

Regional Economic Development Strategy Project Chronology

- Jan. 9/02 The Board approves execution of a partnership agreement with the Greater Victoria Enterprise Partnership Society (GVEPS), and a funding contribution of \$35,000 to the preparation of a Regional Economic Development Strategy, subject to receipt of final confirmation of project funding approval from Western Economic Diversification Canada.
- Jan. 16/02 The Regional Economic Development Strategy partnership agreement between the CRD and GVEPS is signed.
- Aug. 8/02 Announcement received from GVEPS and Western Diversification Canada (WD) of revised federal funding commitments of \$50,000. Private sector contributions are primarily for “in kind” staff resources, valued at \$45,000.
- Aug. 14/02 The Board approves the transfer of \$35,000 from the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) 1.330 budget to the GVEPS. Work undertaking an environmental scan, interviewing stakeholders, and developing a draft set of strategic options proceeds under the direction of project consultants Grant Thornton LLP between August 2002 and April 2003.
- Apr. 1/03 Grant Thornton LLP facilitates a workshop, attended by local and provincial government representatives, First Nations and business leaders, to present the draft economic development strategies, and to gather feedback regarding priorities.
- June 5/03 The Economic Opportunities Blueprint document, revised to reflect the feedback received from workshop participants, prepared by Grant Thornton LLP, is approved by the GVEPS.
- Sept. 10/03 Representatives of the GVEPS present the Economic Opportunities Blueprint to the CRD Board, indicating that the partnership would work in the coming months to revise the report to reflect opportunities related to the 2010 Olympics, the Neptune Project, and other recent initiatives.
- Nov. 24/04 Following presentation by GVEPS representatives, the Board referred the October 2004 Update of the Economic Development Opportunities Blueprint to Regional Planning Committee for review and comment.
- Jan. 19/05 Regional Planning Committee receives for information, a GVEPS funding request for \$35,000 towards development of Blueprint implementation plan, to be reconsidered in context of a review of the Blueprint.
- Feb. 23/05 The Board refers the Blueprint to member councils and electoral area directors for review and comment, and for feedback regarding the potential role of local government in general, and the CRD in particular, in

ATTACHMENT A

implementing the Blueprint. Between February and June 2005 Bruce Carter and Lorne Whyte of the GVEPS presented to all councils who requested a presentation, specifically Sooke (April 25), Victoria (April 28), Sidney (May 2), View Royal (May 3), Central Saanich (May 9), North Saanich (May 9), Esquimalt (May 16), Oak Bay (May 24) and Saanich (May 30). A teleconference was also held with the Juan de Fuca Economic Development Commission on May 18th. Their notes of the comments received at these presentations are included in Attachment B.

- Jul. 20/05 Regional Planning Committee reviewed responses received in response to the Board's referral from Central Saanich, Esquimalt, Oak Bay and Saanich.
- Oct. 19/05 Regional Planning Committee reviewed the response received from Victoria. Responses received from member municipalities are summarized in the table presented in Attachment C.
- Nov. 9/05 Regional Planning Committee, in reviewing a \$35,000 single supplementary contingency item budgeted in the RGS budget as a contribution to the preparation of an implementation plan for the Economic Blueprint, considered it premature and deleted from the 2006 RGS proposed budget.