

January Meeting Minutes

Tofield and District Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: January 10, 2024

Start time: 12:00 pm

Meeting location: Beaverhill Lake Nature Centre & Museum, 5020 46 Ave, Tofield, AB

Meeting purpose: Monthly meeting

In attendance: Greg Litwin, Yvonne Brown, Sydney Baxter, Kevin Smook, Zenovia Lazaruik, Adam Madsen, Maria Schaade, Calvin Andringa, Vanita Eglauer,

1. Meeting called to order at 12:04 pm.
2. Spotlights
 - a. Tofield School-presented by Zenovia Lazaruik (principal). This year we have 452 students, 20 attending North Star. Students that use both, 53. North Star has moved into the Tofield School. Students are accessing north star more and we are pleased with this decision. We've built up work ex and rap program. Mr. Chenazik is taking over. We are looking for more businesses to have students working in. CTS (career and trade) FXD has supplied us with a used motor to add to Mr. Daggles program. Mr. Cordaroe teaches photography. Cosmetology Allisa Udeski is building a salon that will be fully running next year. We are hoping to find someone in fashion, we have the sewing machines – we need someone comfortable in teaching it. Mr. Dircson teaches finance. Leadership relates to the community, this year they assisted with the Christmas Hamper program. We are partnering with C.W Sears for leadership, playing games or reading buddies with the kids. Gain (Growing achievement through independence and nurturing - complex needs students) has 12 students. We have a grant to hire to support metis and aboriginal students, including bringing in a **rep. Assistant Principals Erick for elementary, chassik middle school, and I am high school.
 - b. C.W. Sears-presented by Adam Madsen (principal). My 3rd year as the principal. Our prekindergarten has 18 students. Pop just under 300 – 280 very similar to the past. We have 3 classes at each grade level (k-4). Elementary priority is making a safe welcoming and caring environment, kids wanting to come to school. Literacy is second priority and equity is important. We Jordan's Principal grant to cover, knowledge keepers. At C.W. Sears we have our motto 'we make



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wise choices'. We have student awards and provide prizes at assembly to recognize 'owl' standing students. We have a new alternate logo, that is an owl designed by students, we had input from parents and teachers and the students voted for the final logo. Another focus for creating a caring and welcoming environment is including parents, we had a welcome b-b-que we partner with tofield school for events throughout the year and healthy traditions that make school a fun place to be. New literacy programs prioritize rich programs in a timely manner for those that need the support.

- c. Ryley School-presented by Maria Schaade (principal). We take a lot of pride in being a 'small school with a big heart'. We have a close-knit community with 105 students. 10 teachers, 4 education assistants, assistant principal and myself. We added a preschool program last year. Each student has access to their own Crome book. 6-9 fine arts, food and fashion, outdoor education and woodworking. Our woodworking teacher has his own business, and this makes it a very exciting course. These courses, we have fishing trips, ski trips and overnight camping trips to learn skills and make great memories. We have swimming lessons since the pool is next door. We value the importance of outdoor, we have kindergarten participating with outdoor and indigenous programs. We host 2 craft sales to have kids learn skills and entrepreneurship to sell their own items and participate with community members. We take pride in offering extracurricular sports. We receive \$30,000 every year from Clean Harbors for sports, allowing complimentary to students. We have regular assemblies and showcase accomplishments and talents. Example, sportsmanship, sometimes voted on by other students in their classroom. They fundraised over \$250,000 to build a new playground. They have also bought staff appreciation gifts, the annual Christmas dinner, Cricut machine, laminator and TV for the common area. We try to nurture and inspire students for their successful future. Half of our students go to Tofield school and Viking school for high school.
3. Updates
 - a. Winterfest- moved to next meeting

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- b. Community Events-presented by Vanita Eglauer (recreation Coordinator)
 - i. Snow Goose – April 27-28. 2-hour bus tours around the area. This is open to the province. This program ran from the 1990-2000s and returned last year. The snow geese waited until the day to show up. Bus tours, trade show, and kids' programs happen throughout the 2 days. We offer a banquet with a silent action and guest speaker. Strathcona county offered the shuttle to Tofield. The curling club offers a concession. Opportunity for businesses to participate and advertise in the trade show or promotional. We are always looking for volunteers. We are working on a website snowgoosefestival.ca
 - c. Christmas Hamper-moved to next meeting
- 4. Motion made by to approve the agenda and minutes from December 6, 2023. Carried.
- 5. Financial Update-moved to next meeting
- 6. Meeting closed at 12:55 pm.

Next Meeting February 7, 2024, noon at the Beaverhill Museum and Nature Center.