

## **ACE Meeting May 14, 2008**

Hello All:

This is to report to all of you regarding the last ACE (Arts Council of Edson) meeting, which was on May 14.

For those of you getting an ACE e-mail for the first time, let me briefly explain who we are. ACE is a fine arts advocacy group in the Edson and area that has the long term goal of building a cultural facility in Edson. We are made up of a variety of fine arts groups and schools within the community. We are in the beginning steps of developing this facility and are getting information from around the province on the best way to go about this project. Edson Town Council has approved up to \$20,000 for us (once we officially ask for it) to put towards a study or drawings that will help the project along. There are things that need to be done before we have access to this funding, but we have the belief that “slow and steady win the race” – combined, of course, with “if you build it, they will come”.

### **The Meeting**

1. At our last meeting we talked about the success of the Information Gathering Session on May 10. We spoke about how the ideas were focused towards a stand alone cultural facility that is not attached to a sports centre. We spoke of the different ideas that were presented about why Edson needs this facility and what we see as needs in the facility.
2. The next thing we spoke about was “the next step”, meaning what we should do next. After discussing options we decided the next step would be to visit other cultural facilities in the province. While visiting these facilities we would be able to ask a number of questions of how they started, funding, operations, and of course, get a tour of the facility. This “adventure” would happen over the summer. We could take photos and add this information to our report to the Town and County Councils – when we make our official proposal to them. See the next e-mail if you want to join this trip.
3. We spoke about the proposal we are going to make to Town and County Councils. We brainstormed ideas of what to include, which included the ideas from the Information Gathering Session and the summer trip. We also brainstormed ideas of doing a door-to-door survey to find out what other community members think of the facility idea.
4. The survey (mentioned in number 3) would happen until the fall/winter, but would go to great lengths to demonstrate our willingness to build the facility and help out anyway we can. We would begin planning this in September.
5. Andrea LaBoucane from the Town of Edson was introduced to everyone. Andrea will act as a liaison between ACE and the Town. Over the next few months Andrea and ACE will help to define her responsibilities and the responsibilities that ACE has with regards to fine arts advocacy and the building of this cultural facility.

6. Then ACE members went to Mojos for a coffee house in support of Robyne Willock in an MS bike tour. Fun was had by all.

Thanx

Peter Taylor

ACE Member