

Best Practice

Calling Lakes Planning District Commission

CONTACT

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Project Date: 2008 (Ongoing)

THE PRACTICE

In 2008, due to a significant increase in the number of subdivision applications and in response to input from public meetings, the RM of North Qu'Appelle No. 187 invited adjacent municipalities and First Nations to a meeting to discuss establishing a group to develop a draft set of guidelines/rules for valley development.

THE PROCESS

The Calling Lakes Planning District Commission was formed when six municipalities (and an associate member) signed an agreement to form the Commission and the Minister's Order formally establishing the commission. The group aims to meet once a month to share issues and concerns. The commission participated with others in applying for the Saskatchewan Economic Development Association Community Economic Development Apprentice Program grant which resulted in the hiring of an Economic Development Officer for the area.

THE RESULTS

The group's objective is the development of a district plan and to act as an advisory body to individual councils on planning issues. A "Community Pie" tool has been created to look at different regional development pieces. The information from this tool will be helpful when writing a regional plan. A community planner has been hired under the Planning for Growth Program to draft and assist with the completion of the regional plan.

LESSONS LEARNED

When municipalities work together, development can be carried out in a coordinated manner and in a way that protects the natural beauty and function of the valley.