

**Wingham BIA Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016**  
**Knights of Columbus Lounge**

**Present:** See sign in sheet attached

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM

**2015 Minutes:** -Secretary, Dave Tiffin, read the minutes of the 2015 AGM.  
- Moved by Jim Snyder, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Wallace to accept the minutes as read. Passed.

**Chairperson's**

**Report:**

- Chairperson Lisa Hearnden requested that attendees introduce themselves and where they work.
- Lisa thanked past Chair, Bruce Stainton, for his work in getting the BIA initiated.
- A report of the past year's BIA activities was read.

**Treasurer's**

**Report:**

- Treasurer, Jason Schiestel, presented the 2015 financial statement. No questions from the floor.
- Moved by Bruce Stainton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Peers to accept the financial statement as read. Passed.
- Treasurer presented the draft budget for 2016. No questions from the floor. Moved by Mark Foxton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Stainton to accept the draft budget as presented.

**Community**

**Improvement:**

- Doug Kuyvenhoven gave a slideshow presentation on community improvement activities.

**Economic**

**Development:**

- Connie Goodall gave a report on Economic Development in North Huron.
- Several initiatives and community events were mentioned.
- A highlight is the shared services initiative between North Huron and Morris- Turnberry.
- See full report as addition to the minutes.

**North Huron**

**Council:**

- Councillor, Yolanda Ritesma-Teeninga, brought greetings from North Huron Council.

**2016 Goals:**

- Doug Kuyvenhoven reviewed the planned BIA goals for 2016.

**Christmas**

**Lights:**

- Dave Peers presented a proposal for Christmas Lights for Josephine St.
- Motion was presented to purchase 55 lights with the Traditional Snowflake design.
- Moved Bruce Stainton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Wallace to proceed with the purchase. Passed.

**Elections:**

- Dave Wallace is stepping down from the Executive. Chairperson Lisa Hearnden thanked Dave for his contribution since the Wingham BIA was started.
- Christine McGrath and Sandy Walker have agreed to come onto the Executive. There were no other nominations from the floor.
- Moved by Jim Snyder, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Peers to accept the nominations.

- BIA Awards:**
- Yolanda Ritesma-Teeninga and Dave Peers presented the BIA awards for 2015.
  - 3 new businesses were identified: Tatoo Parlour, Sherri's Barber Shop and the Sante Wellness
  - Tharon Riley was recipient of the volunteer of the year award.
  - Doug Kyuvenhoven and Jeff Drost were the recipients of the Civic Improvement award for the refurbishment of the Family Tree and Petropolis buildings.
  - Jen Schlauch was the recipient of the Business of the Year award.
  - Life time achievement presentation was given to Bruce Stainton of Stainton Home Hardware.
- Questions:**
- Discussion from the floor regarding the difficulty that property owners are having in selling or changing property due to "red tape".

**Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM**

<b>Present:</b>	
<b>Doug Kuyvenhoven (executive member)</b>	<b>Wingham Self Storage</b>
<b>Kathy Adams</b>	<b>Township of North Huron</b>
<b>Mark Foxton</b>	<b>Foxton Fuels</b>
<b>Lisa Hearnden (executive member)</b>	<b>Foxton Fuels</b>
<b>Jen &amp; Matt Schlauch</b>	<b>The Family Tree</b>
<b>Jim Snyder (executive member)</b>	<b>Snyder Concepts</b>
<b>Tharon Riley</b>	<b>EMS</b>
<b>Alistair Whytock</b>	<b>Wingham Self Storage</b>
<b>Sherry Giffen</b>	<b>Sherry's Barber Shop</b>
<b>Kathy VanEngen</b>	<b>The Workshop</b>
<b>Christine McGrath</b>	<b>Christines Clothes Closet</b>
<b>Jason Schiestel (executive member)</b>	<b>Petropolis</b>
<b>Bruce Stainton</b>	<b>Stainton's Home Hardware</b>
<b>Kevin &amp; Nancy Gillis</b>	<b>KG Electronics</b>
<b>Jeff Drost</b>	<b>237 &amp; 239 Josephine Street</b>
<b>Linda Bross</b>	<b>BDO Canada</b>
<b>Dave Peers (executive member)</b>	<b>Statefarm</b>
<b>Dave Tiffin (executive member)</b>	<b>Freedom 55 Financial</b>
<b>John Cullen</b>	<b>115 Josephine</b>
<b>Sandy Walker</b>	<b>The Gift Chest</b>
<b>Connie Goodall</b>	<b>Township of North Huron</b>

Wingham Business Improvement Area  
Annual General Meeting  
February 23, 2016  
Economic Development Report

#### Shared Services

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North Huron and Morris Turnberry have been exploring way to share services in order to reduce costs. Earlier this month, the two municipalities announced that they would enter into a two year pilot project to partner on the delivery of Public Works Services, Building Services, Drainage Services and Administration Services. By working together, this partnership will achieve savings and efficiencies that are not possible by working individually. The merger of services is planned to be in place and operational by July 1, 2016.

The Cost Analysis Report estimates a potential savings in excess of \$600,000 by the end of 2018 by sharing equipment, staff and other resources to provide an innovative approach for the provision of services. Teamwork by the Municipalities will assist in making the area attractive for economic growth.

#### Economic Development Strategic Plan (goals)

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The Economic Development DRAFT Strategic Plan is near completion. Sharon Chambers and I met with representatives from OMAFRA last week to incorporate their recommendations and to share our priorities to date. To date we have identified 26 actions that fall under the following goals;

- Business Attraction and Retention,
- Attracting and Fostering a More Highly Skilled Workforce,
- A Valued, Engaged and Connected Workforce,
- An Environment that Attracts and Retains Diverse Demographics,
- A Community that Values Arts, Heritage and Culture.

A final review of the plan will be done by the Strategic Planning Committee in the next week, prior to going to Council in March.

#### Alice Munro Festival

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The Alice Munro Festival will take place in venues throughout North Huron and the County from June 2, to June 5, 2016. The writing competition is open now for both the youth and adult divisions. Information on the competition is available at [www.alicemunrofestival.ca](http://www.alicemunrofestival.ca). Information on this year's attending authors and schedule of events will be released shortly. The planning committee anticipates that the Festival will continue to grow this year as it becomes a premier cultural event for Huron County.

#### East Wawanosh 150<sup>th</sup>

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The planning committee of the East Wawanosh Pow Wow 2017 is meeting regularly to get ready for the festivities from June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 3, 2017. The schedule of events currently includes; a beard growing contest, parade, dances, golf tournament, photo contest and school reunion (plus a whole lot more!) The History Committee is currently looking for historical pictures of the area and school information. If you have any, please contact committee members, Melanie Pletch or Linda Logan or the North Huron Museum (Judy Lyons). More information on this event can be found at [www.2017powwow.com](http://www.2017powwow.com).

#### Huron County Economic Development Board Breakfast

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Just a review, as I know you have received this info:

The Huron County Economic Development Board is hosting a breakfast on March 7th, 2016 9:30AM-11:00AM at the Libro Community Hall in Clinton. The Breakfast will include an update on the Board's

progress and future initiatives since being formed in January 2015. It will also feature guest speaker Laurie Guthrie, Economic Development Specialist who will discuss *"Building a Successful Business Ambassador Program"* Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased via [huroncounty.ca](http://huroncounty.ca) or at the County Courthouse (519-524-8394 ex. 3242 for details).

#### Musical Muskrat Festival

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The 2016 event is currently booked for June 10 – 12. The committee is currently looking for members. Vacant positions currently include: chair, treasurer and bar captain. If you are interested (or know of anyone else who might be), please plan to attend a meeting on Monday, February 29, 2016 7pm at the North Huron Museum.

#### Rural Talks to Rural Conference (Blyth) September 2016

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From September 28 – 30, 2016, the Canadian Centre for Rural Creativity in partnership with the County of Huron, will be holding the Rural Talks to Rural Conference in Blyth and other sites in Huron County. Creative thinkers and community builders including; rural leaders, artists, elected representatives, food producers and distributors, policy researchers and scholars, entrepreneurs and small business owners will be attending for three days of dialogue, workshops, and exploration. For more information see the Blyth 14/19 website.

Submitted by:  
Connie Goodall  
Economic Development Office  
Township of North Huron