



update

May 26, 2008



Wild Oats and Notes

Mark June 28, 29 and 30th on your calendars!!

The Wild Oats and Notes festival is back and the net proceeds from this year's festival will go to VOCAL! More information is available at oatsandnotes.blogspot.com. See the invitation attached to this newsletter. A great time to be had by all!

Meeting with Premier Ed Stelmach

Bill Sears, Russell Stauffer, Jon Kauffman and Robert Janzen met with Premier Ed Stelmach, Minister of Environment Rob Renner, and Deputy Minister Jim Ellis at the end of April. The meeting went very well, and we were given an hour of their time. The Premier was left with a map that outlined clearly the boundaries of the proposed site, and the demographics within the region. VOCAL invited Premier Stelmach out for a tour of the area and we hope that he will do so closer to harvest time.

RH-DAPA Meeting

The Board of Directors of RH-DAPA joined VOCAL for a meeting on April 24th to discuss what each group has been doing and share ideas. RH-DAPA is currently putting together a list of experts to help analyze the Environmental Assessment that Sherritt will attach to their application for the project. We plan to work closely with RH-DAPA.



East Central Alberta Cumulative Effects Project

Susan Abells, of Abells Henry Public Affairs will be having a Cumulative Effects meeting in Camrose at the Edgeworth Centre on May 29th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you are interested in attending, contact Bill Sears as soon as possible.

News Flash

From the *Globe & Mail*, May 23, 2008 edition "**Sherritt Gasification plan stalls**"

According to the *Globe and Mail* article, Sherritt's board of governors can't give the go-ahead to the \$3.3 billion Dodds-Round Hill Coal Gasification project until the federal and provincial governments table guidelines for carbon emissions.

We don't know what the "stall" of the project means for us as yet - we will continue with our work for now and keep you updated as things progress.



May 1st General Meeting at Bardo

A very interesting meeting was held with our guest speakers from the Environmental Law Centre, Jodie Heirlmeier and Dean Watt. LOTS of information and they were so easy to understand and listen to. Everyone needs to be aware of the Notice of Hearing that will appear in our local papers. This is your chance to file a letter of concern. We want to be sure to do so, otherwise you may be excluded from participating in any hearings later on.

We will let our members know when this notice appears. Get ready to write some letters. We'd be glad to help! More to come.

Luncheon with LEAD trainees in Round Hill on May 16th, 2008

LEAD is an international non-profit organisation with a fast growing network of 1600 leaders in more than 80 countries. Their mission is to inspire leadership for a sustainable world.

We met with LEAD and made a short presentation to tell them about the proposed Sherritt project. We received a great deal of support from all the LEAD members who were from across Canada and the world!



Keep an eye out for our Billboard on Hwy 14:



CALL FOR PICTURES

VOCAL is looking for pictures of your farm and family to use in promoting our mission. Please contact us if you have any great pictures we could use.

Coming up (Plans in a nutshell!) . . .

- ✚ organize and host a Public Forum this fall
- ✚ Meet with Brian Staszewski and Linda Duncan re: strategic planning
- ✚ Presentation to the Camrose Rotary Club on May 27th
- ✚ Meet with County of Camrose, ERCB, AUC, EPCOR, Sherritt, Alberta Environment
- ✚ Attend Landowner's Community Advocate Conference May 23 and 24th, Strathcona Community League