

**MINUTES**  
**WINKLER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, November 17, 2009, 12:10 p.m.**  
**Smitty's Family Restaurant**

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**PRESENT: Laurie Sawatzky, Brenda Storey, Gregg Sigurdson, Perry Vagianos, Betty Hiebert, Mark Bennett, Vern Reimer, Chris Sumner, Herb Franz, Kenton Doerksen, James Friesen, Greg Archibald, Dianne Friesen**

**A. MINUTES OF September 15, 2009 Meeting (as circulated)**

**M/S...Mark Bennett, Greg Archibald...that the minutes from the September 15, 2009 meeting be accepted as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

**B. NEW BUSINESS:**

**i) Strategic Planning Meeting complete**

- Executive Board completed their strategic planning and has a defined plan for 2010.
- Lenore Laverty was hired as facilitator.

**ii) DAWN Debriefing Lunch**

- DAWN will be hosting a luncheon on January 14 for participating businesses to give them a debriefing of project as it is ending middle of February.
- This lunch is by invitation.

**iii) Olympic Torch Relay – January 7, 2010**

- The Olympic Torch will be coming to Winkler on January 7<sup>th</sup> and the committee is asking businesses to participate in the relay and be part of the route to cheer the runners on.
- They are asking the participants to wear red and white on that day.

**iv) Budget 2010**

- The budget for 2010 has been finalized and will be presented to BIA committee shortly.

**C. CHAMBER REPORTS:**

**i) SCSES Report – Laurie Sawatzky**

- In the last 3 years there has been a 10 – 12% growth in the immigration.

- Since 1998 the Settlement office has worked with 6300 people.
- Key features of the program is:
  - ❖ Advisory committee
  - ❖ One Stop Shop
  - ❖ Partnerships with Competitiveness, Training & Trades, Labour & Immigration, English At Work, Adult Language Training Branch
- Focus is to offer comprehensive service in one stop.
- There are 72 countries represented through the Immigration.
- They will continue to develop integration of families.

**ii) Chamber Group Insurance Plan – Perry Vagianos**

- Coverage that is available through this plan is:
  - ❖ Life insurance
  - ❖ Accidental death
  - ❖ Extended health
  - ❖ Dental
  - ❖ Short term disability
  - ❖ Long term disability
  - ❖ Critical illness
- Plan coverage is flexible.
- The plan must run through the business.
- Employee must work an average of 20 hours a week and must be under the age of 65.
- No seasonal employees can participate in the plan.
- There is specific data required for the plan.
- Plan can cover single person firm or numerous employees.
- There are no yearly contracts in plan, month to month basis.

**D. OTHER:**

**E. NEXT MEETING: January 19, 2010**

**F. ADJOURNMENT: 1:07 pm**