

DATE: Friday, September 5th, 2025

Location: Back Lakes Sports Complex, Red Earth Creek ([Click Map](#))

TIME: 10:00 AM – 3:00PM

Video Connect: <https://meet.goto.com/584833773>

Teleconference: 1(647) 497-9373 Code: 584833773#

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

9:30AM Doors Open - Coffee is ON! / Networking / Technical Set-up **AND** PRE-order LUNCH MENU (Thanks Burger Baron!)

10:00AM Call to Order / Welcomes Carolyn Kolebaba – Northern Sunrise County; PREDA Chair

Red Earth Creek

An industrious lively hamlet of 315 “hard working souls” within the MD of Opportunity. For decades the community has been highlighted within numerous transportation schematics advocating for the completion of the “east-west” connection of Fort McMurray to the Peace Region. In March 2025, the AB Department of Transportation and Economic Corridors announced that the completion of the “east-west” connector has reached priority status. **Brendan Powell** - Red Earth Creek resident; MD of Opportunity Councilor, and also the designated rep for PREDA / NTAB explains the impact the completion of the “east-west”connector will have on Red Earth Creek and the communities along the completed route leading into the Peace Region. Note: The east-west connector will be further discussed at NTAB meeting in the Town of Peace River (Saturday Sept. 6th). [Video \(3m\)](#) [Highway Map](#) **Confirmed**

Housing

10:30AM Wabasca Desmarais Housing Authority (WDHA): Originally within the MD of Opportunity #17 as the Department of Housing & Social Services; as of 2019 has evolved into the WDHA. Lisa Johnson, CEO will provide an overview of the evolution process, noting administrative and legislative challenges, and successes along the way. **Confirmed**

11:00AM Designated trades are professions that are regulated by the *Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act*. Alberta has 50 designated trades. Some are categorized as journeyman compulsory (e.g. Electrician), and some are not designated journeyman compulsory (Carpentry)? Paul Uchacz, a compliance inspector for Apprenticeship & Industry Training, will clarify the categories and potential opportunities to bring home building skills into our communities. **Confirmed**

11:30AM Shared Housing Development: Enticing a “from the ground up” home developer to commit to a handful of family homes is very difficult for most PREDA municipalities. Is there a way to pool resources to bring a major developer to the region if there is more than one municipality committed to utilizing their services to build homes?

Open Discussion Moderator: Sherri Crawford – Community Futures Peace Country

Confirmed

LUNCH

12:45PM Next Labour Market? Careers Next Generation works directly with highschools and recent graduates. Regional Manager, Dale Tiedemann will present an overview of services and potential skills / career opportunities to bring our local youth into our home building discussions. **Confirmed**

1:15PM Work-site Apprenticeship Certification? Residential construction companies have teams of various trade & skilled professions involved in building a home. Is there a way to have these companies certified to deliver Alberta apprenticeship training modules at the worksite in partnership with our local College resources - Northern Lakes College and Northwestern Polytech - to increase our regional capacity to build homes. **Confirmed**

1:45PM The Professional Home Builders Institute (PHBI) Established in Alberta in 1987, by builders for builders. The PHBI has kept pace with the home construction industry’s ever-changing needs by designing and delivering practical education. Keith Kristalovich- Vice President; presents an overview and ideas for creating local home construction teams. **In Progress**

2:15PM **Roundtable** The Alberta Government provides a housing needs assessment template to better understand local housing needs, support community planning and inform decision-making. Over the next few months PREDA will be contacting municipal members to submit through this portal to build a regional report to contribute to PREDA’s next steps action plan.

Thank you to our sponsor and presenters



PREDA Members: Related Documents are available for download in the PREDA Virtual Office