

Report

City of Merritt
REGULAR Council Meeting
October 13, 2020

File Number: 2280

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sean Smith, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: October 9, 2020

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding – Carpere Canada Industrial Park Corp.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council authorize Mayor Brown to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Merritt and Carpere Canada Industrial Park Corp.

Background:

In July 2020, Carpere Canada reached out to the City of Merritt for a preliminary meeting to discuss potential industrial park opportunities in the City. Representatives from Carpere met with City staff and the Mayor in July. In August, a delegation of Council attended Carpere headquarters in Richmond to learn more about the company, its projects in other areas of Canada, and the company's interest in potentially developing an industrial park in the Merritt area.

Carpere is part of the Morrison Group of companies and describes itself as a development and investment company, whose core strategy is creating high-tech industrial parks situated in carefully selected communities. Carpere is a relatively new company (~2 years), so none of their industrial park projects have advanced to the construction phase, but varying stages of planning, land purchase and design have been conducted for projects in the following areas:

- Nipawin, Saskatchewan
- Portage La Prairie, Manitoba
- Brandon, Manitoba
- Prince George, BC
- Cedar Lake, Indiana

As part of their development process, Carpere has requested that the City enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the company. This MoU doesn't create any legal obligations for either party, however it does set out general statements of intent and expectation.

The City takes on no legal risk by signing this document, though signing does signal the parties intent to work together in good faith towards the development of an industrial park in Merritt.

Attachments:

Memorandum of Understanding – City of Merritt and Carpere Canada Industrial Park Corp.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Smith
Chief Administrative Officer