



**A G E N D A**

**FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE  
CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION**

**To be held on: Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Conference Call**

**at 11:30 a.m.**

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**Next Meeting: May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Conference Call**

**Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Commencement: 11:34 a.m.**

- Chair: **ANDRÉE LACROIX IN THE CHAIR**
- Present: Mayor Brian Bigger, Brent Battistelli, Erin Danyliw, Lisa Demmer, Joanne Gervais, Iyo Grenon, Andrée Lacroix, Mike Ladyk, Councillor Bill Leduc, Marett McCulloch, Peter Nykilchuk, David Paquette, Jeff Portelance, Councillor Mark Signoretti
- Regrets: Councillor Gerry Montpellier, Daran Moxam, Brian Vaillancourt
- Guests: Anik Perreault, Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines  
Pierre Seguin, Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines
- City Officials: Meredith Armstrong, Kelly Bonnell, Rebecca Brooks, Shawna Cole, Briana Fram, Liesel Franklin, Dana Jennings, Pat McCauley, Barb McDougall, Liam McGill, Terra Posadowski, Josée Pharand, Scott Rennie, Alex Ross, Melissa Zanetti
- Agenda Review: No additions to the agenda.
- Conflict of Interest: Iyo Grenon and Marett McCulloch declared a conflict regarding Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION).
- Approval of Minutes: **2020 - 011 – Bill Leduc/ Jeff Portelance:**
- That the minutes of the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation Board of Directors Regular meeting of 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted.
- CARRIED***
- Executive Notes: No questions at this time
- New Business: Mayor Bigger began the meeting with an update on the City's efforts to combat COVID-19 in our community in order to reduce the potential for increased infections and fatalities, a State of Emergency was declared on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Residents are urged to stay home and self-isolate, engage in social distancing and only go outside for essentials, such as food and medical needs or appointments.

Mayor Bigger commended the work of the Economic Development team in reaching out to offer support to businesses and ensure open lines of communications with community stakeholders as well.

Most City facilities, including playgrounds and park amenities, are temporarily closed to support physical distancing. Only essential City services are being offered in-person, by appointment only.

Updates and further information can be found on the City of Greater Sudbury website at <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/covid-19-coronavirus/>.

Reports:

*C.E.D. Report*

C.E.D. Chair Brent Battistelli provided an update on the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, beginning with current financial standing and commitments. It was noted that there are several projects included on the provided list which may be released in 2021 and as such, do not impact the 2020 budget. A full report was included in the agenda package for review.

Science North presented regarding the Climate Change Object Theatre. This project aligns well with the City of Greater Sudbury's climate emergency strategy and overall goals for Science North to offer renewed public experiences, which drives visitors and engagement.

Science North has two international buyers interested in purchasing the Climate Action Show once it is complete. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase Greater Sudbury and Science North on a worldwide scale. The request is to release \$250,000 to aid in the project completion. As it meets the funding threshold, the request would also need to be approved by City Council.

The remainder of the original eight *Big Change, Big Impact* projects would then be funded through the \$750,000 matched by City Council in 2018. Science North has confirmed flexibility in having the funds flow later in the project and the recommendation today is to have \$125,000 released in 2021 and \$125,000 in 2022 in order to lessen the burden on the 2020 budget.

**2020 – 012 – Bill Leduc / Mark Signoretti**

WHEREAS Science North is a significant contributor to the growth of Greater Sudbury and the primary economic driver for tourism; and

WHEREAS the renewal and expansion plans for both Science North and Dynamic Earth are required to achieve the goals of their recently launched five year strategic plan; and

WHEREAS the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation Board provided approval for funding in support of Science North's *Big Change, Big Impact* initiative in June 2018 through Motion 2018-045 with a contribution of \$750,000 from the Community Economic Development Investment Fund; and

WHEREAS Science North has outlined a singular opportunity to advance the Climate Action Object Theatre project specifically in 2020 as a key component of the *Big Change, Big Impact* initiative;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation support the Science North Climate Action Object Theatre project with a contribution of \$250,000 (\$125,000 in 2021 and \$125,000 in 2022); and

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury and the CGSCDC be recognized as funders and supporters of the Climate Action show, that their support is acknowledged and logo(s) are included in all associated communications, on promotional materials, and acknowledged on Science North's corporate website.

**CARRIED**

The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Project (RNIP) workforce development strategy was reviewed including bridge funding in late 2019, some of which was under spent. While provincial funding is not available for the federal program, there are several opportunities for funding under categories unrelated to immigration which has been applied for.

The request before the Board is to support the program in terms of wages and administration. Focus will be on those candidates already residing in Greater Sudbury who hold a valid job offer from a local employer. No concerns are foreseen in filling the program's 100 candidate allocation for Year 1 of the Pilot.

It is recognized that though COVID – 19 will have some impact on the program and several supporting industries, those candidates under consideration already reside in Sudbury, have work permits and have been occupying their current positions for at least one year. For this reason, current travel bans will not affect the current round of applications.

### **2020 – 013 – Bill Leduc / Mark Signoretti**

WHEREAS the main objective of Economic Development's Workforce and Immigration Program is to support workforce development in Greater Sudbury's Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs); and

WHEREAS this will be achieved by allocating dedicated resources and ensuring that the necessary services are in place to support the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) program of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) federal agency; and

WHEREAS the RNIP Program is focused on creating a path to permanent residence to help meet local labour market needs and support regional economic development; and

WHEREAS the Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation (GSDC) is the primary signatory in a successful application to the Government of Canada to participate in the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program;

AND WHEREAS the GSDC Board passed motion 2019-065 in September 2019 approving funding in the amount of \$80,947.77 to support the RNIP from September to December 2019;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Greater Sudbury Community Development Corporation hereby approves a carry-over of unused funds in the amount of \$54,000 from 2019 to 2020; and,

FURTHER, that the GSDC Board approves funding of \$135,000 in support of wages, marketing and related administrative costs for Year 1 of the project from January to December 2020; and

FINALLY, that the GSDC Board directs staff to report back in Q4 2020 on the progress of the project, the status of other funding applications, and a request for funding for Years 2 and 3 of the Workforce and Immigration Program.

***CARRIED***

Marett and Iyo were then removed from the conversation due to conflict of interest.

Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION) is requesting the release of a \$30,000 holdback remaining from an originally approved \$80,000 application in 2018. Year one deliverables have been met and staff is recommending the release.

**2020 – 014 – Bill Leduc / Peter Nykilchuk**

WHEREAS on May 8, 2019 the GSDC Board passed Resolution 2019-024 approving Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION) for a conditional Year 2 funding renewal of \$80,000 to be released in two installments; and

WHEREAS on October 9, 2019 the GSDC Board approved the release of the first installment of \$50,000; and

WHEREAS staff have received FedNor's amended Contribution Agreement, outlining their commitment to CION based on their updated budget, as well as confirmation that the funds have been released from FedNor to CION for the 2019 fiscal year;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the GSDC Board approve the release of the remaining installment of the Year 2 funding contribution in the amount of \$30,000.

**CARRIED**

Iyo and Marrett were returned to the conversation. Meredith Armstrong spoke to the remaining February C.E.D items.

Place des Arts is a combination of two different funding contributions approved by the Board in 2016 and 2017 as well as a \$1,500 holdback from the 2016 file. The project report was reviewed and deliverables have been met. The motion today will bring their funding file up to date.

It was confirmed that as per Premier Ford's orders, construction has halted for the next two weeks. Staff is working with representatives from Place des Arts to assess impact of the work stoppage and will report back to the GSDC Board and City Council once more information becomes available.

### **2019 – 015 – Joanne Gervais / Erin Danyliw**

WHEREAS La Place des Arts was approved for support from the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation (GSDC) in 2016 and 2017 to support the pre-capital planning and administration of the project; and

WHEREAS the funding was approved in two projects (Project 1 - 2016 approval of \$64,000 over two years and Project 2 - 2017 \$35,000 over two years) with final project reporting due in 2019; and

WHEREAS the final report has been reviewed by staff and endorsed by the Community Economic Development (CED) Committee, and confirms the completion of the deliverables set out in the funding agreement signed in June 2017;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the GSDC Board approve release of the following:

- 1) The holdback of \$1,500 for Project 1
- 2) The final year funding of \$15,000 from Project 2, and

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury and the CGSDC be recognized in all communications as funders, and that the City of Greater Sudbury logo be present on all associated communication materials and the Place des Arts website.

**CARRIED**

The final item of the C.E.D. meeting was the World Trade Center Greater Sudbury Project. The C.E.D. Committee agreed that the project is aligned with the Junction as one of the City's four Large Projects. There was interest in inviting the applicants to provide a full presentation to learn about the project. Staff confirmed that Council direction does allow for the funding to be covered through the Economic Development budget and it was confirmed that Economic Development is working with CBRE to begin the required work. The stakeholder engagement is currently on hold due to COVID – 19. No decision is required from the C.E.D. Committee or the Board at this point.

### *Directors Report*

A full report was provided in the agenda packaged. Highlights of the Directors Report discussed include:

- Though health of the community is paramount, staff is working to ensure the economy and local business network is supported as much as possible.
- Business continuity calls are held every day with a broad group of community stakeholders. An informational page is available on the City of Greater Sudbury website.
- Economic Development staff have completed over 130 business outreach calls.
- A business hotline has been established to assist business owners navigate funding and business support programs being released on a regular basis.
- The Regional Business Centre has launched a series of COVID related videos on various industry topics with several local businesses expressing interest in participating with future presentations.
- The first meeting of the Community Selection Committee for the RNIP program took place in April.
- The Local Immigration Pilot has reached a five-year agreement with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), allowing services to continue with Enrique Paraco as the Greater Sudbury Immigration Development Officer.

### COVID – 19 and GSDC Role

A memo concerning Greater Sudbury's response to COVID -19 was included in the distributed agenda package. An overview of available support programs was provided as well as a summary of business feedback including concerns and impacts of COVID. The information gathered may assist the GSDC Board in directing recovery efforts when restrictions are lifted.

The Regional Business Centre is continuing to work on the Starter Company Plus Program with two upcoming intakes. The Summer Company Program will also proceed as planned.

The 2020 Arts & Culture Grants will go ahead in order to allow the participating organizations to prepare for the expected demand for entertainment and cultural experiences in the near future. None of the funds will be released until it is confirmed that the activities will proceed or be altered to accommodate social distancing.

C.E.D. applications will also address how the proposed project will assist in job creation and economic recovery.

Community Improvement Program:

Meredith Armstrong provided history on the City Council request for the GSDC to provide a contribution to the Community Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is an important municipal tool to help spur economic development and assist owners and tenants in defined geographic areas.

A staff memo has been provided with the agenda package. Staff has been working with Finance and Planning to assess various ways the funds can be flowed with as much flexibility to the C.E.D. fund as possible. The contribution request is \$100,000 per year over nine years (\$900,000 total) with the option of flowing the dollars in 2022 through to 2026 with 2027 and 2028 seeing payment of \$200,000 per year to account for the delay.

The GSDC would then receive updates on CIP projects and is a low risk investment as it is reimbursement based. A motion was also included in the package for consideration as the funding must be passed by the Board for audit purposes.

It was confirmed that the amount would be deducted from the one million dollar allotment provided by the City annually. The Board is an independent body and cannot be directed to agree to the contribution, however, as the goals of the program aligns with the objective of the GSDC, it was suggested that the C.E.D. fund would be an appropriate funding resource.

The proposed motion was read; comment was made that it would be preferred that the process be vetted by the Board before review by City Council going forward. Proposal was made that it be considered for inclusion in the new Operating Agreement.

It was agreed that representatives from the Planning Department provide a presentation on the CIP at the May meeting to allow for edification of new Board members. As the funding would not be required immediately, additional time is requested to allow for a more fulsome discussion. Staff will follow-up with Finance and Planning. Therefore, motion 2020 – 016 was deferred until May.

Impact of COVID on Cinéfest:

A copy of correspondence received from Cinéfest was provided for information only. It is encouraging seeing how the organization is adapting to COVID and preparing for recovery.

2020 Nominations:

A staff memo was included in the package outlining the nominations process. Members will receive an email canvassing for volunteers to sit on the Nominations Committee. Members are encouraged to reach out to their respective networks as ambassadors of the Board.

Governance  
Update:

A draft operating agreement is in the process of finalization by the City's legal staff at this time. Once agreed upon, it will be brought forward at the next Board meeting for member feedback and approval.

**2020 – 017 – Peter Nykilchuk / Jeff Portelance**

THAT the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation Board of Directors regular meeting be adjourned and move to a closed session.

***CARRIED***

Adjourned 1:30

**Next meeting May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Andree Lacroix

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Chair

Meredith Armstrong

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Secretary