

DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE
PUBLIC MEETING
HELD IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE BASEMENT
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2007 AT 1:00 P.M.

Present **Council:** Mayor Harwood; Councillors Kosolowsky, Anderson, Johnson, Stacey Webster and Johansson
 Staff: Carolyn Bonnick, Administrator; and Becky Pringle, Deputy Clerk
 Others: J. Forbes, T. Wu, P. Gunderson, K. Lund, R. Brown, B. Holoboff, L. Summer, A. Myram, V. Gouldie, G. Armitage, P. Morris, M. Brereton, D. Thompson, D. Fisher, G. Okada, C. Montgomery, L. Peterson, S. Blackley, L. Peterson, L. Peterson, J. Vince, D. Peck, R. Peck, V. Boyle, M. Boyle, S. LaCroix, C. Powell, R. Pringle, L. Li, W. Beavers, C. Oin, B. Edgar, R. Jackson, R. Enderlin, J. Hallberg and G. MacDonald

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Jim Forbes, the facilitator, gave a brief introduction and explained that this meeting would be for tenure holders to speak about what future development would be occurring in their respective industries.

Darren Thompson from BC Hydro gave a brief presentation on the current and projected influx in workers in Hudson's Hope. He advised that there are two large construction projects underway/planned at the Peace Canyon Dam over the next three to four years. As many as 40 to 45 workers will be living in Hudson's Hope for six months to one year. Kiewit and Mitsubishi are doing stator replacement and turbine overhaul. He advised that Alstom will be installing a stator and commissioning this fall, they will bring 25 workers who will be looking for accommodation.

At GMS, General Electric company will be working at the dam for the next 2 years and it is expected that as many as 35 to 40 people will be living in Hudson's Hope for approximately half of this year. That number is expected to be approximately 25 people for the next two years. Following the next four years the number of extra people in town should dwindle down until 2012 with turbine upgrades and stator rewinds are planned.

Some questions were asked regarding dam crest closure and different issues arising from this. He also advised that the tourist centre will be operating the same as last year.

Taylor Wu with Dehua described the location of the mine, the underground methods that would be used, the amount of coal to be mined, the possible ways to transport the coal, the quality of the coal, and their partnership with a steel company in China. They advised that if the mine did proceed the estimated number of workers needed would be 400. These workers would be recruited from across Canada and if they could not find enough qualified workers they would look at bringing workers from China. Workers found in Canada are most likely to bring their families with them; however, workers from China would come alone. They advised that they have been working with Saulteau and West Moberly First Nations and hope to give work opportunities to both local and first nation people. They advised that this mine would operate for approximately 30 years if it proceeds. They are currently in the exploration stage and will be doing surveys this summer and fall. There will be an estimated 10 people working to complete these surveys and studies, but he was unsure if they would need accommodation in Hudson's Hope.

Wendell Beavers of Hudson's Hope Gas advised that the program in Hudson's Hope is only a test project and they have not decided if they will proceed into the development stage. They have currently drilled test holes within Hudson's Hope to see if this project is feasible. They drilled four exploration holes last year and one deep well to test as a disposal well. They will decide whether to proceed by early summer. When questioned about disposal wells he advised that all disposal water is currently being disposed of at a well in Beryl Prairie. The number of disposal wells needed if they were to proceed would be hard to predict until the testing was complete; however, he guessed that 20 to 30 wells could use one disposal well. He further discussed the compressor station, possible locations, reclamation processes, access roads, pipelines, and electric extension to each well. If the development were to occur it would create 15 to 25 permanent jobs, it would also contract service companies to work for them. They would also need infrastructure from Hudson's Hope including food, hardware, building supplies, vehicle maintenance, lodging, etc.

Jim Vince spoke on behalf of the trappers in Hudson's Hope. He talked about the fur industry and the problems of vandalism that are occurring. He asked that the trappers be consulted on roads being built within their tenure holdings. He advised that some trappers did not want to release their names; however, the names may be provided by the provincial government. Council would look at obtaining a map of the trap tenures within the municipality.

Ray Jackson spoke on behalf of the Guide Outfitters in Hudson's Hope. He advised that there are three guide territories within the District. He explained that this area is a worldwide destination and that approximately 100 to 120 hunters come to this area every year to hunt. Many of these people are returning each year due to the friendly people and beautiful community. He advised that he receives referrals when oil and gas tenures are for sale on his tenure and has a chance to speak to these sales.

Pam Gunderson, a local owner of a cattle ranch in Beryl Prairie gave a short presentation. She advised that she doesn't have a say about oil companies coming onto her land and doesn't think one industry should be able to stop another industry from operating. Mrs. Gunderson described some of the problems she has faced with oil and gas in past experiences in Alberta. She asked that the District of Hudson's Hope establish an liaison between agriculture members and local government to help with fencing programs and other issues. Mr. Forbes recommended that she join an agriculture group such as the Cattleman's Association which would help her address her concerns.

The public asked that Council try to put together a map which would have all the tenures outlined on one map.

Jim Forbes spoke to the issue of wildlife damage and compensation for farmers and ranchers. Councillor Stacey advised of the Ministry of Environment's authorization of 1,000 antlerless elk to be hunted to help with the damage farmers are facing.

Guy Armitage spoke about his honey operations. He described the process for honey production and the areas which he places his bees in Hudson's Hope. He advised that they are trying to bring young employees into Hudson's Hope. He also advised that his bees don't perform under some circumstances which include possible coal dust.

Garry Pringle, a local rancher, gave a short presentation. He spoke about the grazing tenure holders, the elk problems he is facing, and ecoli problems in streams that is being

blamed on farmers. He suggested that local government form an agriculture committee which companies would need to meet with before council would comment on tenure sales.

Discussion also arose regarding subdividing agricultural land into quarters, forestry maps that were sent and that a letter should have be sent, and wind tenure areas.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Certified Correct:

Clerk

Mayor