FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 20, 2014
PLACE: Four Points Sheraton

100, Rice Street Edmundston, NB

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Call to order

Chairman, Pierre Michaud, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m., he welcomed the members present.

Members attending	
Mr. Pierre Michaud, President	Mayor of Clair
Mr. Carmel St-Amand, Vice-President	Mayor of Saint-Léonard
Mr. Luc St-Jarre	Representing the LSD
Staff attending	
François Picard	General Manager

2. <u>Meeting with the Rural Community of Saint-André.</u>

The GM said that the meeting had gone well and that the council had signed an agreement with RSC#1 North West for planning and inspection services for the 2014 fiscal year.

3. Meeting with the Town of Grand Falls

The Chairman mentioned that the members of council appreciated the information they received on the planning services provided by the RSC. A discussion took place on local governance, the problems of regional collaboration and sharing the costs associated with the different services provided by the municipality. The RSC GM indicated that the municipality could really benefit from the services of urban planners in planning projects, and that this would decrease costs.

The municipality repeated that rates for this are high when based on the *Regional Services Delivery Act* compared to the former La Vallée Commission, but recognized that risk management for permits and inspections by the RSC is an asset for the municipality.

The municipality will make a decision after presentation of the 2015 budget and the costs associated with planning services on whether they will participate or not.

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4. Regional airport

The Chairman mentioned that he had had a long discussion with Mr. Luc Michaud concerning the two airports in the region to clarify certain concerns brought to his attention. He said that at the right time the RSC could provide support for the success of the project. At this time, it would be inappropriate to meddle in agreements between the City of Edmundston (owner) and the private sector. Also, Mr. Luc Michaud is at the stage of gathering information to draft a business plan.

The GM specified that the RSC could play a support role in the project in order to maintain regional air service, at the request of the City and/or of Aéroport du Madawaska Inc. if required.

5. Changes to legislation and/or regulations

The RSC managers' meeting was held in Fredericton on March 18 and 19. Managers were told that there would be no changes before the spring of 2015 on the abovementioned point.

6. Regional plans

No date was set for producing regional plans. The "Provisional framework for local governance and community planning" dealing with regional and local planning was discussed.

7. <u>Unsightly premises</u>

The request for a pilot project was received favorably by Fredericton. Discussions are under way. An answer is expected in early April.

8. Rent from the former Madawaska Planning Commission

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:15 p.m.

A discussion took place with Mr. Jean Leblond and Ms. Diane Leblond about current costs for rental and other services. Different options were discussed.

9. Adjournment

President

PIERRE MICHAUD	FRANCOIS PICARD

General Manager