

Press Release



West Coast Mayors Meet

Charles Pender, Mayor of the City of Corner Brook hosted the Mayors of the three largest towns on the West Coast at an informal luncheon recently, in what is believed to be the first ever meeting of this type between west coast mayors. Mayor Brian Button of Port aux Basques, Mayor Darryl Kelly of Deer Lake and Mayor Tom O'Brien of Stephenville came to Corner Brook at the invitation of Mayor Pender to discuss items of common concern facing the four largest communities on the west coast.

The four Mayors discussed a broad range of issues from dealing with crown lands, regional services and transportation to economic development opportunities, taxation and municipal operations.

“It was certainly a very productive and positive meeting”, said Mayor Pender. “It was an opportunity to discuss how each community does business and how we, as a group, can develop a West Coast agenda with the support of each of the four communities working together on common goals.”

Already the Mayors have agreed to bring back several issues to their respective councils to seek the formal support of each council. It is anticipated that each council will then forward an official letter of support on behalf of each initiative to the interested parties.

The four Mayors will continue to meet regularly on a quarterly basis rotating between Port aux Basques, Deer Lake Stephenville and Corner Brook.

Brian Button, Mayor of Port aux Basques said “Saturday’s session was a good avenue to talk about concerns that are similar to us as a region. I would have to agree with Mayor Pender that this is a good way to develop a West Coast agenda. I would like to thank Mayor Pender for organizing this luncheon meeting and I look forward to the continuation of more productive meetings in the future.”

Darryl Kelly, Mayor of Deer Lake was also very impressed with the meeting and he feels this type of collaboration is a very positive development for the four larger West Coast communities. He acknowledged the Mayor of Corner Brook’s foresight in recognizing the value of a more cooperative approach to dealing with the common concerns facing our communities.

Tom O’Brien, Mayor of Stephenville agreed that it was a very productive meeting. “It was an opportunity for us to discuss common issues that we as municipal leaders deal with on a daily basis from services, policies and operations to community and economic growth. I believe the meeting demonstrates a positive can-do attitude which will be beneficial to all our communities.” I would like to thank Mayor Pender for taking the initiative and I am looking forward to working with all the Mayors.