



## Riverdale Community Development Corporation

MINUTES: Meeting January 20, 2025

A meeting of the Riverdale CDC was held at the Riverdale Municipality Office on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Present: Donna Morken, Dave Creighton, Lesley Creighton; Phone In: Kelvin Lamb

Guests: Roger Lepp, Craig Soldier – RMED, Dr. Wayne Kelly and Dr. Gary McNeely - RDI

Special guests Craig Soldier of RMED and Dr. Wayne Kelly and Dr. Gary McNeely from RDI attended tonight's meeting to share their roles in how they can help rural municipalities. The following items/point/questions were discussed and brought up during the evening:

- How can communities adapt to make things more efficient?
- RMED can help open doors, provide insight, sit in and advocate during meetings, help make things easier for entrepreneurs
- How can Rivers benefit from Brandon? How can we make the community grow?
- One common goal – keep the rural community going
- Need the infrastructure in place to grow
- Craig recommended having an EDO – he understands they can be difficult to find, but if you get the right person, they can help bring \$ into your community and in the end it offsets the cost of their wage; an EDO can help get answers to questions regarding development (e.g. around lake)
- What is our focus? What is working well? What needs to change?
- Opportunities for industries in Rivers
- Possibly development around the lake – RMED could help with development along the lake
- Data collection – get youth involved in surveys; ask youth that will be adults in 10-15 years what they would like to have in their community; make sure youth are feeling engaged now; youth are more interested in coming in on small projects and being able to leave after that
- Digital Badges – use to get students involved in research; can be used to track learning through job experience; digital badges can be put on resumes; Can an assignment be changed to still fit the curriculum and provide experiential learning?
- Have student councils start to visit the CDC and Council meetings – let youth come and share what they want/don't want
- The Vital Signs of a community are a slice in time – it's also a moving target
- Does everyone in town know all the amenities and services offered? Can services be accessed?
- Marketing is huge! Do people in Brandon and surrounding area know about the lake/provincial park?
- Council and CDC need to sit together
- Is the population growing? Maintaining?
- Festivals/activities should be held quarterly to bring people together
- Is there something that used to be celebrated that could be revived?
- Find the direction you want to go and get the community involved.
- Make sure that Riverdale Municipality information is updated on the RMED website.

1. The regular meeting was called to order at 9:06 p.m. by Dave Creighton.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

D. Morken – K. Lamb: Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

3. **Minutes from Previous Meeting – December 2024**

K. Lamb – D. Morken: Moved that the minutes for December 2024 be adopted as presented.

4. **Financial Reports – December 2024**

D. Morken – K. Lamb: Moved that the financial statement for December 2024 be adopted as presented.

5. **Expenses payable**

K. Lamb - D. Morken: Moved the following payments be issued;

Lesley Creighton \$350 (January) HTFC Inc. \$1890 for Invoice 24015-1
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6. **New Business**

- a) Craig Soldier – Economic Advisor, RMED – attended tonight's meeting for open discussion and questions – notes above
- b) Dr. Wayne Kelly and Dr. Gary McNeely – attended tonight's meeting for open discussion and questions – notes above
- c) LED Sign Update – Board to review updated pricing form and letter to potential advertisers and let Lesley know if they have any revisions. Lesley will print and deliver letters to businesses.
- d) CDC Audit Update – no update from Marci, Lesley will check to see if she has information from auditors for how to proceed.
- e) From the Ground Up – Lesley and Donna will work on the grant application for streetscaping 2<sup>nd</sup> avenue business section
- f) Residential/Commercial Properties – tabled until next meeting
- g) Next Large Project for CDC for 2025 – tabled until next meeting
- h) Streetscaping Plan – Signage – have price for Heritage Football sign, waiting on Wayfinding signage quote. Will apply for grants for both. Lesley and Dave will work on the grant application for the next RACF Thomas Sill grant when it opens the beginning of February.
- i) Business Front Beautification (streetscaping plan) – CDC and council to work together. Will discuss further at next meeting.

7. **Board Member Reports**

- a) Age Friendly Community – information to be presented at next council meeting.
- b) Grant Application Updates – Manitoba Accessibility Fund – write a grant for accessible beach mats and beach accessible wheelchair; From the Ground Up – due Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>; RACF Thomas Sill granting will open Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> and is due Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>.
- c) Daycare Update – The daycare is meeting with the province on January 28<sup>th</sup>
- d) Japan City Twinning Project – approved by council to proceed
- e) Municipality Strategic Plan – tabled until next meeting
- f) Other – Rivers is hosting “Women of the Rings” curling event in January 2026. There will be work to do to get ready for this event.

**Adjournment:** D. Creighton – 9:27 pm

D. Morken - K. Lamb: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, or call of the chair