

Workshop 3: Weyburn

The following notes were taken during the brainstorming session by all the community leaders represented at the workshop.

Session 1: Attitudes

Positives Identified For the Area

- ☞ Good transportation network (highway access, rail, links to US)
- ☞ Community services (retail, service clubs, etc.)
- ☞ Good community spirit
- ☞ Education facilities
- ☞ Good water
- ☞ Land available
- ☞ Seniors facilities
- ☞ EMT, fire, etc.
- ☞ Clean air
- ☞ Agriculture land
- ☞ Hunting, fishing
- ☞ Recreation sites
- ☞ Growing population in some areas
- ☞ Feed mill
- ☞ Dinner theaters, arts
- ☞ Good working relationship with surrounding mun.
- ☞ South east transportation
- ☞ Safe healthy affordable communities
- ☞ Oil, gas, manufacturing
- ☞ Willingness to invest
- ☞ Community services (health, education, churches, service clubs)
- ☞ Ethanol, oil, gas, manufacturing are operating
- ☞ Affordable living (diverse assessment base)
- ☞ Location (100 miles from urban centers, but far enough)
- ☞ Grain Elevators
- ☞ Restaurants
- ☞ Affordable housing, low crime
- ☞ Land for sale
- ☞ Good water (supply and access)
- ☞ Employment opportunities (oil patch)
- ☞ Tourism potential (hunt, fish, scenery)
- ☞ Recreation facilities (variety & many)
- ☞ Good waste management programs
- ☞ Natural resources (wind = power)
- ☞ Mines
- ☞ Infrastructure (transportation)
- ☞ Provincial/regional parks
- ☞ First Nations work force
- ☞ Positive thinking
- ☞ Community owned short line, museum
- ☞ Highspeed internet access
- ☞ Oilfield activity

- ☞ Good working relationships with neighbors
- ☞ Farmland (inexpensive, available) Lots for \$1.
- ☞ Diverse industries
- ☞ Investment capital is available
- ☞ Community services (retail, restaurants)
- ☞ Clean air
- ☞ Dams - large water source
- ☞ Knowledge of Agriculture
- ☞ Parks, scenery, golf courses, museum, art gallery

Goals and Challenges Identified:

- ☞ Potential to partner
- ☞ Need more access to healthcare facilities
- ☞ Promoting Saskatchewan to immigrants
- ☞ Regional Development Focus
- ☞ Oil Sector - why aren't we training people in Saskatchewan?
- ☞ Promote safe communities
- ☞ Promote affordable living in smaller communities
- ☞ Transportation corridors (need work north to south)
- ☞ Education system promotes education for University, but doesn't promote entrepreneurs (business plans, etc.)
- ☞ Think outside the box
- ☞ Need more money for farmers (Investment)
- ☞ Transportation - decent roads, need for more primary, shortline rail (potential)
- ☞ Need capital investment
- ☞ Need more local investment in opportunities
- ☞ Immigration - need people (lobby government to assist)

Session 2:

Sectors of Developments To Target In the Area

- ☞ Value-added agriculture opportunities
 - Biodiesel
 - Feedlots
 - Agriculture processing (cattle, grain, etc.)
 - Ethanol
 - Pasta
 - canola crushing
 - slaughter houses
 - flax processing
 - Capture niche markets
 - No more shipping raw - ship value-added.
- ☞ Tourism
 - Agro-tourism (Have cabins on a farm)
 - Organize Tourism - so much potential (needs promotion)
 - Fishing/Hunting Packages
 - Agriculture/nature based tourism

- ☞ Oil industry
 - Missed opportunities in oil field
 - Develop support industries for value added, manufacturing, oil, etc.
- ☞ Irrigation (Greenhouses, garden markets).
- ☞ Build a regional marketing plan - sell amenities as a group
- ☞ Manufacturing
- ☞ Utilize electricity from Dams
- ☞ Nuclear power plant (tourism opportunity as well as power)
- ☞ Biodiesel, ethanol, processing
- ☞ Increased immigration (best advertisement is word of mouth)
- ☞ Value-add, promote tourism, bring in support jobs for oil industry
- ☞ Target real-estate industry (safe, affordable place to live)