

These notes are not official minutes and are provided to assist Board members in reporting to their organizations.

Revitalize your School and Save your Community - Kevin Van Lagen, Principal Guest Speaker Kevin is the Principal of Altario School who initiated and grew a fully accredited agriculture education program for K-12 students. This student-led farm includes livestock care, as well as hydroponic food modulars, which sells produce to the local community. This was a great presentation on the impact of developing a vision and creating a strong community asset.

Greetings from the Town of Provost Mayor Peggy McFadyen

Mayor McFadyen welcomed everyone to the Town of Provost and spoke about the importance of regional and local collaboration, as it takes more than council and taxes to build a community: it also takes volunteers and entrepreneurs. She spoke to the example of their new splash park which was built by the support of a group of young moms who got a grant for \$130k and raised over \$300k. Some new initiatives in Provost are Provost Plaza (a place for businesses to rent retail space), continuous infrastructure upgrades, Infinity wholesale (Provost's equivalent to "Costco") and plans for a Tim's Horton location in the spring.

Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor March 5-7, 2025

Save the date for the Local to Global Forum scheduled for Wednesday to Friday, March 5-7, 2025. The agenda is being developed and will be released by the end of the year.

Tourism Roundtable- Tuesday, October 22, Forestburg

Reminder for the Tourism Roundtable being hosted in Forestburg and tickets are still available.

2024-25 Operational Plan – 6 month update

Caroline provided an update to the operational plan, with many of the tactics being started or completed. Some of the newer initiatives have been the Harvest BBQ hosted in Daysland on September 6th and the Lunch and Learns with Futurpreneur on September 12th. The next Lunch and Learn is scheduled for October 24th with NAIT Culinary Institute. This webinar is free and an invitation has been sent out to all members.

The lack of a solid sustainability plan continues to be a concern for future work.

Management and Communications Report Caroline McAuley Interim Executive Director

- ED update- Caroline to step aside from the ED position as Cathy to return effective Nov 1. Caroline will continue to support areas as needed.
- Submitted annual JEND operational grant report and JET Acknowledgement of Terms to work with the consultant Qatalyst Research Group.
- Rejoined EATC to support regional collaboration and growth.
- REDAs meeting July, September- There continues to be concerns regarding the sustainability of the REDAs.

- Lunch and Learn (L&L) -The first L&L was presented on September 12 by Futurpreneur. The webinar was well received, and many are planned for the remainder of the year. Next one is Oct 24 with NAIT Culinary Institute and future ones planned with Invest Alberta, update on Ag and Irrigation's grants, the role and importance of Linkeln for Economic Development and AltaLink speaking about the Electricity grid.
- EDA Minister's Dinner- Oct 24 in Edmonton with an opportunity to meet with Ministers to discuss Ec Dev opportunities in the BRAED region.

LinkedIn Strategy

Our LinkedIn page and presence is made better with people in the region promoting and interacting with the page. We strive to repost and engage all regional businesses on the platform.

Economic Development Officers and all municipal officials: Please invite local businesses and communities to engage with the BRAED LinkedIn page.

Meetings for 2025

The Board approved the meetings for 2025 with Locations to be determined. The dates are Thursdays: **March 20, AGM for June 12, September 18 and December 11.**

**Next BRAED Board Meeting Thursday November 28th, 2024 in Viking Alberta.
Supper will be at 5:15 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:00 pm.**