

the Chamber

GREATER SASKATOON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Committee: Business of Science and Technology

Meeting Date: June 11th

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Location: Fuddruckers

Meeting Chair: Raj Nayak

In Attendance: Allan Wolinski, Raj Nayak, Sandra Ribeiro, Bill Lewis, Lisa Jategaonkar

Staff: Kent Smith-Windsor, Kevin Meldrum, Czarina Catambing

SR&ED Credits

- Issue: Tax credits given are non-refundable credits, but startups gets cash burned out
- Canadian Chamber platform talks about angel tax credits
 - First time identified as an issue
- If it's a joint collaboration, it would be great
- Similar to credits used in mining
 - There are common features with tech companies and mining companies
 - can be developed a decade long and the same can be for tech companies
 - everything a mine does until it starts producing does not produce income so tax credit will be given in the meantime
- Issue should be narrowcasted
- Possibilities: (1) flow through shares are for favorable (2) Lobbying
 - Lobbying
 - Right now is great time to get proposal for provincial government
 - BUT: what would be tangible benefits that these credits are actually working
 - How do we get those companies some voice to lobby
 - Sandra will call Marie of SCN and Raj will contact Clayton Sparks to get statistics
 - Greg Sutton agreed to be on board
- Saskatchewan can gain expertise in long term financing if we learn how to use these credits

TELL YOUR STORY

- Future possibilities: collaborate with Tourism Saskatoon
 - samples first before presenting to other organizations
- can be used for lobbying for SR&ED
- Czarina will contact Greg and Allan to make first two samples
- Update: Raj, Sandra, and Kelly will make introductions for Czarina

ICT Sub-committee (Information, Computing, and Telecommunications)

- Raj tapped Computer Science but Erik hasn't got back.
- Current projects: Industry-university collaboration (c/o Lisa)
- Needs to look at issues in ICT industry, still about the labour shortage
- Future possibilities: branch out to Ag-Bio and Health

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Clean Energy Event (c/o Lisa)

- Will be postponed because of the STEMfest event (January and February)
- There is need to monetize to make it sustainable
 - Need to make money and still benefit people

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Junior Achievement Gala
2. Scrum Master Certification
 - a. Can be used in other industries, and is being used in NGO organization working in Africa
 - b. A lean way of project management, especially in manufacturing
 - c. Cost-effective and measurable
 - d. Kent: Agile system can be used in November event on productivity (Government)
3. Reception for CLS for 10th anniversary on June 27th to be sent out by Sandra

To-do:

1. Czarina will get started with the Tell your Story Campaign