

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 13

Thursday, December 10, 2020

PRESENT: Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill – Via Zoom
Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Dolores Funk
Judy Greenaway – left 2:00 p.m.
Tom Greenaway – left at 2:00 p.m.
Clint Lambert
Brad Layton – Via Teleconference – left at 1:00 p.m., returned at 2:46 p.m.
Linda McGuire
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson
Sarrah Storey

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – Via Teleconference – left at 11:13 a.m.
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – Arrived at 1:37 p.m., left at 2:03 p.m.
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – arrived at 10:35 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Rowan Nagel, GIS Technician – left at 10:03 a.m.
Deneve Vanderwolf, Planner 1/Regional Transit coordinator – arrived at 12:50 p.m., left at 1:00 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Jacques Cortanje, Executive Director, Northwest Operations, BC Oil & Gas Commission – Via Zoom 10:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.
James O’Hanley, Vice President, Applications, BC Oil & Gas Commission – Via Zoom 10:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.
Tarilee Rauscher, Manager, Stakeholder Relations, BC Oil & Gas Commission – Via Zoom 10:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.
Garth Thoroughgood, Executive Director, Major Projects, BC Oil & Gas Commission – Via Zoom 10:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

Media Priyanka Ketkar, Lakes District News – Via Zoom – left at 12:06 p.m., returned at 1:30, left at 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director T. Greenaway

2020-13-1

“That the Board Meeting Agenda of December 10, 2020 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF INTRODUCTION

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning introduced Rown Nagel, GIS Technician.

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
-November 19, 2020

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Brien

2020-13-2

“That the Board Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2020 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

BC OIL & GAS COMMISSION – James O’Hanley, Vice President, Applications and Garth Thoroughgood, Executive Director, Major Projects, Jacques Crostanje, Executive Director, Northwest Operations and Tarilee Rauscher, Manager of Stakeholder Relations RE: Update – Via Zoom

Chair Thiessen welcomed James O’Hanley, Vice President, Applications, Garth Thoroughgood, Executive Director, Major Projects, BC Oil and Gas Commission. Mr. O’Hanley introduced Jacques Crostanje, Executive Director, Northwest Operations and Tarilee Rauscher, Manager of Stakeholder Relations, BC Oil and Gas Commission (BCOGC).

Mr. Thoroughgood provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

BC Oil and Gas Commission

- BC Oil and Gas Commission
- Regulatory Roles and Responsibilities
- Other Regulatory Agencies
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Project Updates.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Agency contacts
- LNG Canada Implementation Secretariat
- Inspections
 - Different inspections for different sections/areas
 - E.g. streams, CSA Standards, etc.
 - BCOGC developing an information sheet outlining the various inspections
 - Technology
 - Investigating the use of electronic technology for testing in some circumstances as well as the use of drones
- Next update – March/April 2021.

Chair Thiessen thanked Messrs. O’Hanley, Thoroughgood and Crostanje and Ms. Rauscher for attending the meeting.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

Municipal Referral

Municipal Land Use Referral
Houston-01-20 Electoral
Area "G"

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Brien

2020-13-3

"That staff inform the District of Houston that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako has no concerns with the proposed Official Community Plan (OCP) amendment."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mine Referral

Mine Referral
No. 1300554-202001
Electoral Area "C"

Moved by Director T. Greenaway
Seconded by Director J. Greenaway

2020-13-4

"That the Comment Sheet for Mine Referral No. 1300554-202001 be provided to the Province."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Telecommunications Referral

Telus Wireless Communication
Facility No. BC106733
Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Brien

2020-13-5

"That the Regional District Board send a letter stating that the RDBN has no objection to the proposed communication tower location."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Parks and Trails (All Directors)

Parks and Trails Service
Establishment Bylaw 1, 2nd,
and 3rd Readings

Moved by Director Funk
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2020-13-6

"That Smithers/Electoral Area A Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1927, 2020 be given first, second, and third reading this 10th day of December, 2020."

"That Houston/Granisle/Electoral G Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1928, 2020 be given first, second, and third reading this 10th day of December, 2020."

"That Burns Lake/Electoral B/Electoral Area E Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1929, 2020 be given first, second, and third reading this 10th day of December, 2020."

"That Fort St. James/Electoral C Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1930, 2020 be given first, second, and third reading this 10th day of December, 2020."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Fraser Basin Council and Nechako Round Table

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Funk

2020-13-7

“That the Board fund the Fraser Basin Council and the Nechako Round Table from the Eastern Jurisdictions.”

Opposed: Director T. Greenaway **CARRIED**
Director Riis-Christianson

(All/Directors/Majority)

Discussion took place in regard to the Fraser Basin Council’s role in the western portion of the RDBN. Director Lambert mentioned there is a new Director on the FBC Board of Directors from Haidi Gwaii.

Budget Amendment #2 and Capital Reserve Bylaws

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-8

“That Luck Bay Fire Service Capital Reserve Bylaw No. 1934, 2020 be given first, second, third reading, and adoption this 10th day of November, 2020.”

That Fort Fraser Fire Service Capital Reserve Bylaw No. 1935, 2020 be given first, second, third reading, and adoption this 10th day of November, 2020.

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1936, 2020 be given first, second, third reading, and adoption this 10th day of December, 2020.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Electoral Area Directors’ Forum (Virtual) – February 2-3, 2021

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

2020-13-9

“That Rural Directors be authorized to attend the Electoral Area Directors’ Forum (Virtual) February 2-3, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Telkwa Rural Fire Protection Service Area Boundary Amendment Bylaw No. 1933, 2020

Moved by Director Layton
Seconded by Director McGuire

2020-13-10

“That Telkwa Rural Fire Protection Service Area Boundary Amendment Bylaw No. 1933, 2020 be adopted this 10th day of December, 2020.”

(All/Directors/Majority) **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Grant in Aid Request - Fraser
Basin Council

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-11

"That the Fraser Basin Council be given \$1,700 Grant in Aid monies from each of Electoral Areas "B" (Burns Lake Rural), "C" (Fort St James Rural), "D" (Fraser Lake Rural), "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) and "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) for a total of \$8,500 for eligible project expenses."

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Parker

2020-13-12

"That Motion 2020-13-11 be amended as follows:

"That the Fraser Basin Council be given \$1,000 Grant in Aid monies from each of Electoral Areas "B" (Burns Lake Rural), "C" (Fort St James Rural), "D" (Fraser Lake Rural), "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) and "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) for a total of \$5,000 for eligible project expenses."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

"The question was called on Motion 2020-13-11 as amended."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Past RDBN funding provided to the Fraser Basin Council, Grant in Aid funding criteria and establishing a service was discussed.

Union of BC Municipalities
Community Emergency
Preparedness Fund – Regional
Evacuation Route Planning
Application

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-13

"That the Board supports a regional application to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Evacuation Route Planning Application for the 2020 Evacuation Route Planning funding on behalf of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Granisle, Houston, Smithers, Fraser Lake and Telkwa in the amount of \$160,590.31.

Further, that the Board supports the submission of the application, and understands that if the grant is approved, the RDBN will receive and manage the grant funding."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Revised Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs – A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director J. Greenaway

2020-13-14

“That the Board send the letter attached to the December 10, 2020 Emergency Services Manager’s staff report to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Minister of PSSG) requesting that the Province delay the formal effective date of the document Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs – A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities (Financial Guideline) and facilitate a meaningful consultation with Local Governments and First Nation communities throughout the Province.”

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Fisher

2020-13-15

“That Motion 2020-13-14 be amended as follows:

“That the Board approve sending a letter to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Minister of PSSG) requesting the Province to facilitate a meaningful consultation with Local Governments and First Nation communities throughout the Province regarding the Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs – A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities (Financial Guideline).”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

“That the question be called on Motion 2020-13-14 as amended.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RDBN Appointments - 2021

Moved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Petersen

2020-13-16

“That the Board ratify the interim 2021 RDBN Board appointment as amended to remove and review at a later date the Transit Committee, North Central Local Government Association and Northern BC Tourism Association and include:

- Forestry Committee
 - o Interim Co-Chair – Brad Layton
 - o Interim Co-Chair – Dolores Funk.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Directors Funk, Layton, Chair Thiessen and Vice-Chair Parker working with staff to develop a Terms of Reference for the RDBN Forestry Committee
- North Central Local Government Association representation – maintain current RDBN nomination until the NCLGA 2021 AGM
- Regional Transit Committee Terms of Reference amendment at the Regional Transit Committee Meeting at 1:00 p.m. today

ADMINISTRATION REPORT (CONT'D)

- Outside organizations terms of reference and Regional Board members participation
- Northern BC Tourism Appointment
 - Staff will follow up in regard to membership and terms of reference and invite Northern BC Tourism to attend a future Board meeting.

Taxation Analysis: Land and Improvements

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Lambert

2020-13-17

“That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer’s Taxation Analysis: Land and Improvements memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Potential implications to apportionment of taxes between jurisdictions and basis for assessment to collect those taxes
- First Nations Agreements in relation to fee simple lands
- Service Establishment Bylaws
 - Taxation
 - *Local Government Act* requirements
 - Service Establishment Bylaws and referendums.

Director Riis-Christianson -Canada’s Rural and Remote Broadband Conference Fall 2020

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-18

“That the Board receive Director Riis-Christianson’s Canada’s Rural and Remote Broadband Conference Fall 2020 Report.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

VERBAL REPORTS

Village of Granisle Update

Director McGuire provided an update in regard to activities and events taking place in the Village of Granisle.

Cram the Cruiser Event

Cram the Cruiser Event will take place in cooperation with the RCMP, with social distancing measures in place, on December 11, 2020. The gifts received remain in the community and are distributed at Christmas.

Light up the Park – Memorial Trees

The Lions Club Light up the Park event is also moving forward with individuals able to light a tree in memory of a loved one.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Grant Writing Milestone

The Village of Granisle reached a milestone and celebrated 10 years of grant writing by its team of grant writers. In 10 years, they wrote and submitted 158 grants and were successful recipients of 123 grants receiving funding of over \$13 million for the community.

Local Gas Station and Grocery Store

The local gas station and grocery store has a new owner and will be reopening in the near future.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

The tender process for the construction of the wastewater treatment plant is complete and has been awarded to Carver Construction from Kelowna. Work will begin in the Spring of 2021.

District of Fort St. James -COVID-19 Update

Director T. Greenaway spoke of the increase of COVID-19 cases in the community of Fort St. James. He noted that Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation has requested its members limit their movements around Nak'azdli and Fort St. James.

Director J. Greenaway commented that BC Emergency Health Services has dispatched four additional Paramedics to the community to support patient transport and COVID-19 needs.

Director J. Greenaway noted that all community buildings in Fort St. James are currently closed to the public including District of Fort St. James offices, community hall and arena.

Senior & Elders Housing Grant Application

Director J. Greenaway mentioned that the District of Fort St. James is applying for grant funding in January 2021 for a 28 room Seniors Housing project.

COVID-19

Director Riis-Christianson spoke of the rise of COVID-19 exposures in Burns Lake and community and noted the death rate and the importance of following the guidelines. He mentioned that health care workers have had a significant impact on minimizing the death rate of patients from COVID-19.

Regional Connectivity Network Meeting

Director Riis-Christianson participated in a Regional Connectivity Meeting. Discussion took place regarding the different service models and the need for cellular connectivity. The next meeting will be in January 2021.

Electric Car Charging Station -Fraser Lake Mall

Director Parker announced that an Electric Car Charging Station will be installed at the Fraser Lake Mall in the spring of 2021. He also noted that the mall recently had the last vacancy filled.

Cycle 16 Trail Society

Director Fisher mentioned that the Cycle 16 Trail Society has momentum moving forward and is getting commitments from organizations in the community for annual maintenance funding.

Pinnacle Pellet – Smithers

Director Fisher noted that he participated in a meeting with Pinnacle Pellet on December 9, 2020 in regard to noise issues and concerns.

Break for Regional Transit Committee at 1:00 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:26 p.m.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Village of Burns Lake Tourism Coordinator Director Funk mentioned that the Village of Burns Lake is hiring a Tourism Coordinator working towards the implementation of its new Tourism Plan and in diversifying economic development.

Virtual Meeting Technology Director Funk commented that the Village of Burns Lake is testing the Meeting Owl; an all-in-one 360° voice activated digital meeting technology. She mentioned the video and sound quality in the Village of Burns Lake Council Chambers was excellent.

Under 55 Housing Study Director Funk reported that the Village of Burns Lake completed its Under 55 Housing Study. The study identified significant demand for all types of housing and age of current housing stock is an issue. The B.C. Energy Step Code will have significant implications to housing development in the community. Director Funk expressed disappointment in the November 6, 2020 letter from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in response to follow up from the 2020 Virtual UBCM Convention meeting with the Ministry.

Village of Burns Lake Meeting with Northern Health Director Funk mentioned that the Village of Burns Lake met with Northern Health in regard to expanding services at the Lakes District Hospital and Health Care Centre to include perinatal and endoscopy services.

Fire at Pinnacle Pellet Plant in Houston Director Brienens spoke of a fire that occurred at Houston's Pinnacle Pellet Plant November 25, 2020 that injured three employees. Director Brienens mentioned that only one ambulance from Houston responded and an additional ambulance had to come from Smithers. He expressed concerns in regard to the shortage of ambulances in a community where industry is a focus.

Housing Shortage in Houston Director Brienens noted the housing shortage in Houston with only two houses for sale two weeks ago. Local realtors have now increased the number of houses on the market to five. There is a number of recreational units being used for housing in the community as well due to the housing shortage.

Proposed Recreation Trail from Houston to Bob Creek Director Newell mentioned that work is taking place in regard to developing a recreation trail from Houston to Bob Creek. The plan is to continue the trail through Buck to Bob Creek Falls and eventually tie into the cross country ski trails. It is an exciting initiative and will be an asset in recruiting people to the area.

Canada Rural Broadband Conference Director Newell attended the Canada Rural Broadband Conference virtually. He expressed challenges in regard to his internet connectivity. Future proofing connectivity was a key discussion point at the Conference.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

<u>Road Maintenance Concerns</u>	Director Newell brought forward concerns regarding the Maintenance of rural roads and impacts to road widths. He expressed interest in meeting with road contractors and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Discussion took place in regard to yearly road contractor stakeholder meetings.
<u>Village of Fraser Lake Fire Rescue</u>	Director Storey spoke of the number of calls the Village of Fraser Lake Volunteer Fire Department has responded to in 2020.
<u>Village of Fraser Lake Christmas Events</u>	Director Storey mentioned that the Fraser Lake arena is currently open but will close for the Christmas Break. The Village of Fraser Lake will be hosting its Santa Claus Parade on Friday, December 18, 2020. Director Storey commented that volunteers will be delivering meals and chocolates donated by Fraser Lake West Fraser Sawmills to all the Seniors in the community.
<u>Village of Fraser Lake -Connectivity Challenges</u>	Director Storey brought forward challenges in regard to applying for connectivity funding, administering speed tests to establish connectivity issues and Telecoms providing service in the region. She also spoke of concerns regarding the use of pole infrastructure and challenges in regard to utilizing existing pole infrastructure for unserved and underserved connectivity areas. She requested the Board Directors to share information in regard to similar challenges. Director Riis-Christianson spoke of the CIRA speed test.
<u>Town of Smithers Housing Needs Assessment</u>	Director Atrill mentioned that the Town of Smithers completed its Housing Needs Assessment. She spoke of taking an experimental approach to housing and requested feedback on how other communities developed housing.
<u>Cardboard and Restoration of Curbside Pickup in Smithers</u>	Director Atrill noted conversations are taking place regarding the challenges and issues concerning cardboard recycling and the restoration of curbside pickup of recycling in the Town of Smithers.
<u>Town of Smithers Connecting to the Cycle 16 Trail</u>	Director Atrill commented that the Town of Smithers is reviewing options to connect to the Cycle 16 Trail from the Town of Smithers and Perimeter Trail network.
<u>EV Chargers – Town of Smithers</u>	Director Atrill mentioned that the Town of Smithers will have two Level 3 and two Level 2 EV Chargers installed in the community and the additional charging stations will assist in building capacity for electric vehicles.
<u>Vanderhoof - Housing Challenges</u>	Chair Thiessen spoke of the housing challenges in Vanderhoof and the impacts to recruitment for businesses, companies, organizations and agencies in the community. He noted the issues in regard to developing a Senior Housing and Dementia Unit Complex in the community. Chair Thiessen expressed the importance of increasing available housing in communities.
<u>Hunting for Halle - Fundraiser for Young Cancer Patient in Vanderhoof</u>	Chair Thiessen mentioned that the community of Vanderhoof came together and held a fundraiser called Hunting for Halle to assist Halle, a young girl with cancer and her family.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Rio Tinto Water Engagement Chair Thiessen expressed concerns regarding Rio Tinto's Water engagement progress and process. He spoke of the importance of moving forward with deliverables. Director Lambert mentioned the Southside Working Group that formed regarding the Water Engagement Initiative and the meeting that took place.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Newell

2020-13-19 "That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Administration Correspondence & Action List Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Funk

2020-13-20 "That the Board receive the following:

Administration Correspondence

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Letter to Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance – UBCM Convention Follow-up
- Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance – Letter to Premier Horgan – UBCM Convention Follow-up
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – UBCM Convention 2020
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – UBCM Convention Follow-up
- Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness – UBCM Convention Follow-up

Action List

-November 2020."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Cardboard Ban Reinstated -Initial Impacts Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director McGuire

2020-13-21 "That the Board receive the Executive Assistant's Cardboard Ban Reinstated – Initial Impacts memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for Northern Health Teleconference at 2:03 p.m.

Reconvened at 2:44 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

RDBN Budget Meeting -December 17, 2020

Discussion took place regarding the RDBN 2021 Budget process and moving forward with a Budget Meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020. Attending in person and/or virtually and connectivity issues was discussed.

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-22

"That the RDBN Budget Meeting be attended in-person and scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m."

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Layton

2020-13-23

"That Motion 2020-13-22 be amended as follows:

"That the RDBN Budget Meeting be attended in-person and or virtually and scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

"The question be called on Motion 2020-13-22 as amended."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Lambert Item -COVID-19 and Economic Impacts

Director Lambert brought forward for discussion COVID-19 and and economic impacts. He spoke of the importance of a number of industrial sectors that were able to continue to operate during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Director Lambert spoke of having a strong economy in order to mitigate impacts, both financially and in regard to mental health concerns, of COVID-19 to the region and the province. He brought forward the COVID-19 safety measures that industry and businesses have in place to assist to mitigate and minimize the risk of exposure in the region. He commented that he has received a number of concerns from area residents.

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Provincial Government working to ensure that the economy continues to move forward
- Forest Industry is actively working
- Abiding by the current Provincial guidelines and orders to ensure that there isn't a need for structure guidelines and orders
- Provincial COVID-19 funding to strategically move communities forward
- COVID-19 Economic Plan for the region
 - o Strategically moving forward
 - o Potentially developing a plan similar to a wildfire event to address changes to job loss/employment in the region if COVID-19 impacts worsen
- Essential services continue, including:
 - o Forestry, Mining, Agriculture, etc.
- The work done to ensure that tree planting moved forward in the spring with COVID-19 safety plans in place

NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D)

- Listening and focusing on finding solutions to continue to mitigate impacts from COVID-19 and the economy
- Investigating opportunities for economic growth and diversification
- The Province recognizing the importance of the economy to the health of its people and working to find ways to allow companies, business, industry and organizations to continue to operate with COVID-19 Safety Plans in place
- Role to build healthy communities
 - o Following guidelines to stay healthy and ensure the region continues to move forward
 - o Industry placing strong protocols in place in an attempt to ensure work continues
- Some industries and businesses experiencing more significant impacts than others
- The economy is a web and the region can't afford to lose any of it
- Supporting families, organizations, sectors and subsectors
- Recognizing those that are struggling
- Potential opportunities
- Ensuring that consideration is given for the diverseness of the Province
- Being proactive to address issues that arise
- Being part of the conversation at both the local level and the Provincial level
- Supporting one another.

Recreation Plan 2021-2022

Director Riis-Christianson requested that the Highway 16 West Commuter Trail be included in the 2021/2022 Planning Department work plan. Staff will follow up along with the Buck Creek/Houston Recreation Trail.

RDBN Budget Meeting
-December 17, 2020

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Storey

2020-13-24

"That the December 17, 2020 RDBN Budget Meeting Agenda be distributed Friday, December 11, 2020."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2020-13-25

"That the meeting be adjourned at 3:56 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant