

Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
General Meeting
Tuesday, September 10th, 2017
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order Meeting called to order @ 12:08 by Cheryl O'Brien
In Attendance- Cheryl O'Brien, Rick Harder, Linda Harder, Jessica Petrlak, Chris Irvin, Kayla McMillan, Jenny Skelton, Janice Carlson, Dan Reams, Jim Holt, Gerry Amann, Diane Amann and Corey Kanzig

Adoption of Agenda

- Addition to Agenda- 6) Small Business Tax Alert
- Motion to Adopt Agenda- *Motioned by Dan, Seconded by Rick. Motion carried.*
- Adoption of June Meeting Minutes- *Motioned by Janice, seconded by Jim. Motion carried.*

Correspondences- N/A

Guest Speaker- Corey Kanzig- Alkan Air

- Alkan Air LTD. has been providing flight services to Watson Lake for one year and are committed to continuing their services. Alkan Air has a good relationship with the mining companies and is considering flights for LFN and Ganhada. They are also considering possible tier pricing in the future.
- Rick suggests educating more people about the availability of flights for medical travel and thinking of ways to get YTG to use service (e.g. government vehicles at airport for their use). Jim believes that seat sales, deals for students returning home and deals during special events in Watson Lake and Whitehorse would help make people aware of the ease of flights. Cheryl notes that their freight service is excellent.

Old Business

1) Airport Project

- Rick working with consultants on project for residential airport development and museum. Open house for the consultants to discuss project with community on September 28th.

2) Meeting with Mal Malloch and Julie Defresne from YCC

- Mal and Julie spoke to WLCC executive about their YCC roles and ways they can help the WLCC. Mal is the contact for any needs around WCB and OH&S. Julie is the community chamber liaison and a researcher.
- Chris raised concerns about OH&S training and inspections in Watson Lake.
- Mal spoke about the \$10,000,000 excess that WCB has had annually and how he has worked in getting refunds to businesses across the territory. WLCC members would like to see lower fees instead of refunds.

New Business

3) Cannabis Legislation

- WLCC members feel that they survey that circulated was poorly done.
- Members have questions about how employers will test for cannabis use as it stays in a person's system for a prolonged period.

- Discussion had around abuse and impairment. Jim stated that the Ontario Legislation protects population from abuse and has dispensary legislation in place.
- Rick will draft a letter to YTG and YCC with WLCC concerns, including the dissatisfaction with the survey. Rick will circulate the letter before sending out.

4) Greyhound Services

- Jenny thinks that silence means approval and therefore the WLCC should speak out about the proposed cancellation of the Greyhound Service. Chris feels that it is a necessity for employees who may not be able to afford to fly.
- Jim will do an interview with CBC about WLCC's stance on the cancellation of service.

5) TOWL CDF application- Chamber Letter of Support

- Business grant for \$30,000 to improve business curb appeal.
- **Motion 9.1 for Tiffany to write a letter of support for CDF application. Motioned by Jenny, seconded by Rick. Motion carried.**

6) Small Business Tax Alert

- WLCC will send a letter to Larry Bagnell regarding concerns with the Small Business Tax increase.
- **Motion 9.2 to write letter to Larry Bagnell. Motioned by Rick, seconded by Jessica. Motion carried.**

Reports around Town

Yukon College- Kayla McMillan

- Currently doing a camp cook course for 16 weeks. They can host Chamber lunches including next months.
- Yukon Mobile Workers Guide author is coming on October 23rd.
- Kayla now permanent at College.

WL Ski Club- Jenny Skelton

- Christmas Auction will be on December 2nd.
- Someone will be tapping birch trees at the ski hill this year to make syrup.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:10pm