

Ward 8 CAN
General Membership Meeting Notes
November 19 , 2014
Twin Forks Playground



1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Introductions

Rachelle Niemela, Chair of the CAN, introduced the other Executive members in attendance:

Ron Spina, Vice Chair
Gates Legault, Treasurer
Jessica Gu  nard-Valiquette, Communications Officer
Al Sizer, Ward 8 Councillor

Also in attendance is Constable Andrew Zloty with the Greater Sudbury Police Service.

3. Welcome to Rachel Gillespie, Project Manager, Strategic Planning, Cambrian College

Rachel Gillespie presented Cambrian College's new strategic planning process which began on Monday, November 17 and was initiated by the College's new president, Bill Best.

There are 4 steps to the process:

- In the first phase, they are asking community members where Cambrian should go with education. In this step, they are looking to gather wide community feedback and want to get feedback with as many members of the public as possible.
- Traditional-style focus groups will be held in January/February of 2015 and more information will be posted on their website as plans are confirmed.
- Work will continue after the focus groups and in June, Cambrian will know what direction they will be taking.
- In September 2015, they will launch the plan to the public.

The plan will be embedded within the business practices and will drive decision-making at the College.

They have already received feedback from the public, including local school children. Feedback will be narrowed down to specific directions with an emphasis on three areas: differentiation, collaboration, sustainability.

Ms. Gillespie then asked residents to complete a quick question on a card that was handed out: "What is the most important thing for the future of post-secondary education?" For more information, go to the website <http://futurecambrian.ca> or send an email to strategicplanning@cambriancollege.ca.

4. Greater Sudbury Police Service Update

Constable Andrew Zloty presented crime statistics for the area of Sudbury/Minnow Lake from October 6 to November 9. There were 230 incidents in New Sudbury. There are 2 major factors in this ward: break and enters (homes, garages, sheds), and thefts from vehicles, which accounts for the largest number of incidents. There are also many thefts in local department stores (mall).

The message from Constable Zloty is to keep your homes and cars locked, as well as garages and sheds.

The break-ins are mainly done by younger citizens - 15 to mid-twenties. The majority of car break-ins occur between 10-2. Gary St. has been a target, as well as Lauzon.

Citizen concerns: a resident identified a concern with speeding on Falconbridge Road, especially now that the new school is being constructed. The CAN asked Al Sizer to look into options for Falconbridge Road.

Rachelle Niemela informed residents that the City's Transportation Study is out in either December 2014 or January 2015. There will be opportunities for residents to provide feedback on what you want your roads and streets to look like. Residents are encouraged to attend the planned Public Information Centre or send comments to the City.

Constable Zloty reminded residents that if they see anything suspicious, please call it in.

5. Update on Current Issues: Bears in the Ward

The Executive Committee discussed this issue at their November 5th meeting. Work on this has been delayed because of the election. However, this is definitely an issue that needs to be addressed.

The issue was not discussed at the CAN Summit as there was no time on the agenda to do so, but a number of discussions have been held with other CAN Chairs. Other CANs do not seem to have the issues that we have in our ward, and have higher priorities. Rachelle Niemela will nevertheless send an email to all CAN Chairs to ask if anyone wants to work on this with the Ward 8 CAN.

Next steps involve organizing a petition as well as letters to the City, to the Ministry of Natural Resources and to our local MPP Joe Cimino. Al Sizer has already had a brief conversation with Mr. Cimino about our concerns. A petition will allow Al Sizer to bring this issue to Council without having to ask for time on the agenda.

Additional steps will be investigated, including changing the by-law for placing garbage at the curb, real-time alerts for bear sightings, education for citizens on how to deal with bears, and changes in how restaurants and other food establishments deal with their garbage bins.

6. CAN Projects

Community garden:

Rachelle Niemela provided an update on our community garden project. The project is being directed by Nancy Deni, who was unable to attend the meeting.

We now have three 4 foot round culverts (donated by Rainbow Concrete) and two 4x8 raised beds at Twin Forks (constructed with wood provided at a reduced cost by Home Depot). On Saturday, November 15, volunteers filled the beds with logs, then with triple mix soil, meeker's mix (fish fertilizer donated by Vale), and vermiculite. The hope is to construct additional beds in the spring.

Our Best Start Hub has also agreed to partner in this project, and their children will assist with planting seeds and plants.

There are 20 community gardens in Greater Sudbury, 7 of which are run by CANs. Our community garden subcommittee is participating in a Community Garden Network, which is led by Colleen Zito, Chair of the Ward 1 CAN. The intent is to collaborate on techniques, experience, skills, and support. The City of Greater Sudbury will be assisting the network, as Barb McDougall has been tasked with assisting community garden development and communications.

It has not been decided how our gardens will be run. There are many models, including benevolent beds and beds for purchase. A few residents expressed an interest in helping with benevolent beds (where food is grown for community organizations like the Soup Kitchen).

Other projects for 2015

Rachelle Niemela presented some options for other projects for 2015 and asked residents to let us know if there are any projects that they would like to see the CAN doing. Projects that have already been identified include New Sudbury Days, our yearly ward cleanup in the spring, and the continuing collaborative development of Twin Forks with the Twin Forks

Neighbourhood Association. Some suggestions included enhancing the trail system in the ward and other social projects like Christmas baskets. A suggestion was made to organize a group to walk the trails, as the resident is nervous of walking alone.

Rachelle Niemela provided an update on the Twin Forks playground project, in the absence of Mike Morelli, President of the Neighbourhood Association, who could not attend the meeting.

The building has been renovated with completely new bathrooms and a new kitchen (which still needs minor work). It has been repainted, bulkheads have been removed, and additional lighting has been installed around the building and in the parking lot. Some new playground equipment has also been installed, and the remaining new equipment will be installed in the spring.

The Neighbourhood Association has already rented out the building to a number of community groups and residents for events like family reunions, baby showers, and birthday parties. The building is booked for the weekends for the remainder of the year.

The Neighbourhood Association is planning additional upgrades and enhancements next year.

7. CAN Participation in the Santa Claus Parade November 22, 2014

Rachelle Niemela informed residents that our CAN is participating in the Santa Claus parade this year. This is a collaborative project with other CANS, and is led by the DEW (Donovan and Elm West) CAN. The float and truck have been donated. The junior Blue Saints will be playing music, and the float will be decorated with Christmas trees and lights.

We are still looking for lights and people to either be on the float or walk alongside it. Anyone interested can let us know at info@ward8sudbury.ca.

8. Feedback on CAN Summit Held November 13, 2014

Rachelle Niemela and other CAN members provided an update on the CAN Summit. Rachelle Niemela, Gates Legault, and Jessica Valiquette attended.

Highlights:

- People attending had the opportunity to do a tour of the new transit garage.
- Michelle Falone, from the Ministry of Consumer and Protection Services, presented information on fraud protection. The CAN took some flyers that were provided on a number of informational topics, including building construction, condo buying, protecting your identify, movers, wireless services, home, phone and online shopping, gift cards, and vehicle repairs. The information was made available for attendees to take.

- Keeping Seniors Ward Project: Monique Mercier, Chair of the DEW CAN, presented a project that was done in collaboration with a number of other CANs, that assisted 14 needy seniors by provide warm clothing for them. A bus was provided by the City of Greater Sudbury to take the seniors to Giant Tiger to shop for warm clothing and other necessities. This is a project that the CAN may want to participate in if it is repeated.
- The CANs presented a quick update on accomplishments and issues for 2014. A number if interesting projects and ideas were presented and the CAN will be reviewing them to see if they can be used by our CAN.
- A group discussion and networking exercise was done on the topic of community engagement and collaboration between the CANs. A number of recommendations were provided to the City of Greater Sudbury.

9. Executive Committee Update

Rachelle Niemela informed residents that the CAN has been looking for additional executive members to replace some of our members who wish to step down, as well as additional members who can move projects and issues forward, including communications, fundraising, and developing relationships with businesses and other community organizations in ward 8.

Open positions include Vice-Chair and Secretary. A suggestion was made to recruit a student, perhaps at Lasalle Secondary, who could attend meetings and take notes as part of community hours.

Stefano Presenza has expressed an interest in being Vice-Chair, and the CAN accepted his offer. Steve Mantler also expressed an interest in joining as a Member and the CAN also accepted his offer.

10. Question and Answer Period

Residents provided Al Sizer with some of their concerns, including bears, speeding, issues with snowmobiles and ATVs, and plowing issues.

It was suggested that we invite a bylaw officer to speak to the CAN about enforcement of by-laws and to answer questions about specific by-laws of importance to the CAN, including parking.

Rachelle Niemela informed the CAN that the Greater Sudbury Police Service has asked to possibly talk to the CAN in January about their strategic planning process, if the timing fits in with their timelines. It was agreed to proceed, and to invite a by-law officer to present at our February 2015 meeting.

She also informed residents that the Ward 12 CAN's guest for their next meeting on November 26 is Sudbury Hydro, who will inform residents on the information provided on their monthly bills. The meeting is at 6:30 at Carl Nesbitt School.

11. Next Meeting

7 p.m., January 21, 2015 at Twin Forks.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.