



Wednesday, December 4 2013  
12 noon @ Beaverhill Lake Nature Centre Museum

Building a strong community  
by promoting business and economic growth

**Present**

Dave Williamson	SDI Team	Dan Hillyer	Aegis Security
Cheri Unterschultz	Tally Up Bookkeeping	Jeff Edwards	Town of Tofield
Harold Conquest	Town of Tofield	Calvin Andringa	Tofield Alliance Church
Yvonne Brown	Busy B/Farmers Market	Greg Litwin	Lorenz Team
Bill Rogers	Village of Ryley	Denise Cartwright	Tofield Mercury
Lorraine Warren-Nimeck	Village of Ryley	Kari Dinter	BMO
Diane Iverson	ATB Financial	Kevin Smook	Home-Time Realty
Danielle Schmidt-Paloorn	ATB Financial	Brenda Williams	KC & Co Insurance

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Dave Williamson called the meeting was called to order at 12:02, and members introduced themselves. A special welcome to two new members who were present; Cheri Unterschultz of Tally Up Bookkeeping, and Dan Hillyer of Aegis Security.

**3. Adoption of November 6, 2013 Minutes**

*It was moved and seconded that minutes of the November 6 lunch meeting be adopted as presented. **CARRIED***

**3. Elections**

Floor was opened to nominations, and the following were nominated:

Secretary	Dan Hillyer
Treasurer	Kari Dinter
Vice President	Calvin Andringa
President	Greg Litwin

It was moved and seconded that those nominated be elected by acclamation. **Carried**

It was also agreed that signing authority be transferred to the new executive. Greg, Kari and Calvin will be given signing authority; cheques are to have any two of the three authorized to sign.

A huge Thank You goes to our outgoing president, Dave Williamson. The Chamber has seen significant growth and development in this time, thanks to his initiative and leadership.

**4. Business Updates**

***Update from the Winter Festival***

This was the first time we have held this event, and many positive comments were received. Thank you goes to Jeff Edwards for his role in communication. Jeff thanked all the businesses, organizations, and individuals for their support and participation. There is always room for improvement, and it will evolve and grow, but as a first event, it was a success. Thanks also to the Mercury for their coverage of the event.

Related to this, it was noted that the Christmas decorations on main street look really good. It is worth starting you car at -20, just to go and see them!

### ***Stuff a Bus & Christmas Hamper Program***

Greg reported that the Stuff a Bus was a huge success with 175 Hampers purchased which will be matched by the Tofield IGA. The matching program is a big boost to this event. Other businesses have also stepped up. The support of the Town of Tofield, the Beaver County, and the Village of Ryley have also helped to make this a success. In conjunction with the Christmas Hamper program, and Angel tree has been set up in the Tofield and Ryley Post offices, which facilitate people providing Christmas gifts to be included in the Christmas hampers distributed.

Volunteers are needed and welcome to pack the hampers at the community Hall on December 20, and to distribute them on December 21. Donations of gift bags are also needed and welcome. It is requested, that adults only volunteer for December 21, as distribution of hampers requires those participating to understand and agree to privacy dynamics. Last year 102 Christmas hampers were distributed. Any food remaining from the Christmas Hampers is given to the Tofield food bank.

Yvonne Brown presented a cheque of \$500 from K9 Choice Foods to Greg for the Christmas Hamper Fund.

It was also noted that the Tofield Food Bank will be moving to a new location — the building on Main street, that presently houses Conney Bigney Professional Corp, and Syl Bigney Construction.

### ***Membership***

Membership for 2014 remains at \$60.00 and is due by the end of January. New membership forms will be posted on the website and distributed through the email circulation. (Note that with Kari Dinter taking the role of treasurer, it will be possible for membership form and fees to be dropped off at her workplace, BMO, during office hours. The membership form will be changed to include this option)

Meals. We will no longer be providing meals at noon meetings as participation and attendance fluctuated, and it difficult to predict amounts needed. There will still be coffee, and water and people can bring a brown bag lunch should they choose.

In that some have prepaid for meals through 2013, and a meal was not provided for the December meeting, the executive will facilitate reimbursement to those affected.

### ***Promenade***

A committee is needed to plan the 2014 promenade. Volunteers to date include Christina McEachern, and Tania Jeffrey. There will also be a representative from the town of Tofield, and also one from town of Ryley. Cheri Untershultz volunteered to join this committee.

### ***Communities in Bloom***

Communities in Bloom will be taking place this year; Danielle Schmidt Paloorn from ATB has agreed to chair the committee. Additional committee members will be needed. Daneille will be bringing a fuller report at the next meeting.

### **Christmas Cookie Walk**

Grad committee is doing a Christmas cookie walk on Friday, December 13 at the farmer's market. (There was a change in date this year since the C.W. Sears Christmas concert was moved up to coordinate with the Winter Festival) Posters were distributed. This is the biggest fundraiser for grad, so your support is appreciated.

### **5. Adjournment**

Dave adjourned the meeting, wishing each one a Merry Christmas and a great new year

### **Next Meeting**

With the first Wednesday of 2014 falling on January 1st, it was agreed to hold our January meeting on Wednesday, January 8th.

We will start the year with a noon meeting (How many really want a 7:12 AM meeting early in January when the weather could be nasty?), and then alternate between lunch and breakfast meetings through the year.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2013.**

**Noon**

**at the Beaverhill Museum and Nature Centre**

recorded and submitted by Calvin Andringa