

**CRP GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
LYNWOOD RANCH, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2009  
MEETING NOTES**

**Elected Members Present**

Linda Bruce	Mayor, City of Airdrie (Chair)
Fred Burley	Alderman, City of Airdrie
David Bronconnier	Mayor, City of Calgary
Dale Hodges	Alderman, City of Calgary
Jim Stevenson	Alderman, City of Calgary
Joe Ceci	Alderman, City of Calgary
Linda Fox-Mellway	Alderman, City of Calgary
Ron Casey	Mayor, Town of Canmore
Bill McAlpine	Mayor, Town of Okotoks
Beth Kish	Councillor, Town of Okotoks
John Stutz	Mayor, Town of Banff
Truper McBride	Mayor, Town of Cochrane
Tara McFadden	Councillor, Town of Cochrane
Joann Churchill	Councillor, Town of Cochrane
Miles Chester	Councillor, Town of Cochrane
Les Rempel	Mayor, Town of High River
Don Moore	Councillor, Town of High River
Tim Anderson	Mayor, Townsite of Redwood Meadows
Phil McCracken	Mayor, Town of Crossfield
Bill Szabon	Councillor, Town of Nanton
Charles Fenton	Councillor, Town of Nanton
Rick Rogers	Councillor, Town of Nanton
Donna Fluter	Mayor, Town of Turner Valley
Garry Pollock	Councillor, Town of Turner Valley
Barry Williamson	Councillor, Town of Turner Valley
Bill Price	Councillor, Town of Black Diamond
Michel Jackson	Councillor, Town of Black Diamond
Sharlene Brown	Mayor, Town of Black Diamond
Lois Habberfield	Reeve, MD Rocky View
Greg Boehlke	Deputy Reeve, MD Rocky View
Harvey Buckley	Councillor, MD Rocky View
Earl Solberg	Councillor, MD Rocky View
Hopeton Loudon	Deputy Reeve, MD Rocky View
Terry Waddock	Deputy Reeve, MD of Foothills
Barb Castell	Councillor, MD of Foothills
Ron Chase	Councillor, MD of Foothills
Larry Spilak	Councillor, MD of Foothills
Roy McLean	Reeve, MD of Foothills
Ted Mills	Councillor, MD of Foothills
Alice Booth	Councillor, Wheatland County
Ben Armstrong	Reeve, County of Wheatland
Don Vander Velde	Councillor, Wheatland County
Shirley Reinhardt	Deputy Reeve, Wheatland County
George Lattery	Mayor, Town of Strathmore
Josh Taylor	Mayor, Town of Irricana

Terry McAuley  
Ronda Wise

Councillor, Town of Irricana  
Councillor, Town of Carstairs

### **Special Guests**

Darshan Kang	MLA Calgary McCall
James Maxim	Constituency Office Calgary McCall
Adam Holmes	Alberta Municipal Affairs
Angela Martin	ATCO Gas
Mike Shaw	ATCO Gas
Jamie Jacques	ATCO Gas
Barry Schlinker	Foreign Affairs & International Trade
Bill Symonds	Alberta Municipal Affairs
Colin Doupe	Alberta Municipal Affairs
Ronda Morgan	Alberta Municipal Affairs
Don Johnson	President, AAMDC
R. Lloyd Bertschi	President, AUMA
Glenn de Goeij	RCMP
Emill Spilchak	RCMP
Wendell Reimer	RCMP
George Brosseau	Alberta Finance and Enterprise
Ted Morton	Minister Sustainable Resource Development
Glen Tjostheim	Minister Morton's Office
Tom Kmiec	Minister Morton's Office
Keith Schenher	Alberta Transportation
Jerry Lau	Alberta Transportation
Tom Mcmenemy	

### **Member STAFF**

Dave Colquhoun	City of Calgary
David Watson	City of Calgary
Rob Pritchard	City of Calgary
Amber Osadan	City of Calgary
Derek Lovlin	MD of Rocky View
David Pernitsky	CH2MHILL
Natalie Guy	CH2MHILL
Brenda King	City of Calgary
Carol White	Town of Irricana
Corelie Keller-Cormier	Town of Okotoks
Marianne Wade	Town of Okotoks
Steve Hanhart	Town of Okotoks
Walter Valentini	AED
Joann Irwin	Town of Black Diamond
Julian deCocq	Town of Cochrane
Lisa Nail	Town of Cochrane
Lorie Pesowski	City of Calgary
Lynn Mandryk	City of Calgary
Paul Cochrane	City of Calgary
Tim Creelman	City of Calgary
Kristyna Ng	City of Calgary

Linda Allen	Town of Turner Valley
Patti-Jay Callaghan	Community Futures
Deanne McNeil	CARTSS
Stan Orgodniczuk	Town of Turner Valley
Rick Quail	Town of Okotoks
Jeff Greene	City of Airdrie
Sean Nakoweckon	City of Airdrie
Paul Schulz	City of Airdrie
Gary Buxton	Town of Canmore
Greg Chernoff	Miistakis Institute
Harry Harker	Town of High River
Marilyn MacArthur	Town of High River
Heather Hemingway	MD of Foothills
Ryan Payne	MD of Foothills
Jennifer Deak	County of Wheatland
Johanna Kortenschyl-Allan	MD of Foothills
John Lockhart	Community Futures Highwood
Karen Chown	Calgary Economic Development
Kyra McCardle	MD of Rocky View
Kelly Learned	Town of Cochrane
Stefan Price	Town of Cochrane
Maggie Armstrong	Town of Cochrane
Mark Locking	City of Airdrie
Matt Rockley	City of Calgary
Nathan Neufeld	City of Calgary
Patricia Langevin	Town of Canmore
Anna Classen	Western Economic Diversification
Corey Halford	City of Airdrie
Jenn Birchall	MD of Rocky View
Geoff Ghitler	University of Calgary

### **CRP Staff**

Rick Butler  
 Colleen Shepherd  
 Bob Miller  
 Troy Payne  
 Jennifer Hambly  
 Shelley Armeneau  
 Amanda Cromar

### **Opening of Meeting**

Chair Linda Bruce officially called to order the semi-annual General Assembly of the Calgary Regional Partnership. She welcomed members to Lynnwood Ranch and the beautiful Foothills. Chair Bruce thanked all of the members, trusted support staff and special guests for attending. She noted that today's gathering marks the culmination of many months of many members' tireless work – planning, researching, analyzing and collaborating. Many of the attendees have been amongst the 2,000 participants in our visioning exercise from January to April 2006. Everyone has been to at least one of the over the 320 internal meetings of CRP elected leaders and staff since January 2006. Further, many were among the 700 experts, elected leaders and staff who drafted the Plan of March 2009 in nine workshops at the Cochrane Ranchehouse in

January to March 2009. And finally, all were all involved in the 90 plus presentations and meetings involving over 2,000 residents and member Councils from March to June 2009. This really speaks to the members' personal and collective commitment to this process.

Chair Bruce advised that at this Assembly, we expect to consider a recommendation from the June 12 CRP Executive Committee Meeting for approval of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan – a plan that has been able to anchor regional servicing, transportation and governance into the plan. This plan will not only address CRP's vision of enriched communities, healthy environments, sustainable infrastructure and a prosperous economy; but will deliver some practical on-the-ground solutions for regional servicing, transit and various practical implementation matters. The agenda today will also look at updates on CRP special projects.

Chair Bruce then spoke with a prepared PowerPoint presentation - "How far we have come" This has been posted to calgaryregion.ca as part of the 2009 CRP GA PowerPoint Presentations.

### **Honourable Ted Morton**

Chair Bruce introduced the Honourable Ted Morton, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development as a great friend to the Partnership. The following is an excerpt of his speech:

- *Today is a beautiful day, but my experience as the Minister of Sustainable Resources has reshaped my view of the world, and I now hope for the cold weather to kill the pine beetles, and rain to wipe out summer wild fires*
- *I am happy to be back for my third spring assembly with CRP. During your work with CRP, the Province has been focusing on the Land Use Framework. This plan is different in scope but with similar objectives, and that is to find the right balance - the balance between our continued economic growth and the financial climate of today. I recognize these are challenges you have been working with, but we must continue to focus and move forward to Alberta's future. The Alberta of tomorrow needs to be as good as the Alberta of today, which requires planning.*
- *I would like to address three developments which have occurred since the last time we met: completion of the Land Use Framework, the passing of the Land Stewardship Act, and the appointment of the Regional Advisory Committee.*
- *The Land Use Framework draft was released last June and then more consultation followed with a finalized document presented in December. The biggest change to the framework is the addition of a seventh region created - separating Red Deer out of the South Saskatchewan region. Red Deer was happier to be on their own, and it's better for those of us that live on the Bow and watersheds as well. The Land Use Framework calls for looking at planning, for the first time in Canada and North America, based on major water sheds. The challenge is to turn our vision and goals into practice. The next step is to create the legislative authority to do that, which is Bill 36. I would like to emphasize that we have listened to various stakeholders in the last 10 week period including AAMDC, resource companies, the Metis settlements, and we have made 9 amendments including one from the Liberal party. We also made consequential amendments to 27 other statutes to align with the Land Use Framework. We are moving forward with this framework. Bill 36 did not get as much publicity as some of the other pieces of legislation this spring, but this is an important element affecting the Province's future.*
- *A few important elements of Bill 36 are that it expands the conservation and stewardship tools mentioned in the Land Use Framework, some of which are familiar and some of*

which are new. The familiar ones are conservation easements and land trusts. We are committed to continue support as a government the growth of that movement, of voluntary cooperation by land owners working with land trusts to protect ecological, environmental and scenic lands. The new tools include transfer development credits and conservation directives which are both important in the context of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan. The tools will adapt to specific circumstances and will support development of urban nodes identified in your plan thus reducing agricultural fragmentation and allows all area land owners to share the benefits of development and counters the some win /some lose scenario that so often is the case with new development in rural areas. In situations where there is no cooperation, conservation directives allow us the opportunity to go in and mandate restrictions on land use, but if that happens there is a statutory right to compensation to the land owner for the difference in the value before the restriction and after the restriction. That makes us the first jurisdiction in Canada, or North America, to recognize that we can't put the cost of environmental protection on the backs of private land owners. For the public good, the public should share the cost of protecting the lands.

- There were concerns over Section 11 of the Stewardship Act regarding statutory consent. Statutory consent is all the different agreements that govern private user exploitation of crown resources: water licenses, sub-surface mineral rights, etc. Section 11 was originally drafted to state that the Province has the power to abandon and extinguish existing approval, license or leases through a regional plan. We sat down and worked with people to show them this power exists already within the governing statutes: Forest Act, Water Act, Mines and Minerals Act. Section 11 consolidated it into one place and gave it a clear and defined place within the context of the Land Stewardship Act. This shows the wisdom of listening, learning and making amendments. We made 3 amendments from this which still protects the goals of the Land stewardship Act, but provides a better deal for individuals or corporations that hold statutory consents. The amendments state that for any changes being made to a statutory consent there must be reasonable notice given to the individual or company that holds that disposition, the reason for the change or amendment must be publicly stated and lastly that the disposition holder must be given the opportunity to propose an alternative way to achieve the same objective. None of these procedural protections existed in the other statutes, so I feel this is an important step forward in protecting these types of rights.
- The Land Stewardship Act does recognize and anticipate regional metropolitan plans for the capital and Calgary region, and so once your Partnership ratifies the Calgary Metropolitan Plan for this area and addresses any reservations that may come up, it will go to cabinet for review to see how much the plan can and should be incorporated as a sub-regional plan. There will be continued consultation and everyone affected will be consulted.
- The Regional Advisory Council's first appointments were made in December in the lower Athabasca region which is hugely important to the future economic future of the Province. The second regional advisory council appointment for the South Saskatchewan was on May 13<sup>th</sup>, and the members of the CRP are well represented on that council. In addition, there are another 4 members from this area: 2 from Calgary, 1 from Rocky View and 1 from Cochrane. I've met with both Regional Advisory Councils given them the same advice I am giving you today: mainly you each come from different backgrounds, which represents different experiences and communities, so go ahead and defend and articulate your points, but be open to the need for compromise. There is value in making concessions to reach a common result.

- *In terms of the go forward plan, with the Regional Advisory Councils in place they will advise us (cabinet) to give us a plan and make recommendations that will reflect input by the various stakeholders. Also, there are documents that we will provide to the RAC members to give background to major policy issues that face these regions. Our hope will be to develop the regional plan starting in February or March of next year, release that for public comments and then finalize it from there...*
- *Congratulations on the completion of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan. I know Minister Danyluk and the Premier know it has not been easy to Draft a plan that looks 75 years in future. It's difficult to make predictions, especially about the future, but this is the business we've been in for the last couple of years. The Land Use Framework recognizes the completion of the CMP as a priority. There will be more discussion to reach agreement on the CMP, and I hope this assembly will work to reach a consensus and move forward. Basically, your goals mirror those of the Land Use Framework. Trying to strike that balance of continued economic growth and opportunity, in a way that protects and enhances environmental and social values and priorities as well. You've adopted the slogan of "thinking regionally, acting locally", where we have been trying to "think provincially and act regionally". We want our respective plans to reflect the priorities, important values and objectives of the different regions. I know you are committed to that as well.*
- *On behalf of Premier Stelmach and Minister Danyluk I thank you again for the time and effort put into the metropolitan plan, and I would encourage you to focus on those parts of the plan you agree on , and not obsess over those you don't. What works when there are 1 million Albertans works less well when there are 3 million, and actually won't work at all for 6 or 8 million, which is the projected population for the Province in 50-75 years. The bottom line is if we want to keep what we have today, we have to change the way we make decisions about the way we use our land and services. Regional cooperation is part of regional solutions. Minister Danyluk addressed the Capital Region on June 11<sup>th</sup> and accepted their plan, and reminded them this is an ongoing process and there will still be work to do. We look forward to working with you and wish you well on your deliberations today.*

Chair Bruce thanked Minister Morton and presented him with a Flames Jersey in the spirit of him being a great member of the Calgary Region team.

Chair Bruce noted that Minister Ray Danyluk was unable to attend, but that he provided CRP with a letter of congratulations wherein he expressed his appreciation for the hard work involved in the completion of the CMP, and noted the progress and leadership shown by the CRP and its members in recognizing the importance of regional planning and cooperation. He further advised that the CRP initiative closely aligns with his mandate and the Land Use Framework, and Municipal Affairs strongly supports the ongoing role of the CRP.

### **Consideration Of The CMP**

CRP Executive Director Rick Butler provided members with a brief review and overview of the last few weeks of work on the Calgary Metropolitan Plan:

- April 24th CRP Executive Committee agreed to release the Proposed May 2009 Calgary Metropolitan Plan (CMP) for final consideration and feedback from member Councils. CRP member responses indicated at the time that 14 of 17 members were ready to sign the CMP as it is, or with minor adjustments 3 members disagreed on fundamental parts of the plan.

- CRP Executive Committee met June 12 to review the council responses and to consider the options for moving forward.

Options for moving forward were as follows:

- The June 12 CRP Executive Committee Meeting considered two options for moving forward:
  - Option #1 - *Stay the course with as many accommodations as possible*
  - Option #2: *Further efforts to accommodate three members on significant principles plus delay.* This involved endorsing CMP policies “in principle” while noting the policies that CRP will continue to review and work on.

CRP Executive Committee concluded at their June 12, 2009 as follows:

- In a motion approved by a vote of 15 to 2 (MD of Rocky View and MD of Foothills voting against), CRP Executive Committee approved (Option #1): Stay the course and adopt the CMP with conciliatory amendments as detailed in the June 12 Executive Committee Analysis and that the revised CMP move forward to a vote at the June 19 General Assembly.

Implications of the above conclusion were noted as follows:

- The conciliatory CMP amendments have been identified in the *recommended resolution*. These amendments were considered agreeable to the General Assembly as they remain consistent with the principles and policies of the CMP as discussed over the last three years.
- If the General Assembly agrees with CRP Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve option #1, the GA would be agreeing to “stay the course” with all the accommodations; and consider the outstanding fundamental concerns in the two year subsequent planning process (policy 1.9) bringing in any changes or refinements through CMP amendment process.

Rick went on to outline the 90-DAY Period upon CMP ratification as follows:

- If a member refuses to accept the application of the CMP, that member must make known its refusal within 90 days of the CMP’s ratification by the General Assembly. This notification will result in that member’s withdrawal from the CRP. Consequently, belonging to the CRP means adherence to the CMP.

Rick then provided the recommendation as agreed by the CRP Executive Committee as follows:

- That the Proposed Calgary Metropolitan Plan (May 2009) be approved with the amendments that are considered conciliatory and achievable per the June 12 CRP Executive Committee Analysis.
- And that next steps would be as follows:
  - Upon approval of the CMP, CRP would formally forward the adopted CMP to the Province for its consideration for adoption under the Municipal Government Act and/or the Land Stewardship Act while the CRP-prescribed 90-day period proceeds for members to consider their membership in the CRP.

In closing, Rick qualified certain matters related to voting that would be more fully outlined by Chair Linda Bruce. He noted that there were some member delegations where there were not three voting delegates in attendance. He noted that those members would only have the corresponding number of votes represented by those official voting delegated that were present.

He noted that in the case of today, some members would only have one or two weighted votes rather than three. He noted that this would complicate the calculation; but that was the letter of the law per our current bylaws.

Chair Bruce thanked Rick Butler; and reminded members of the rest of the voting procedures which were as follows: Each member jurisdiction has three voting cards. These three voting cards of each member are held by the Mayor or her/his delegate, a councilor or councilors and /or a senior administrative officer. She referred to Rick Butler's earlier clarification for those member delegations with less than three members in attendance.

She noted that she as Chair would determine, based on the vote, if a consensus could be reached. In this case, Chair Bruce advised that a consensus would entail unanimous consent. If a consensus as defined by unanimity cannot be reached, then Chair Bruce will call for a weighted vote in which 2/3 majority would be required. She noted that according to our Bylaws of Incorporation and as has been explicitly outlined in the proposed CMP -- Calgary would have 12 votes, communities with populations between 15,000 and 100,000 would have 6 votes each (i.e. City of Airdrie, Town of Okotoks, Town of Cochrane, MD of Rocky View and MD of Foothills) and communities with a population under 15,000 would have 3 votes each (i.e., all other 11 members). Chair asked if there were any questions, Chair Bruce moved forward with the vote.

### **Proposed AMENDMENTS**

Reeve Armstrong of the County of Wheatland asked members to accept a friendly amendment from Wheatland as follows:

*WHEREAS the Calgary Regional partnership all committed to and signed the "Terms of Agreement for Working Together"; and*

*WHEREAS the philosophy and core values contained in the "Terms of Agreement for Working Together" document should be the pillar and foundation in moving forward and in the development of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan (CMP); and*

*WHEREAS many municipalities have provided comments and input into the Calgary Metropolitan Plan with many of these member municipalities requesting changes to this document with these comments and issues identified by the members in letters to the Calgary Regional Partnership; and*

*WHEREAS Wheatland County believes that it is paramount that all the members of the Calgary Regional Partnership are provided the opportunity to contribute, in a fair and equitable manner, to this partnership and that their comments and input into the Calgary Metropolitan Plan are addressed prior to ratification of this plan.*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Wheatland County hereby moves an amendment to the Resolution as follows:*

*MOVED that the member partners of the Calgary Regional Partnership provide conditional support to the proposed Calgary Metropolitan Plan, as presented, subject to the satisfactory resolution of the following issues identified by its members:*

- 1. Governance*
- 2. Criteria for the delivery of regional services*
- 3. Growth node policies*

*Further, that these identified issues be addressed within ninety (90) days.*

Chair Linda Bruce provided her clarification with respect to amendments from the floor of the General Assembly without prior notice. She noted that unanimity of the assembly would be required to hear substantial amendments to the motion.

Chair Bruce then called for a vote of the Assembly to consider the amendment. The vote was taken; and the Chair declared that there was clearly not unanimity of the Assembly.

Reeve Armstrong called for a procedural interpretation of the requirements for amendments. Rick Butler provided the following legal opinion as provided to him by CRP legal counsel Randy Mabbott:

*If the amendment on the floor is a 'simple' amendment that is for clarification or doesn't substantially change the substance of the motion then I would say you could proceed. If the amendment is more substantive in nature then I would say the process outlined below should apply.*

Section 13 of the Articles of Association states:

*"13(1) Where it is proposed to pass a special resolution at a General Assembly, such notice as is required to be given by the Companies Act, and in all other cases, at least ten (10) days notice specifying the place, the day and the hour of a General Assembly and, in the case of special business, the general nature of such business, shall be given to the Members in the manner hereinafter mentioned or in such other manner, if any, as may be prescribed by the Association in General Assembly."*

Reeve Lois Habberfield noted that the primary motion in question to approve the CMP (as drafted on June 12, 2009 by Executive Committee) itself did not provide the due ten days notice required. Mayor Bronconnier noted that the notice of the primary motion had been in effect made at executive committee meetings and subcommittee meetings for the last six months; so there was months of notice of this motion.

Chair Linda held a brief sidebar consultation with Rick Butler. She subsequently made the final determination: That in the spirit of openness and the consensus-seeking modes operandi of CRP, that the Assembly should hear, discuss and vote on the amendments as proposed by members.

The Chair then called for the member discussion and a vote on the amendments as proposed by Wheatland County. The resulting vote was as follows:

Recorded Vote for amendments moved by County of Wheatland: defeated 39 to 23

Chair Bruce noted that this vote did not withstand the "2/3 in favor" requirement.

Deputy Reeve Terry Waddock of the MD of Foothills also asked members to consider the following amendments:

*#1 Amendment:*

*Whereas the Plan does foresee the need for additional rural lands to accommodate the 60-year urban growth expectations and the MD Foothills recognizes this,*

*Whereas the urban growth areas to the immediate south of Calgary have yet to be identified by both Calgary and the MD Foothills and the conceptual maps should reflect this and nothing more,*

*Therefore now be it resolved that the M.D. of Foothills hereby moves an amendment to the Resolution as follows:*

*MOVED: That the CMP be amended to:*

- a. Change the conceptual maps so as to remove the blue urban growth areas to the immediate south of Calgary.*
- b. Remove the words “and approved” from the first paragraph of policy 1.9.*

Chair Bruce called for the member discussion and a vote on the amendments as proposed by Deputy Reeve Waddock. The resulting vote was as follows:

Recorded Vote for Foothills Amendment #1: Defeated 41 to 21

Chair Bruce proclaimed that this vote did not withstand the “2/3 in favor” requirement.

Deputy Reeve Terry Waddock of the MD of Foothills also asked members to consider the following amendment #2:

*Amendment #2*

*Whereas A super majority vote is presently required (in figure 2 of Governance) for the key deliverables of:*

- Implementation of the CMP and amendments.*
- Alignment of Municipal Development Plans (MDPs) and Inter-Municipal Development Plans (IDPs) with the CMP.*
- Determination of compact urban nodes, transportation and utility corridors.*
- Implementation of regional systems (water/wastewater/storm water; transit; waste; economic development; GIS)*

*Whereas the CMP recognizes that most policies will be implemented by the municipalities and not by the CRP.*

*Now therefore be it resolved that that the M.D. of Foothills hereby moves an amendment to the Resolution as follows:*

*MOVED Governance figure 2 is amended as follows:*

*Remove the words “Implementation of the CMP including”.*

Chair Bruce called for the member discussion and a vote on the amendments as proposed by Deputy Reeve Waddock. The resulting vote was as follows:

Recorded Vote for motion #2 by MD of Foothills: Defeated 42 to 20

Chair Bruce proclaimed that this vote did not withstand the “2/3 in favor” requirement.

Deputy Reeve Terry Waddock of the MD of Foothills also asked members to consider the following amendment #3:

*Amendment #3*

*Whereas Governance 1.1.4 states that “A super majority decision-making process should be implemented for a limited number of decisions that cannot be agreed to by consensus do but affect the region as a whole” and,*

*Whereas Governance 3.2 states that” Figure 2 provides examples of the types of decisions requiring a super majority and those requiring unanimous consent”.*

*Whereas Governance 3.2 does not presently limit these CRP decision areas but leaves it open-ended which is not consistent with members’ intent.*

*Now therefore be it resolved that that the M.D. of Foothills hereby moves an amendment to the Resolution as follows:*

*MOVED That Governance 3.2 be amended as follows:*

*Change the words “examples of the types” to the words “the list”.*

Chair Bruce called for the member discussion and a vote on the amendment as proposed by Deputy Reeve Waddock. The resulting vote was as follows:

Recorded Vote for motion #3 by MD of Foothills: defeated 46 to 16

Chair Bruce proclaimed that this vote did not withstand the “2/3 in favor” requirement.

**Statement by Reeve Lois Habberfield**

Deputy Reeve Lois Habberfield asked members for an opportunity to read a statement on behalf of the MD of Rocky View as follows:

*Good morning:*

*On behalf of the Municipal District of Rocky View I’d like to thank the CRP Executive for an opportunity to address the Partnership at today’s General Assembly. If you’ll bear with me, I’m going to read a prepared statement to ensure that there can be no misunderstanding or unintended misrepresentation of Rocky View’s perspective here today. In that regard, I’m happy to provide the member organizations or others present today with a copy of my comments.*

*First let me begin by saying that Rocky View believes in the development of a regional plan that strives for alignment with the principles contained within the Alberta Land-Use Framework and the Alberta Land Stewardship Act. We want to adopt a plan that will ensure the long-term health, viability, diversity, and sustainability of communities throughout the region.*

*As Rocky View shares borders with 15 other jurisdictions, we, more than any other member of the CRP, work collaboratively to address inter-municipal issues on a day-to-day basis. This approach is undertaken to ensure resolutions can be reached that are of mutual benefit to all*

parties. So, of course, we've welcomed the opportunity over the last couple of years to be part of a process whereby representatives from across the region have come together to try and advance the region as a whole. And if there's one thing throughout this process that the CRP members have reached a consensus on is that we must do things differently in order to ensure development in our region is sustainable. That means not only making a commitment to implementing different planning principles, but – perhaps more important for a truly regional plan – is the embracing of different attitudes. And while there is much to be lauded in the draft Calgary Metropolitan Plan, particularly with respect to the region's commitment to implementing different planning principles, it's clear that the draft Plan falls short with respect to embracing different attitudes. Let me explain what I mean by that.

Notwithstanding the challenges presented by the frenetic pace of development during Alberta's recent booming economy, Rocky View Council has made significant strides over the last couple of years in its commitment to enhancing and expanding its regional approach toward managing growth pressures and integrating with neighbouring jurisdictions.

Specifically, in the past two years: We have completed uncontested annexations with the City of Calgary, the Town of Chestermere, and the Town of Crossfield; We have jointly funded recreation facilities in the City of Airdrie, the Town of Cochrane, the Town of Crossfield, and the Town of Chestermere; We have signed a new Recreation Agreement with the City of Airdrie; We have substantially enhanced Fire Service provisions, including the establishment of a new and unique Joint Fire Service Delivery Model in the Town of Chestermere, in recognition of, and to mitigate the challenges faced by our urban neighbours; We have joined the regional Marigold Library Service, and have injected substantial additional per capita funding toward library services; and We have prepared a 50-year Growth Management Strategy, Rocky View 2060, which was unanimously adopted by Council on June 9.

The Rocky View 2060 Growth Management Strategy is the most recent testament to our commitment to doing things differently – to our different attitude and approach toward addressing growth issues. Much like the draft Calgary Metropolitan Plan, it's founded on principles of sustainability, Smart Growth and Triple-Bottom-Line decision-making, and addresses how to most effectively and resourcefully manage a growing population while providing sound infrastructure in a fiscally responsible manner. Importantly, as it relates to the Calgary Regional Partnership, our Growth Management Strategy acknowledges our municipal neighbours will grow and defines Rocky View's growth in a way that will accommodate the long-term growth of its neighbours, too. Let me repeat that: Our Growth Management Strategy acknowledges and allows for the growth of our municipal neighbours.

Yet despite our demonstrated commitment to regionalism and the trust that we thought had been built over the last couple of years with our neighbouring municipalities, it's clear that there is hangover amongst the CRP partners about old attitudes. The old rural versus urban clichés that have for so long created conflict instead of cooperation between neighbouring municipalities continue to rear their ugly heads. We put forward our comments in a regional context, but they are dismissed as merely a rural versus urban perspective as opposed to being understood for their true meaning and intent. For example, the CRP's recent Analysis of Member Issues document erroneously indicated that Rocky View felt the “regional settlement pattern (compact urban nodes and corridors) does not consider the unique character and diversity of rural municipalities with respect to a variety of densities, forms and lifestyle choices, and the ability to achieve water servicing to medium density forms.” But even a cursory review of our position paper reveals that Rocky View highlighted issues of a regional nature and

proposed solutions that would positively impact urban and rural members alike, be it Okotoks, Nanton, Strathmore, Turner Valley, or the Municipal District of Foothills.

Let me be more specific. The plan as it is currently proposed uses density calculations of 8 to 10 units per acre for new development areas as the sole criteria for gaining access to regional servicing. This is a noteworthy flaw, particularly when you consider that the formula for calculating density has not been provided to the membership. Which begs the question: Do the members who are voting in favour of the draft Plan today even understand what they're voting for? Do the people who live in Okotoks or Cochrane, Strathmore or even Nanton understand that when their municipalities sign the CMP they could be signing up for as much as 45 per cent multi-family developments in new areas in order to meet the 8 to 10 units per acre density requirements to qualify for regional services? What does that mean to the character of their existing communities? And notice I did not mention Rocky View because our community has been clear in expressing its grave concerns – indeed, it is common knowledge that even Calgary City Council is struggling with the density aspect of the “Plan It Calgary” document – yet the rest of the region seems prepared to make that commitment or – dare I say – take that leap of faith.

Rather than using density alone as the qualifier for regional servicing, a truly sustainable plan would make the provision of regional servicing contingent on the four criteria for balanced development as outlined in the draft CMP; that is:

Regional Landscape  
Regional Settlement Pattern  
Regional Economic Development, and  
Regional Infrastructure and Services  
that contribute to a diverse, integrated, and sustainable region.

So let's talk about annexation. As I mentioned earlier, Rocky View has completed annexation agreements with many of its urban neighbours in the last seven years, leaving them each with a vast land base to accommodate their growth in the coming decades.

This includes:

The Town of Irricana (2001)  
The City of Airdrie (2003, and we're presently in annexation discussions with them again)  
The Town of Cochrane (2004)  
The Town of Crossfield (2005, with another annexation agreement nearing completion in the immediate future)  
The City of Calgary (2007)  
And the Town of Chestermere (2008)

The Terms of Agreement for Working Together, as signed by all CRP members, states that “the plan shall acknowledge, respect, and uphold the autonomy of individual jurisdictions.” Why then the inclusion of a policy dealing with annexation? Not only is this policy redundant, since the Municipal Government Act deals with annexation, it suggests the resemblance of another level of government – something the CRP committed it would not do. It also effectively erodes municipal autonomy and demonstrates a continuing trend by some to cling to the old attitudes. Why else should this policy be included? If we are truly planning regionally, then annexation is dealt with in due course through the Inter-municipal Development Plan process.

Let me be clear: we're under no delusions here – it seems certain that the final vote will pass, which demonstrates the last concern that I'll raise with you. Rocky View and Foothills and Wheatland stand here today with 100% of the rural land-base and natural capital, or – put

*differently – 100% of the land base for growth within the region. Yet the majority of CRP members appear indifferent to our outstanding concerns and we have no voice within the proposed voting structure to influence regional decisions, both of which underscore a considerable flaw within the current plan. As it is drafted right now, this is a plan that for all intents and purposes silences 100% of the region’s rural landowners. Rather than using a voting structure that marginalizes the majority of the members, wouldn’t it be fairer and more representative for a truly regional plan to adopt a double majority based on incorporation type voting structure? This would ensure that a majority of each type of jurisdiction – be it cities, towns, villages and, yes, rural municipalities – would be required to vote in favour of a motion to constitute the second factor of the “double majority.”*

*Again, let me be clear: The option we have proposed for a voting structure is not about a “rural veto,” as some have said. It is about a structure that implicitly respects the attributes and assets of each member. In this proposed voting structure size does not matter - whether it be land or population.*

*Because of the issues outlined above, our preference last week would have been to pass a motion that the Calgary Regional Partnership give conditional approval to the draft Calgary Metropolitan Plan and work collaboratively with the Province, if necessary, to the benefit of the region as whole, to resolve the outstanding issues in order to ratify the Plan at the fall 2009 General Assembly meeting.*

*I think the members need to ask themselves if taking 3 extra months to ensure we get a 70-year plan right is unreasonable. On the contrary, it seems unreasonable to act in haste.*

*Again, let me be clear – Rocky View is not suggesting that we throw out the baby with the bathwater. A lot of good work, a lot of hard work has gone into the plan to date. In fact, the process we’re suggesting, the process of refining the plan to ensure it meets the region’s needs is exactly the approach the Province has taken with the Capital Region Plan. Minister Danyluk has acknowledged the substantial progress that has been made to date in the Capital Region in meeting the objectives of an integrated and strategic approach to planning, yet he has encouraged the members to refine six areas of the plan to provide clarity and resolve outstanding issues before the end of the year. Again, that is exactly the approach we wish the Calgary Regional Partnership would take today, because a truly regional plan that addresses regional infrastructure must also respect the needs, the autonomy, the interests, and the assets that each of the partners –urban and rural – bring to the table if it’s going to be successful. So while Rocky View will remain at the table and will remain committed to the CRP process, we cannot in good faith, and in clearly executing our mandated responsibilities under the legislation to provide good governance to our community, vote in favour of the draft Plan as it’s presented today. We were not elected to take a leap of faith. However, we remain optimistic that the wisdom of the many, through the support of the Province, will lead to a successful plan. Thank you.*

### **Motion to approve the Calgary Metropolitan Plan:**

Mayor Truper McBride responded as follows:

*It is my pleasure to represent the Town of Cochrane and stand before you today to move the Calgary Metropolitan Plan. For the last four years, the people of the Calgary Region have been working together in an open and honest discussion to build a new vision for the future. Each one of us had recognized that the continuation of the status quo was unacceptable and if allowed to continue would not only result in the loss of our natural landscape but also have dire*

*impacts on agricultural lands, uncontrolled urban sprawl, higher taxes, and inefficient use of our infrastructure.*

*This plan embodies the solution to the status quo. It gives us our way forward. It provides us with a vision for a better tomorrow. It is a plan to control urban sprawl, to protect our agricultural lands and rural communities, it respects the land and the natural environment we live in, it lays out a resolution to long outstanding water and servicing issues, and certainly not to forget the piece that I find the most innovative and forward thinking is the plan's clear call for a world class comprehensive and multi-modal regional transit system, forever reducing our need for automobile and oil dependency and providing an opportunity for Alberta Transportation to provide a more sophisticated transportation network.*

*The Calgary Metropolitan Plan is one of principle, principles that were unanimously agreed to by all members of the partnership at the onset of our planning process. These Principles of Sustainability, corner-stoned on healthy environments, enriched communities, sustainable infrastructure, and a prosperous economy are what have held us true and on course. Indeed it is has been living and breathing these principles that have delivered us the thoughtful inspired plan before us today.*

*The process without question has been one of negotiation and building understanding of the unique character and needs of our 17 individual members. Certainly the plan does not have everything in it that the people of Cochrane would have hoped for. My community has told me loud and clear that this is a great document and one that they see a vibrant future for themselves and their community but that it hasn't gone far enough in the area of the environment. The people of Cochrane had hoped that the CMP would speak to stronger environmental provisions and standards to set a new benchmark to this regard in Alberta. We do accept however that this entire process has been an iterative process in which not everyone gets everything they want but that in the end we have all received more than we would without. And to that effect, Cochrane accepts that we did not win the debate to strengthen the environment to the degree we would have liked but that we remain strong vocal supporters of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan.*

*Should this plan meet the favor of the assembly this morning, I will be looking forward to continuation of the CMP process over the next two years before implementation. During this time conversations, mediation, and negotiations can and will take place as we move to ratify the servicing, transportation pieces of this plan as well resolve some outstanding issues that still remain with regard to our growth nodes. Most of all though, in this period, I hope that the government will provide us with some leadership in this process. A great deal of the issues we've been struggling with over the last several months which have caused many relationships to strain could have been easily cleared up with some clear signaling from cabinet.*

*And so it's now with great pleasure that I stand here today in support of the CMP and the bright sustainable future it holds for all of us.*

*I hereby move that the Proposed Calgary Metropolitan Plan (May 2009) be approved with the following amendments that are considered conciliatory and achievable per the June 12 CRP Executive Committee Analysis. (The following were not read by Mayor Truper McBride but formed part of the Request for Decision document that he referred to and thus are provided here):*

1. Remove Policy 1.9 ( c ) from CMP (*Please refer to page 10 of attached CMP analysis for more information*)
2. Change commentary wording on Page 18 Governance Section 4 Implementation of the CMP to read “the CMP would not be able to force a municipality to house a landfill site contrary to its will.” (*Wheatland County*) (*Please refer to pages 12-13 of attached CMP analysis for more information*)
3. “Either the plan or the governance document should be changed to provide an appeal process to the Municipal Government Board (MGB) should a member disagree with a CRP decision concerning proposed urban growth nodes” (*MD Foothills*) (*Please refer to pages 14-15 of attached CMP analysis for more information*)
4. Consider adding wording to the CMP policy 4.9 (Page 12) Regionally Appropriate Regional Water and Waste Water Solutions (4.9 b) “There are sub-regional systems that may be beneficial for servicing development that is in alignment with the CMP, but not within compact urban nodes, such as existing rural hamlets. Servicing for development of this type is not within the scope of the CMP Regional Servicing System. The CRP would however support rural sub-regional systems that were not contrary to the principles of the CMP. (*Please refer to pages 22-23 of attached CMP analysis for more information*)
5. Add an asterisk to the CMP’s Planning Concept Map, over top of the Compact Urban Nodes (immediately south and southeast of Calgary), and add a line of text to the bottom of the map, with asterisk, indicating the MD of Foothills does not agree with the identification of future Compact Urban Nodes (*Please refer to attached CMP analysis for more information*)
6. CMP Planning Concept MAP: Approve the CMP Map on June 19 “as is” and proceed to analyze and process the map change requests as a whole. (*Please refer to pages 27-28 of attached CMP analysis for more information*)
7. Modify the following key principles at the end of the "Regional Servicing" section of the CMP (page 26-27) as follows:

*1. Environmental Stewardship: as a responsible water and wastewater service provider, the CRP recognizes the value of ecological infrastructure to the region. The Entity will be responsible for protection of the watershed, preservation of the quality and quantity of source water, and alignment with the objectives of applicable watershed management plans and the Water for Life Strategy. Watershed management planning should include consideration of raw water storage reservoirs within the water shed to provide long term river and water supply management possibilities. The Entity will develop and implement a region-wide drinking water safety plan. The Entity will also coordinate funding from CRP members and the Provincial Government, as necessary, to implement environmental stewardship programs.*

*3. System Integration: The principle components of the regional trunk infrastructure will be planned, designed, constructed, operated and maintained as an integrated system across the region. This includes existing and future raw water storage facilities and sub-regional trunk infrastructure systems that service specific areas of the region, whether or not an ...*  
*(Please refer to pages 30-31 of attached CMP analysis for more information)*

8. Change the wording on the Governance chart (Fig 2 Page 18) the as noted above *“Changes to the legal or statutory authority of the CRP or a member” (MD Foothills) (Please refer to pages 31 of attached CMP analysis for more information)*
9. CMP Policy 1.5 Remove the word “updates”. New title wording would read “plan amendments”. *(Please refer to pages 31-32 of attached CMP analysis for more information)*
10. Change wording on page 18 Section 4 governance section to read: *“The fundamental principle of local autonomy remains and CRP municipalities will retain their current legislated land-use planning and decision-making authority to develop and implement local plans in alignment with the CMP and the Provincial Land-Use Framework” (MD Foothills) (Please refer to page 34-35 of attached CMP analysis for more information)*
11. Page 18 Figure 2 – remove the word “Governance” and replace with “implementation” of the regional systems *(MD Foothills) (Please refer to page 36 of attached CMP analysis for more information)*

That upon approval of the CMP, according to CRP's governance and implementation plan, CRP shall formally forward the adopted CMP to the Province for its consideration for adoption under the Municipal Government Act and/or the Land Stewardship Act while the CRP-prescribed 90-day period proceeds for members to consider their membership in the CRP.

***Carried with the vote of 47 to 15.***

***Recorded Vote: MD of Rocky View, County of Wheatland and MD of Foothills opposed.***

<b><i>Details of vote tally sheet as presented to the Assembly</i></b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
<b>City of Airdrie</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>City of Calgary</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Town of Banff</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Town of Black Diamond</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Town of Canmore</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Town of Chestermere</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Town of Cochrane</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Town of Crossfield</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Town of High River</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Town of Nanton</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Town of Okotoks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Town of Strathmore</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Town of Turner Valley</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Municipal District of Foothills</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Municipal District of Rocky View</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Townsite of Redwood Meadows</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Wheatland County</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>15</b>

## **Special Guests**

Chair Bruce introduced the following guests:

- Darshan Kang, MLA Calgary McCall
- Don Johnson, President, Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties
- Lloyd Bertschi, President of AUMA and Mayor of Morinville
- Irricana Mayor Josh Taylor, Councillor Terry McAuley and CAO Carol White. Chair Bruce noted CRP will be discussing project partner status with them over the next few months and bring a recommendation to the fall General Assembly.
- Rhonda Wise – Councillor from Carstairs.
- Tom Mcmenemy, Colleen Shepherd's father, who has inspired his daughter through his life-long interest in politics and the Calgary Region.
- Colin Doupe, Bill Symonds, Ronda Morgan and Adam Homes from Alberta Municipal Affairs
- Inspector Glenn de Goeij and community policing officer Emil Spillcak, RCMP
- George Brosseau and Walter Valentini of Alberta Finance and Enterprise
- Barry Schlinker, Canada Foreign Affairs & International Trade
- Jerry Lau and Keith Shenher of Alberta Transportation
- Mike Shaw, Jamie Jaques, Bruce Litke and Angela Martin from ATCO Gas

## **Regional GIS**

Stefan Price of the Town of Cochrane, and Greg Chernoff of Miistakis Institute provided members with a live demonstration of the Regional GIS Spatial Data Framework project and its' potential (The outline of their presentation is provided on calgaryregion.ca – click on *June 19, 2009 CRP GA PowerPoint Presentation*)

## **Regional Servicing**

David Pernitsky presented the CH2MHILL overview of CRP's Phase 2 Regional Servicing Study, a copy of which is located CRP's website at:

[://www.calgaryregion.ca/crp/media/56748/2009-06-12\\_servicing.pdf](http://www.calgaryregion.ca/crp/media/56748/2009-06-12_servicing.pdf)

***MOTION THAT the Regional Water & Wastewater Servicing Report be accepted for implementation through the Calgary Metropolitan Planning process; and that the accompanying regional modeling tool be used as an ongoing means of assessing regional servicing options going forward as the regional servicing planning and implementation continues. Moved by Mayor Donna Fluter, seconded by Councillor Michel Jackson.***

***Unanimous.***

## Regional Transit

Mayor Truper McBride updated guests on Regional Transit as follows:

- The Regional Transit Committee got its kick off 11 months ago in July 2008
- Over the past 11 months the Regional Transit Plan has developed as an integrated part of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan
- Regional transit is central to the successful achievement of the CMP and a more vital, mobile, connected region,
- The plan's long term Transit goals are tied to significant land use changes that support the overall CMP growth management plan,
- These bold changes are required in order to move our region away from auto-dominated travel patterns, mindsets and culture and the resulting low-density trend scenario which we all agree is not sustainable,
- Regional transit will encourage density, diversity and vitality in the region's population and employment nodes and foster stronger economic development opportunities

What have we accomplished together over the last 11 months?

- We have developed a Regional Transit vision to support the Calgary Metropolitan Plan over the long term including the staging of :
  - Regional Express bus services to member municipalities,
  - Development of regional transit hubs and local TOD plans,
  - LRT expansion planning and capacity enhancement,
  - The immediate securing of commuter rail rights of ways and,
  - The eventual staging in of a regional heavy rail commuter system,
  - Development of an integrated regional fare and ticket structure and,
  - An eventual transit governance structure such as a regional transit authority.
- We have developed the priority components of the short-term transit plan (i.e., next 5-6 years) which may be funded by existing provincial grant and federal programs, the *Alberta Green Trip Program*, local municipal allocations and other existing and potential future revenue sources;
- Completed detailed technical analysis and discussion papers on:
  - Commuter Rail opportunities in the Calgary region and,
  - Regional Transit Governance and operating models
- We've worked with individual CRP member municipalities to examine regional express bus and local bus connections and on the development of local/regional transit hubs,
- Completed a regional survey of the users of existing regional community-City of Calgary transit services – with over 750 responses,
- Hosted 3 full day CRP regional transit workshops – one focused on commuter rail the others on the long term transit vision,
- We completed research on land use, transit-oriented centres and transportation demand management and other related areas and questions and,
- Finally, the CRP held a very successful CRP Regional Transit Symposium in February, 2009 attended by 280 people

Where are we now?

- On the short-term components of the Transit Plan - CRP is currently awaiting news from the Province of Alberta that will confirm the criteria and the granting allocation for the Green Trip program,
- As we understand it the initial call for proposals on Green Trip is expected in mid July or possibly August,
- In the meantime, the Regional Transit Committee is working toward finalising and recommending the full Long Term Regional Transit plan to the CRP Executive at the next Executive meeting,
- For those on the committee - this may require a final Regional Transit Committee meeting before summer gets fully underway and committee activities wind down for the better part of July and August,
- In addition to the Green Trip proposal - a long-term Regional Transit staging, funding and implementation plan is under development and will be reviewed by the Transit Committee in the fall.

Mayor McBride thanked both the regional transit technical and elected committees for their dedication and hard work over the last year. A special thank you also went out to the City of Calgary working so cooperatively with the regional partners to make the Regional Transit Vision possible and for providing the region with ongoing transit staff support and expertise.

### **Economic Development**

Councillor Joann Churchill provided members with an update on economic development and made the following notes:

- *Last year we partnered with Alberta Employment & Immigration and our member municipalities to offer Employee Retention & Attraction Workshops throughout the region. The topics included: Employee Recruitment Strategies, Employee Development Strategies, Employee Retention Strategies and Employee Work-Life Balance Strategies. 16 workshops in total were run with 167 business owners attending these sessions.*
- *This year our partnership will continue and we already have 15 workshops planned for the communities of Cochrane, Airdrie, Nanton, Okotoks, High River and Strathmore. We have also developed a 5<sup>th</sup> workshop on the topic of Employee Selection Strategies. Other regions across the province displayed great interest in these sessions so we hosted a train the trainer session this spring for 27 participants.*
- *The Reel Adventures Movie Map Project is still receiving much media attention with radio interviews on CBC, magazine features such as AMA's publication 'Westworld' and stories coming all the way from Australia. We are winning awards as well – the project received the 'Tourism Partnership Initiative' award from the Chinook Country Tourism Association and the 'Economic Developers Association Marketing Alberta Award' from the Economic Developers Association of Alberta.*
- *Movie Maps will be distributed again this year to all Tourism Information Centers and Visitor Information Centers. There is an online survey this year where we will be collecting information such as; which communities tourists visited and how much they spent during their visit. This information will be shared with our communities. To get participation we are running another contest this year. Those who complete the survey will have a chance to win a DVD prize package made up of 20 movies featured in the map. The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winner will get to enjoy movies all year long with 24 Cineplex admission passes. ACCESS television has joined the partnership again and will be airing television commercials to promote the contest.*

Councillor Churchill thanked the members of the Economic Development Forum, and especially CRP staff, for all their help along the way, as well as Alberta Finance & Enterprise for their valued support. She further thanked Walter Valentini, Patricia Fuentes and George Brosseau. Special thanks also went out to Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. Lastly, thanks went out to Dianne Berreth and Troy Payne for all their work behind the scenes.

### **Specialized Transportation**

Deanne McNeil updated members on Specialized Transportation as follows:

*The ASSIST Program is a specialized transportation project which seeks to create a collaborative regional model based on fostering relationships with stakeholders. Making the investment of time to work with stakeholders on an ongoing basis pays large dividends in obtaining a deeper understanding of what is working and opportunities for improvement. The regional focus is important to increase the level of service in each community but also to improve the ease of travel across municipal lines. Working together means that all learning can be shared which saves money for municipalities and other funders as each community and its service providers can learn from others instead of each community having to reinvent the wheel.*

*Results – over the past year the ASSIST Program has:*

- Provided guidance and support to municipalities, Family and Community Support Services offices, service providers and other stakeholders. Some examples are: Developing policies and procedures for two distinct Volunteer Driver Programs as well as a Taxi Pass Program, offering suggestions for improvements to a few existing Taxi Pass Programs and a Handi-bus Service, and assessing the feasibility of purchasing a bus for local seniors.*
- With the wrap up of the Shuttle Service Pilot, ASSIST has already saved municipalities money. Three municipalities were previously considering implementing a Shuttle Service. Due to the learning acquired during the operation of the Shuttle Service Pilot, they have decided to explore other options first.*
- Implemented a Centralized Booking and Dispatch Pilot Project.*
- Worked with the CRP and Regional Transit Consultant to ensure Specialized Transportation is an integrated component of the Regional Transit Plan.*
- Concentrated extensively on developing booking and dispatch software which can accommodate a regional family of transportation services with multiple providers operating independently or collectively. The ASSIST model of regional coordination is so unique that Trapeze Software is completing the substantial customizations to their software at their own expense. As well the ASSIST model was the focus of a session at Trapeze's North American User Conference.*

#### *Next Steps*

*Across North America there are many types of specialized transportation providers as well as many different examples of regional transportation. One of the primary mandates of the ASSIST Program is to determine how to sustainably deliver more specialized transportation services throughout the Calgary Region. There are many solutions which are feasible however using sustainability as the first criteria changes everything. CARTSS has begun evaluating all ASSIST Program learning thus far in order to begin creating a model which may be sustainable as well as scalable to meet the increased need in the future while minimizing costs to municipalities. Ideally this model would also be applicable in other regions of the province.*

## **Waste Management**

Chair Bruce advised the CRWRP has updated the implementation strategy for the regional organics program to reflect changing circumstances. The initial focus will be on the City of Airdrie site and exploration of opportunities east of the City of Calgary. The committee continues to meet with experts offering goods and services related to waste management and recycling in the Region, including several proponents of Waste to Energy technologies. Members have worked together to market recyclables and assist one another to work through the effects of the major economic downturn.

## **2008-09 Audited Financial Statements**

Mayor Tim Anderson advised members of the following:

- The 2008 Audited Financial Statements for CRP Incorporated were reviewed by the CRP Executive Committee on June 12<sup>th</sup> and the recommendation is noted on Page 127 of the GA agenda package.
- CRP remains within the long-forecasted shortfall of \$250,000 for 2010 to begin our next multi-year budget cycle.
- The Province is committed to \$250,000 in bridge funding
- CRP requested \$1.6 Million in core funding from the Province for 2009-10
- Funding requirements from the Province for the subsequent five-year period (2010-11 to 2015-16) will be determined later this fall

***MOTION that the 2008 audited financial statements be approved as presented.  
Moved by Mayor Tim Anderson, seconded by Mayor Patricia Matthews.  
Unanimous.***

Chair Bruce thanked members for attending and is looking forward to seeing everyone again at the fall General Assembly. She reminded everyone what a wonderful opportunity we have had to work with so many good people in the region, and truly believes we have a great region and the ability to do great things. She left members with a quote:

*"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together."  
Vincent Van Gogh*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.