

Quesnel 2020 Project, www.quesnel2020.com

June 9, 2004

Attendance: Karen Borsato, John Bowman, Tracey Bond, Dora McMillian, Bernice Heinzelman, Ronda Wilkins, Greg Halseth, Simon Turner, Paddy Doherty, Glenys Rutledge, Jim Savage, Kit Collins, Mike Miller, Sonya Hunt, Nate Bello

Facilitators: Brenda Snyder & Marti Hamlen

Agenda

- Envision Future
- Generate Ideas
- Test against Vision
- Café Planning

Review of first meeting of the Quesnel 2020 project

- Assets & Liabilities
- Vision Statement for Quesnel

Dialogue vs. Discussion – Model for this evening

Dialogue – more time for conversations

- Free and creative exploration of complex and subtle issues
- Suspending one's own view
- Deep listening to one another
- Observing your own thinking
- Gaining insights – understanding your own assumptions
- Suspend assumptions – visualization hanging your ideas out there
- Regard each other as colleagues
- Inquire and exploration – “help me understand, why do you believe that”

Compared to Discussion

- Views are presented and defended
- Search for best

Envision Future

Quesnel: Active – Resourceful – Connected City

Adding green to statement about Quesnel

Broke into groups and were asked to sit at the table with the word that interests them most. - No one decided to sit at the resourceful table.

Individually – think out 100 years – you live in or work in Quesnel – or do you come to visit it. Each table thinking about – what does it look like, are there things that I see and do, paint a picture of Quesnel in 100 years.

Active

- Trails encompassing city, parks
- Water
- Core downtown, no vehicles
- All shopping – marguerites in the street
- Communities within 15 miles of Quesnel
- Accesses isn't necessarily present in downtown core – people coming to you
- Alex Fraser Park – expansion – oriental flavour to centre, outdoor theatre – amphitheatre – dance, opera – winter time – outdoor skating rink- trees lit up like sparkers
- Centre of western culture
- Celebrate English site of the world
- Plant sciences studies
- Equine studies are world renowned
- Healthy food concession
- Convention centre
- Multipurpose centre – badminton, chess, skating, kite flying, soccer fields everywhere, cricket, volleyball, always choices – always things to do
- Performing arts centre – all in same area
- Downtown purpose – everyone doing something – no – “I can't do that – or there's nothing to do”
- Events all the time – more of what we do – biathlons, dog sledding, triathlons
- Cross country skiing from park to park
- Inclusion of senior community in being active – chess things in parks, tai chi in parks, multi generational
- Education and theatre

Green

- Green city – holistic
- Encompasses everything in the world
- Restoring all the beetle wood
- Beautiful landscape building on trails and roads
- Anderson trolley
- Transportation
- Footbridge, boats in the river
- Hydrofoils
- Industry is thinking – woodsmart
- Celebrating people, more Asian people
- No homeless people
- Most beautiful city in Canada
- Fish in the rivers, fishing in the river
- Activities near the river – within 200-300 ft of river – ripararian

- Very active, very connected – connecting land and people
- “Shire”

Connected

- Region connected – resources in and outside
- Connector roads – opening up tourism
- Independent communities – working together – Barkerville, Likely, Nazko, Blackwater, West Quesnel, North Quesnel, South Quesnel, Prince George
- Heritage all around us – connecting from Williams Lake up – opening up area
- Bringing people to Quesnel – for the activities
- Equity and access to things they need, knowledge, information – other than computer – no limitations
- Choices
- Communities is connected and accepting and helpful to one another
- Past and future connections – heritage and wilderness connected
- Villages with specialties – independent but not self-sufficient – service specialty – not every town can have a college/hospital... divided up among “villages”
- Connected with each other and the rest of the world
- Ability to travel without burdens between communities
- Electronic access – don’t have to have a computer – access is open to computers and other options
- Living in a beautiful place and still be connected to the larger world
- Best of technology great, but not be all, end all
- Space and pace

Themes from all groups

- Connection is important
- Neighbourhood – community – looking after each other
- Village used in many different ways – sub communities, ascending circle of villages – neighbourhoods within Quesnel proper – Cariboo and beyond - nodes
- Choices – individuals have choices in terms of activities, where they live, how they live, how they participate in their community
- Asian community – bringing people from Asia, having Asian look
- Inclusion – everyone’s in – there is a choice for everyone
- Implied active lifestyle in all categories
- Active used broadly – mind and body – as a result people are connected socially
- Connectedness – in very broad way – not simply making sure there is a connection to the internet –
- Asset of past recognized

Quesnel in 2020

Quesnel is the connected city. – In terms of being active, green, with our past.

Assumptions/Guidelines

- No current project ideas – this task is about coming up with new ideas
- “The richer a community is in natural, recreational and lifestyle amenities, the better off its economy will be” – Smart Growth BC – consider this when completing this exercise
- Think of forestry industry as neutral, at best, in terms of its contribution to economic vitality.

Each table coming up with new project ideas with the themes identified in the last exercise. Brainstorming-Dialoguing- then determine 5 ideas.

- Light transit – infrastructure
- North Cariboo Community Coordination Centre-things to assist with volunteer burnout, professional staff for maintaining, organization of crafts groups, putting together a place where everyone in the North Cariboo could package tourism, negotiating with larger companies for tourism opportunities
- Adaptive re-use of closed schools – childcare, handyman-home maintenance services, women services, recreation outlets, transit node, community garden – creating a community village, some of grounds used for gated seniors facility
- Community Centre, downtown – hub for expanded trail systems to 10 Mile Lake, Bouchie Lake, West Fraser, Barkerville and South Quesnel – walking, bike
- Diversified Agriculture – Equine Centre-the best of what is available in this industry, local production-local consumption – extension of farmers market idea, create direct access markets
- Cultural Tourism – fine arts programming, native arts and culture, tourism operator training
- Clean Up City Yards-Moved – RV Park, public space, clean up two mile flat or by pass
- Training – entrepreneurial training –create businesses by using the model used with the nursing program – train local – keep people locally, tourism operator training
- Cariboo theme – revive the them for city and relating it to the downtown – Canada Woodsmart city, gold pan city, Cariboo theme – define it and run with it – make it physically attractive for tourists and locals – developing railway station and city has identity from one and to the other and tie to the area – tying to all of North Cariboo region – you start and the route takes you through our whole region – not just one strip of downtown, dispersed right now

- Central Communication – community radio – connect Shaw TV, internet, interactive relationship – on going – basic programming and interaction happening
- Transportation Links – really strengthen – airport, railway
- Airport – look at changing some departure times – influence this and market people that they can live in Quesnel and fly into Vancouver to work
- Whole community housing plan – more senior housing, more adult living complexes – plan needed
- Re-population of North – moving people out of Vancouver, Burnaby, going for 40,000 population total for Quesnel – encouraging people to come to our area for more space
- RONA – great building – connecting it with the West Fraser - move them to Maple Park Mall
- Corridors & Transportation – greenways, waterways, birds, fish, heritage, airport improvements, trolley over old Fraser footbridge – bio-diesel, hydrogen, walking bridge over Quesnel river – connecting campus to downtown core
- Institutions –
 - Expand campus, boreal (northern forest) agriculture centre, wood design program, fine arts (magnet type programs)
 - Cultural centres – Aboriginal and Indo Canadian, Asian
- Senior – Youth Facilities
- NHL camps
- Private maximum security prison
- Inclusion – affordable housing, cultural houses
- Communicating vision to investors – businesses, visitors, retirees

Begin to sift through projects and figure out what will work with our community – based on the vision. Our vision is talking about connections and being connected.

Identify three-six projects that will achieve that vision, choosing from all the new things and the ones taken from minutes from the May 26, meeting notes.

Group 1

Trail Development

Performing Arts Centre

Airport ALS System

Improve Air Quality - bypass

Adaptive use of schools for Seniors-Neighbourhood-Community Centre

Cariboo Theme

Group 2

Theme – who we are

Alex Fraser Park – Multi Purpose Centre, Rec Centre, Equine, Restaurants

Bowron Connector
North Cariboo Community Coordination Centre
School Village – Adaptive use of schools
Air Quality

Group 3
Communication-Info-Events Coordination
Trails, Greenways, Theming – Integrated Projects
Neighbourhood Theme Centres
Air Quality
Campus Programming – Facility Development
Recreational-Cultural Facility Plan – Integrated

Group 4
Multi-purpose facility – ice surface,
Performing Arts Centre
Full theme development and visual identity
Housing development
Mining, Oil and Gas Area
Indoor Soccer Facility

Common Projects
Air Quality
Multi Purpose Facility
Trail development
Performing Arts Centre
Adaptive use of schools – for seniors and youth

Clear on vision intent and meaning – connectedness.

Networking Café
June 24, 4-8 @ Maple Park Shopping Centre
Everyone here asked to bring 2 people to the meeting.
Multiple cafés – different topics each time – 5-6 people a table
Information also available at www.quesnel2020.com

4 hours – Maple Park Mall

- Tables, set up to look like café – take a number and sit at their table
- Provide input and reaction to a variety of topics – series of questions that the tables will talk through for a period of time. E.g. what are your hopes – fears for Quesnel. Capture at an emotional level.
- Next topic would be a vision type question, what do they think of the connectedness vision.
- Then all of these projects listed in some fashion and have people react and give ideas.
- Then café will close.

Looking for facilitators and scribes for the Networking Café

Facilitators – must be there 30 minutes in advance

Nate Bello
Tracey Bond
Glenys Rutledge
Karen Borsato
Bernice Heinzelman

Scribe

Kit Collins
Paddy Doherty
Mike Miller
Dora McMillian
John Knoch

Invite Youth, Seniors, Aboriginal, Indo-Canadian, Asian groups. A representation from all groups in Quesnel. Encourage people to attend and confirm with Economic Development by June 18, 2004, 992-3522 or email to acheng@quesnelcorp.com

Information from cafés needs to get back to the Economic Development office. Participants are keys to this process being successful. Need facilitators to come back and review the information from the café, Wednesday, July 14, two weeks after the session, 4-8 meeting, Best Western Tower Inn.

First part – data exchange, 2nd part – phase 2 will begin – opportunities for future involvement. If there is time, review of decision criteria will occur.

Phase 2 is about implementation – Economic Development is prepared to re-orient its business plan to make sure these things happen.

Parking Lot

- Attain information on Williams Lake plan for their community
- If there is a theme, make sure there is buy-in
- Ensure attendees know that the Networking Café is not same as November meeting
- Prizes for participants and tickets for participation
- Lighting for café
- Communication plan needs to be provided beyond café
- July 14th meeting should discuss community buy-in
- Require additional facilitators and scribes for the June 24 meeting