

Southwest Saskatchewan Opens Talks with US Neighbors

The Action Southwest partnership is now looking beyond our nation's borders to seek new alliances. Action Southwest has teamed up with a number of regional and provincial partners to meet with delegates from the state of Montana this month.

Talks will be focused on the possibility of opening a 24 hour commercial port along the region's border. Such an initiative will expand trade between the US, region and province and offer many new opportunities to the region's industries.

"The new provincial government and also Action Southwest are seeking avenues that will foster growth of business and community, and a 24 hour commercial port will do just that, said Sharon Dickie partner of Action Southwest and Mayor for the Town of Shaunavon. "I am very pleased to be a part of such an important initiative that has the potential to change the future for our businesses.

The Port of Wild Horse along the Alberta border is another port seeking the same status. Alberta has been very active in promoting the offerings of the province and creating much interest in Montana and Texas.

"Opening a commercial port in the southwest will present a number of opportunities for industries such as tourism, agriculture, energy and manufacturing said Sandra Blyth Regional Project Manager for Action Southwest. "I see this meeting as so much more than opening a port. When you look at our global competitors in the European Union and Asia, it is pretty clear we in north America are going to have to align our assets to remain competitive. The future is going to mean looking beyond our borders and seeking open relations with our neighboring states, provinces and regions to seek opportunities to work together".

Key stakeholders will be represented from the Government of Canada, Tourism Saskatchewan, Southwest Tourism Association, Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership, Saskatchewan Agrivision, Southwest Area Transportation Planning Committee, City of Swift Current and the Town of Shaunavon.

If you want to learn more about the project call Action Southwest at 778-6445 or visit www.actionsouthwest.com

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