



**GROWTH Alberta**  
Your Business. Our Future.

t 780.674.3140 f 780.674.2777 [www.growthalberta.com](http://www.growthalberta.com)

5306 - 49 Street, Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5

**For Immediate Release**

**November 4, 2009**

## **Monthly Update of the GROWTH Alberta Board**

SWAN HILLS, Alberta, October 28, 2009 — The following report provides a brief overview of the regular board meeting of the Grizzly Regional Economic Alliance Society held October 28, 2009.

### **Executive Reports**

Chair, Pamela Marriott, reported on the REDA chair meeting held Oct.8, 2009. Treasurer, Caren Mueller reported on expenditures for current projects and presented the financial statement to the board for review.

### **2009-2010 Operations Plan**

#### **Business Awards**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Gala on January 23, 2010 at Westlock and District Community Hall.
- Several dignitaries have confirmed attendance.
- A video will be created to recognize 5 years of past business award winners.
- Ticket price and caterer are confirmed, four videos are left to shoot.

#### **Youth Retention**

- Growing Opportunities School Expo on November 18, 2009 at Barrhead Composite High School.
- 17 regional employers, 20 post secondary institutions, and 9 agencies will exhibit.
- 6 schools have confirmed attendance.
- Five special presentations confirmed: will include Welding, Cosmetology, Xcalibre Paintball and RCMP with other presentations yet to be confirmed.
- FOX radio will have live feed during the day.
- Also this year: a series of round table discussions with students to determine what young adults look for in a community to draw them back after they have finished their education.

#### **Organizational Identity**

- Regional Map, interior and exterior signs - completed.

#### **Network Development and Initiatives Awareness**

- Two delegates attended The Fort McMurray Fall Trade Show (September 25-27). Over 18,000 people attended the Trade Show. Delegates fielded questions about the region regarding tourism, real estate and employment.

#### **Labour Force Development and Investment Attraction**

- RFP's for two projects; Marketing and Research and the Ambassador Program have been awarded to Western Sky Management Associates Inc.
- BizPal launch (October 14) was a great success. All regional Municipalities now have the capability to launch BizPal from their websites. Biz Pal is an online business permits and licences service.



**GROWTH Alberta**  
*Your Business. Our Future.*

t 780.674.3140 f 780.674.2777 [www.growthalberta.com](http://www.growthalberta.com)

5306 - 49 Street, Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5

**Tourism Development**

- Regional Tourism Brand website will be ready to launch in its Alpha stage November 13. Members will test the site and provide feedback before the Beta launch at the end of December.

**Regional Opportunity Exploration**

- Continue to work with Alberta Education to help develop the Education for Economic Development Project plans for next year.

**Board and Staff Development**

- Board and staff refresher: (9:00 am – noon) November 25, 2009 at the Clyde Curling Complex (upstairs).
- Board Strategic Planning Retreat to be scheduled for after Christmas.

**Communications**

- Copies of the September issue of Alberta Venture Magazine were distributed to stakeholders.
- New look to the website [www.growthalberta.com](http://www.growthalberta.com). Website has added a School Expo resource component.

**Other Business**

- A motion was made for GROWTH Alberta to partner with Alberta Employment and Immigration in the Finding Work Series project.
- Business Retention: A Community Futures Tawatinaw Region project. Norm Bates introduced the project which will address the lack of succession planning of business owners within the region. A motion was made for GROWTH Alberta to provide a letter of support to Community Futures Tawatinaw Region for the Business Retention project.
- Policy and Procedure – A bereavement policy for the Alliance – tabled to next meeting.

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Board Refresher: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Regular Board meeting: 1:00 pm

Clyde Curling Complex (upstairs), Village of Clyde

RSVP by November 18, 2009

**Media Contact**

Lorraine Robinson

Administrator

GROWTH Alberta

Telephone: 780.674.3140

Email: [lorraine@growthalberta.com](mailto:lorraine@growthalberta.com)