

*Presentation to the
Federation of Canadian Municipalities*

Sunbelt Development Group

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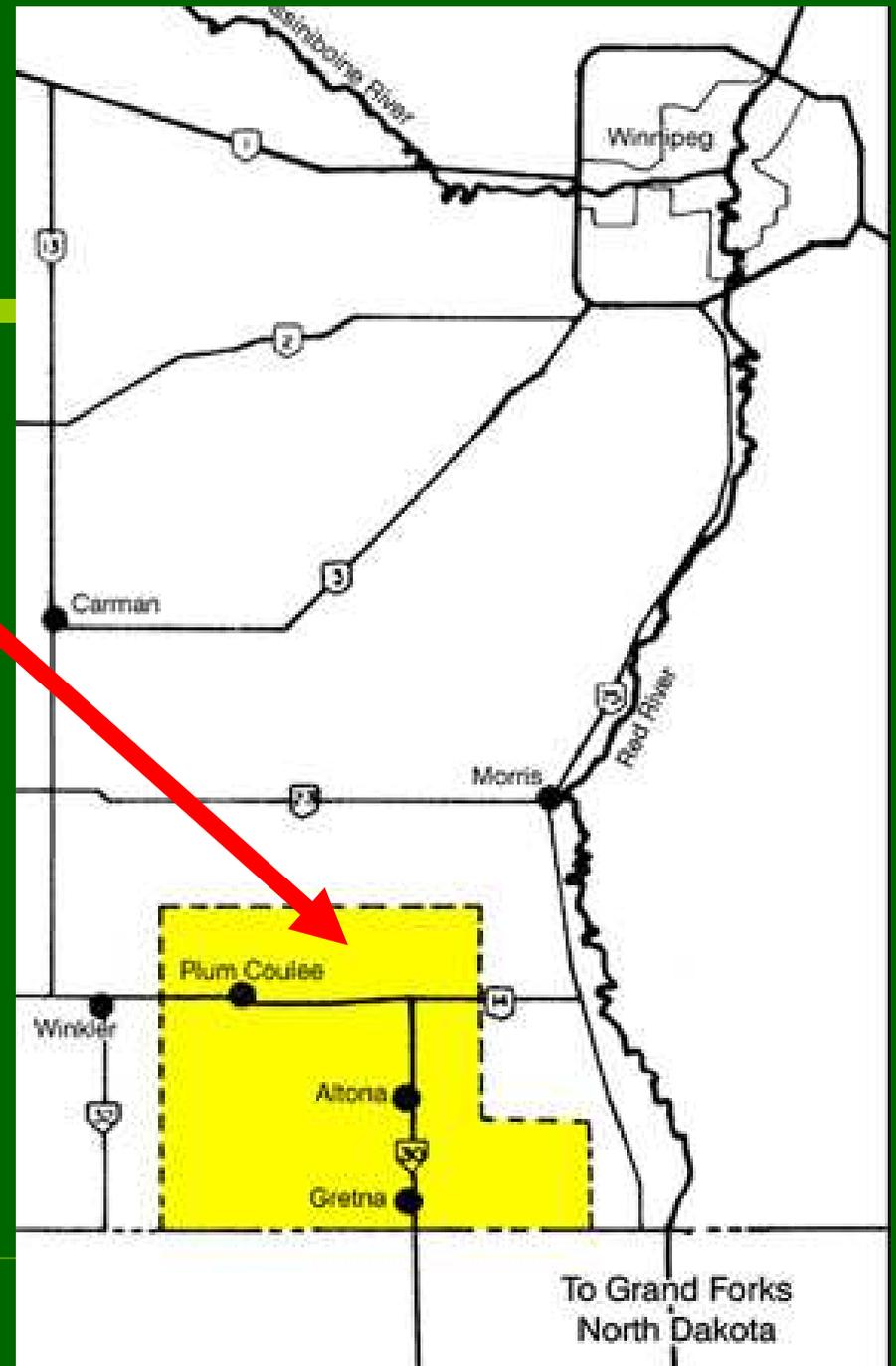
Sunbelt Region

- ❑ There is strong regional support for development; growth is a key concept.
 - ❑ Sunbelt connects directly to the Continental Trade Corridor, from Manitoba through the United States and into Mexico.
 - ❑ Sunbelt rests on the border US/Canada border; and has 1.3 million people within 100km radius.
 - ❑ Can offer strong incentive programs for economic development.
 - ❑ Is home to a number of companies that support agriculture and technology.
 - ❑ Is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada.
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Sunbelt Region



Sunbelt Region



Sunbelt Region

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 - It is an area rich in agriculture and a centre of much industry and progress.
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Productive and prosperous agricultural region

- ❑ This region encompasses some of the finest farmland in North America.
 - ❑ Agriculture is the cornerstone of Sunbelt's economy.
 - ❑ The fertile soil combined with unusually high temperatures and a long growing season makes this region the perfect place to grow many conventional and specialty crops, such as soy and edible beans, lentils and legumes.
 - ❑ Some of the highest assessed land values in the province.
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Regional Economic Development Efforts

SUNBELT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



- *Partnership of four communities*
 - ***R.M. of Rhineland, Altona, Gretna & Plum Coulee***
 - ***encourages industries to develop or locate in the SunBelt region for the benefit of all.***

 - *Mission Statement*
 - ***We are committed to transforming our vast agricultural resources into new products that will furnish economic growth in the Sunbelt for years to come.***
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Why a *SunBelt Development Group*?

- *Co-operatively, as 4 municipalities with our collective resources, assessment base and population base, we can be more competitive as we pursue larger opportunities or industries which as smaller municipalities we couldn't envisage pursuing.*
 - *Because of municipal tax sharing agreements we are not in competition with each other in pursuing new industries.*
 - *Because technology shows that we are competing against major players elsewhere in the world.*
 - *Competition is not just local.*
 - *Opportunities don't come looking for you.*
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Funding

- *Municipalities*
- *PEMD-I – CISP – ICCI*
 - *provided a framework*
 - *A focus – agricultural area*
 - *A logo – SunBelt*
 - *A marketing plan and web-page*



Sunbelt Webpage

www.sunbeltdevelopment.ca

More Than Funding

□ **ICCI** *(formerly CISP)*

- *gave us sound advice and guidance*
 - *got us in touch with trade commissioners and Canadian Embassies abroad*
 - *worked with us, ensuring we had the opportunity to be successful*
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SunBelt Successes

- ❑ *West Can Agra*
 - ❑ *SunBelt Prairie Products*
 - ❑ *With SunBelt Biofuels being the present project*
 - ❑ *With many more opportunities under discussion*
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SunBelt Prairie Products Ltd.

A Recent SunBelt accomplishment

- ❑ *Plant will clean, size and bag 20,000 tonnes of pulse crops including beans, lentils and chickpeas.*
 - ❑ *Will ship to Europe, eastern seaboard of United States and Canada.*
 - ❑ *Future plans are to produce a line of rice and ready-to-eat foods.*
 - ❑ *Phase 1 is to provide jobs for 20 – 25 people.*
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SunBelt Prairie Products

(opening summer 2009)



What's in the future for SunBelt...



Conclusion

- ❑ What role did local government and ICCI play in moving the project forward?
 - ❑ What were the key drivers that moved the project to completion?
 - ❑ What impacts/outcomes has the project had on our community?
 - ❑ What did we learn along the way that we would recommend that you consider?
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