs are needed to keep/attract families • Economic development has to focus on community benefits, not only jobs and revenue • Encourage vertical integration of industry; more spin-off benefits • Need plan to maintain infrastructure; concerned that existing infrastructure won't be able to meet demand • Community needs to recognize itself as having a renewable energy culture and become involved in long-term evolution of energy sources/ industry development; economic benefits will follow culture change • Desire to be a knowledge and skills centre for renewable energy, e.g. college (Lethbridge satellite courses)
<p>Environment and Land Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed – protection is important • Clean air and water – needs to be protected • Biodiversity – large in this area; wildlife and vegetation • Open spaces/roadless areas • Natural capital • Landscape – can appear vast but landscapes tie together and one change impacts other areas; fragile • Carcasses – can be used as an energy source, disposal of them is necessary • Iconic area – the landscape is the area; ranching, biodiversity, etc. It is a destination, not a gateway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclamation projects need to use native plant species • Support needed for neighbourhood groups to deal with projects • Location needs to be sensitive to landscape • Cannot destroy what draws people to the area; preserve natural attributes • Industry needs to have local buy in, involvement and benefit from development • Find ways to keep positive forward movement • Want best land use practices on a very specific, zonal scale • Any potential projects have to synchronize with what is wanted by the community, and with land use • Sustainable, low impact recreation • Government support for less intrusive oil and gas exploration • Want energy to be harvested without changing anything • Educate community about environmental practices; reusing, recycling • Needs to be an overall framework in place the determines the acceptability of any development project so that local community doesn't have to continually deal

	with individual projects
Other Issues Raised <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none">•