

**Business • Development • Opportunity** 

May 2021

## **News from SXD Limited Partnership**

Weyt-k from SXD Limited Partnership (SXDC). The following is an update of business activities.

The Board of Directors, Chief and Council (SXFN) and SXDC staff ended 2020 by participating in an intensive full day strategic planning session. The engaged participation resulted in a strategic document that will lead our business over the next three to five years. We identified 5 priorities that will guide our work. They are:

- 1. Communication Clear and direct communication and collaboration with SXDC stakeholders, SXFN and members.
- 2. Business Development Self sustaining revenue from business operations.
- 3. Tourism To be a leader in adventure and eco tourism in the Cariboo.
- 4. Forestry To obtain profitable and sustainable business and relationships in the forest industry.
- 5. Agriculture Utilize agricultural land effectively, sustainably, responsibly, and profitably.

Since the beginning of the year, with our Strategic Plan in place, SXDC has been driving business. We have accomplished the following in the last four months.

- 1. Communications Plan As identified in our strategic plan, enhanced communication is a key objective. We developed a plan of tools to communicate changes and updates, new business opportunities, milestones, as well as to build community engagement in the work we do. We updated and improved our website, <a href="www.sxdcltd.ca">www.sxdcltd.ca</a>, to serve our members and businesses better. With a brighter modern look and fresh content, we added a newsletter data collection portal and new menu for Member Information and Employment Opportunities. Our website clearly states that we are Open for Business!
- 2. **Store Renovations** are in progress. COVID-19 provided some challenges as it has in almost every part of business and life it seems. There was a rather long process in working with NDIT, however the is now design is ready, and equipment has been ordered. The space as we have known it will be altered completely to provide a more efficient layout to accommodate the new commercial kitchen, roof, and venting requirements. We estimate



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the new opening to be end of June-mid July 2021.

- 3. **Big Bar Guest Ranch** COVID-19 disrupted our plans to rebrand based on our new business plan; however, an unfortunate environmental incident provided an opportunity for Big Bar Guest Ranch (BBGR). What would have been a dismal year, occupant and revenue-wise, as international flights and travel were extremely limited, turned into an opportunity. BBGR pivoted operations to provide the Big Bar Slide employees with hospitality including catering hot meals, and accommodations. As reclamation continues, BBGR proceeds to provide hospitality to slide crews. Until the end of the pandemic when BBGR can resume providing authentic First Nation experiences for guests, it will focus on major renovations and upgrades on decks and roofs throughout the summer.
- 4. **Grants** SXDC is waiting for confirmation of several grants. These grants should be confirmed by June for the following:
  - a. Community Garden Greenhouse Expansion
  - b. Summer Student Program
  - c. Front Desk & Executive Assistant Position
  - d. Store Manager
- 5. **Feasibility Study** SXDC has applied for a continuation of funds from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) to progress a feasibility study for a gravel business and accommodations at Meadow Lake Ranch.
- 6. **Audit** Starting May 24<sup>th</sup> a complete audit of SXDC will commence, supporting our strategic priority for open and transparent communication with all members.

Although COVID-19 continues to challenge how we can gather, we believe there is a great opportunity to build business and improve infrastructure. As we continue to operate safely from outside our office location, our staff and Board of Directors continue to move towards our vision of self-supported, sustainable, and profitable economic opportunities with long-term benefits for members, land, and culture. I can be reached at 250-440-5652 during business hours, Monday to Friday or email <a href="mailto:clayton@sxdcltd.ca">clayton@sxdcltd.ca</a>

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