

TOWN OF WHITECOURT Population: 9,202 (2008 statistic)

WHAT ATTRACTS INDUSTRY TO WHITECOURT?

- Availability and proximity to water
- Availability of land
- Accessibility to a major power grid
- Modern community infrastructure
- Capacity to accommodate immediate growth
- Open-minded, progressive community
- Proximity to a metropolitan area - 1 1/2 hours from Edmonton on a 4-lane highway
- Strong working relationship with neighbouring municipalities
- Small town feel with big city amenities that are well-suited to young families

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE 1:

- Gathered and compiled information to distribute and disseminate to our residents.
- A Public Information Meeting was held which:
 - provided an outline of federal and provincial regulations for project approval, and
 - introduced Energy Alberta to the community.
- Town Council and Administration were invited to tour the Point Lepreau Nuclear Plant in New Brunswick.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE 2:

- Developed a sub-committee consisting of members of Town Council, Town Administration and Energy Alberta representatives to plan consultation activities and develop educational material.
- Public relations activities - Energy Alberta:
 - participated in live radio call-in session on local stations, and
 - visited local schools to educate youth on nuclear energy and the proposed project.
- The Town of Whitecourt made an open invitation to residents to:
 - submit names of experts who should be invited as guest speakers, and
 - submit their personal comments on Energy Alberta's proposal.



PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE 3:

- Public Information Sessions - guest speakers included:
 - Dr. Patrick Moore - founder of Greenspirit Strategies Ltd.
 - Dr. Gordon Edwards - co-founder of Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility
 - Mr. Paul Gunter - activist and energy policy analyst with Beyond Nuclear
 - Dr. Duane Pendergast - Chair of the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Nuclear Society
- Speakers were selected from suggestions submitted by residents, and included question periods.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PHASE 4:

- Opinion Poll completed in August 2008:
 - "Do you support the development of a nuclear power generation project within the Whitecourt/Woodlands region?"
 - 61.1% were in support
 - 38.9% were in opposition

**Feel free to contact Mayor Trevor Thain with
your questions or comments at:
780-778-0909 or trevorthain@whitecourt.ca**

www.whitecourt.ca

