



Membership Meeting Agenda PG 1 of 2

DATE: Friday September 1st, 2023

TIME: 10:00AM – 3:00 PM

In-Person: MD of Spirit River, Brownlee Bldg.

Need Help: 780-527-6232(PREDA Cell)

Video: <https://meet.goto.com/MaryJoanAylward> Tele: 1 (647) 497-9391 Access Code: 354-747-613

9:30 AM Coffee Networking / Admin Set-up

10:00AM Call to Order/ Welcomes – Nick vanRootselaar – MD Spirit River, PREDA Chair

Theme: Housing in the PREDA region. (Video Link – 5M)

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is warning that 5.8 million living units need to be built by 2030 to balance the housing market. (Globe&Mail, Aug 2023). The CMHC is calling it a housing crisis. For example; 2 million of these new living units will need to be rental units (as per current statistics). This is a tall order considering in the **last 30 years Canada only added ~500K rental units** to its housing inventory. This membership meeting asks – “Is this housing crisis occurring in the PREDA region?”

10:00AM PREDA Overview: Housing Characteristics / Housing Starts – By Municipality

10:15AM Government of Canada: Under the National Housing Strategy, the main fundings are:

a) Rental Construction Financing Initiative (RCFI), b) National Housing Co-Investment Fund (NHCI), c) Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI), d) Affordable Housing Innovation Fund (AHIF) and e) the Federal Lands Initiative (FDI). Melissa Soparlo (Specialist, Outreach & Project Development) of the CMHC will provide an overview of these funding streams. (Alternative Offered)

10:45AM Government of Alberta: The Housing Affordability Partnership- \$55M in funding will be distributed across three years, to build affordable housing for seniors, families, individuals with low incomes, developmental disabilities, physical challenges, victims of violence, and others. Robert Craig (Director, Capital Planning) will provide an overview of this funding stream. (Confirmed)

11:15AM Industry Panel: Local Businesses Building Local Homes

Breton Plumbing & Heating: Originating from Cape Breton Island, Josh Campbell started his two person company (him & his wife) in Gordondale, AB in 2020. Josh’s skills are in high demand across the PREDA area; so much so that he is currently recruiting an apprentice. (Confirmed)

Clear Cut Electrical is located in Spirit River, AB; Ed Nellis, recently retired from CCE, is a Master Electrician with 41 years experience. Ed will speak to the demands for residential electrician services and the process of certifying these services. (Confirmed)

Environment Builders has developed into a leading Design/Builder in the Grande Prairie area. EB provides architectural, structural, mechanical & electrical design, engineering, general contracting and project management. Clay Dwernychuk, Project Manager for EB, speaks to hiring the variety of skilled trades required to build a home. (Confirmed)

Jandel Homes has been one of Western Canada’s largest manufactured and modular home retailers for over 45 years. Mark Huchulak, CEO & Owner of JH, has decades of experience, is passionate about the modular construction industry, and ultimately hands the keys to new homeowners. (Confirmed)

Related Attachments are posted to the PREDA website Member Login

12:00PM Lunch Provided



Thank-you to the MD of Spirit River!

They are here! **7500 2lb sample bags of oats on behalf of the Prairie Oats Association!** The pallet loads are behind you in the kitchen area. You are encouraged to take these samples and distribute them to your residents at your local community events, rate payers meetings, etc .. Also, don't forget to grab your **PREDA product stickers**.

Municipal Project Fund – Daryl Greenhill (CAO) will provide an update to the membership on their economic development project *Event Attraction Strategy*. **(Confirmed)**

Trades in Residential Construction Where Have all the Carpenters Gone? (Video 10M)

1:00PM Home Builders Association: Since 1943, the (C)HBA has been "the voice of Canada's residential construction industry." Representing one of the largest industry sectors in Canada, with 8,500+ members. Scott Fash, Executive Director of the Alberta Chapter of this very extensive group of national peers will discuss the variety of skilled trades involved in building homes. **(Confirmed)**

1:15PM Canadian Apprentice Forum: CAF is a non-profit organization that connects Canada's apprenticeship community. Participants work collaboratively to support vibrant and innovative apprenticeship systems and policies with a view to developing a highly skilled, inclusive, and mobile skilled trades workforce. Stephanie Schrum (Program Manager) will provide an overview of the federal GOV funding stream, Canada Apprentice Service which provides recruitment grants to employers to hire new first-year apprentices in 39 Red Seal trades across Canada. **(Confirmed)**

1:30PM PREDA Region Postsecondary Skilled Trades Training Labour market shortages in the skilled trades is one the biggest obstacles to building homes. In the PREDA region we are fortunate to have two publicly funded post-secondary institutions that offer Alberta Apprentice approved training programs; and potential access to other programs currently not offered in the region.

Alberta Apprenticeship: Jasmine Light (Chair, Business Programs & Regional Stewardship) and Angela White (Dean of Trades) have prepared an overview of apprenticeship training in Alberta; and the current status of the skilled trade programs offered through Northern Lakes College in the PREDA region. Jasmine Light will present on behalf of Northern Lakes College. **(Confirmed)**

Dean of Skilled Trades, Chris Laue, will present an overview of the current status of trades offered through Northwestern Polytechnic in the PREDA region. **(Confirmed)**

2:00PM – 3:00PM Membership Round Table / Next Steps

Thank-you to our Speakers

