

**TOWN OF CRESTON**  
**SPECIAL REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 5, 2016**

Minutes of a Special Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town of Creston Council Chambers, 238 - 10th Avenue, North.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ron Toyota  
Councillors Comer, Elford, Unruh, Wilson

**ABSENT:** Councillor Boehmer, Snopek

**ALSO PRESENT:** Lou Varela, Town Manager  
Bev Caldwell, Executive Assistant  
Director Tanya Wall, RDCK Area B  
Director Larry Binks, RDCK Area C

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Toyota called the Special meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** Moved by Councillor Unruh, seconded by Councillor Elford  
THAT the agenda for the Special Committee of the Whole meeting of April 5, 2016, be adopted. CARRIED

**DELEGATION:** Discussion was held with the Regional District of Central Kootenay Directors regarding the Regional District Economic Development Service 108, with respect to economic development planning. The Directors are looking at the Service with a vision of concentrating on a combined economic development officer/events coordinator position, with duties to include marketing, economic development, communications planning and event coordination. The Town Manager was asked to assist the Service by drafting a job description for such a position, which would have a tentative start date of July 1, 2016 with a contract term of 18 months.

► RDCK AREA DIRECTORS RE ECONOMIC DEV. SERVICE 108

The Town Manager reported that there may be a funding opportunity for an economic development officer position through the BC Rural Dividend Program, with an agricultural focus on economic development. The Economic Development position could support Regional District Areas A, B and C, and the Lower Kootenay Band and the Town of Creston in the development of a Valley-wide economic development strategy. There are two grant intakes in 2016, with deadlines of May 31<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>.

► FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC DEV. OFFICER POSITION

**RECOMMENDATION NO. 1:** THAT independent of Regional District of Central Kootenay Service 108, the Town of Creston extend an invitation to Regional District Areas A, B and C, Kootenay Employment Services, and the Lower Kootenay Band, to partner with the Town of Creston in submitting an application under the BC Rural Dividend Program, for grant funding.

► **TOURISM PLAN**      **RECOMMENDATION NO. 2:**  
THAT the Town Manager is authorized to invite representatives from Kootenay Rockies Tourism, Destination BC and the Regional Manager, Kootenay, Regional Economic Operations Branch, Economic Development Division, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism & Skills Training, to make a presentation on tourism planning and hotel taxes, to the Committee of the Whole at a special meeting to be held on May 10, 2016 in Town Hall Council Chambers; AND FURTHER, THAT invitations be attend the May 10, 2016 Special Committee of the Whole meeting, be extended to the Lower Kootenay Band, the Creston Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Crawford Bay Chamber of Commerce and Regional District of Central Kootenay Directors for Areas A, B and C.

**ADJOURN**                      The Special Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held April 5, 2016, adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

AS TO THE MINUTES OF THIS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING:

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Mayor Ron Toyota

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Bev Caldwell, Executive Assistant