

## PRINCE GEORGE AIR QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, January 31, 2006

5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – City Hall

**In Attendance:** Jim Martin, Dennis Fudge, Patricia Scott, Ron Fujino, Dave Sutherland, Mark Fercho, Ken Wilkening, Kim Frost

**Absent:** John Swaan, Eric Rappaport, Ron Blight, Rick Blixrud, Lucy Beck, Brian Pimblett, Mike Waite, Sharlene Lively, Gina Layte Liston, Jocelyn White, Greg Calpas, Glenda Wadell, Lawrence Cook, Lila Reynolds

### **PRINCE GEORGE AIR QUALITY STEERING COMMITTEE**

- Jim met with the Steering Committee last week to discuss the proposed changes for membership criteria in the Implementation Committee Terms of Reference.
- The Steering Committee approved amending the terms of reference to accept members of the general public, even if they don't have a specific affiliation. We will have to find ways of engaging these groups. Did Gina have a chance to talk to the Fraser Basin Council? Jim will revise the minutes from that meeting and will provide them at our next meeting. **Action: J. Martin / G. Layte Liston**
- Jim gave the Steering Committee an update regarding our objectives with education and promotion.

### **PRINCE GEORGE AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE**

- There was discussion regarding the Mayor's Task Force on Air Quality. To date, there is limited information on the Task Force, but it is understood that the Chair – Dr. Jago, is developing the Terms of Reference.
- Reminder that the Task Force is a temporary group and they report directly to the Mayor.
- The Task Force could be invited to one of our meetings, for our interest.
- The research program is underway for PM 2.5 and this information may be useful to the Task Force – can we, or should we, speed up the process? There may be sensitivities with timelines. For example, emissions inventory stats are being accumulated, funds have to be secured – these are time consuming processes.
- UNBC has an Air Pollution Awareness group. Can their studies be utilized by the Task Force? Dr. Jago could be contacted re: connections between the two groups.
- Clean Air Bylaw amendments could potentially happen once the Task Force has completed their reporting.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Membership – when two people from a particular group are both members, can they act as each other's alternates? General interpretation suggests that they are both classified as members.

### **ENVIRONMENT WEEK**

- Environment Week will be from June 4 – 10, 2006.

### **PHASE TWO RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The focus will be on three recommendations: Quality of Life, Climate Change, and Local Health Concerns
- Total reduced sulphur – from industrial sources. This has been identified as a Quality of Life issue. The last action was taken in the early 1990's. The inventories and re-modeling would have to be redone, and inputs in the airshed would have to be reassessed. The Task Force is going to hear a lot about this issue, as the public will definitely bring awareness to it. The sources are low concentration with high volume – eg.

vents. These are difficult to treat, but considerable improvement has been made. The concentration sources have been addressed and treated. Should we put more effort into education the public regarding health effects, etc? Should we develop an analysis? The group could draft an objective answering the following questions: What has been addressed so far? How can we continue to improve? What is the cost benefit vs. the health benefit?

- The task force studies should be acknowledged during Phase II.
- Fibre Sources – pine beetle. There is approximately a ten year window, after that the industries will be looking for new fiber sources. Ministry of Environment has concerns about the disposal of mountain pine beetle tree debris. We should develop a strategy to target this.
- May wish to expand “no open burning” to encompass a larger area.
- Community Forestation – The Wildfire Protection Plan has been posted on the City web site.

#### **MONITORING WORKING GROUP**

- Need to have a meeting soon.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Bio-energy Conference will be May 31 & June 1, 2006 at UNBC.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

March 28, 2006 - 5:30-7:30pm  
2nd Floor Conference Room- City Hall