

4.0 ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

The following concerns were expressed;

- Are there other ways Tolko could use wood that is currently being burnt
- What happens to the 'extra' wood supply if Annual Allowable Cut is not met?
- Staff turnover and reasons why being shared with PAC members would help establish trust with the companies
- Is there an opportunity for the smaller mills to access some of 'new' wood supply
- Opportunities for Horse Logging in the area and the disappointment that the horse logging was missed as an issue or concern in the General Development Plan. The companies explained why they use little selective logging and why clear cut is the way they do things. Lyle expressed his concerns and is tired of being on the back burner when he has an effective tool that could possibly be used. Also private land owners wanting to sell their wood to Tolko and Footner was missed. . A member wondered if the smaller sawmills could have access to the fiber supply. It was explained that these were reported as presentations not issues. MEDC will ensure that they are reflected in minutes. Suggestion for the companies to bring issue list to PAC prior to submission to the Province. Companies offered to send in any missed Issues and Concerns to province as amendments to the GDP.
- Company reps reminded the meeting about the laws and regulations that they have to abide by.

MEDC offered to look up all issues and concerns from June 2000 till January 2003 and write up a report, which will be available at the next PAC meeting. Brad will take results and present them as an amendment to the General Development Plan.

Tolko Tee Pee Burner

Working well within guidelines. Tolko is looking at Co-generation. La Crete and others are developing pellet plants as a value added opportunity. La Crete Sawmills also still has a tee pee burner; bark is soon to be the only thing that is going into the tee pee burner.

Road signage update

Signs are being put up for the public. Marcel and Brad did not have any new information at this point but are looking into it, and will have an update next PAC meeting.

Updated PAC memberships- phone, fax, and e-mail was requested.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

A video "Trees are the Answer" was viewed.

The PAC members would like to have some additional guests speakers to do some presentations. Jordan is going to see if Hugh Seaton is available to come and speak at a future PAC meeting.

6.0 CORRSPONDENCE

MEDC Letter re: Fort Vermillion PAC meeting.

Mike gave a short explanation and apology.

Forestry Public Advisory Conference in Slave Lake

It takes place on April 4-6, 2003. The theme for this year is "Forest Education Fuel for Thoughts" details are in the making, more information will be presented next PAC meeting.

7.0 AROUND THE TABLE

Jordan-Why do logging trucks pass, it should be explained to the public, so they can have some understanding.

Linda-Letter was read on behalf of Fisheries and Oceans talking about the DFO's. Al Toews-Softwood is not working due to problems that are increasing cuts and exports to keep margins up.

Lorraine-Great need for public education in the newspaper.

Ted-Spoke to an editor last year that was interested in putting an article together

Brad- Usually takes 3-5 years before new mills to operate fully. Footner is running smoothly, they are about 70%.

Aaron-Can the PAC lobby the government to change regulations that put dampers on development?

8.0 NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

Next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at 5:00pm. The meeting will take place at Fairview College classroom G, supper will be served.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.