

Dear Town of Onoway,

I'm contacting you on behalf of the Sangudo Opportunity Development Cooperative (SODC). Our co-op is aimed at achieving sustainability and flourishing in the community by accessing local investment and supporting the development of businesses and undertakings in the community.

The SODC was established in 2010 by people who were dedicated to ensuring the viability of rural communities. Our first project was to support the business succession of our abattoir/butcher shop in Sangudo, becoming Sangudo Custom Meats. Other supported projects include the establishment of a new restaurant (Connections Coffee House, now under new proprietorship as the Jaded Chef), and the building of a residential home in Sangudo. We are proud to be the first cooperative of its kind in Canada and, thanks to partnership with the Alberta Community and Co-operative Association, are the model upon which other opportunity development co-ops (ODCs) in Alberta are based!

The ODC model is a powerful tool for enhancing and strengthening community, and we want to share our story and expand on its potential. Our aim is to attract new investors and projects to facilitate local economic development with cooperative principles in mind, as well as to build strong relationships with other interested parties in the region.

We are organizing a complimentary brunch at the Jaded Chef restaurant in Sangudo on Saturday, March 18 from 10 AM to 12 PM to initiate casual, inspiring conversations and open the door to new investment projects in 2023. The Town of Onoway and the SODC have aligned goals and values in creating vibrant community and encouraging economic development, and **we would like to invite experienced members of your board and/or staff to join us**, along with other community-minded people and organizations, to engage in dialogue about how local investing can create opportunities for local endeavours and entrepreneurs. Our goal is to have 40 to 50 attendees to keep discussion concise and effective.

Space is limited, and we request that you please RSVP by Friday, March 3 to ensure we can make the event as effective as possible! Please send your RSVP(s) to sangudoodc@gmail.com.

Kind regards,

Jamie Ohler