

**PIONEER THRESHERMANS ASSOCIATION OF TRIANGLE
BUSINESS PLAN
2017 – 2018**

HISTORY:

Providing an insight into the past, present and future, Pioneer Threshermans is located 15 km east of High Prairie in the Triangle District within the Big Lakes County. Pioneer Threshermans assets sits on 80 acres nestled among cleared and wooded land.

On March 16, 1962 the first vision of this organization began at the home of Mr. & Mrs. George Gould. A group of local people gathered over coffee and discuss ways to preserve historical equipment, and share experiences and stories of the past. The goal was to build a pioneer machinery museum. Also to eventually expand the area to include camping grounds, trails and recreational events. They chose to name the organization: "The Smoky Pioneer Threshermans Association".

On September 24, 1962 a Certificate of Incorporation was granted and the name was changed to "Pioneer Threshermans Association at Triangle". A community hall was built and the first dance was held on October 4, 1963. On August 9, 1965 the first field day was held. This event was later held on Canada Day (July 1st). The first New Year's Dance was held in 1967.

Pioneer Threshermans Association is a "non-profit" association and all financial income is committed to improve our facility and services on behalf of the community.

Throughout the years there were many additions such as: pioneer log house. museum, flour mill, blacksmith shop, church, Quonset to house machinery, campgrounds, petting zoo, horseshoe pits, and ball diamonds. It has grown into an organization that hosts several events for the enjoyment of the community.

Pioneer Threshermans also supports functions held within the town of High Prairie such as hosting birthday parties at the Pleasantview Lodge on rotation basis with other organizations.

VALUES:

Excellence: maintain a positive outlook and be passionate about our community and association.

Integrity: maintain honest, fair and ethical behavior.

Accountability: Devote the time to educate others in the importance and preservation of our historical culture, equipment and artifacts.

Respect: Listen to ideas of others and respectfully deal with differences of opinion.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Work together to enhance and strengthen our community for the enjoyment of our children, youth, seniors and families.

VISION STATEMENT:

To be a historical association that preserves the history of our pioneers and future needs of our community members in bridging the past with the future.

GOALS:

1. We provide a historical site that preserves our historical culture for future generations.
2. We provide a facility that is welcoming where all people can enjoy opportunities to celebrate and have fun.

STRATEGIES:

1. Continue to maintain existing historical equipment, buildings and continue to accept new donations of historical nature.
2. Complete construction of the new hall by finishing the veranda attached to the building.
3. Restore the old hall into a museum to show equipment that is in storage.
4. Completion of new website that was launched in December 2015. This new website gives in-depth insight into Pioneer Threshermans Association and readily information to the general public.
5. Expand Derby track so other events can be exhibited and continued improvement of the general grounds.

ACTIVITES:

Catalogue a list of all existing and future donated historical equipment and artifacts.

Ensure the Museum and grounds is open to the public throughout the summer months which will increase our revenue. This may include hiring a summer student or community member to run the museum, cut the grass, and other minor duties.

Adhere to the specifications and license of maintaining our steam engine.

Actively recruit members of the community to train in the repair and maintenance of historical equipment.

Apply for grants to help with costs of maintaining equipment.

Promote partnerships with youth groups for services-in-kind.

Promote monthly events held in the hall based on the community needs and interest such as: dances, cribbage tournaments, talent show, monthly jamborees, etc.

Rent hall and grounds for private functions such as wedding, reunions, businesses and organized sports.

Continue to sponsor community celebrations such as: Family Day and Christmas.

Continue to hold our three major events: Derby Demolition, Canada Day (July 1st). and Hoe-Down Jamboree. These events entail numerous hours from volunteers for the events to be successful and profitable.

Increase activities for children each year so families are more attracted to our major events (face painting, mini derby, kids' tractor pull, jumping castle, petting zoo, etc.).

Purchase new playground equipment and maintain the present playground equipment is safe.

Sponsor benefit functions for community members that are a victim of fire or other life changing events.

Upgrade campground stalls and cook house.

Actively promote our Association through website, media and newspaper.

Actively increase membership.

Generate funds through fundraising ideas.

Apply to work at the Casino in Grande Prairie every three years.

Compete new projects as funds become available. Examples: restore church where needed; pave new parking lot; construct more steel benches for spectators; construct more fencing; construct new announcer booth; construct new roof over outdoor dance floor; maintain outdoor stage.

ADVANTAGES:

Membership has remained the same or a small increase in the year 2016.

Business and Industry have been very supportive and it is expected this will continue.

It is expected the community support will remain status quo even with the downturn of economic growth in oil and gas throughout the surrounding area.

Alberta Government has invested in making Alberta communities welcoming and be one of the finest places to live, work and raise a family. This increases the possibility of grants available to organizations that promote shared values and goals.

Community Support has been excellent and increased interested in renting the new facility.

DISADVANTAGES:

Government cut backs may decrease the availability of grant funding.

Pioneer Threshermans debt load increased due to having to take out a loan to complete the hall. This was necessary so costs would not escalate even higher from the original projected cost, and protect the partial built hall from deteriorating over the winter months.

Delays in economic growth within the Town of High Prairie may lessen the amount of sponsorship from businesses and industry.

Completion of work is dependent on volunteerism and challenges to better co-ordinate our resources

Downturn of oil and gas which impacts economic growth is not expected to improve over the next year.

Lack of interest from future generations may result in lack of knowledge of our historical equipment.

BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR 2017:

Ensure funds are available to pay for committed expenses such as mortgage payments and utility expenses.

Increase usage of hall for community events.

Pay a lump sum toward mortgage loan so debt load decreases. Percentage to be determined by executive.

Restore old hall to be a part of the museum display from grant money if available and funds from profit of events. Percentage of funds from events to be determined by executive.