

**February 4, 2016**  
**Township of Strong Municipal Office**

**Present:** Sundridge – Don Richardson  
Strong – Les Blackwell  
South River –  
Machar – Lynda Carleton  
Joly – Chris Nicholson  
Business Reps – Jennifer Farquhar, Luke Preston  
MNDM –  
FedNor – Ron Begin

**Absent:** Carole Mantha, Sharon Smith, Gary McLaren

**Guests:** Willy Hollet

**Delegates:** Dawne Lambe & Francis Gallo – Biomass North Development Centre

**Staff Present:** Kim Dunnett – Recording Secretary  
John Santarossa – Interim EDO

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Les Blackwell.

**Resolution 2016-09**

**Moved by:** Don Richardson

**Seconded by:** Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby amend the February 4, 2016 Agenda to include FAB16 Financial Support as a General Discussion item and the following Correspondence; MTO, Labour Market Group, MPAC, EPS Literacy Council and a Closed Session. **Carried**

**Delegations:**

Dawne Lambe introduced herself and her business associate Francis Gallo. Dawne reviewed the mandate for Biomass and presented a detailed power point presentation on Biomass' strategy. Dawne spoke about the forestry industry decline and the importance of partnerships. The challenges in the northern region were explained and the need to develop a skills and training plan. Dawne reviewed the next steps and what is in it for the CAEDA Region. The projects ideas for this area were reviewed. Dawne suggested a Regional Workshop for the area and CAEDA members agreed this would a good step. Dawne and Francis will follow up with CAEDA in the near future to set up the workshop.

## **General Discussion:**

FedNor Update: Ron Begin spoke about Federal budgeting. There is a lot of demand for good projects, but it will need to wait and see what projects can be supported. Ron gave a brief update on Canada 150, announcements of successful applications are pending.

MNDM Update: No report

Business Rep Report: Luke Preston gave a report on the Chamber of Commerce social gatherings, stating they have been well attended. Jennifer Farquhar gave an update on the Almaguin Highland Business Directory stating an RFP was circulated to three printing businesses. The printer chosen last year has been recommended to process 2016 guide. The goal is to have the guide ready for distributing before the long weekend in May. Luke and Jennifer commented that the need for volunteers for all committees is required, they would appreciate the group circulating the message. Ron Begin suggested they may consider importing volunteers and in return give them assistance with their events. Jennifer updated the group on the FAB16 planning, stating that they have been approved to close the street in South River and use of the arena for the event. The date has been set for June 10 and 11, 2016. The Friday evening event will show case restaurants and beverage industries in the area. Saturday's events have already shown lots of interest from different vendors and indications show it will be a great success. Luke spoke about the Chamber's recent undertakings to hire an intern.

EDO Report: John Santarossa gave an update report on his progress with the BR&E project. Forty visits and surveys have been completed to date. John shared information from the last leadership meeting, stating the group is targeting 300 businesses and so far 100 overall have been completed. After the delegation presentation John commented that he will be targeting local forestry businesses for the BR&E survey. The common remarks from the business surveys were internet access and work force/staffing. A discussion on reasons that some businesses did not want to participate in the survey were reviewed. John will share the business names so that possibly other CAEDA members could connect with them to follow up.

Revised Terms of Reference: The revised document was considered and discussed

### **Resolution: 2016-10**

**Moved by:** Lynda Carleton

**Seconded by:** Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the CAEDA Terms of Reference as amended.

***Carried***

FAB16 Financial Support: Jennifer Farquhar representing the Chamber of Commerce requested funding support from CAEDA for the FAB16 event. Last year's financial support was reviewed and discussed. The Chamber would like to request the funds that were talked about last year that were remaining. Linda Maurer gave some history on the

CAEDA funds being requested. The RED application funding was discussed, so the committee members were clear on how the process worked. The members will consider the request and make a decision at their next meeting on what financial support they will give.

**Correspondence:**

The correspondence from the Township of Joly, MTO, Labourer Market Group, MPAC and EPS Literacy Council was all reviewed by members.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

**Resolution: 2016-11**

**Moved by:** Don Richardson

**Seconded by:** Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the minutes of regular meeting of January 7, 2016, as circulated.

**Carried**

**Approve CAEDA Expenses:**

**Resolution: 2016-12**

**Moved by:** Don Richardson

**Seconded by:** Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby approve expenses between January 8, 2015 and February 4, 2016 in the amount of \$1,004.58 and authorize the administrator to issue cheques for the same.

**Carried**

**New Business:** None

**2016 Budget Report:** Linda Maurer, Clerk-Treasurer for Strong presented a 2016 budget report. Two different options were presented. The Committee Members agreed to take back the options to their Councils for discussion and revisit the 2016 Budget as a discussion item at the next regular meeting.

**Resolution: 2016-13**

**Moved by:** Don Richardson

**Seconded by:** Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby agree the surplus related to FedNor and NOHFC Project contributions made by the four (4) partnering municipalities is;

A) Included in the general surplus and divided ¼ each.

**Carried**

**Next Meeting:** February 25, 2016 – 5:30 pm (Strategic Planning Session)  
March 3, 2016 – 5:30 pm (Regular Meeting)

**Closed Session:**

**Resolution 2016-14**

**Moved by:** Lynda Carleton

**Seconded by:** Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby move into closed session at 7:17 pm under Subsection 239(2)(d) of the Municipal Act to consider a matter involving “labour relations or employee negotiations”

***Carried***

The Committee resumed its regular meeting at 7:35 pm. The Chair reported that the committee did discuss the matters it was permitted to under the resolution authorizing the public exclusion.

**Adjournment:**

**Resolution: 2016-16**

**Moved by:** Don Richardson

**Seconded by:** Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adjourn at 7:36 p.m. until the next regular meeting March 3, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Strong Township Municipal Office, or at the call of the Chair.

***Carried***

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**Chair, Les Blackwell**

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**Recording Secretary, Kim Dunnett**