



Funding Opportunities Workshop, Edson
June 26, 2007
Round Table discussion results by group:

Group A

1. What are the opportunities or challenges facing your rural community or region?
How will this impact the future of your community?

Challenges

- Funding
- Lack of resources/people
- Balancing economic sectors hotels, service, etc. (i.e. Industry vs. tourism)
- Lack of affordable housing
- Lack of services – health care, government services
- Lack of volunteers
- Lack of land to develop (i.e. crown land)
- High wages in service sector
- Language barriers.

Opportunities

- Generally lots of land to develop
- Employment opportunities
- New opportunities for builders to develop unique housing (small & high density)
- Catering to demographics trying to attract
- Community facilities to cater to:
 - Healthy choices
 - Sports
 - Seniors
- Lifestyle
- Infrastructure
- Tourism development
- Immigration

Impacts

- Infrastructure
- Quality of life



Group A – continued

- Safety
 - Time strain on volunteers
2. Are there any ideas or projects that you think would be helpful in making a positive impact on the future of your community? Why?
- 2nd stage housing for battered women
 - SPCA Facility
 - Senior facilities & services
 - Youth: Daycare, Recreation/FCSS Programs
 - Immigration Services: life skills/financial
 - Starter Homes/Mixed Developments
3. What resources (time, knowledge and dollars) are required? Where might these resources be found?
- EDOs
 - CED Committees
 - GAER
 - CFDC
 - FCSS
- *Hire consultants to work with local advisory group
*funding
4. What funding programs have you applied to for assistance? What actions would be required to move forward?
- Community Initiatives Program
 - RADF (Frustrations')
 - AEII
 - Municipal Sponsorship Fund
 - Community Futures
 - Travel Alberta
 - CFEP
 - Wild Rose
 - Community Champions



GROUP B

1. What are the opportunities or challenges facing your rural community or region? How will this impact the future of your community?
 - Availability of housing
 - Availability and suitability of buildings, land for non-profits.
 - Large number of projects
 - Lack of resources & number of programs
 - Post secondary opportunities
 - Addictions
 - Protective service strains

2. Are there any ideas or projects that you think would be helpful in making a positive impact on the future of your community? Why?
 - Beautification initiatives
 - Post secondary programs
 - Children's programs
 - Resources for new families
 - Encourage partnerships (regionally)
 - Sharing information & resources

3. What resources (time, knowledge and dollars) are required? Where might these resources be found?
 - Knowledge of funding programs
 - Partnerships
 - Capital resources for non-profit & municipalities
 - In kind support from community (time & equipment) for projects
 - Time & resources to coordinate & fund raise for projects
 - Volunteers

4. What funding programs have you applied to for assistance? What actions would be required to move forward?
 - CFEP
 - CIP
 - Wild Rose Foundation
 - Individual companies



Group B - continued

- Major facility enhancement
- Rural Alberta Development Fund
- Need a key donor then others jump on board

Group C

1. What are the opportunities or challenges facing your rural community or region?
How will this impact the future of your community?

Opportunities

- Volunteers – community
- Highway Access
- Developable land use
- Agriculture
- Partnerships
- Recreation/Tourism
- Quality of Life

Challenges

- Housing – “Cheese”
- Grants (often going to larger centers)
- More man power than rural areas
- County – no consistency
- Lack of communication
- Make best use of land without over developing
- Affordable housing
- Geographic isolation
- Access to professional services
- Artificial boom
- Anticipate future needs – plan ahead

2. Are there any ideas or projects that you think would be helpful in making a positive impact on the future of your community? Why?

- Boys & Girls Club Facility – Expansion
- Tourism – promotion & awareness
- Second stage housing
- Beautification – recycling
- Economic development – keep jobs local
- Recreation facility (hall & recreation center), Enhanced more use.



Group C - continued

3. What resources (time, knowledge and dollars) are required? Where might these resources be found?
 - Time
 - Volunteers
 - Public education
 - Money – community

4. What funding programs have you applied to for assistance? What actions would be required to move forward?
 - Community Initiative Program (CIP)
 - Quality of Life
 - United Way
 - AADAC
 - Children's Services



Group D

1. What are the opportunities or challenges facing your rural community or region?
How will this impact the future of your community?

Opportunities

- Nicer more controlled atmosphere to raise families
- More accessibility
- More space – room for expansion
- More recreation opportunities i.e. hunting, fishing, etc.
- Some communities have area to build
- Citizens more connected to community

Challenges

- No entry level housing
- Recruiting, training & retention of employees
- Pool of available volunteers is aging
- Communities losing age group 25 to 40
- Some communities have less land base (crown, county)
- Services are stretched
- Construction companies unavailable
- Community events (fund raisers) restricted due to lack of hotel space

2. Are there any ideas or projects that you think would be helpful in making a positive impact on the future of your community? Why?

- Every new development to have multi-family component (portion should also be entry level)
- Province wide increase of awareness in Rural Alberta i.e. revitalize, marketing strategies, publicize – media
- Post – secondary education expansions
- Child-care issues larger in some communities
- Opportunities for differently abled community members are not available and thus families must leave to available services.
- More grants for capital projects
- Operational costs for facilities is a challenge
- Develop community foundations



Group D - continued

3. What resources (time, knowledge and dollars) are required? Where might these resources be found?
 - Knowledge - sharing of resources in rural communities works well
 - Time – staff
 - Operational funding – very short term
 - Less funds raised with smaller volunteer base
 - Bartering system works well in communities
 - Partnerships
 - More training sessions for volunteer groups

4. What funding programs have you applied to for assistance? What actions would be required to move forward?
 - All of them
 - All major funding – grant orgs
 - Actually any small ones
 - Foundations
 - Businesses



Group E

1. What are the opportunities or challenges facing your rural community or region? How will this impact the future of your community?
 - Cannot keep pace with the economic growth
 - Difficult to find the time to plan effectively and identify the social needs coming from the economic growth.
2. Are there any ideas or projects that you think would be helpful in making a positive impact on the future of your community? Why?
 - Services for adults/children i.e. hostels/women's shelters/group homes
 - Services for temporary foreign workers
 - Pressure has been increased on intervention services
 - Corporate culture has changed/regional effort to engage industry
3. What resources (time, knowledge and dollars) are required? Where might these resources be found?
 - Time/knowledge/funds/people
 - Throughout the entire region/provincially
 - Attract youth involvement in volunteerism
4. What funding programs have you applied to for assistance? What actions would be required to move forward?
 - National/Provincial crime prevention/FCSS/Municipal Sustainability Initiative
 - Funding applications should be project driven
 - Information sessions/workshops to provide assistance on obtaining funds
 - Motivation to come from the community