

AGENDA

MEETING NO. 6

May 26, 2022

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VISION

“A World of Opportunities
Within Our Region”

MISSION

“We Will Foster Social,
Environmental, and
Economic Opportunities
Within Our Diverse Region Through Effective
Leadership”



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

AGENDA

Thursday, May 26, 2022

First Nations Acknowledgement

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>AGENDA – May 26, 2022</u>	Approve
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
7-18	Board Meeting Minutes – April 28, 2022	Approve
19-20	Special Board Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2022	Approve
21-27	Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes - May 12, 2022	Receive
28-29	Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes - May 12, 2022	Receive
30-33	Waste Management Committee Meeting Minutes - May 12, 2022	Receive
	<u>DELEGATION</u>	
	<u>John Rustad, MLA Nechako Lakes – via Zoom</u> Re: Update	
	<u>ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)</u>	
34	Deneve Vanderwolf, Planning Technician Advisory Planning Commission Member Appointment - Electoral Area “A”	Recommendation
	<u>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)</u>	
	<u>ALR Application</u>	
35-43	Maria Sandberg, Planning and Parks Coordinator Non-Farm Use in the ALR Application No.1245 Electoral Area “A”	Recommendation

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<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>TELECOMMUNICATION REFERRAL</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
44-78	Rowan Nagel, GIS/Planning Technician Telus Wireless Communication Facility No. BC109430 Electoral Area "E"	Recommendation
	<u>REGIONAL TRANSIT (All Directors)</u>	
79-93	Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning 2022/2023 Annual Operating Agreement with BC Transit	Recommendation
	<u>BUILDING INSPECTION (All Directors)</u>	
94-97	Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Letter Regarding Housing Construction Issues	Recommendation
	<u>PARKS AND TRAILS (All Directors)</u>	
	<u>Bylaws for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Reading</u>	
98-113	Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Recreation Contribution Service Bylaws	Recommendation
	<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</u>	
114-120	Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services - Fort Fraser Water and Sewer System Upgrades	Recommendation
	<u>ADMINISTRATION REPORTS</u>	
121-122	Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services - Committee Meeting Recommendations - May 12, 2022	Recommendation
123	Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - Union of BC Municipalities Convention 2022 -September 12-16, 2022 -Attendance Authorization, Resolution Deadline, Minister/Ministry Staff Meetings	Recommendation
124	Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – Canada Community – Building Fund BC –Cycle 16 Commuter Trail - Area "A" (Smithers Rural)	Recommendation

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<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
125	Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – Northern Development Initiative Trust - Northern Healthy Communities Fund - First Nations Capacity Building Application	Recommendation
126-127	Justin Greer, Economic Development Assistant – UBCM Strategic Priorities Fund Application – Bulkley Valley Aquatic Centre Upgrade Project	Recommendation
128	Shari Janzen, Economic Development Assistant -Nechako Valley Exhibition Society – Letter of Support Request	Recommendation
129	Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services -Cycle 16 Trail – Release Motion to the Public	Receive
130-132	Taddea Kunkel, First Nations Liaison - Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action	Discussion/ Receive
133-155	Taddea Kunkel, First Nations Liaison - UNDRIP as a Framework for a Reconciliation Action Plan	Discussion/ Receive
156-159	Michelle Roberge, Regional Agriculture Coordinator – Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update	Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting No. 6
May 26, 2022

IN-CAMERA MOTION

In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations and 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (Range Tenure Negotiations) must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**MEETING NO. 5****Thursday, April 28, 2022**

PRESENT:	Vice Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Gladys Atrill – via Zoom Mark Fisher Dolores Funk Tom Greenaway Clint Lambert – arrived at 10:16 a.m. Linda McGuire Annette Morgan – via Zoom Bob Motion Chris Newell Jerry Petersen Michael Riis-Christianson Sarrah Storey – via Zoom – left at 12:14 p.m.
	Directors Absent	Shane Brienen, District of Houston Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof
	Alternate Director	Cyndi Lauze, District of Vanderhoof
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – arrived at 10:29 a.m. Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – arrived at 12:59 p.m. Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services Taddea Kunkel, First Nations Liaison – arrived at 1:07 p.m., left at 1:12 p.m. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Others	Maya Buchanan, Alternate Director, Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) Darcy Bye, Senior Environmental Technician, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:45 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Charlie Edwards, Project Manager, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:45 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Kiel Giddens, Public Affairs Manager, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:15 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Ian McLeod, Community Relations Lead, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:45 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – via Zoom – arrived at 10:15 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Tamara Trevelyan, Public Affairs Advisor, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:15 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m. Rob van Adrichem, Director of External Relations, Community Energy Association – via Zoom – left at 11:28 a.m. Sian Weaver, Socio-economic Manager, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada – arrived at 10:45 a.m., left at 11:28 a.m.
	Media	Blair McBride, LD News

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DAY OF MOURNING RECOGNITION

ALTERNATE DIRECTOR INTRODUCTION

Director Fisher introduced Maya Buchanan, Alternate Director Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural).

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-1

"That the Board Meeting Agenda of April 28, 2022 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
 March 31, 2022

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-5-2

"That the Board Meeting Minutes of March 31, 2022 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Special Board Meeting
 Minutes April 14, 2022

Moved by Director Fisher
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2022-5-3

"That the Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2022 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Meeting
 Minutes- April 14, 2022

Moved by Director McGuire
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-4

"That the following Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
 -April 14, 2022
- Connectivity Committee Meeting Minutes
 -April 14, 2022
- Rural Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
 -April 14, 2022
- Waste Management Committee Minutes
 -April 14, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

COMMUNITY ENERGY ASSOCIATION – Rob van Adrichem, Director of External Relations Re: Update - via Zoom

Vice Chair Parker welcomed Rob van Adrichem, Director of External Relations, Community Energy Association.

Mr. van Adrichem provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

Community Energy Association (CEA)

- Overview
- The Issue(s)
- Emissions
- New Homes
- Charge North
- About CEA
- Networks
- Northern Network
- Next Steps.

The following was discussed:

- Village of Granisle distribution of emissions
- No discussion regarding wood heat
 - o CEA is having a number of discussions regarding the topic
- Number of Community Advisors
- Rural representation on the Community Energy Association
- Electric charging stations funded through public sources
- Utilizing local building products to build homes
- Learning and adapting in the interest of communities and reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Implementing electric charging infrastructure to allow consumer access
- CEA collaboration and assist in creating capacity with local government
- BC Energy Step Code and BC Building Code
 - o Housing efficiencies
 - o Housing capacity challenges
 - o High housing costs prohibit building
 - o Past government energy efficient programs
 - o Incentives for residents to improve energy efficiency for older homes
- Community Energy Association Learning Lunch for elected officials
- CEA work with Northern BC Tourism and other tourism associations
 - o EV charging station locations in relation to communities.

Vice Chair Parker thanked Mr. van Adrichem for attending the meeting.

TRANS CANADA – COASTAL GASLINK –Kiel Giddens, Public Affairs Manager and Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor, Sian Weaver, Socio-economic Manager RE: Update and SEEMP Presentation – via Zoom

Vice Chair Parker welcomed Kiel Giddens, Public Affairs Manager, Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor and Sian Weaver, Socio-economic Manager, Coastal GasLink, TransCanada.

Messrs. Giddens, Moulton and Ms. Weaver provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

TRANS CANADA – COASTAL GASLINK –Kiel Giddens, Public Affairs Manager and Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs and Sian Weaver, Socio-economic Effects Manager Advisor RE: Update and SEEMP Presentation – via Zoom (CONT'D)

TC Energy – Coastal GasLink

- About TC Energy
- Project Overview
- 2022 First Quarter Project highlights
- 2022 New Prime Contractor – Section 5
- 2022 Prime Contractor – Section 6
- 2022 New Prime Contractor – Section 7
- 2022 Prime Contractor – Section 8 East
- Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP)
- SEEMP Report #6 Highlights
- SEEMP Report #7 Engagement
- SEEMP Feedback During 7th Reporting Cycle (December 2021 – May 2022)
- Employment
- Housing
- A legacy of benefits
- CoastalGasLink.com/OpenHouse
- Keeping in touch.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Transparency key going forward for TC Energy
- Safety, exploitation and public shaming where do people go and who to contact
 - o TC Energy will provide contacts
 - o Zero tolerance approach
 - o TC HR Investigator
- Community investment and legacy funding
 - o Connectivity fibre – Buckflats area
 - o Waste initiatives
 - o Encourage investment
 - o TransCanada expressed willingness to continue conversation regarding community investment and legacy programs
- Compressor stations and Phase 2 works
 - o LNG Canada and partners to determine if and when moving forward
- Determining waste volumes prior to projects and unforeseen circumstances may impact construction
 - o Rig mats – may be secondary uses in the region
- Extreme community labour shortages
 - o TC Energy impacted by labour shortages as well
 - o Union, local, provincial, national and international workers.

Vice Chair Parker thanked Messrs. Giddens and Moulton and Ms. Weaver for attending the meeting.

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)

Bylaw for 3rd Reading and Adoption

Rezoning Application Moved by Director Newell
RZ G-01-22 - 3rd Reading and Seconded by Director Lambert
Adoption for OCP Bylaw 1972,
2022 & Rezoning Bylaw 1973, 2022
-Electoral Area "G"

2022-5-5

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Houston, Topley, Granisle Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1972, 2022 and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1973, 2022 on the Supplementary Agenda.
2. That "Houston, Topley, Granisle Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1972, 2022" be given third reading and adoption this 28th day of April, 2022.
3. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1973, 2022" be given third reading and adoption this 28th day of April, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for Adoption

Rezoning Application Moved by Director Fisher
RZ A-09-21 Adoption Seconded by Director Lambert
-Rezoning Bylaw No. 1969
-Electoral Area "A"

2022-5-6

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1969, 2022 be adopted this 28th day of April, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

ALR Application

ALR Subdivision Application Moved by Director Lambert
No. 1242– Electoral Area "F" Seconded by Director Fisher

2022-5-7

"That the Board receive the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Referral Response regarding Subdivision in the ALR Application No. 1242 on the Supplementary Agenda.

That Agricultural Land Reserve Subdivision Application No. 1242 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval."

(All/Directors/Majority)

DEFEATED

Discussion took place regarding the importance of large acreage farmland in the eastern part of the region and for the potential for smaller parcels to be divided further in the future.

BUILDING INSPECTION (All Directors)

Letter to Minister Eby – BC Energy Step Code

The following was discussed:

- Challenges for log homes and the importance of this traditional housing form.
- Exemption of modular buildings and the negative impacts of these out of region buildings (loss of local employment and contractors)
- Increased costs associated with the step code
- Lack of Energy Advisors in the north and impact on rural housing shortage
- Need for a letter that balances acknowledgement for the need for energy efficiency with the delivery of a strong message regarding the impacts of the step code.

Letter to Minister Eby - BC Energy Step Code

Moved by Director Funk
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-5-8

“That the Board ratify the letter to the Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing regarding BC Energy Step Code.”

Moved by Director Greenaway
 Seconded by Director Petersen

2022-5-9

“That the Letter to Minister Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing regarding BC Energy Step Code be deferred to the May 26, 2022 Board Meeting.”

Opposed: Director Atrill CARRIED
 Director Fisher
 Director Funk

(All/Directors/Majority)

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

ALR Application

ALR Subdivision Application No. 1242– Electoral Area “F”

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-5-10

“That the Board receive the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Referral Response regarding Subdivision in the ALR Application No. 1242 on the Supplementary Agenda.

“That Agricultural Land Reserve Subdivision Application No. 1242 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for denial.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for Lunch at 12:16 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:59 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Committee Meeting
Recommendations
-April 14, 2022

Moved by Director Funk
 Seconded by Director Fisher

2022-5-11

"That the Board approve recommendations 1 to 3 as written:

Committee of the Whole Meeting – April 14, 2022

Recommendation 1:

Re: Board Meeting Recordings for Public Viewing

"That that Board and Committee Meeting recordings be made available to the public via an RDBN YouTube channel. Further, that the recordings remain on the site until the next recording becomes available."

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – April 14, 2022

Recommendation 2:

Re: Letter to Minister Kang Re: Investment in More BC Vets

"That the Board approve sending the letter to the Honourable Anne Kang, Minister for Advanced Education, Skills and Training regarding Investment in More BC Vets."

Recommendation 3:

Re: COVID-19 Relief Fund Applications

"That the Board approve the following applications for COVID-19 Relief Funds:

-Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)

-Treehouse Housing Association – The Ark Playday Centre – Insurance - \$2,742.48

-Smithers Zone Canadian Ski Patrol – Insurance and Membership Fees - \$3,772.08

-Electoral Area "B" (Burns Lake Rural)

-Burns Lake Community Garden Society – Insurance - \$673.44

-Ride Burns – Insurance and Fees - \$2,654.33

-Burns Lake & District Chamber of Commerce – Shop Local Campaign - \$2,000.00

-Lakes District Fair Association – Memberships, Fees, Insurance - \$922.68

-Electoral Area "D" (Fraser Lake Rural)

-Fraser Lake Minor Hockey Association – Rental Fees - \$3,724.98

-Fraser Lake Curling Club – Rental Fees - \$1,419.00

-Fort Fraser Community Recreation Society – Utilities - \$856.89

-Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

-Francois Tchesinkut Lake Recreation Commission – Hydro - \$2,216.50

-Ride Burns – Insurance and Fees - \$2654.33

-Lakes District Fair Association – Memberships, Fees, Insurance - \$4,446.52."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Veterinarian Shortage Resolution

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Petersen

2022-5-12

"That the Veterinarian Shortage Resolution be ratified as amended."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Departmental Quarterly Reports

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-13

"That the Board receive the Departmental Quarterly Reports."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Community - Building Fund BC – Area "A" (Smithers Rural) Court/Climbing Wall Roof Replacement at BV Aquatic Center

Moved by Director Fisher
 Seconded by Director Motion

2022-5-14

1) "That the Board authorize contributing up to \$27,750.00 of Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Recreation Infrastructure Project at the Bulkley Valley Aquatic Center, and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$27,750.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Community - Building Fund BC – Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural) District of Fort St. James – Zamboni for Fort Forum Arena

Moved by Director Greenaway
 Seconded by Director Motion

2022-5-15

1) "That the Board authorize contributing up to \$185,500.00 of Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Recreation Infrastructure Project for the Fort Forum Arena, and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$185,500.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Canada Community - Building Fund BC – Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) District of Vanderhoof – Airport Lighting Project

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-5-16

1) “That the Board authorize contributing up to \$100,000.00 of Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Regional Airport Project at the Vanderhoof Airport, and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$100,000.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid – Connexus Community Resources

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Alternate Director Lauze

2022-5-17

“That the Board approve allocating \$5,000.00 in Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) Grant in Aid monies to Connexus Community Resources to support a deck building project at Riverside Place.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-5-18

“That the Board receive the First Nations Liaison’s Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action memorandum and the Supplementary Agenda TRC Justice Calls to Action Discussion Paper memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-5-19

“That the Board receive the Regional Agriculture Coordinator’s (East) Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Director Fisher – Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) Update

- Director Fisher spoke of attending the following meetings:
- Community Energy Association’s BC Step Code Learning Lunch session - good sessions to attend
 - CleanFarms update that included representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. They are pleased with the rollout of the program and Vanderhoof farmers were recognized for their participation in the program
 - Met with Town of Smithers and Village of Telkwa Fire Chiefs to discuss rural fire supply – Northern Capital Planning Grant initiative which will tie into Round Lake and Cycle 16 initiatives to create synergies regarding rural water storage
 - Upcoming meeting – first Northern Coast Waste Management Association Meeting
 - Tonight – Elector Session in Smithers – everyone is invited to attend.

Director Petersen – Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) Update

Director Petersen, along with Directors Atrill and Greenaway and CAO Helgesen and CFO Illes attended the spring joint meeting with Northern Health. He spoke of the seven Regional Hospital Districts vying for the same funding. He will share the information with the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Board once available. He mentioned Northern Health is not holding meetings at the NCLGA Conference May 4-6, 2022 but is willing to meet if there is a desire. Due to the local government elections in the fall of 2022 Northern Health won’t be hosting their fall joint meeting but intends to meet in January, 2023.

Director Atrill – Town of Smithers Update

- Director Atrill spoke of the following:
- Town of Smithers has begun work on the relandscaping of its Main Street
 - funded utilizing Northern Capital Planning Grant funding
 - completion August 2022
 - Town of Smithers budget process complete
 - Challenging process with an over 11% tax increase.
 - Town of Smithers hosted its first tour of Town Hall with Grade 1 students - It was a lot of fun.

Director McGuire – Village of Granisle Update

- Director McGuire provided the following update:
- Budget process nearing completion – small tax increase
 - Future fuel costs are unknown and challenging
 - Will receive Audit May 16, 2022
 - New business open in Granisle – Glass Emporium
 - Attended Community Energy Association BC Step Code Learning Lunch Session
 - Village of Granisle advocating for reduction in propane costs for residence – working with BC Utilities Commission and PNG
 - PNG is providing 100 energy kits to the community.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Director Greenaway – Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) Director Greenaway mentioned that the Fort St. James Search and Rescue is raising funds for a building to house its equipment. They hosted a Community Dinner and Silent Auction and raised \$26,700. He had the honour of presenting a cheque for \$100,000 from grant in aid and District of Fort St. James Councillor Judy Greenaway presented a cheque for \$100,001. They have raised approximately \$530,000 to purchase the building and do minor upgrades. It was good to see the community come together.

Director Morgan – Village of Telkwa Director Morgan provided an update regarding the Village of Telkwa Council. She mentioned that they currently have three councillors ensuring business continuity. She noted they are working to ensure that a safe space is created for elected officials and that there is a vetting process in place.

Director Motion – District of Fort St. James Update Director Motion noted that after two years of COVID-19 it was refreshing to see people come together for events such as the one that supported the Fort St. James Search and Rescue.

Director Motion provided the following update:

- Fort St. James Arena
 - New Zamboini and in 2021 new ice plant
 - \$2.9 M arena upgrade
- RDBN/District of Fort St. James hosted the first Official Community Plan public meeting
 - Nak'azdli Whu'ten First Nations members in attendance
 - It was well attended
 - A number of volunteers stepped forward to assist
 - Good meeting.

Director Riis-Christianson -Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural) Update Director Riis-Christianson provided the following update:

- Attended the virtual BC Broadband Conference
 - Province's new program announced in March a major topic of discussion
 - Discussed creating connectivity as a utility similar to hydro in BC
- Endako Weir Project
 - Received feedback on proposed Endako Weir Project
 - Risk to properties on the lake
 - Concerned regarding the ability of the proponent to respond to concerns related to the weir or erosion
 - Look forward to more information in coming months.

Director Lambert – Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Update Director Lambert spoke of attending the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance in Terrace April 22-23, 2022 with Minister Cullen.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Alternate Director Lauze -District of Vanderhoof Update

Alternate Director Lauze provided the following update for the District of Vanderhoof:

- Completed the budget process and there is a slight tax Increase
- In planning stages for the Grand Opening of the Vanderhoof Tourism Cultural Centre in the summer of 2022
- Easter Egg Hunt in Riverside Park – Organized by the Heritage Society – encouraging to see the number of people participating
- Nechako Valley Collaborative Community Table meeting
 - Investigating gaps in health care for men.

Vice Chair Parker, Electoral Area "D" (Fraser Lake Rural) Update

Vice Chair Parker provided an update regarding the veterinarian shortage in the north and all of British Columbia. He met with Susan Mowbray, Partner, Consulting, MNP in Vancouver to investigate a framework to develop an economic value in relation to the shortage of veterinarians in BC. He will receive it May 6, 2022. Vice Chair Parker has requested a meeting with Minister Cullen regarding the process for international vets to come to practice in BC.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-20

"That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-21

"In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations and 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (Cycle 16 Trail) must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-5-22

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:37 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**MEETING NO. 6****Thursday, May 12, 2022**

PRESENT:	Chair	Gerry Thiessen
	Directors	Gladys Atrill – via Zoom Shane Brienen Mark Fisher Dolores Funk Tom Greenaway – via Zoom Clint Lambert Linda McGuire – via Zoom Annette Morgan Bob Motion Chris Newell – left at 1:20 p.m. Mark Parker Jerry Petersen Sarrah Storey – via Zoom
	Director Absent	Michael Riis-Christianson, Electoral Area “E” (Burns Lake Rural)
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Other	Taylor Turkington, Manager, Beswick Hildebrandt Lund

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**AGENDA &
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**Moved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Lambert2022-6-1

“That the Board Meeting Agenda of May 12, 2022 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**DELEGATION****BESWICK HILDEBRANDT LUND – Taylor Turkington, Manager RE: RDBN Audit (via Zoom)**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Taylor Turkington, Manager, Beswick Hildebrandt Lund.

Mr. Turkington provided a review of the RDBN Financial Statements.

- Independent Auditor’s Report
- Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Operations
- Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Notices to the Financial Statements.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

BESWICK HILDEBRANDT LUND – Taylor Turkington, Manager RE: RDBN Audit (via Zoom)

Discussion took place regarding:

- Risk management and standard risks
- Potential policy processes that could be improved and current inflation increases
 - o RDBN in good standing in that Directors remuneration and staff wages are based on the Consumer Price Index through policy
- Underfunded landfill liability closure/post closure
- Municipal Finance Authority loan repayment
 - o Municipal borrowing structure.

REPORT

Financial Statements for 2021 Moved by Director Funk
 Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-6-2 “That the Board accept and authorize the Chair and the Chief Financial Officer to sign the Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2021.”

“That the Year End Audit Findings Report to the Board be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY

CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Municipal Affairs
-Northwest BC Resource
Benefits Alliance Moved by Director Brien
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-6-3 “That the Board receive the correspondence from the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Newell

2022-6-4 “That the meeting be adjourned at 2:00 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
 Corporate Services

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING****Thursday, May 12, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill – arrived at 10:54 a.m.
Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Dolores Funk
Tom Greenaway – via Zoom
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire – via Zoom
Annette Morgan – arrived at 10:17 a.m.
Bob Motion – left at 1:47 p.m.
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Sarrah Storey – via Zoom, left at 12:12 p.m.

Director Absent Michael Riis-Christianson, Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer – via Zoom
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – left at 11:23 a.m.
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services – left at 1:46 p.m.
Cameron Kral, Planning Summer Student – left at 10:20 a.m.
Taddea Kunkel, First Nations Liaison – arrived at 1:43 p.m., left at 1:50 p.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 11:23 a.m., returned at 1:40 p.m.
Emma Moore, Protective Services Summer Student – left at 10:20 a.m.
Tiarri Rushton, Environmental Services Summer Student – left at 10:20 a.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Chris Walker, Emergency Program Coordinator – arrived at 10:54 a.m., left at 12:12 p.m.
Grace Zayac, Economic Development and FireSmart Summer Student – left at 10:20 a.m.

Others Cathy Peters, BC Anti-Human Trafficking Educator, Speaker, Advocate – via Zoom – left at 10:50 a.m.
Taylor Turkington, Manager, Beswick Hildebrandt Lund – via Zoom – left at 1:40 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SUMMER STUDENT STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Senior Management introduced Tiarri Rushton, Environmental Services Summer Student, Grace Zayac, Economic Development and FireSmart Summer Student, Emma Moore, Protective Services Summer Student and Cameron Kral, Planning Summer Student.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Brien
 Seconded by Director Newell

C.W.2022-5-1

"That the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 12, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Minutes – April 14, 2022

Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director Brien

C.W.2022-5-2

"That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 14, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

Cathy Peters, BC Anti-Human Trafficking Educator, Speaker, Advocate RE: Human Trafficking – Via Zoom

Chair Thiessen welcomed Cathy Peters, BC Anti-Human Trafficking Educator, Speaker, Advocate.

Ms. Peters spoke to the following:

- 8 strategies for local governments to consider:
 - o Learn about the issue
 - Be Amazing Campaign Stop Exploitation
 - The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking
 - Office to Combat Trafficking in Person (OCTIP)
 - o Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnerships
- 5 Strategies for Police and communities
 - o Awareness
 - o Address Demand
 - o School Liaisons
 - o Inventory Scan
 - o Best Practices
- Preventing Child Sex Trafficking in BC
 - o Definition of Sex Trafficking
 - o Buyer
 - o Trafficker/pimp
 - o Victim
 - o Traffickers Use
 - Common age of child entering sex trafficking is 13 years old
 - Large urban centres 10-12 years of age
 - Not a choice or a job
- Organized and international crime involved
 - o Lucrative crime
 - o A trafficker can make \$280,000 per victim, per year

Cathy Peters, BC Anti-Human Trafficking Educator, Speaker, Advocate RE: Human Trafficking – Via Zoom (Cont'd)

- Recruitment
- Deadly industry
- Canada is a sex tourism destination
- Raising awareness
- How to stop human trafficking.
 - o Enforcement of law
 - o Education
- *Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act*
- Providing presentations to:
 - o law enforcement across Canada
 - o federal, provincial, and local governments
- Provided a brief to the Federal Government regarding work camps
 - o Ms. Peters May 8, 2022 Brief for the Federal Status of Women Committee - The importance of protecting Indigenous women and girls in context of resource development projects
- Advocacy
 - o Write to Premier Horgan and the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Safety and the Honourable David Lametti, Federal Minister of Justice.

Discussion took place regarding;

- Community responsibility and ensuring safety of constituents
 - o Prevention
 - o Identifying and reporting concerns
- Issue is not going away but growing and becoming more and more dangerous
- Message should be shared everywhere
- Advocacy
 - o Provide resolution to Union of B.C. Municipalities
 - o Education
 - o Social media – public awareness
 - o Children of the Street Society as a resource
- Reaching out to schools
- Work camps
- Parents – set a high standard of love within homes
- Source of statistics
- Resources and references material
 - o Joy Smith Foundation – National Human Trafficking Education Centre
 - o Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking
- Endemic businesses to Human Trafficking:
 - o Airbnb and VRBO (Vacation Rentals by Owner) being identified as potential locations
 - o Significant accommodation issues in the north – challenging to eliminate those options for rental accommodations
- Do not accept or support the full decriminalization of prostitution
- Be vigilant.

Chair Thiessen thanked Ms. Peters for attending the meeting.

REPORTS

Draft Communication Policy and Corporate Communication Plan

The following was discussed:

- Policy and plan provide consistent communication
 - o Utilized when speaking on a corporate level
 - o Level of professionalism
- Create a framework
 - o RDBN is a recognized as a trusted source of information
- Social media components will evolve moving forward
- Clarity required regarding components of the plan that are intended for internal staff and those that are intended for the Board
 - o Define staff expectations vs. Director's expectations
 - o Simplify plan for the Board
 - o One pager to provide guidelines for Directors and included in Director orientation
 - o Elected officials need to have the ability to communicate in various ways with constituents in respect of policy
- Plan is thorough
 - o Ensure not unduly restrictive
 - o Ensure it's a living document
 - o Ensure the vetting in using images
- Communication Plan – operational tool
 - o Provides staff with basic framework and guidelines
- Maintaining a standard but be flexible
 - o Provide consistency and guidelines
- Formal vs. informal communication
- RDBN E-mail communication subject to a Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy request
- Utilized Northern Development Initiative Trust Playbook in developing plan
- Include the use of radio in the plan
- Amateur radio use
- Staff will bring forward a revised Communication Plan and Policy for review at future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Evacuation Route Guide

The following was discussed:

- Evacuation Route Guide – 100% grant funded
- Member municipalities and Saik'uz First Nation also participated and developed detailed plans
- Other First Nations in the region provided input
- Collaborative initiative to have the 8 member municipalities, First Nation communities and the Regional District develop plans
 - o Each municipality has received its own plan
 - Town of Smithers Council has received its Evacuation Route Plan
 - Key opportunities for municipality and rural areas to work together
- Plan does not include detailed evacuation routes
 - o Vastness of the Regional District – challenging to have a detailed evacuation route plan similar to the municipalities
 - o Provides the Regional District with information on how to get people out during an evacuation event
 - o Contacts with other groups and organizations
- Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure responsible for roads and creating alternate routes when required
- Plan is one tool for staff to use in the Emergency Operations Centre to assist in evacuating people from an area during an event

REPORTS (CONT'D)

- Update information regarding:
 - o Gas Stations in Granisle
 - o Additional evacuation zones in Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural)
 - o Number of homes in Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural)
- Challenges for Village of Telkwa due to bridges crossing the Bulkley River
- School District participation in the plan
 - o Required to have their own evacuation plans
- Living document
- Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessments
- Neighbourhood planning in Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)
 - o Pilot project
 - o Funded by Northern Capital Planning Grant funding from Electoral Area A
 - o Complement Evacuation Route Plan
- Consultation and working with Electoral Area Directors
- The importance of on the ground information and truthing rather than from a desktop will be forwarded to the consultant
- Local knowledge and input key
- Search and Rescue invited to provide input
- Opportunities to explore developing apps to assist people in moving around during an event.

Break for Lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Break for Special Board Meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:41 p.m.

British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission Public Meeting

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Newell

C.W.2022-5-3

"That the Committee receive the Deputy Director of Corporate Services' British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission Public Meeting memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

First Quarter Financial Statements

Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Brien

C.W.2022-5-4

"That the Committee receive the Chief Financial Officer's First Quarter Financial Statements memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action & Province of BC DRIPA Action Plan

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2022-5-5

"That the Committee receive the First Nations Liaison's Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and Province of BC DRIPA Action Plan memorandums."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Write letters to Premier Horgan, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Moved by Director Morgan
 Seconded by Director Newell

C.W.2022-5-6

“That the Committee recommend that the Board write letters to the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada in regard to ending human trafficking, sex trafficking and prostitution in BC; and further request that law enforcement and education are increased to achieve the ending of human trafficking and provide safety for citizens.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Proactive questions in terms of work camps
- Lake Babine Nation - Interagency Meeting Construction Camps and Communities group
 - RDBN staff participate
- Request RCMP input regarding the topic of Human Trafficking
 - Scheduled to attend the July 21, 2022 Meeting
- Staff will follow up with Ms. Peters regarding social media information and Children of the Street Society information.

Boardroom Plexiglass

Discussion took place regarding the potential removal of the Boardroom plexiglass.

INCAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Brien

C.W.2022-5-7

In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Section 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (Cycle 16 Trail) must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Newell

C.W.2022-5-8

“That the meeting be adjourned at 2:01 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**RURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, May 12, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Mark Parker

Directors Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway - via Zoom
Clint Lambert
Chris Newell
Jerry Petersen
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Michael Riis-Christianson, Electoral Area "B" (Burns Lake Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle – via Zoom
Bob Motion, District of Fort St. James
Taylor Turkington, Manager, Beswick Hildebrant Lund – via Zoom
Cathy Peters, BC Human Trafficking, Educator, Speaker, Advocate – via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDAMoved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director NewellRDC.2022-5-1

"That the Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for May 12, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES**Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
-April 14, 2022Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director NewellRDC.2022-5-2

"That the minutes of the Rural/Agriculture Committee meeting of April 14, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RURAL REPORTS

Legacy Funding – Coastal GasLink (CGL) Pipeline Project

The following was discussed:

- Requesting funding for fire protection equipment (water pump trailer)
 - o BC Cattlemen’s working to have fire protection equipment
 - o Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) currently has 9 trailers that have been deployed to a number of fires
 - o Support organizations/societies in the region in their acquisition of fire protection equipment
- Internet fibre connection
 - o Buckflats area in Electoral Area “G” (Houston Rural)
- Legacy funding for waste-based initiatives
 - o Region-wide request
- LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink Project funding allocated to the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine for waste initiatives
- RDBN receiving RDKS waste due to pipeline activity
- Knockholt Expansion costs and the impacts due to additional waste
- Potential formation of societies throughout the region
- Providing CGL with an outline of the RDBN’s ask and suggested ideas
 - o \$75,000 per Electoral Area
 - o \$500,000 region-wide request for waste projects – long term liability of landfills.
 - o Staff will include the capital costs of Knockholt Landfill expansion and determine outline of funding requests.

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

REPORT

COVID-19 Relief Fund Applications

Moved by Director Fisher
 Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2022-5-3

“That the Committee recommend that the Board approve the following applications for COVID-19 Relief Funds:

-Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural)

-Lakes District Film Appreciation Society – Insurance, Utilities - \$6,002

-Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural)

-Fraser Lake Saddle Club – Insurance, Utilities - \$2,451

-Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

-Lakes District Film Appreciation Society – Insurance, Utilities - \$6,002.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2022-5-4

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:06 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, May 12, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Mark Fisher

Directors Gladys Atrill – via Zoom
Shane Brienen
Chris Newell
Jerry Petersen
Gerry Thiessen

Director Michael Riis-Christianson
Absent

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer– via Zoom
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Clint Lambert, Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)
– left at 3:35 p.m.
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle – via Zoom – left at 3:27 p.m.
Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake– via Zoom – left at 3:27 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fisher called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Brienen
Seconded by Director Newell**WMC.2022-5-1**

“That the Waste Management Committee Agenda for May 12, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES****Waste Management
Committee Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2022**Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Brienen**WMC.2022-5-2**

“That the Minutes of the Waste Management Committee for April 14, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

Chair Fisher provided an update regarding:

- Attended teleconference calls with the Waste Management Association
 - o Discussed tires in the region and across the province not being picked up for recycling on a consistent basis
- Attended the Northern Working Group Meeting for the Coast Waste Management Association
 - o Good cross section of members
 - o Heard consistent message regarding collaboration and sharing information across northern BC.

Verbal Report – Chair Fisher – Welcome Youth Members

- Not able to attend today's meeting
- Chair Fisher has scheduled a Zoom meeting with youth members May 17th to provide an overview and preparation for a future Waste Management Committee (WMC) Meeting.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) UPDATE

Verbal Report – Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – First Meeting Date

- First Meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 14, 2022
- Staff have drafted a welcome e-mail with upcoming meeting date – not yet sent to members
- Staff will provide an update at the next WMC Meeting.

POLICY REVIEW

None

DIVERSION & RECYCLING

None

MISCELLANEOUS

Review of Cost Recovery and the RDBN

The following was discussed:

- Other groups unable to capitalize on cost recovery initiatives
- Polluter paid principle
- Implementing recommendations outlined in the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP)
- Incentives for diversion
- Resistance from rural residents
- Largest operating expense to implement cost recovery is staffing
 - o Each additional weigh scale will require additional staffing
- Unfunded liability for landfill closures – ensure incorporation in all planning and implementation of diversion initiatives moving forward
- Looking at diversion – if do not have a model that is fair and equitable across the region
- Balance and combination of fees/property taxation
 - o Shift/move the industry subsidization from one property class to another property class
 - o Some individuals will pay more, and some will pay less
 - o Those that continue to landfill rather than divert waste will continue to pay
 - o User pay model
 - Complete cost recovery through tipping fees – no taxes
 - Large urban centres can do full cost recovery
 - o Rural demographic – challenging to eliminate taxation
 - o Operation costs a consideration in reducing taxation
 - o Board to determine model

MISCELLANEOUS (CONT'D)

- Shifting responsibility to the individual
- Require updated Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory
- Addressing municipal waste pickup to incentivize diversion
- Addressing illegal dumping
 - o Impact to backcountry
- Innovative ideas to encourage diversion
- Residential recycling is Recycle BC's mandate
- Challenges with commercial waste
- Education campaigns and communication
- Amount of recyclable beverage containers being landfilled
- Organics diversion
 - o Methane gas recovery
 - o Currently operations do not generate large enough methane gas amounts to use on a large scale
 - o Small scale Bio-digesters
- Staff will bring forward proposed implementation plan for consideration.

Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory Update

Discussion took place regarding:

- The Study providing information regarding potential material that can be diverted
 - o Assist in developing cost recovery model
 - o The number and timing of field sampling events
 - o Cost and funding of the waste characterization and recycling feedstock inventory
 - o Full field-based waste characterization study
 - o Adjusting the scope of the project
 - o Determining a baseline of waste being disposed at RDBN facilities
 - o Real time data
 - o Difference across the region.

Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory Update Moved by Director Atrill
 Seconded by Director Thiessen

WMC.2022-5-3

"That the Committee recommend that the Board approve XCG as the consultant for conducting the Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory in 2022/2023."

Opposed: Director Newell CARRIED

(All/Directors/Majority)

Verbal Update – Highlights of the SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America) Zero Waste Conference

Mr. Eriksen and Ms. Derksen outlined highlights of the SWANA Waste conference:

- In person conference was beneficial
- Good seminars and networking opportunities
- Connections with contractors to move forward waste initiatives
- Received updates regarding stewardship programs and waste
- Toured a tire recycling plan, metal recycling facility and zero waste facility.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Verbal Update – Knockholt Capacity and Waste Re-routing Plan Update

Mr. Eriksen provided an update regarding Knockholt capacity and waste re-routing. Weather dependent, the Knockholt expansion is scheduled to begin in June 2022. There is currently two months of space existing at the landfill before having to adjust for capacity.

Verbal Update – Department Activity

Mr. Eriksen noted that the Department is planning and moving forward with its capital projects and budgeted items for 2022.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

- Recycling Depot Discussion – May 2022
- 2m3 Rule Discussion – Strategy, Challenges, Enforcement – June 2022
- Daily Cover Material – Considerations for Sawmill waste (Hog fuel) – June 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Brien

WMC.2022-5-4

“That the meeting be adjourned at 4:11 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Fisher, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
 Corporate Services



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Deneve Vanderwolf, Planning Technician
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Advisory Planning Commission Member Appointment

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board remove Janik Heer and Brian Atherton from the APC for Electoral Area A.
2. That the Board appoint Laurelin Svisdahl to the APC for Electoral Area A for the term ending on December 31, 2022.

VOTING

All/ Directors / Majority

“Regional District of Bulkley Nechako Advisory Planning Commission Bylaw No. 1501, 2009” states that the Regional District Board, by resolution, shall appoint members to an Advisory Planning Commission on the recommendation of the Electoral Area Director for a term of four years. The Board may at its sole discretion, upon recommendation of the Electoral Area Director, terminate the appointment of any member or appoint new members at any time.

The Director for Electoral Area A recommends that the Regional District Board remove Janik Heer and Brian Atherton and appoint Laurelin Svisdahl to the Advisory Planning Commission for Electoral Area A.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Maria Sandberg, Planning and Parks Coordinator
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: ALR Non-Farm Use Application No. 1245

RECOMMENDATION

That Agricultural Land Reserve Non-Farm Use Application No. 1245 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval.

VOTING

All / Directors / Majority

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This application is requesting Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) approval to develop a rest stop with associated infrastructure such as an information kiosk, a bike rack, signage, bench and a picnic table as part of Phase 1 of the Cycle 16 trail. The non-farm use application area is 579 m² in size.

Staff support the application and recommend that the application be forwarded to the ALC with a recommendation to support.

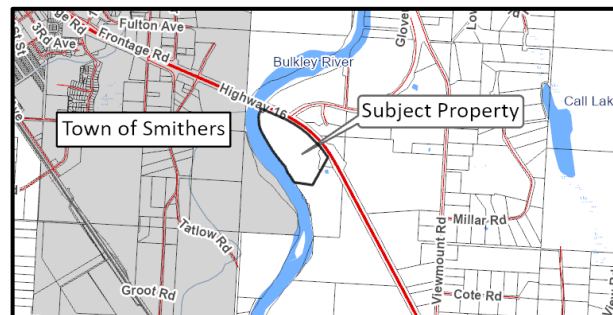
APPLICATION SUMMARY

Name of Agent/Owner:	RDBN/Virgo Holdings Ltd., Inc. No. BC0754855
Electoral Area:	A
Subject Property:	Lot A Except: Part Subdivided by Plan BCP18208 Section 20 and 29 Township 4 Range 5 Coast District Plan PRP14858
Property Size:	17.5 ha
OCP Designation:	Agricultural (AG) in “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Smithers Telkwa Rural OCP Bylaw No. 1704, 2014”
Zoning:	Agriculture (Ag1) in the “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020” (the Zoning Bylaw)
Existing Land Uses:	RV park, residence, home occupation
Location:	The subject property is just east of the Town of Smithers, at 575 and 579 Highway 16 E (see subject property map)
Non-Farm Use Area:	± 579 m ² (± 6,232.3 ft ²)
Proposal:	

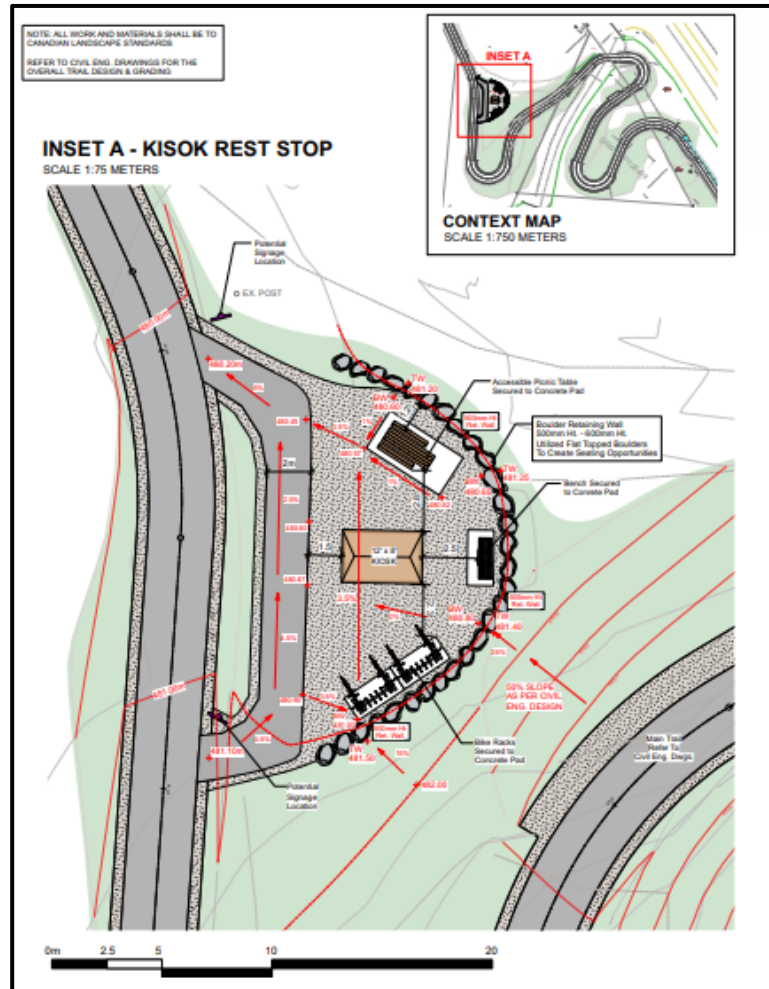
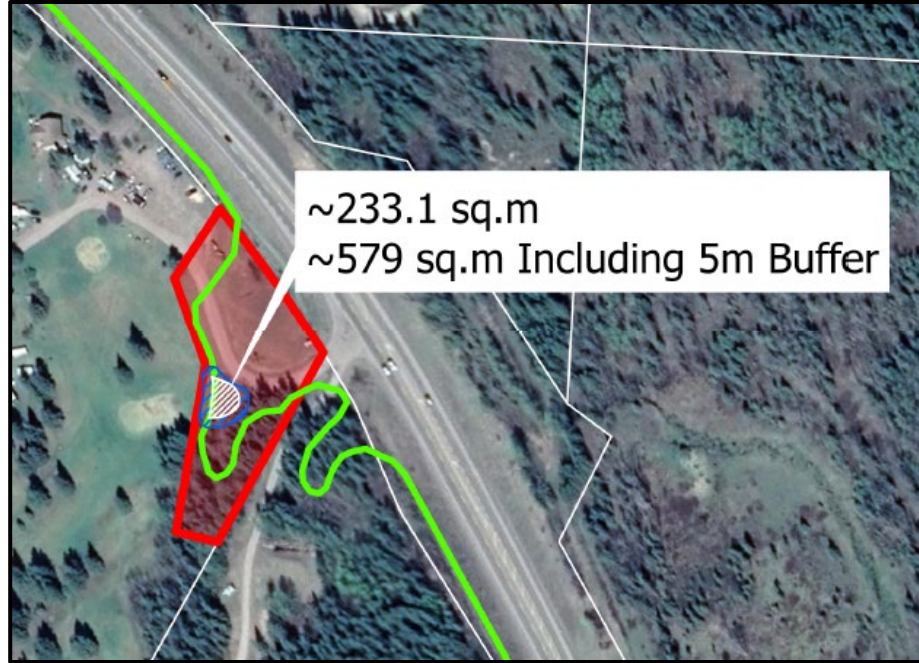
This application is requesting Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) approval of a rest stop with associated infrastructure such as an information kiosk, a bike rack, signage, bench and a picnic table as part of Phase 1 of the Cycle 16 trail. The non-farm use application area is 579 m² in size which includes the actual area of the rest stop (233.1 m² in size), plus a 5-metre buffer around the area, in case the location and design is adjusted slightly during construction or redesign.

DISCUSSION

Construction of Phase 1 of the Cycle 16 trail was approved by the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) through a Transportation, Utility, and Recreational Trail Use Application in March 2021. Construction is expected to start this summer.



Phase 1 trail development now includes a proposed rest stop with associated infrastructure including an information kiosk, a bike rack, signage, bench and a picnic table. The rest stop will be located on a scenic viewpoint on a switchback beside the old Par 3 Golf Course, on land that is in the process of being transferred to the highway right-of-way. The ALC has confirmed that the rest stop requires a Non-Farm Use Application, as the previous approval was only for the trail itself and the ALC did not consider any other additions or additional fill.



The application area is zoned Agricultural (Ag1) in the Zoning Bylaw. A bike trail is considered a Park use, which is permitted principal use in all zones. The rest stop infrastructure is considered accessory to the Park use and is therefore permitted.

This application has not been sent out for referral.

Planning Staff recommend support for the non-farm use application.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix A – agriculture capability
2. Appendix B – surrounding ALR applications
3. Appendix C - Rest Stop Layout April 10 22

APPENDIX A

Agricultural Capability based on Canada Land Inventory Mapping

66% of the subject property is

Class 4 limited by soil moisture deficiency

30% of the subject property is

70% Class 3 limited by Adverse climate

30% Class 6 limited by Excess water and Inundation

4% of the subject property is

Class 5 limited by Soil moisture deficiency and stoniness

CLASS 3 land in this class has limitations that require moderately intensive management practices or moderately restrict the range of crops, or both.

Class 4 Land in this class has severe limitations that restrict the range of crops or may require special management considerations.

Class 5 Land in this class has severe limitations that restrict the ability to produce perennial forage crops. Improvement practices remain feasible.

Class 6 Land in this class is suitable for grazing/forage crops. These lands cannot be improved for further cultivation due to soil and/or climate limitations.

Agricultural Capability Map



APPENDIX B:**Surrounding Applications**

ALR Application	Legal Description	Summary	Staff Recommendation	Boad Recommendation	ALC Decision
54	NE ¼, Section 29, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide a 4 hectare parcel from the original 28.7 hectares	Approval	Approval	Approved
108	NW ¼, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide a 1.6 hectare parcel from the original parcel	Approval subject to consolidation with adjoining lot	Approval subject to consolidation with adjoining lot	Approval subject to consolidation with adjoining lot
313	NE ¼, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District, except Plans 7066 & 8680	Application to subdivide two 4.04 hectare parcels from the original 40 hectares	Denial	Denial	Denied
322	SE ½ of Section 29, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District	Application to subdivide a ±8 hectare parcel off of land described as Part of the SE ½ of Section 29, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District for the purpose of a vegetable packing plant	Approval	Approval	Approved
334	Lot A, Plan 6857, SW ¼, Section 29, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to exclude in order to subdivide the original 7.13 hectares	Approval	Approval	Denied Exclusion, Approved a 3 lot subdivision
344	NE ¼, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District, except Plans 7066 & 8680	Application to exclude and subdivide two 4.04 hectare parcels from the original 40 hectares	Denial	Approval for exclusion	Denied
377	Lot 1, Plan 8680, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide two 2.025 hectare parcels from the original 4.05 hectares	Denial	Denial	Denied
454	Lot 1, Plan 8680, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to exclude and subdivide two 2.025 hectare parcels from the original 4.05 hectares	Denial	Denial (For Exclusion)	Denied for exclusion, Approved for subdivision
637	Frac. NW 1/4 of Section 20, except part lying west of the Bulkley River, and except Plan 9198, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District.	Application for development of a par three eighteen hole golf course, a 100yard by 280 yard driving range. A 2000 square foot clubhouse, and ±80 Vehicle parking lot and a 30 unit recreation vehicle park.	Approval	Approval	Approved

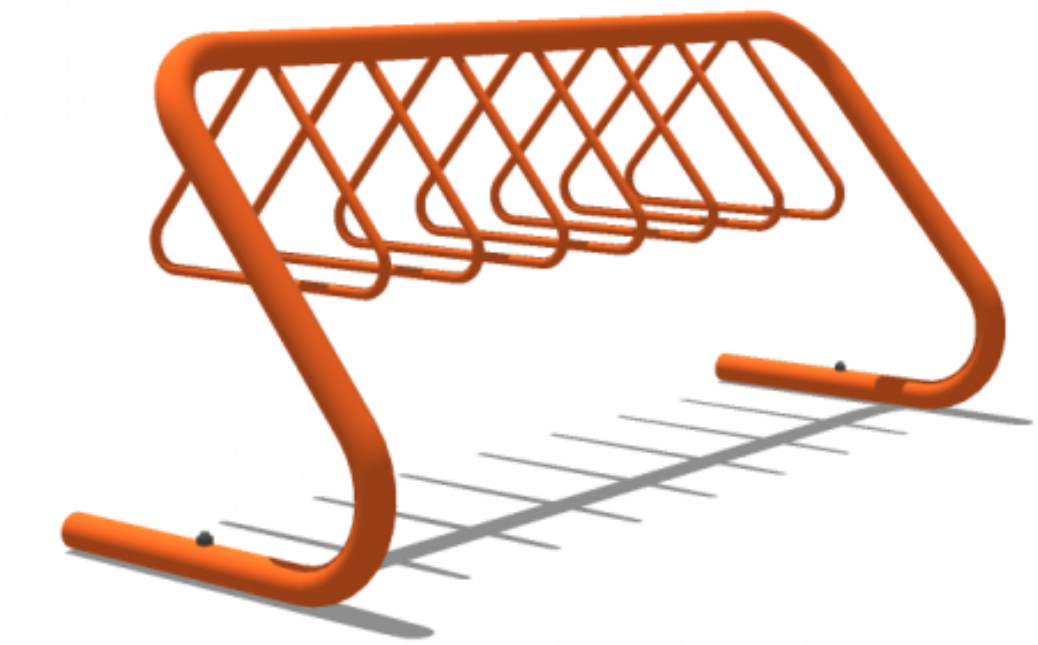
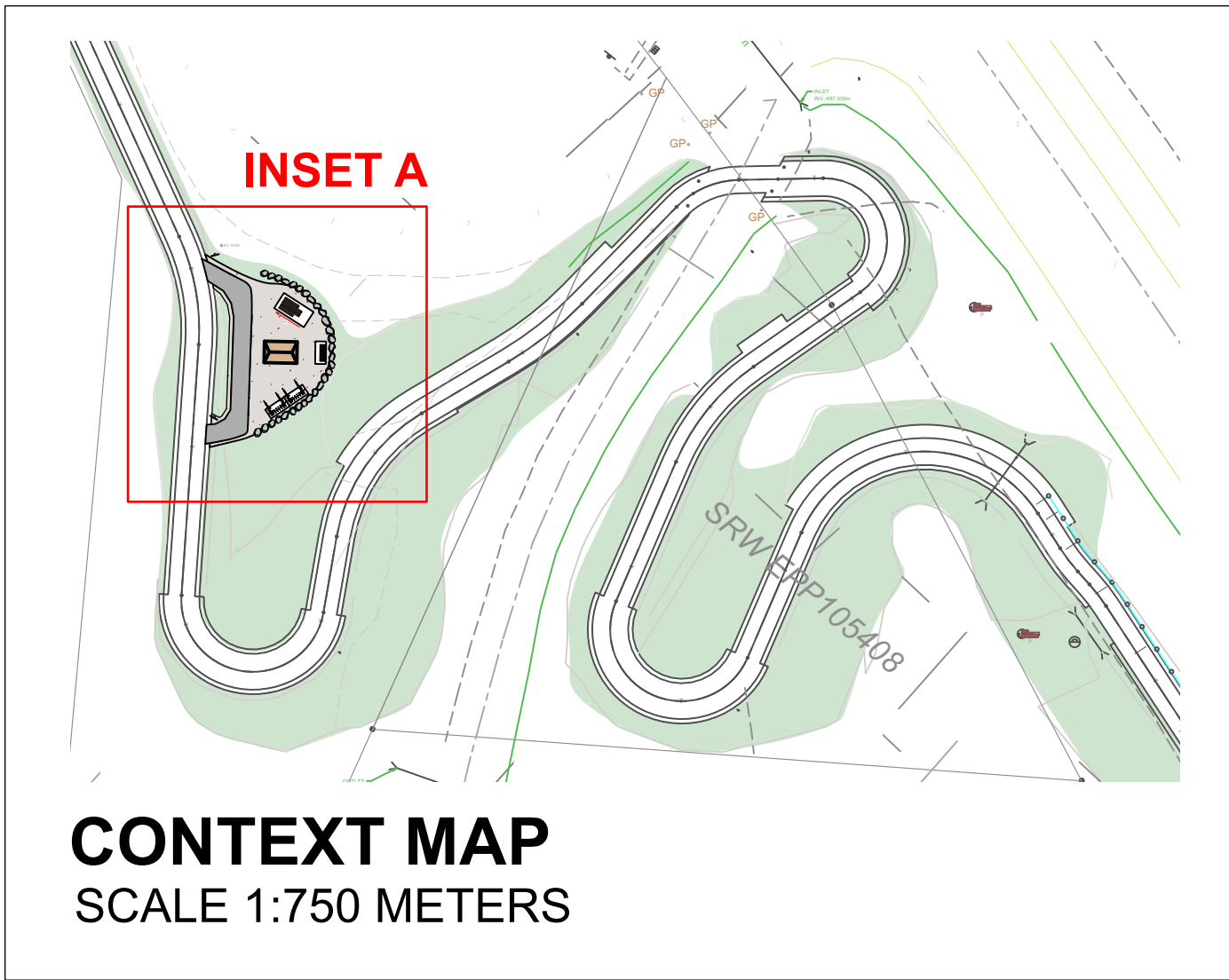
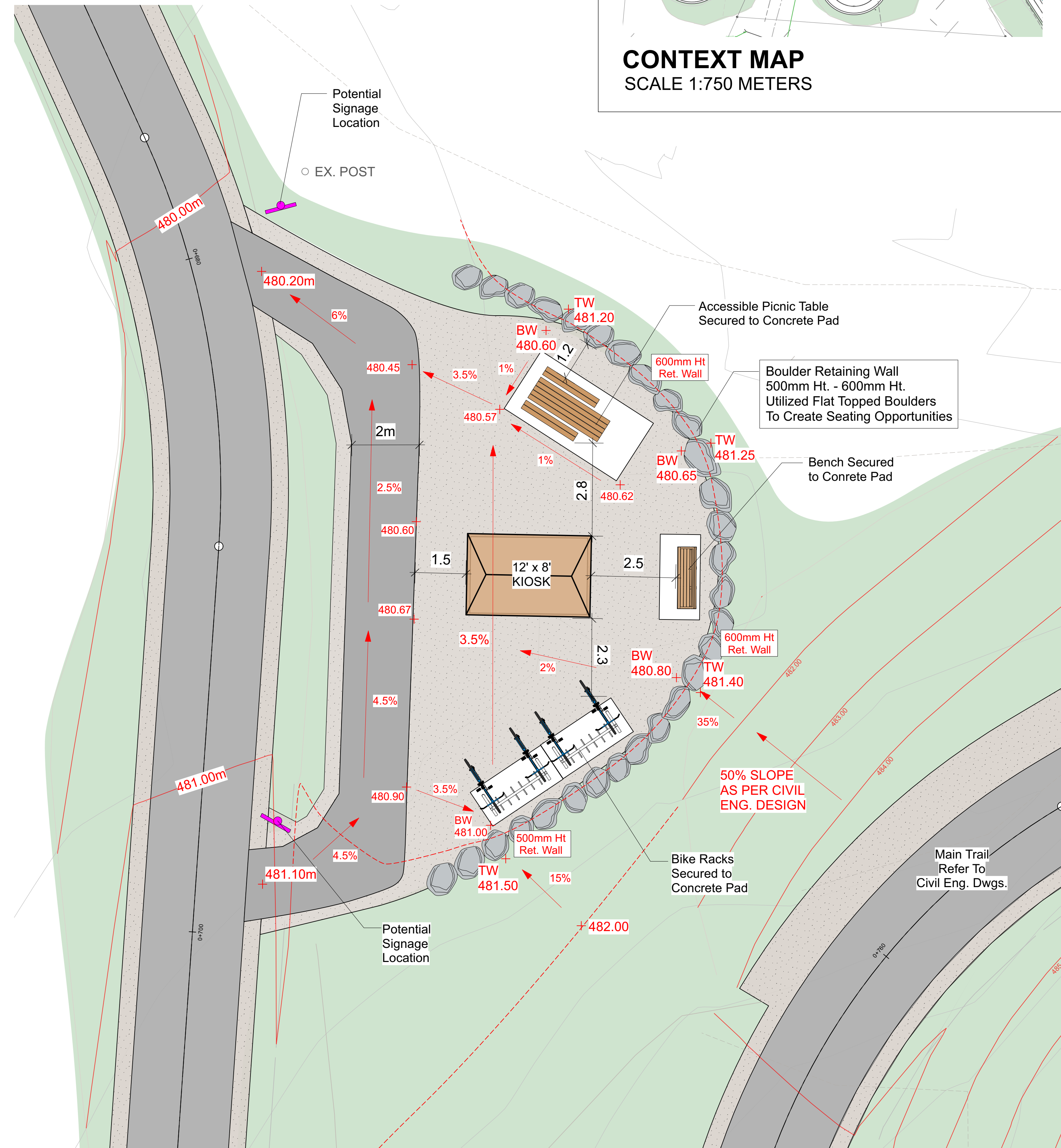
708	SE ¼ Section 29, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide a ±5 acre parcel off of land described as the SE ¼ Section 29, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Denial	Denial	Denied
760	Lot A, Plan 10304, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide five parcels: one of 1.7 ha, two of 2.0 ha, one of 4.75 ha, one of 8.25 ha, plus a remainder, from the original 60 hectares	Denial	Denial	Denied
878	Lot A, Plan 10304, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District	Application to subdivide a 4 hectare parcel from the original 60 hectares	Approval (Conditional)	Approval (Conditional)	Approved
885	Portion of the Fractional SW 1/4 Section 20, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District, lying west of the Bulkley River	Application to subdivide four 1.5 ha lots.	Approval	Approval	Approved
962	Part SE ¼, Section 29, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District, except Plans 6969 and 7102	The owners of the property wish to subdivide off a 23.8 ha portion of the 53.6 ha property	Approval	Approval	Approved
1000	Lot A, Plan 10304, Section 20, Township 4, Range 5 Coast District, except Plan PRP41884. The subject property is ±60 ha (±148 acres) in size.	The purpose of this application is to subdivide the subject property into two parcels where it is divided by Highway 16, creating one parcel of ±46 ha (±114 acres) and one of ±14 ha (±34.78 acres). The applicant has operated a farm on this and three other properties for 67 years. He has five children and wishes to leave each of them a parcel of land. The applicant also stated that it is extremely difficult to farm across Highway 16 in this area because of the high amount of traffic	Approval	Approval	Approval subject to consolidation with adjoining lot
1090	Lot 3 Section 20 Township 4 Plan BCP25354, Range 5, Coast District.	The purpose of this application is to allow the subject property to be subdivided into two parcels as divided by Highway 16, creating a proposed Lot A 14.1 ha in size, and a remainder which is 27.9 ha in size .	Approval	Approval	Approved
1161	Lot A, except part subD by plan BCP18208, sct 20 & 29 twp 4 R5 Coast Plan PRP14858	Non Farm Use for 15-lot strata subdivision	Approval	Approval	Denial

NOTE: ALL WORK AND MATERIALS SHALL BE TO CANADIAN LANDSCAPE STANDARDS

REFER TO CIVIL ENG. DRAWINGS FOR THE OVERALL TRAIL DESIGN & GRADING

INSET A - KISOK REST STOP

SCALE 1:75 METERS



METAL BIKE RACK EXPO SERIES (or approved equal)

Model # W7510
By CORA CANADA
Secured to Concrete Pad
(Supplied By Owner)



INFORMATION KIOSK CONCEPTS

Precedent Image - Design By Others

RUTHERFORD ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLE

By Wishbone Site Furnishings Ltd.
Secured to Concrete Pad
(1 TOTAL - Supplied by Owner)



LARSON BENCH (No Armrests)

By Wishbone Site Furnishings Ltd.
Secured to Concrete Pad
(1 TOTAL - Supplied by Owner)



LEGEND	
	ASPHALT SURFACING TO MATCH MAIN TRAIL CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL
	CONCRETE SLAB / FURNITURE PAD
	COMPACTED 3/4" MINUS CRUSHED AGGREGATE SURFACE
	DISTURBED AREA TO BE REGRADED DURING CONSTRUCTION OF TRAIL RESEEDED WITH SPECIFIED SEED BLEND ON EXISTING TOPSOIL.
	LOCALLY SOURCED BOULDER RETAINING WALL
	METAL BIKE RACK
	BENCH C/W BACKREST
	ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLE
	PROPOSED INFORMATION KIOSK (DESIGN BY OTHERS)
	PROPOSED SIGN LOCATIONS
	PROPOSED GRADING NOTES
	PROPOSED CONTOURS

Date	Revisions	By
Feb 25 2022	Concept Sketch For Discussion	LS/SS
Apr 10 2022	For Review	LS

LAZZARIN SVISDAHL
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

203-1300 1st Avenue, Prince George B.C. V2L 2Y3
250-563-6158 www.isla-landarch.com

Project
Cycle 16 Kiosk Design
Smithers, BC

Sheet Title
Schematic Design
Trail Kiosk Rest Stop

Date February 4, 2022
Scale 1:75 METERS (or as noted)
Drawn By LS/SD
Project No.

Copyright reserved. This drawing and the design are, and at all times remain the exclusive property of Lazzarin Svisdahl Landscape Architects and cannot be used without the Landscape Architect's written consent.

Drawing No.
L 1



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Rowan Nagel, Planning/GIS Technician
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Telus Wireless Communication Facility No. BC109430

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board direct staff to send a letter stating that the RDBN has no objection to the proposed communications tower location, and that the RDBN would like to engage with Telus regarding service levels and opportunity to collaborate in relation to the RDBN's broadband strategy.

VOTING

All / Directors / Majority

DISCUSSION

The Regional District has received a referral from TELUS c/o Cypress Land Services regarding the construction of a communications tower to improve wireless service on Francois Lake.

The site has an existing 24-meter-tall tower. However, it will not meet technical or network requirements, so Telus proposes replacing it with a 33-metre-tall wireless communication tower. The location in question is not zoned. The Regional District permits unattended public service or utility buildings and structures having no exterior storage of any kind in all zones of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw. Staff also note that zoning cannot regulate telecommunications towers under federal jurisdiction. The application area is not within the Agricultural Land Reserve.



INDUSTRY CANADA CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Industry Canada has a public consultation policy that proponents must follow prior to the placement of communication towers. This policy requires proponents to consult with local land use authorities prior to construction. The RDBN relies on Industry Canada's default public consultation process, as outlined below.

The proponent must:

1. Provide written notification to the public, the land-use authority and Industry Canada of the proposed antenna system installation or modification.
2. Engage the public and land-use authority to address relevant questions, comments, and concerns regarding the proposal.
3. Provide the public and land-use authorities with the opportunity to respond in writing to the proponent's ability to address reasonable and relevant concerns.

The aim of consultation with the land-use authority is:

- to discuss site options,
- ensure that local processes related to antenna systems are respected,
- address reasonable and relevant concerns from the land-use authority and the community; and,
- obtain land-use authority concurrence in writing.

TELUS CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Telus has informed the RDBN that the attached public notice was published in the Lakes District Newspaper on March 23rd, 2022. There are no dwellings or properties within three times the proposed tower's height, which is 99 m. Telus received two supportive comments and no unsupportive comments during the consultation period.

STAFF COMMENTS

Staff have no concerns regarding the location of the proposed communications tower. The Planning Department consulted with the Economic Development Department regarding the recommendation on engagement with Telus.

ATTACHMENTS

Summary of Consultation Document



April 29, 2022

Rowan Nagel, GIS/Planning Technician

Via Email: rowan.nagel@rdbn.bc.ca

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
("RDBN") 37 3rd Ave
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Dear Mr. Nagel

Subject: Summary of Public Consultation and Request for Concurrence regarding a TELUS
Wireless Communications Facility

TELUS Site:	BC109430 – Francois Lake
Proposed Location:	Address: Francois Lake, BC Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°
Description:	33.0 metre self-support tower / wireless communications facility

Please be advised that TELUS has completed the public consultation process, following Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), formerly Industry Canada's, CPC Procedures as it relates the proposed wireless antenna installations in the above noted subject line. TELUS is respectfully requesting, from the RDBN Board, concurrence for the proposal to build a telecommunication structure to provide improved communications to users near Francois Lake. Enclosed please find evidence of the TELUS' efforts regarding this public consultation process.

An Information Package was submitted to the RDBN on March 10, 2022, formalizing the initiation of the consultation process for the proposed tower location. Please see **Appendix 1: Information Package**.

On March 16, 2022, notification packages were mailed to property owners within a radius of three times the tower height (approx. 99 metres) to advise them of the proposal. Please see **Appendix 2: Affidavit of Notification Package**.

On March 23, 2022, an advertisement ran in the Burns Lake District News newspaper, please see **Appendix 3: Newspaper Tear Sheet**.

On April 25, 2022, the consultation period ended. During the consultation period two comments of support were received. Please see **Appendix 4: Comments Received During Consultation**.

TELUS looks forward to support from the RDBN to enhance improved services for the community, please find in **Appendix 5: Sample Resolution**, a sample resolution which may be used by the Board to support this project. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us 604-620-0877 or by e-mail at tawny@cypresslandservices.com.

Tawny Verigin
Manager of Government Affairs

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tawny Verigin".

Cypress Land Services
Agents for TELUS

Appendix 1: Information Package



Cypress Land Services Inc.
Suite 1051 – 409 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2

Telephone: 604.620.0877
Facsimile: 604.620.0876
Website : www.cypresslandservices.com

March 10, 2022

Via Email: deneve.vanderwolf@rdbn.bc.ca

Deneve Vanderwolf
Planner 1 /Regional Transit Coordinator
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako ("RDBN")
37 3rd Ave
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Subject: TELUS Communication Inc. ("TELUS") Telecommunications Facility Proposal Information Package
Legal: Crown Land
Address: Francois Lake, BC
Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°
TELUS Site: BC109430 – Francois Lake

Overview

Cypress Land Services Inc., in our capacity as agents to TELUS, is submitting this information package to formalize the consultation process related to the installation and operation of a telecommunications facility. We have been in preliminary consultation with RDBN and in order to provide improved, dependable wireless services to the areas in and around Francois Lake. Please note that the existing ABC tower onsite will be replaced with the proposed tower. This information package is intended to formalize the consultation process.

Proposed Site

The subject site is currently an undeveloped Crown Land. The tower is proposed to be location on a high elevation point of the property within an already cleared area adjacent to the existing tower on site.

The proposed installation consists of a 33-metre self-support tower structure with up to 16 panel antennas inclusive of a 3.0 metre lightning rod mounted at the top of the tower. An equipment shelter will be located near the base of the tower enclosed by a chain-link fence, occupying an area of 15.0 by 15.0 metres. The facility is proposed to be located off the existing access road. Please see **Schedule A: Tower Site Location**.

Rationale for Site Selection

TELUS recently acquired ABC Communications and its customers. As such, some ABC towers will be replaced with larger towers to improve wireless internet and mobility services to customers in the service area. To confirm, TELUS investigated the existing tower and determined it will not meet its technical or network requirements. The existing tower is approximately 24 metres in height. The proposed tower may have sufficient space and loading capacity for additional antennas should another carrier wish to install equipment to support their network requirements at this location dependent upon the type of equipment.

Proposal Details

A 33-metre self-support tower with an equipment shelter at tower base is proposed. TELUS has completed preliminary design plans (**Schedule B: Preliminary Plans**). These preliminary design plans are subject to final engineered design, land survey and approval of Transport Canada. Transport Canada approval may require tower lighting and/or marking; comments are pending.

Consultation Process with the RDBN

It is our understanding that RDBN does not have an adopted Telecommunications policy. Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), formerly Industry Canada, requires all proponents to consult with the local land use authority and public, notwithstanding that ISED has exclusive jurisdiction in the licensing of telecommunication sites, such as the proposed tower. Following ISED's requirements, TELUS would like to initiate Default Public Consultation Process (as described in the Industry Canada circular, CPC-2-0-03, issue 5, commonly referred to as the "CPC"). Information on the "CPC" consultation process may be found on-line at: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf08777.html>.

In order to obtain comments, concerns or questions in regard to the proposed tower site, the CPC requires TELUS to send out notification packages to all properties located within three times the height of the proposed tower (approx. 99 metres). A notice will also be placed in the local paper. This comment period is a minimum of 30 days. We expect the public consultation process to commence mid-March 2022.

At the conclusion of the consultation process, TELUS will prepare a summary of comments received from the community as well as the replies provided by TELUS. TELUS is requesting that, subsequent to the completed consultation process a letter or resolution of concurrence will be issued by the Regional District.

Health and Safety

Health Canada's Safety Code 6 regulations are applicable to this, and all, telecommunications sites. Safety Code 6 seeks to limit the public's exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields and ensures public safety. Additional information on health and safety may be found on-line at:

Health Canada:

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/radiation/radio_guide-lignes_direct-eng.php

Concurrence Requirements

In order to complete the consultation process, TELUS will be requesting concurrence from the RDBN in a form acceptable by ISED.

Conclusion

Please consider this information package as the official commencement of consultation with the RDBN. TELUS is committed to working with the Regional District and the community to provide improved wireless services.

We look forward to working together during this process. Please do not hesitate to contact us by phone at 604-620-0877 or by email at tawny@cypresslandservices.com.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and consideration.

Sincerely,

CYPRESS LAND SERVICES

Agents for TELUS



Tawny Verigin

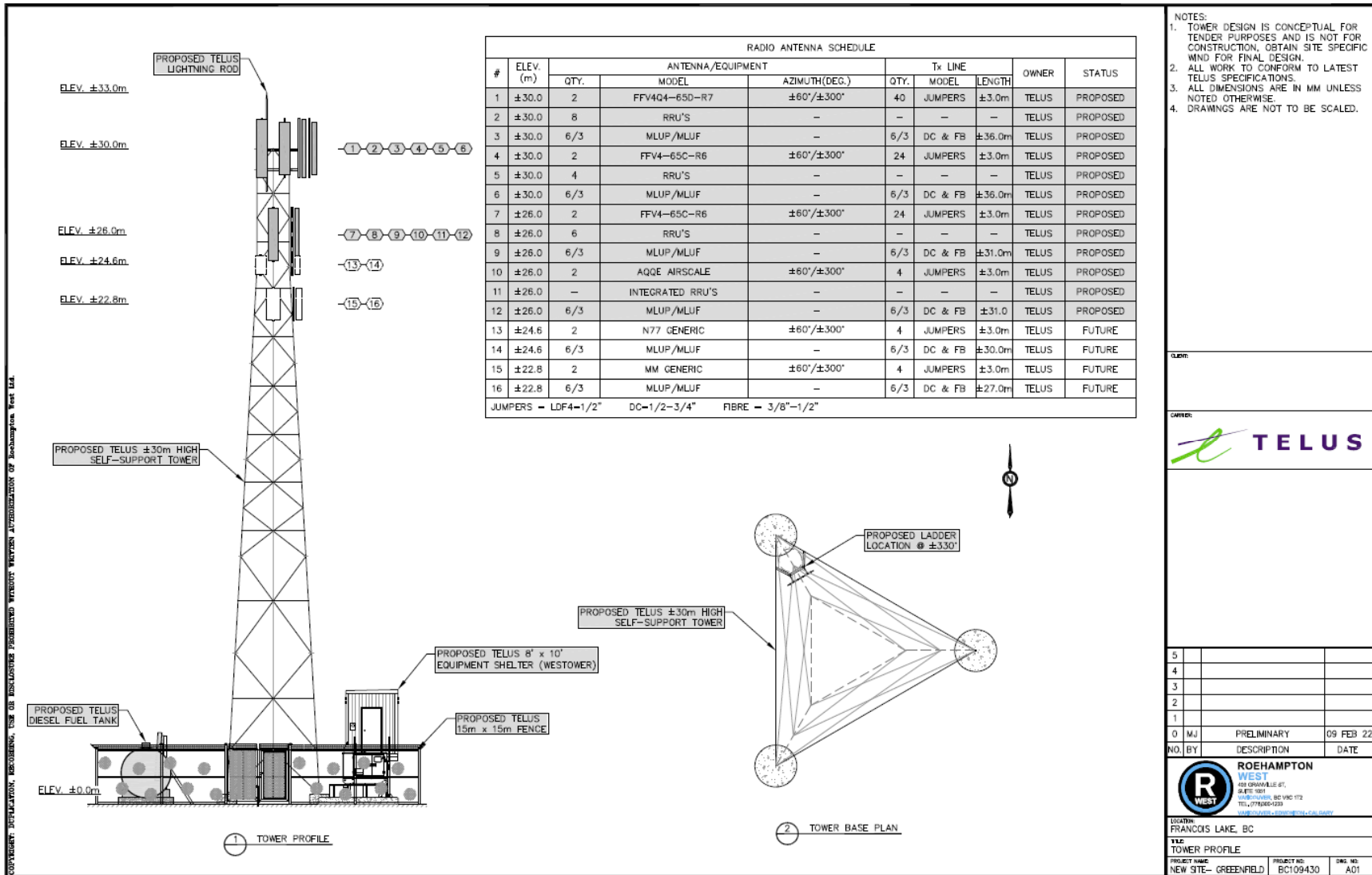
Manager of Government Affairs

cc: Kate Pelsoci, Real Estate & Government Affairs, TELUS

**SCHEDULE A
TOWER SITE LOCATION**



SCHEDULE B
PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – TOWER PROFILE



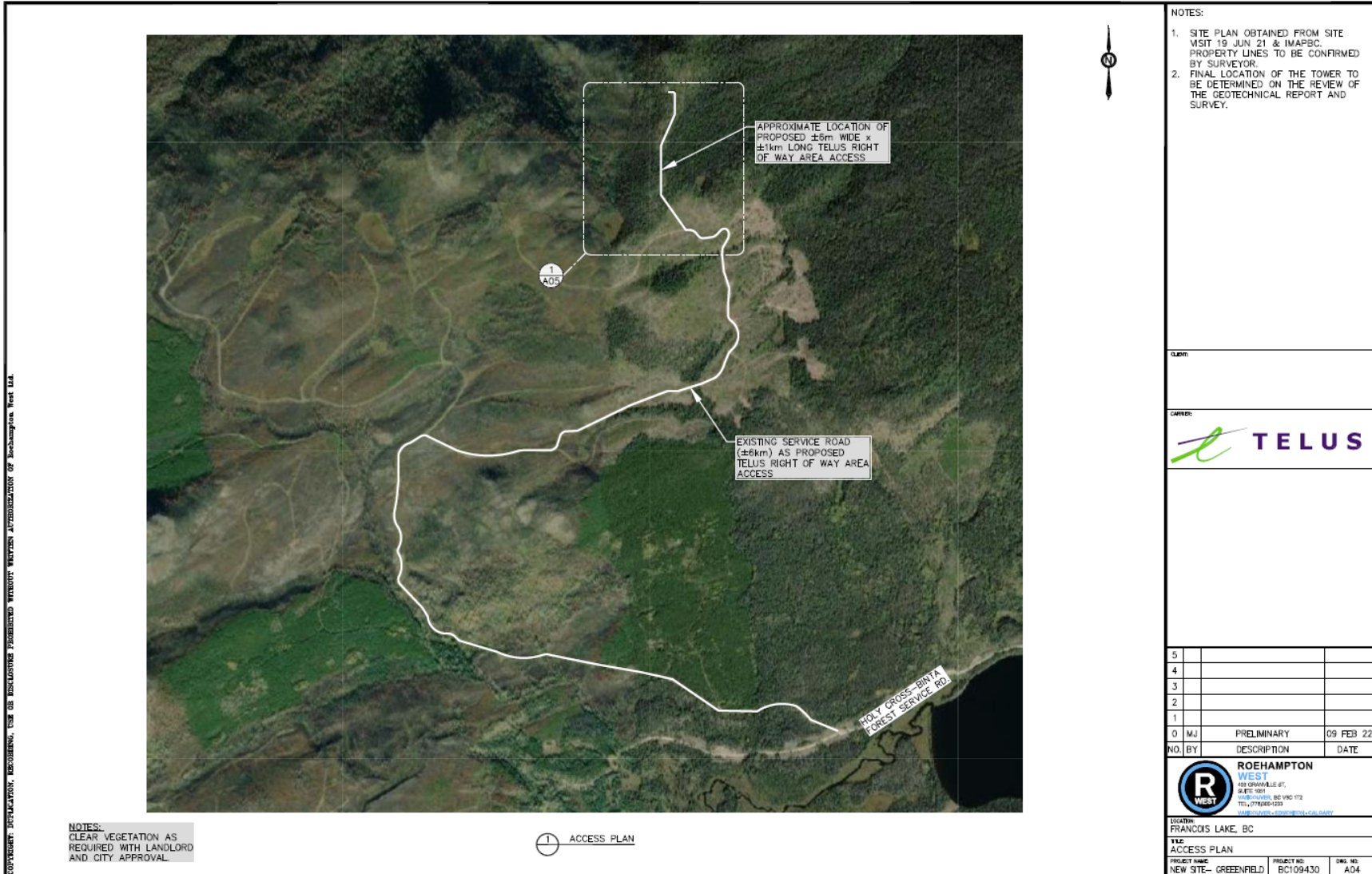
- NOTES:
1. TOWER DESIGN IS CONCEPTUAL FOR TENDER PURPOSES AND IS NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. OBTAIN SITE SPECIFIC WIND FOR FINAL DESIGN.
 2. ALL WORK TO CONFORM TO LATEST TELUS SPECIFICATIONS.
 3. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
 4. DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE SCALED.



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0	M/J	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY	DESCRIPTION		DATE
	ROEHAMPTON WEST		
	109 GRANVILLE ST. SUITE 1001 VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1T2 TEL: 604-261-1111 WWW.TELUS.COM/CONTACT-US		

LOCATION: FRANCOIS LAKE, BC
 TITLE: TOWER PROFILE
 PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE - GREENFIELD PROJECT NO: BC109430 DWG. NO: A01

**SCHEDULE B
PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – ACCESS PLAN**



NOTES:

1. SITE PLAN OBTAINED FROM SITE MSIT 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC. PROPERTY LINES TO BE CONFIRMED BY SURVEYOR.
2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CLIENT:



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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO.	BY	DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 102 SHAWVILLE ST,
 #415 1001
 TELUS BUILDING, SUITE 415
 TEL: 779-265-019
www.telus.com

Location: FRANCIS LAKE, BC
 Title: ACCESS PLAN
 Project Name: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD Project No: BC109430 S/W: A04

NOTES:
 CLEAR VEGETATION AS
 REQUIRED WITH LANDLORD
 AND CITY APPROVAL.

① ACCESS PLAN

COPYRIGHT, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, REGISTRATION, USE OR DISCLOSURE PROHIBITED WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION OF ROEHAMPTON WEST LLC

**SCHEDULE B
PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN**



NOTES:

1. SITE PLAN OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC. PROPERTY LINES TO BE CONFIRMED BY SURVEYOR.
2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CLIENT:



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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY		DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 851 ORWELL ST.
 SUITE 1001
 TELUS CENTRE, 801 W 172
 TEL: 779-000-1233
[WWW.TELUS.COM](http://www.telus.com)

LOCATION: FRANCIS LAKE, BC
 TITLE: PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN
 PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD PROJECT NO: BC109430 SHEET NO: A05

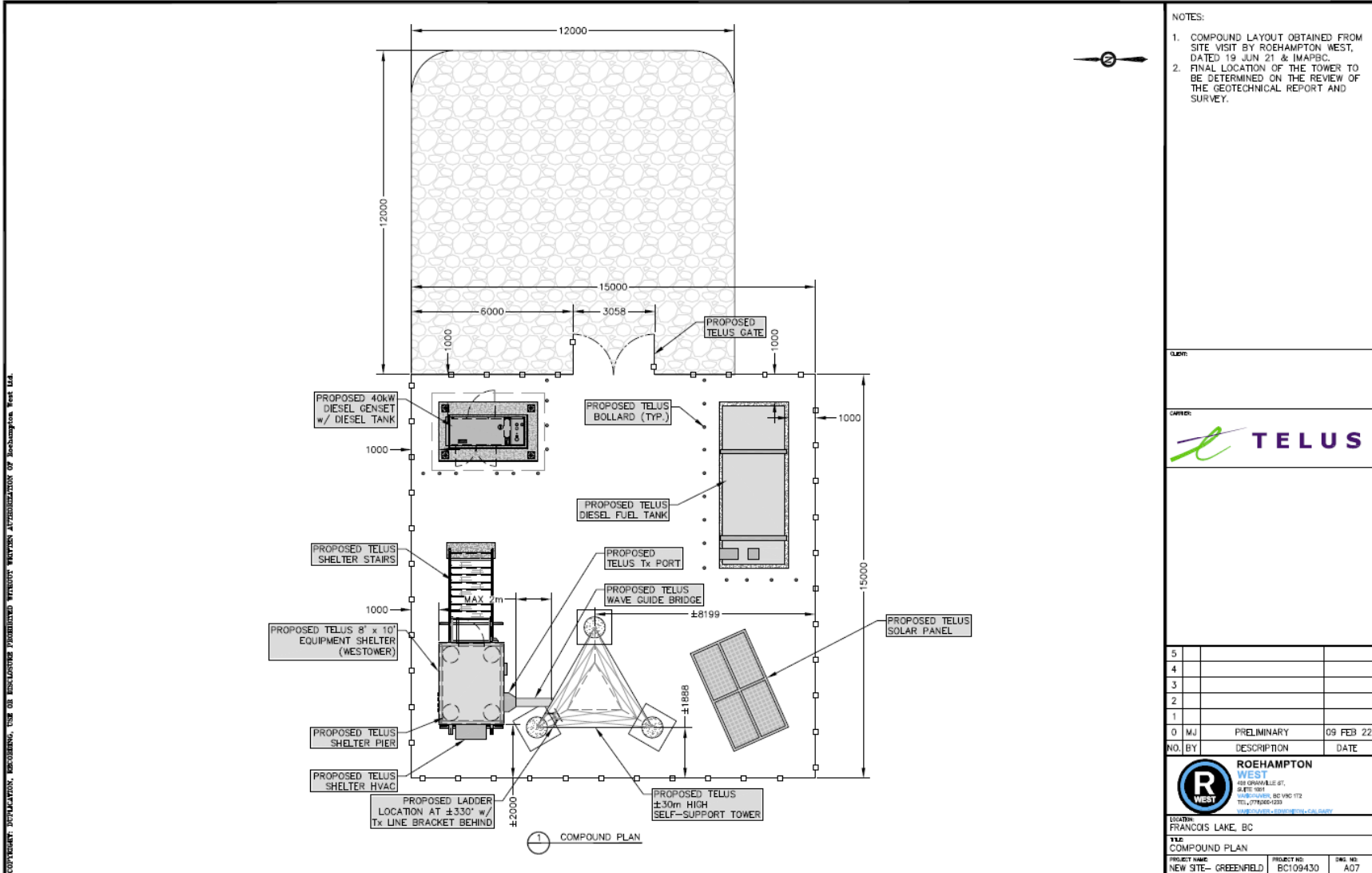
NOTES:
 CLEAR VEGETATION AS
 REQUIRED WITH LANDLORD
 AND CITY APPROVAL.

1 PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN

**SCHEDULE B
PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – SITE PLAN**



**SCHEDULE B
PRELIMINARY DESIGN - COMPOUND PLAN**



- NOTES:
1. COMPOUND LAYOUT OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT BY ROEHAMPTON WEST, DATED 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC.
 2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CLIENT:



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0	M/J	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY		DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 100 GRANVILLE ST.
 SUITE 1001
 VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1T2
 TEL: (779) 865-0293
www.telus.com

LOCATION:
FRANCIS LAKE, BC

TITLE:
COMPOUND PLAN

PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD	PROJECT NO: BC109430	DWG. NO: A07
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Appendix 2: Affidavit of Notification Package

Affidavit of Cypress Land Services

I, Tawny Verigin, Manager of Government Affairs, in the City of Vancouver in the Province of B.C., make an Oath and say:

1. THAT I caused to be sent by regular mail, a notification letter, as included in Appendix A, to property owners, occupants and other recipients, as listed in Appendix B, on March 16, 2022.



Tawny Verigin, Manager of Government Affairs
Cypress Land Services Inc.

Sworn/Affirmed/Declared before me at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of B.C., this 16th day of March 2022.

(Commissioner's Signature)

A Commissioner for Taking Affidavits for the Province of B.C.

(Commissioner's stamp or printed name and expiry date)

Appendix A: Notification Letter

Dear Owner/Occupant,

March 16, 2022

Please accept this notification regarding proposed TELUS Communications Inc. (“TELUS”) wireless service improvements in your community.

Subject: TELUS Communication Inc. (“TELUS”) Telecommunications Facility Proposal
Information Package
Legal: Crown Land
Address: Francois Lake, BC
Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°
TELUS Site: BC109430 – Francois Lake

What is TELUS Proposing?

TELUS seeks to continue to provide high quality wireless telecommunications services to communities throughout British Columbia. Increasingly, communities depend on wireless communications services to meet their business, personal and emergency needs. As you may or may not be aware, TELUS recently acquired ABC Communications and will be migrating ABC customers over to TELUS’ network. As such, TELUS is proposing to replace the existing ABC Communications tower with a new tower.

The subject site is currently an undeveloped Crown land. The tower is proposed to be location on a high elevation point of the property within an already cleared area adjacent of the existing tower on site. The tower is proposed to be located at the coordinates: 53.957968 -125.176945.

The proposed installation consists of a 33-metre self-support tower structure with up to sixteen (16) panel antennas and a 3.0 metre lightning rod mounted at the top of the tower. An equipment shelter will be located near the base of the tower enclosed by a chain-link fence, occupying an area of 15.0 by 15.0 metres. The facility is proposed to be located off the existing access road. The proposed tower may have sufficient space/capacity for additional antennas should another carrier wish to install equipment to support their network requirements at this location.

TELUS acknowledges that the area has unreliable wireless services. It is always our preference to locate new sites on existing tower structures, that said the existing ABC Communications tower will not structurally support TLEUS equipment loading. The proposed tower will improve services to the area as the existing tower is approximately 24 metres and the new tower will be 30 metres in height.

Regulatory Authority

Telecommunications carriers are required by Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (ISED), formerly Industry Canada, to consult with the local municipality and the general public regarding new installations. ISED does have exclusive jurisdiction over the approval and placement of telecommunications installations.

The consultation process will provide an opportunity for residents, stakeholders and landowners to obtain detailed information regarding the proposal and to provide comments for consideration. Any inquiries that are received as a result of this notification will be logged and submitted to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako and ISED as part of our application for concurrence.

Local Municipality

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako does not have a telecommunications consultation process to guide the consultation process. As such, ISED’s Client Procedures Circular CPC-2-0-03 (CPC) consultation process will be followed. This process requires all properties within three times the structure height to be notified (in this instance those within approx. 99.0 metres) and an advertisement in the Burns Lake District News. This

notification is to provide the opportunity to obtain information regarding the proposal, ask questions and provide comments. The closing period for comments to be received by TELUS is April 25, 2022.

Location

The new facility is proposed to be located at the coordinates 53.957968 -125.176945. To confirm, there are no existing structures in the vicinity of the proposed tower to collocate antennas on.

Safety Code 6

ISED requires all wireless carriers to operate in accordance with Health Canada's safety standards. TELUS attests that the installation described in this notification package will be installed and operated on an ongoing basis so as to comply with Health Canada's Safety Code 6, as may be amended from time to time.

Site Access

Access will be obtained via an existing access road. Construction is expected to take approximately one to two months.

Environment

TELUS confirms that the installation is excluded from environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. Any municipal environmental regulations will be followed.

Transport Canada

The tower will be constructed to include aeronautical markings or lighting required by Transport Canada. Comments are pending.

Structural Considerations

TELUS confirms that the antenna structure described in this notification package will apply good engineering practices including, structural adequacy during construction.

General Information

General information relating to antenna systems is available on ISED's Spectrum Management and Telecommunications website: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/towers>.

Contacts:

TELUS

c/o Tawny Verigin of Cypress Land Services, Agents for TELUS
Suite 1051, 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2
Phone: 1-855-301-1520, Fax: 604-620-0876 | Email: publicconsultation@cypresslandservices.com

ISED – Northern British Columbia and Yukon District Office

280 Victoria Street, Room 203 | Prince George BC V2L 4X3
Telephone: 1-800-667-3780 or 250-561-5291 | Fax: 250-561-5290
Email: ic.spectrumprincegeorge-princegeorgespectre.ic@canada.ca
(By appointment only)

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

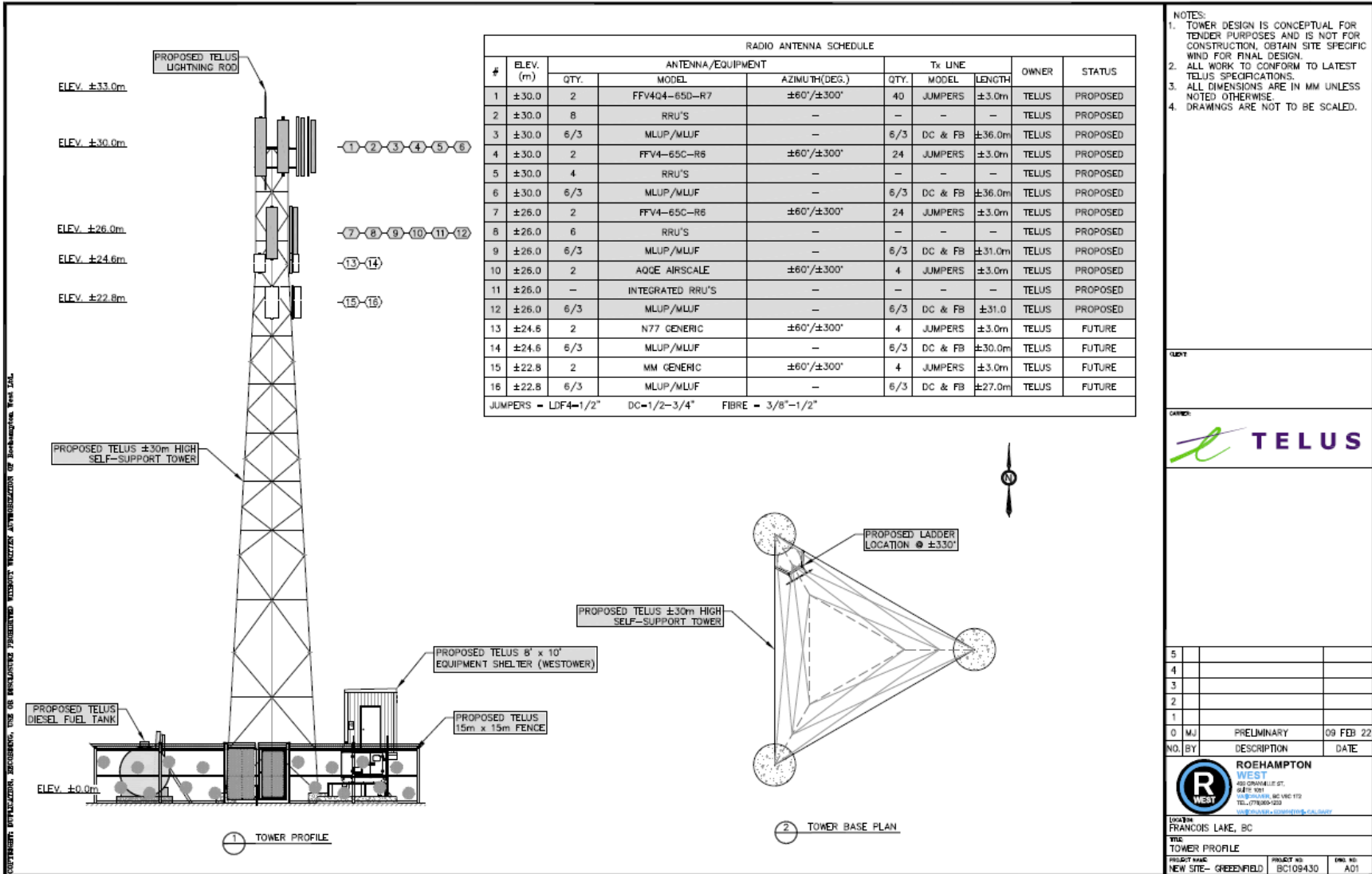
Lindsay King, Planner
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
PO Box 820, Burns Lake, BC
Phone (250) 692-3195 | Toll Free 1-800-320-3339
Email: lindsay.king@rdbn.bc.ca

If you have any specific questions regarding the proposal, please feel welcome to contact the above.

AERIAL MAP OF TELUS SITE LOCATION



PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – TOWER PROFILE



- NOTES:
- TOWER DESIGN IS CONCEPTUAL FOR TENDER PURPOSES AND IS NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. OBTAIN SITE SPECIFIC WIND FOR FINAL DESIGN.
 - ALL WORK TO CONFORM TO LATEST TELUS SPECIFICATIONS.
 - ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
 - DRAWINGS ARE NOT TO BE SCALED.

DATE: _____

SCALE: _____



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0	M/J	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY		DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 450 GRANVILLE ST.
 SUITE 1001
 VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1P2
 TEL: (778) 665-1233
 info@roehamptonwest.ca

Location: FRANCOIS LAKE, BC
 TITLE: TOWER PROFILE
 PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD PROJECT NO: BC109430 REV. NO: A01

PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – ACCESS PLAN



NOTES:

1. SITE PLAN OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC. PROPERTY LINES TO BE CONFIRMED BY SURVEYOR.
2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CITY:

CARRIER:



5			
4			
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2			
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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO.	BY	DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 400 GRANVILLE ST.
 VANIC 100
 VANICOURN, BC V6C 1T2
 TEL: (778) 939-3233
www.telus.com/roehamton_bc.ca/survey

Location: FRANCOIS LAKE, BC
 Title: ACCESS PLAN
 Project Name: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD | Project No: BC109430 | Plan No: A04

NOTES:
 CLEAR VEGETATION AS
 REQUIRED WITH LANDLORD
 AND CITY APPROVAL.

① ACCESS PLAN

SUPPORTING MATERIAL, INCLUDING, THE AIRS/NOTICE REGULATIONS, THE AIRS/NOTICE REGULATIONS OF Saskatchewan, West Jaz.

PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN



NOTES:
CLEAR VEGETATION AS
REQUIRED WITH LANDLORD
AND CITY APPROVAL.

1 PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN



- NOTES:
1. SITE PLAN OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC. PROPERTY LINES TO BE CONFIRMED BY SURVEYOR.
 2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CUSTOMER:



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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY		DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
455 GRANVILLE ST.
VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1T2
TEL: 604-261-1233
VIA @TELUS.COM/TELUS.CA/SUPPORT

LOCATION: FRANCOIS LAKE, BC
TITLE: PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD PLAN
PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD | PROJECT NO: BC109430 | DWG. NO: A05

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PRELIMINARY DESIGN PLANS – SITE PLAN



- NOTES:
1. SITE PLAN OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC. PROPERTY LINES TO BE CONFIRMED BY SURVEYOR.
 2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CLIENT:



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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO.	BY	DESCRIPTION	DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 400 GRANVILLE ST.
 SUITE 1001
 VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1T2
 TEL: 604.681.0200
 WWW.ROEHAMPTONWEST.COM

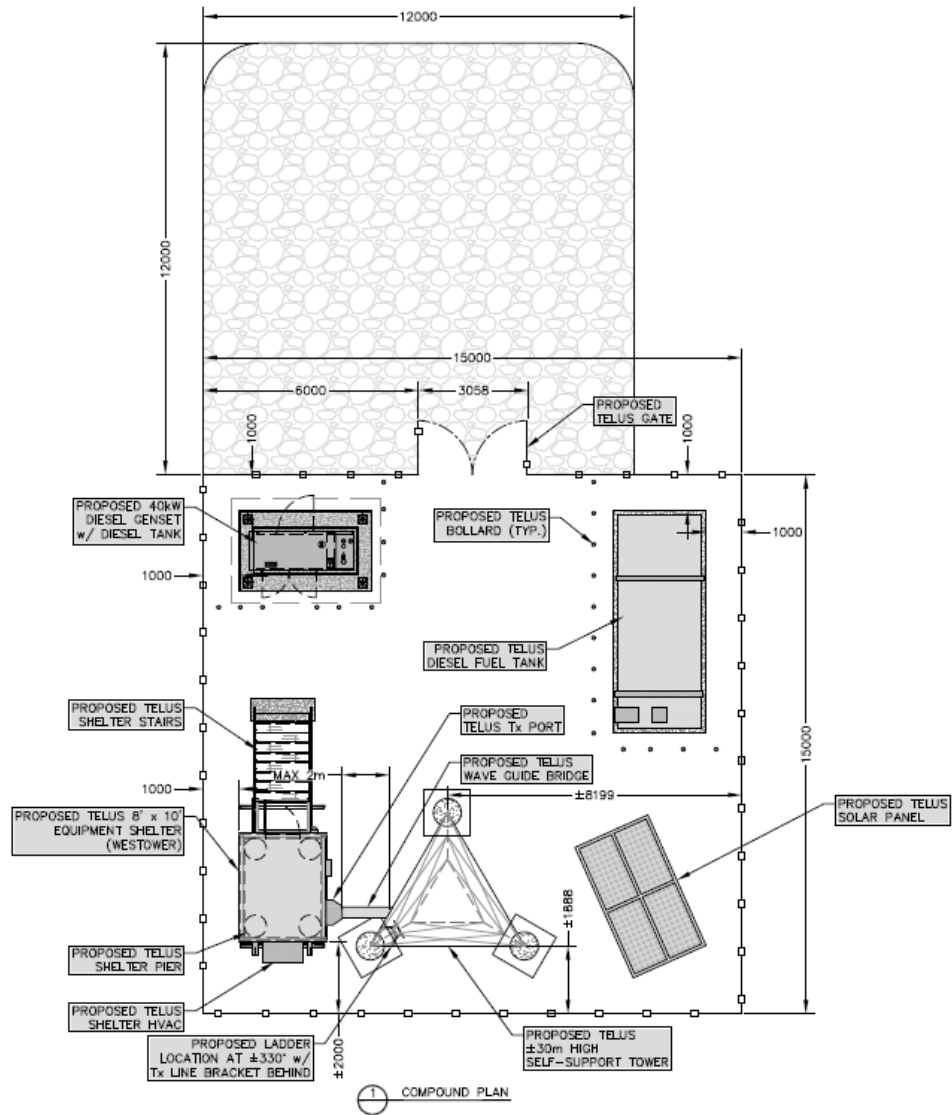
LOCATION	FRANCOIS LAKE, BC		
TITLE	SITE PLAN		
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT NO.	DWG. NO.	
NEW SITE- GREENFIELD	BC109430	A06	

NOTES:
 CLEAR VEGETATION AS
 REQUIRED WITH LANDLORD
 AND CITY APPROVAL.

1 SITE PLAN

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COMPOUND PLAN



NOTES:

1. COMPOUND LAYOUT OBTAINED FROM SITE VISIT BY ROEHAMPTON WEST, DATED 19 JUN 21 & IMAPBC.
2. FINAL LOCATION OF THE TOWER TO BE DETERMINED ON THE REVIEW OF THE GEOTECHNICAL REPORT AND SURVEY.

CLIENT:

CARRIER:



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0	MJ	PRELIMINARY	09 FEB 22
NO. BY	DESCRIPTION		DATE

ROEHAMPTON WEST
 202 CHANELLER ST.
 SUITE 1001
 100 BURNABY, BC V5C 1Y2
 TEL: (778) 665-0200
www.roehamptonwest.com

LOCATION: FRANCOIS LAKE, BC

TITLE: COMPOUND PLAN

PROJECT NAME: NEW SITE- GREENFIELD	PROJECT NO: BC109430	DWG. NO: A07
------------------------------------	----------------------	--------------

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PHOTO SIMULATION

BEFORE



Artist's rendering of proposed facility.

Photo Simulation is a close representation and is for conceptual purposes only – not to scale.

Proposed design is subject to change based on final engineer plans.

The tower will be marked in accordance with Transport Canada Obstruction Marking and NAV Canada requirements.



COMMENT SHEET
TELUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY PROPOSAL
Legal: Crown Land
Address: Francois Lake, BC
Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°
TELUS Site: BC109430 – Francois Lake

1. Do you feel this is an appropriate location for the proposed facility?

- Yes
- No

Comments _____

2. Are you satisfied with the appearance / design of the proposed facility? If not, what changes would you suggest?

- Yes
- No

Comments _____

3. Additional Comments _____

Please provide your name and full mailing address if you would like to be informed about the status of this proposal. This information will not be used for marketing purposes; however, your comments will only be used by TELUS in satisfying ISED's consultation requirements. The closing period for comments to be received by TELUS is **April 25, 2022**.

Name _____
(Please print clearly)
Email Address _____
Mailing Address _____

TELUS c/o Cypress Land Services Inc.
Suite 1051, 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2
Attention: Tawny Verigin, Manager of Government Affairs
Email: publicconsultation@cypresslandservices.com
Thank you for your input!

Appendix B: List of Property Owners, Occupants and Other Recipients

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Lindsay King, Planner
37 3rd Avenue, PO Box 820
Burns Lake, British Columbia V0J 1E0

ISED – Northern British Columbia and Yukon
District Office
280 Victoria Street, Room 203 | Prince
George BC V2L 4X3
ic.spectrumprincegeorge-
princegeorgespectre.ic@canada.ca
BC109430

CYPRESS LAND SERVICES
SUITE 1051, 409 GRANVILLE ST
VANCOUVER, BC V6C 1T2

Total = 4

TELUS
4535 CANADA WAY, 3RD FLOOR
BURNABY, BC V5G 1J9
ATTN: Kate Pelsoci

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED
REGARDING A PROPOSED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY WITHIN
APPROX. 99 METRES OF A PROPERTY
YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED
REGARDING A PROPOSED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY WITHIN
APPROX. 99 METRES OF A PROPERTY
YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED
REGARDING A PROPOSED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY WITHIN
APPROX. 99 METRES OF A PROPERTY
YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED
REGARDING A PROPOSED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY WITHIN
APPROX. 99 METRES OF A PROPERTY
YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN**


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2


c/o Cypress Land Services
Suite 1051, 409 Granville St.
Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2

Appendix 3: Newspaper Tear Sheet


SPORTS



LOPPET RACE AT Omineca

It was a full day of fun at the Omineca Ski Club on March 13, as the club hosted the 2022 Loppet race. It was the first open event and social with a meal served in two years since the pandemic hit. There were about 30 racers total, and the race included a 2.5 km, 5 km and 10 km track which participants got to choose from. Also included in the festivities was a mascot race. (Eddie Huband photos/Lakes District News)





Notice of Proposed TELUS Telecommunications Facility

Description: As part of the public consultation process required by the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), TELUS Communications Inc. is inviting the public to comment on a proposed telecommunications facility consisting of a 33.0 metre self-support tower structure and ancillary radio equipment in order to provide dependable wireless services to underserved areas of near Francois Lake.


Proposed Tower Location: Legal: Crown Land near Francois Lake, BC
Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°

For More Information:
 Tawny Verigin
 c/o Cypress Land Services Inc.
 Agents to TELUS
 Suite 1051, 409 Granville Street
 Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2
 telephone: 1-855-301-1520
 e: publicconsultation@cypresslandservices.com

The public is welcome to comment on the proposal by the end of the business day on April 25, 2022, with respect to this matter.

TELUS Site: BC109430

Location Map



DRUGS GET PASSED AROUND.
 HOW CAN MY TEEN FEEL FREE TO SAY
 NO WHEN HE'S WITH OTHER KIDS?



Appendix 4: Comments Received During Consultation

BC109430									
Name of Resident	Address	Phone	Email	Email, Letter, Comment Sheet or Voice Message	Date	Comment or Question	Support / non-support / neutral	Response to Comment or Question	Date Response Sent
Richard Vossen		250 692 9591	tatin605@outlook.com	Email	30-Mar	<p>Good afternoon;</p> <p>I am writing in regards to the planned Telus tower near Francois Lake. Any additional cell phone towers installed in the northern part of the Province are always welcomed, as we have many areas of poor wireless service exist.</p> <p>I live in Endako at 4253 Columbia Street and I currently do not have cell service at this location. Nor do any of my neighbours and other residents of Endako.</p> <p>Is it possible to install this tower somewhere on the height of land between Endako (Hwy 16) and Francois Lake? Possible locations would be near the Endako Mine site or on the Savory Ridge. Both these locations should provide service to the east end of Francois Lake (as planned) and also north towards Endako.</p> <p>Improving wireless service for the Endako area in addition to Francois Lake would be much appreciated. Please consider and investigate my request for an alternate location for this tower.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>	support	<p>Hi Richard,</p> <p>Thank you for providing comments regarding the proposed tower near Francois Lake. BC109430 is 18km away from this address and unfortunately won't provide coverage. At the moment there is nothing more currently planned for this particular area.</p> <p>Should you have additional comments/concerns please respond within the next 21 days.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Tawny Verigin Manager of Government Affairs Agent to TELUS Communications Inc.</p>	13-Apr
				email	14-Apr	<p>Hi Tawny:</p> <p>Thank you for the response, however you have not answered my question on whether this proposed tower could be moved to a different location that would service the East Francois Lake area and the community of Endako. There should be a better tower location that will service both rural communities, as I have proposed. Since the community of Endako is adjacent to Highway 16 and has poor or non-existent cell service, how will this community and the highway section be covered for cell service? I recall the "Highway of Tears" public report inquiry recommended better cell service along the Hwy 16 corridor. Our Provincial Government accepted this recommendation with commitments to make this happen.</p> <p>The residents of Endako are not asking for anything more than what already exists for the majority of the Province.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Richard Vossen 250 692 9591</p>		<p>Rickard – we have sent this correspondence along to TELUS for their review and consideration to improve services in Endako. The proposed cell site that is planned to replace the existing ABC tower must be located at the proposed site to ensure services to existing ABC customers. If we hear back from TELUS regarding future towers that will support Endako we will pass this information along.</p> <p>Regards, Chad</p>	13-Apr
Barb Mchugh			barbmchugh51@gmail.com	email	19-Apr	<p>Proposed tower location:crown land near Francois lake, bc</p> <p>ATTENTION TAWNY VERIGIN</p> <p>VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF THIS PROPOSAL!!</p> <p>Please do it as soon as you can!!! Thank you!!</p> <p>Barbara Mchugh 250 640-7778</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>	support	<p>Hi Barb,</p> <p>Thank you for the supportive comments! We will share your comments with the Regional District for consideration. Should you have additional comments, please respond within the next 21 days.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Tawny Verigin Manager of Government Affairs Agent to TELUS Communications Inc.</p>	25-Apr
				Email	26-Apr	Besides my initial comments, I would also like to say having spotty cell service that we have, is a safety concern for residents both for health		NA	NA

non-support 0
 support 2
 neutral 0
 2

Appendix 5: Sample Resolution

Resolution

WHEREAS TELUS proposes to erect a wireless communications facility at the location on **Crown Land, Address: Francois Lake, BC, Coordinates: N 53.957968°, W 125.176945°, TELUS Site: BC109430 – Francois Lake;**

AND WHEREAS proponents of telecommunication towers are regulated by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), formerly Industry Canada on behalf of the Government of Canada and as part of their approval, ISED requires proponents to consult with land use authorities as provided for in CPC-2-0-03;

AND WHEREAS TELUS has consulted with the RDBN following the CPC-2-0-03 and the RDBN planning staff have no objection to the proposed telecommunications tower;

AND WHEREAS TELUS has consulted with the public by notifying properties within three times the tower height, placed an advertisement in the local newspaper, and has provided a 30-day period for written public comment;

AND WHEREAS there are no significant land use issues identified by the consultation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Clerk be instructed to advise TELUS that:
 - a) TELUS has satisfactorily completed its consultation with the RDBN;
 - b) The RDBN is satisfied with TELUS's public consultation process and does not require any further consultation with the public; and
 - c) The RDBN concurs with TELUS's proposal to construct a wireless telecommunications facility provided it is constructed substantially in accordance with the plans submitted to the RDBN.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: 2022/2023 Annual Operating Agreement with BC Transit

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the 2022/2023 Annual Operating Agreement and that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve entering into the Agreement with BC Transit.

VOTING

All / Directors / Majority

Attached is the 2022-2023 Annual Operating Agreement (AOA) that formalizes the partnership with BC Transit to operate the Bulkley-Nechako Regional Transit Service. The table below shows the historical Local Government share of the costs indicated in Schedule "C" of the Annual Operating Agreements. In 2021 the operating costs for the Bulkley-Nechako Regional Transit Service were provided by the 8 municipalities in the RDBN, the City of Prince George, and 2 First Nation partners.

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
AOA Schedule "C"	\$100,410	\$92,259	\$109,981	\$102,077

ATTACHMENTS

Cover Letter from BC Transit
 2022/2023 Annual Operating Agreement



May 5, 2022

BY EMAIL: deneve.vanderwolf@rdbn.bc.ca

Deneve Vanderwolf
Regional Transit Coordinator
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
37 3rd Avenue
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Dear Deneve Vanderwolf,

Re: FY2023 Annual Operating Agreement – Regional District of Bulkley Nechako

As we provide you with your 2022-2023 Annual Operating Agreement (AOA), we want to take the opportunity to update you on changes reflected in your agreement and highlight key pieces of information for your consideration.

Over the last two years, we have provided essential transportation services to communities around the province in the face of significant operational challenges. As we now begin to emerge from two years of pandemic restrictions, we are focused on the goal of recovering ridership and delivering several exciting projects that will help support this overall effort.

It is important to acknowledge the economic headwinds that we are currently facing, and the challenges associated with fuel price volatility. Fuel accounts for 6% of our total budget and we monitor trends in fuel pricing on an almost daily basis. However, we know that higher fuel prices typically result in higher ridership, and we are already seeing those results in many of our transit systems. This also underlines the importance of our transition to a low-carbon fleet and our decreasing reliance on diesel fuel by introducing Compressed Natural Gas buses to our fleet, along with the delivery of our first 10 battery-electric buses in Victoria in the very near future.

Work is also well underway to deliver on key initiatives as part of our Smart Bus Program, including the expansion of Automatic Vehicle Location technology through our NextRide program to another 315 buses in systems across the province, and the launch of Umo, our new and innovative electronic fare system. Both projects are aimed at enhancing the customer experience and will support our ongoing efforts to bring our riders back. Costs associated with administration and related expenses for these projects are reflected in your budget.

As part of our service strategy for 2022-23, BC Transit is working with local governments around the province to identify options to reallocate service hours to high ridership growth areas, investigate vehicle right-sizing opportunities, increase customer satisfaction through improved on-time performance, and promote effective land use decisions. We will also be developing a strategy for increasing engagement with First Nations and supporting meaningful reconciliation, as well as

continuing to progress the use of GBA+ (Gender-Based Analysis) in public engagement, service planning and infrastructure projects.

The language contained in the Annual Operating Agreement is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect any material changes to our funding model or other special circumstances. You will note a change to your 2022-23 agreement that involves the removal of language related to the Operating Reserve and reflects the full utilization of any remaining operating reserves in the 2021-22 fiscal year.

In addition, the Free Transit 12 and Under (FT12U) program is continuing in 2022/23 and the fare revenue provided for this is included in your Schedule C. The methodology for calculating this amount uses the Capital Regional District 2017 Household Travel Survey and BC Stats population data to determine an indexed mode share of children age 5 - 12. This was applied to your 2018/19 annual fare revenue to obtain the annual compensation amount for the program.

An additional 8% for potential fraud was added to the FT12U amount.

Finally, a reminder that the information contained in your Detailed Schedule C budget includes commercially confidential information from our operating company and is subject to protection afforded by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Any reports to Council or Regional Boards, or any discussions which may be made within the public realm must be limited to four line items showing Revenues, Total Operating Costs, Total Costs and Total Local Government's Share of Costs. The schedules attached to your Annual Operating Agreement have been modified accordingly.

As required by the Provincial Operating Agreement, all AOAs must be signed and returned to BC Transit no later than **June 30, 2022**.

If you have any questions regarding your agreement or the associated budget, please contact me at ltaylor@bctransit.com at your earliest convenience so I can provide you with any additional information that you require.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Taylor
Manager, Government Relations

ANNUAL OPERATING AGREEMENT

between

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

and

British Columbia Transit

Effective
April 1, 2022

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ANNUAL OPERATING AGREEMENT

April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023

BETWEEN: City of Abbotsford
(the "Municipality")

AND: British Columbia Transit
(the "Authority")

WHEREAS the Authority is authorized to contract for transit services for the purpose of providing and maintaining those services and facilities necessary for the establishment, maintenance and operation of a public passenger transportation system in the Transit Service Area;

WHEREAS the Municipality is authorized to enter into one or more agreements with the Authority for transit services in the Transit Service Area;

WHEREAS the parties hereto have entered into a Transit Service Agreement which sets out the general rights and responsibilities of the parties hereto;

WHEREAS the Municipality and the Authority are authorized to share in the costs for the provision of a Public Passenger Transportation System pursuant to the *British Columbia Transit Act*;

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto wish to enter into an Annual Operating Agreement which sets out, together with the Transit Service Agreement, the specific terms and conditions for the Public Passenger Transportation System for the upcoming term.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that in consideration of the premises and of the covenants hereinafter contained, the parties covenant and agree with each other as follows:

SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

Unless agreed to otherwise in the Annual Operating Agreement, the definitions set out in the Transit Service Agreement shall apply to this Annual Operating Agreement including:

- a) "*Annual Operating Agreement*" shall mean this Annual Operating Agreement and any Annual Operating Agreement Amendments negotiated and entered into by the parties subsequent hereto;
- b) "*Transit Service Agreement*" shall mean the Transit Service Agreement between the parties to this Annual Operating Agreement, including any amendments made thereto;
- c) "*Incurred*" means an event or transaction has taken place for which an obligation to pay exists, even if an invoice has not been received, such that the underlying evidence indicates there is little or no discretion to avoid the obligation. The value of the obligation is to be calculated in accordance with recognized Canadian accounting standards.

SECTION 2: INCORPORATION OF SCHEDULES

All schedules to this agreement are incorporated into the agreement, and form part of the agreement.

SECTION 3: INCORPORATION OF TRANSIT SERVICE AGREEMENT

Upon execution, this Annual Operating Agreement shall be deemed integrated into the Transit Service Agreement and thereafter, the Transit Service Agreement and Annual Operating Agreement shall be read together as a single integrated document and shall be deemed to be the Annual Operating Agreement for the purposes of the *British Columbia Transit Act*, as amended from time to time.

SECTION 4: TERM AND RENEWAL

- a) The parties agree that the effective date of this agreement is to be April 1, 2022, whether or not the agreements have been fully executed by the necessary parties. Once this agreement and the associated Transit Service Agreement are duly executed, this agreement will replace all provisions in the existing Transit Service Agreement and Master Operating Agreement with respect to the rights and obligations as between the Authority and the Municipality.
- b) Upon commencement in accordance with Section 4(a) of this agreement, the term of this agreement shall be to March 31, 2023, except as otherwise provided herein. It is acknowledged by the parties that in the event of termination or non-renewal of the Annual Operating Agreement, the Transit Service Agreement shall likewise be so terminated or not renewed, as the case may be.
- c) Either party may terminate this agreement as follows:
 - i. Cancellation by the Authority: In the event that the Authority decides to terminate this Agreement for any reason whatsoever, the Authority shall provide at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior written notice. Such notice to be provided in accordance with Section 12.
 - ii. Cancellation by the Municipality: In the event that the Municipality decides to terminate this Transit Service Agreement for any reason whatsoever, and by extension, the Annual Operating Agreement, the Municipality shall provide at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior written notice. Such notice to be provided in accordance with Section 12.

SECTION 5: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

This Agreement and the parties hereto are subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA). Any information developed in the performance of this Agreement, or any personal information obtained, collected, or stored pursuant to this Agreement, including database information, shall be deemed confidential and subject to the provisions of FOIPPA, including the handling, storage, access and security of such information. Confidential information shall not be disclosed to any third party except as expressly permitted by the Authority or pursuant to the requirements of FOIPPA.

SECTION 6: SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

In the event of any dispute arising between or among the parties as to their respective rights and obligations under this Agreement, or in the event of a breach of this Agreement, the parties agree to use their best efforts to find resolution through a mediated settlement. However, in the event that mediation is not successful in finding a resolution satisfactory to all parties involved, any party shall be entitled to give to the other notice of such dispute and to request arbitration thereof; and the parties may, with respect to the particular matter then in dispute, agree to submit the same to a single arbitrator in accordance with the applicable statutes of the Province of British Columbia.

SECTION 7: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- a) Amendment: This agreement may only be amended in writing as signed by the Municipality and the Authority and specifying the effective date of the amendment.
- b) Assignment: This Agreement shall not be assignable without prior written consent of the parties.

- c) Enurement: This Agreement shall be binding upon and enure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors.
- d) The parties agree that this agreement is in substantial compliance with all relevant legislative requirements to establish the rights and obligations of the parties as set out in the *British Columbia Transit Act*.

SECTION 8: LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESERVES

British Columbia Transit service is provided using a cost-sharing model. Where any transit-related contributions are received and/or third-party revenues are earned that are in excess of expenses, the Authority is required to hold these excess funds in a reserve account for use against transit-related expenditures in future years. When unanticipated expenditures occur that were not included in the budget and cannot be covered by reserves, the Authority will seek to recover these based on the cost-sharing ratios between the Municipality and the Authority.

Eligible Operating Expenses

The Authority will invoice the Municipality and collect on monthly invoices based on incurred eligible operating expenses to provide Transit Service. Eligible operating expenses are comprised of the following costs of providing Public Passenger Transportation Systems:

- a) For *Conventional Transit Service*:
 - i. the operating costs for providing Conventional Transit Service excluding interest and amortization;
 - i. the amount of any operating lease costs of BC Transit for Conventional Transit Services;
 - ii. the amount of the municipal administration charge not exceeding 2% of the direct operating costs payable under an Annual Operating Agreement;
 - iii. an amount of the Annual Operating Costs of the Authority not exceeding 8% of the direct operating costs payable under an Annual Operating Agreement.
- b) For *Custom and Paratransit Transit Service*:
 - i. the operating costs for providing Custom Transit Service excluding interest and amortization, but including the amount paid by the Authority to redeem taxi saver coupons issued under the Taxi Saver Program after deducting from that amount the amount realized from the sale of those coupons;
 - i. the amount of any operating lease costs of the Authority for Custom Transit Service;
 - ii. the amount of the municipal administration charge not exceeding 2% of the direct operating costs payable under an Annual Operating Agreement; and
 - iii. an amount of the Annual Operating Costs of the Authority not exceeding 8% of the direct operating costs payable under an Annual Operating Agreement.
- c) Eligible operating expenses exclude the costs of providing third-party 100%-funded services.
- d) Annual operating costs of the Authority are operations, maintenance and administration costs that are for the shared benefit of all transit systems operated by the Authority. These costs are allocated to each transit system on a pro rata basis, based on the nature of the costs.

Lease Fees

The Authority will invoice the Municipality and collect on monthly invoices for lease fees on tangible capital assets owned by the Authority that are used in the provision of transit service. Lease fees are comprised of the following:

- a) The Municipality's fee for use of the asset, including for the costs of acquisition, construction, development and betterment of the asset and the costs of installing the asset at the location and condition necessary for its intended use;
- b) Debt financing and risk-related charges or costs payable on assets;
- c) Payment into a reserve fund for preventative maintenance and major repair of assets owned or leased by the authority;
- d) Amounts sufficient for the Authority to recover all other costs relating to the asset, including, but not limited to taxes and administrative charges.

Where lease fees are received that exceed actual asset-related expenses in any given period, these will be placed in a pooled reserve. This reserve will be used to offset against future lease fees as outlined above.

Reserve Funds

The Authority will establish the following for each transit system to record the contributions that have been received but not yet earned as follows:

- a) **Local Transit Fund:** Contributions by the Municipality towards eligible operating expenses that have been received but not matched with a Provincial share contribution will be deferred in the Local Transit Fund.
 - i. Any expenditure of monies from the Local Transit Fund will:
 1. only be credited towards the Municipality's share of expenses for the transit system for which it was collected.
 1. be applied to reduce Municipal invoices at the discretion of the Municipality as agreed to under the Annual Operating Agreement or amendments as required.
 - i. The Local Transit Fund may be used towards lease fees.
 - ii. The Authority will provide a quarterly statement of account of the Local Transit Fund balance including contributions, amounts utilized and interest earned.

SECTION 9: SAFE RESTART CONTRIBUTION

Under the Safe Restart Program, the federal and provincial governments provided a joint one-time contribution to transit systems in British Columbia (the "Safe Restart Contribution") in 2020/21.

The Authority applied the Safe Restart Contribution as follows:

- a) As a one-time allocation towards the Municipality's share of 2020/21 eligible operating expenses;
- b) After applying the allocation of Safe Restart Contribution, any excess contributions received from the Municipality were deferred to the Local Transit Fund;
- c) The Authority will apply the remaining Local Transit Fund balance to reduce 2022/23 and future municipal invoices at the discretion of the Municipality as agreed to under an Annual Operating Agreement or amendments as required.

It is expected that by receiving the Safe Restart contribution, the Municipality will work with the Authority to maintain targeted essential transit service levels by not reducing transit service below existing planned service levels and maintain affordability by limiting annual fare increases to an average of 2.3% from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2024.

SECTION 10: GOVERNING LAW

This agreement is governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, the laws of the Province of British Columbia, with respect to those matters within provincial jurisdiction, and in accordance with the laws of Canada with respect to those matters within the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada.

SECTION 11: COUNTERPARTS

This contract and any amendment hereto may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which shall be considered to be one and the same contract. A signed facsimile or PDF copy of this contract, or any amendment, shall be effective and valid proof of execution and delivery.

SECTION 12: NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

All notices, claims and communications required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given if personally delivered to a designated officer of the parties hereto to whom it is addressed where an electronic signed document is emailed to the parties or if mailed by prepaid registered mail to the Authority at:

British Columbia Transit
 c/o Executive Assistant, Business Development
 PO Box 9861
 520 Gorge Road East
 Victoria, BC V8W 9T5

and to the Municipality at:

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
 c/o Chief Administrative Officer
 37 3rd Avenue
 PO Box 820
 Burns Lake, B.C. V0J 1E0

and, if so mailed, shall be deemed to have been received five (5) days following the date of such mailing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hand this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

British Columbia Transit

Vice President, Business Development

Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

SCHEDULE "A": TARIFF AND FARES

Passenger Categories: There shall be the following passenger categories:

- a) Child - a person who is under six (6) years of age.
- b) Student - a person, other than a child, who is:
 - a) under the age of 21 years; and
 - i. regularly attending classes at a public or private school at or below the level of Grade 12; and
 - ii. the holder of a current Student I.D. Card or other identification approved by the Municipality.
- c) Senior - a person who is sixty-five (65) years of age or over and the holder of valid identification.
- d) Adult - a person not defined as a child, student or senior.

Mode of Payment: There shall be the following modes of payment:

- a) Fare - an entitlement to ride upon the services of the Public Passenger Transportation System, as defined in terms of the Passenger Category, time and Zones of travel.
- b) Cash - legal tender issued by the authority of the Government of Canada for use as money, or the equivalent in legal tender issued by the authority of the Government of the United States of America for use as money
- c) Ticket - a prepaid form of fare, issued by the Municipality, for use in lieu of cash, for payment of a single fare.
- d) Single Fare - payment of a fare by means of cash or ticket, for individual travel within designated zones, and within a specified period of time.
- e) BC Bus Pass - a Pass available to BC residents who receive:
 - Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement with the Old Age Security Pension or Spouse's Allowance (60 years and older);or
 - Disability allowance under BC Benefits (18-64 years of age)
- f) Canadian National Institute of the Blind Pass – a pass available to those who are certified by the Institute and are residents of B.C.

Terms and Conditions: There shall be the following terms and conditions:

- a) Young Children - Not more than four children under five years of age who board a vehicle with, and who are at all times accompanied by an Adult, Student or Senior, shall be carried free.
- b) Proof of fare when boarding - Each passenger boarding a transit vehicle must present proof of a valid fare by means of either:
 - i) deposit of correct Fare in the farebox, plus presentation of any entitlement to a reduced fare; or
- c) BC Bus Pass - A Provincial Pass honoured only upon compliance with all of the following conditions:
 - i) valid only for year indicated;
 - ii) valid only when presented face-up and unfolded; void if mutilated or altered;
 - iii) valid only when presented with signature of bearer.
- d) CNIB Pass - A Canadian National Institute of the Blind pass will be honoured only upon compliance of the following conditions:
 - i) valid only for year indicated;
 - ii) valid only when presented face-up and unfolded; void if mutilated or altered;
 - iii) valid only when presented with signature of bearer.

Fares: For each one-way passenger trip

Effective as of September, 2021

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| a) | Cash Fares | |
| | Adult/Students/Seniors | \$5.00 |
| | Child (12 or under) | Free |
| b) | Tickets (sheet of 10): | |
| | Adult/Students/Seniors | \$45.00 |
| c) | BC Bus Pass valid for the current calendar year and available through the Government of British Columbia BC Bus Pass Program. | |
| d) | CNIB Identification Card available from the local office of the CNIB. | |
| f) | BC Transit Employee Bus Pass | |

Fares valid on Regional Service only.

SCHEDULE B: SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS

The Local Transit Service Area for the Bulkley-Nechako Regional Transit service shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the Town of Smithers, the Village of Telkwa, the District of Houston, the Village of Granisle, the Village of Burns Lake, the Village of Fraser Lake, the District of Fort St. James, and the District of Vanderhoof, as per Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Bylaw No. 1790.

The Annual Service Level for Bulkley-Nechako Regional Transit Service shall be **2,700** Revenue Service Hours.

The Exception Days recognized annually for the Bulkley-Nechako Regional Transit Service are:

Exception Day	Service Level
Good Friday	No Service
Easter Monday	Regular Service
Victoria Day	No Service
Canada Day	No Service
BC Day	No Service
Labour Day	No Service
Thanksgiving Day	No Service
Remembrance Day	No Service
Christmas Day	No Service
Boxing Day	No Service
New Year's Day	No Service
Family Day	No Service

SCHEDULE C: BUDGET

BULKLEY-NECHAKO

	OFFICIAL AOA 2022/23
TOTAL REVENUE	\$23,894
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	450,581
TOTAL COSTS (including Local Government Share of Lease Fees)	452,066
NET LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHARE OF COSTS	102,077



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
STAFF REPORT**

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Letter Regarding Housing Construction Issues

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the letter attached to the May 26, 2022 staff report on housing construction issues.

VOTING

All / Directors / Majority

At the March 31, 2022 Board Meeting the Board received a staff report regarding implementation of the BC Step Code. At this meeting the Board directed staff to draft a letter to the Minister Responsible for Housing expressing the Board's concerns. This letter was received at the Board's April 28, 2022 meeting. At this meeting the Board directed that the letter be redrafted to be more inclusive of all related concerns. The attached letter more fully discusses the concerns with the BC Step Code and raises other housing construction issues for the Minister's consideration.

ATTACHMENT

May 26, 2022 Letter to Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing



May 26, 2022

Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing
PO Box 9044, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
Via email: AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Eby:

Re: Housing Construction Issues in Northern BC

As you are aware there is a housing crisis in BC. However, the crisis in northern BC is not related to unaffordable property values. The housing crisis in the north is a result of increasingly high construction costs in relation to property values. New house construction costs do not adequately exceed the resale value of that home once it is built. Therefore, there is limited new house construction in our region. Housing stock is not being adequately replaced and housing form is not being diversified to meet community need. This situation is impacting our ability to attract new residents and employees and diversify our economy. While the Province is making much effort to address affordability issues in southern BC, the housing crisis in northern BC is being made worse by Provincial Government initiatives which serve to increase the cost of house construction and further discourage new construction.

This is not the first time these issues have been raised by the RDBN. Unfortunately, there has been no apparent meaningful response to address how Province wide initiatives do not account for the unique social, economic, and demographic circumstances that exist in the north. Therefore, these issues are again raised in the hope that the Province will recognize that regulations developed to address issues in more populated areas of the province may have unintended negative impacts elsewhere.

Owner-Builder Authorizations

In 2016 new regulations were implemented that prohibited residents from building their own home without first passing an exam intended to test their knowledge of construction basics. This is in addition to the many other regulations that the Province has put in place to govern residential builders in BC. In the RDBN's opinion the owner-builder authorizations exam requirement has no positive impact on the quality of construction in our region. Owner-builders have not been building to a lesser standard than licensed builders. Owner-builders are building their own home with an intention of long-term occupation. They are well motivated to build with care, and the RDBN Building Inspectors work closely with owner-builders throughout the building process.

The northern lifestyle, and the character and experiences of many of our residents, does not predispose them to successfully pass written exams and this process is not an effective tool to determine a resident's capacity to oversee the building of their home. In many areas of the region there is a very limited supply of licensed builders and there are long waits for their services. Enticing a licensed builder to certain areas requires very high fees for their services. In some areas of our region, it is challenging to retain a licensed builder at any cost. This regulation is unnecessarily increasing the cost of construction for residents, discouraging the construction of new dwellings, and encouraging the construction of modular housing (which can be erected without the involvement of a licensed builder).

The owner-builder authorizations exam requirement should not exist in the RDBN, and owner-builders should be allowed to retain the services of a construction manager to assist them in the building process, without having to retain the services of a licensed builder.

BC Energy Step Code

The RDBN appreciates the intent behind the Energy Step Code; however, the anticipated impact may be counterproductive to the intent in northern BC as the increased costs associated with the Step Code may result in older less energy efficient homes not being replaced by new homes. The RDBN is specifically concerned about the requirement for on-site testing by Energy Advisers as part of the building process. Even with good success in developing professional capacity in the region, the cost to retain the services of the Energy Advisers, especially in rural and remote areas, may be high. In some areas it may be a challenge to retain the necessary on-site services at any cost.

As with the owner-builder regulations the Energy Step Code is expected to increase the cost of construction, discourage the construction of new dwellings, and encourage the construction of modular housing which is manufactured out of region (which can be erected without the involvement of an Energy Advisor). There is also concern that the BC Energy Step Code may not adequately accommodate the building of log homes, which are a traditional and popular form of building in our region.

The Province is encouraged to work with northern local governments to identify a strategy that will work in the north and facilitate the building of the required new energy efficient housing. At a minimum the RDBN asks that the Province allow persons other than Energy Advisers to perform the required on-site air tightness testing. Allowing persons other than the Energy Advisers to undertake the on-site testing may serve to greatly expand the number of Energy Advisers willing to provide service to remote areas of the north, thereby reducing the potential negative impact.

The Architects Act

This issue is not a recent Provincial Government initiative; however, it has become increasingly prominent as the Architectural Institute of B.C. recently took legal action against a local government because it issued a building permit for a residential building containing five dwellings without an Architect's involvement. The *Architects Act* requirement that an Architect oversee the planning,

design, and building of small-scale residential buildings is increasing the cost of construction by tens of thousands of dollars. In our opinion it is not clear what health and safety benefits are gained from this additional oversight given the BC Building Code's health and safety related requirements. These costs are impacting our ability to increase housing diversity, and we ask that the Province review the requirement for an Architect's involvement in small multi-family developments.

All the issues identified above increase the cost of construction. In higher density parts of the province where the market value of land well exceeds construction costs and professional services are more readily available the negative impacts may be negligible. However, in the north the costs are greater and are having a direct negative impact on our housing supply and our local economy. We sincerely ask that you give these issues serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Gerry Thiessen
RDBN Board Chair

cc. Gaetane Carignan, Community Energy Association (GCarignan@communityenergy.bc.ca)



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
FROM: Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
DATE: May 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Recreation Contribution Service Bylaws

RECOMMENDATION

1. That "Electoral Area A Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1976, 2022" be given 1st, 2nd, and 3rd readings.
2. That "Electoral Areas B and E Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1977, 2022" be given 1st, 2nd, and 3rd readings.
3. That "Electoral Area C Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1978, 2022" be given 1st, 2nd, and 3rd readings.
4. That "Electoral Area G Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1979, 2022" be given 1st, 2nd, and 3rd readings.
5. And, that the Board endorse the alternative approval process in accordance with Section 345(1)(a) of the Local Government Act as the method to obtain the assent of the electors for the establishment of the bylaws.

VOTING

All / Directors / Majority

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report proposes "Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaws" (the Bylaws) to implement a service where funds are raised for distribution to recreating service providers in the RDBN (the Service). This report includes a work plan detailing the steps required to adopt the Bylaws and implement the Service in time for the 2023 budget. It is recommended that the Board give the Bylaws 3 readings and endorse the alternative approval process for obtaining elector assent.

THE BYLAWS

The following proposed service areas match those of the Parks and Trails Service Establishment Bylaws.

- Bylaw 1976 - Electoral Area A and the Town of Smithers.
- Bylaw 1977 - Electoral Areas B and E, and the Village of Burns Lake.
- Bylaw 1978 - Electoral Area C, and the District of Fort St. James.
- Bylaw 1979 - Electoral Area G, the Village of Granisle, and the District of Houston.

The draft bylaws include a maximum annual requisition amount of fifty (\$0.50) cents per one thousand (\$1,000) DOLLARS of net taxable value. This limit allows for elector assent through an alternative approval process.

The Bylaws were developed in consultation with the participating Directors to confirm their interest in participation in the service, and the maximum annual requisition amount. Staff confirmed with the Directors for Electoral Areas D or F that there is no interest in establishing the Service in those areas at this time.

THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Staff are proposing to implement the Service to allow for taxation and funds distribution in 2023. The following process and timelines are proposed.

Step 1 -	Consultation with Directors and municipal staff	April (completed)
Step 2 -	Board consideration of bylaws at 1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd readings	May 2022
Step 3 -	Council authorization of Bylaws	July 2022
Step 4 -	Submission of Bylaws to Province	July 2022
Step 5 -	Alternative approval process	August 2022
Step 6 -	Board consideration of adoption of Bylaws	October 2022
Step 7 -	Confirmation of taxation amount for 2023	January 2023
Step 8 -	Board Approval of funds disbursement process	February 2023
Step 9 -	Board approval of fund disbursements and agreements	April – May 2023
Step 10 -	Fund disbursement	August 2023

TAXATION IMPLICATIONS

The table below shows an approximation of the taxation implications and taxation rates associated with raising \$100,000 from each proposed recreation contribution service area. The \$100,000 taxation level was chosen for illustrative purposes only.

RECREATION CONTRIBUTION SERVICE TAXATION IMPLICATIONS			
JURISDICTION	ASSESSMENT	RATE PER \$1000	REVENUE
Electoral Area B, E and Burns Lake Service Area			
Electoral Area B	\$36,998,086	\$0.11	\$40,118
Electoral Area E	\$32,109,658		\$34,817
Village of Burns Lake	\$23,115,249		\$25,065
TOTAL	\$92,222,993		\$100,000
Electoral Area A, and Smithers Service Area			
Electoral Area A	\$121,069,256	\$0.04	\$46,471
Town of Smithers	\$139,454,639		\$53,529
TOTAL	\$284,114,552		\$100,000
Electoral Area C and Fort St. James Service Area			
Electoral Area C	\$65,944,757	\$0.10	\$66,950
Fort St James	\$32,554,304		\$33,050
TOTAL	\$98,499,061		\$100,000
Electoral Area G, Granisle, and Houston Service Area			
Electoral Area G	\$27,403,955	\$0.13	\$35,019
Houston	\$48,428,802		\$61,886
Granisle	\$2,422,372		\$3,095
TOTAL	\$61,476,870		\$100,000

It will be up to Directors for each participating service area to set the annual taxation as part of step 7 in the implementation process on an annual basis. This taxation will need to be confirmed as part of the budget process.

THE FUND DISTRIBUTION PROCESS

The RDBN must establish a process to determine how to distribute the funds. This is anticipated to include a formal application process with disbursement recommendations made by the Directors for each contribution service area to the RDBN Board. Step 8 above includes Board approval for the funds distribution process, which may include the development of formal guidelines and policy for each service area. This will be done in close consultation with Directors involved in the service.

Where funds are allocated to a society providing a recreation opportunity for multiple years, that society may be asked to enter into a written agreement with the RDBN

regarding the use of the funds. Entering into this agreement may allow the society to be provided insurance coverage through the RDBN.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Electoral Area A Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1976, 2022
2. Electoral Areas B and E Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1977, 2022
3. Electoral Area C Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1978, 2022
4. Electoral Area G Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1979, 2022



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

ELECTORAL AREA A RECREATION CONTRIBUTION SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW NO. 1976, 2022

A Bylaw to establish a service for financial contributions to organizations providing recreation services in Electoral Area A.

WHEREAS a Regional District may, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, operate any service the Board considers necessary or desirable for all or part of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako wishes to establish a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services within Electoral Area A;

AND WHEREAS participating area approval has been obtained in accordance with the *Local Government Act*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

Service Established

1. The Regional District hereby establishes, within the boundaries of Electoral Areas A and the Town of Smithers a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services for residents in Electoral Area A and the Town of Smithers.

Boundaries

2. The boundaries of the service area shall be all of Electoral Area A and the Town of Smithers.

Participating Areas

3. The participating areas are Electoral Area A and the Town of Smithers.

Cost Recovery

4. The annual cost of providing the service shall be recovered by one or more of the following methods:
 - a. Property value taxes imposed in accordance with Division 3, Part 11 of the

Local Government Act

- b. Fees and charges imposed under Section 397 of the *Local Government Act*;
- c. Revenues received by way of agreement, enterprise, gift, grant or otherwise;
- d. Revenues raised by other means authorized by the *Local Government Act*.

Tax Base for Property Value Taxes

- 5. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating municipalities in accordance with section 384 (2) (d) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.
- 6. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating electoral area in accordance with section 384 (5) (a) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.

Maximum Requisition

- 7. The maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the costs of this local service shall be FIFTY (\$0.50) CENTS per ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000) DOLLARS of net taxable value of land and improvements.

Apportionment

- 8. The cost of the service shall be apportioned among the Participating Areas on the basis of the converted value of land and improvements in the service area.

Citation

- 9. This Bylaw may be cited as "Electoral Area A Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1976, 2022."

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2022

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2022

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2022

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 1976.

Corporate Administrator

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES this day of , 2022

ASSENT OF ELECTORS OBTAINED this day of , 2022

ADOPTED this day of , 2022

Chairperson

Corporate Administrator



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

ELECTORAL AREAS B AND E RECREATION CONTRIBUTION SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW NO. 1977, 2022

A Bylaw to establish a service for financial contributions to organizations providing recreation services in Electoral Areas B and E.

WHEREAS a Regional District may, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, operate any service the Board considers necessary or desirable for all or part of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako wishes to establish a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services within Electoral Areas B and E;

AND WHEREAS participating area approval has been obtained in accordance with the *Local Government Act*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

Service Established

1. The Regional District hereby establishes, within the boundaries of Electoral Areas B and E, and the Village of Burns Lake a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services for residents in Electoral Areas B and E and the Village of Burns Lake.

Boundaries

2. The boundaries of the service area shall be all of Electoral Areas B and E, and the Village of Burns Lake.

Participating Areas

3. The participating areas are Electoral Areas B and E, and the Village of Burns Lake.

Cost Recovery

4. The annual cost of providing the service shall be recovered by one or more of the following methods:
 - a. Property value taxes imposed in accordance with Division 3, Part 11 of the

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 1977.

Corporate Administrator

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES this day of , 2022

ASSENT OF ELECTORS OBTAINED this day of , 2022

ADOPTED this day of , 2022

Chairperson

Corporate Administrator



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

ELECTORAL AREA C RECREATION CONTRIBUTION SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW NO. 1978, 2022

A Bylaw to establish a service for financial contributions to organizations providing recreation services in Electoral Area C.

WHEREAS a Regional District may, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, operate any service the Board considers necessary or desirable for all or part of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako wishes to establish a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services within Electoral Area C;

AND WHEREAS participating area approval has been obtained in accordance with the *Local Government Act*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

Service Established

1. The Regional District hereby establishes, within the boundaries of Electoral Area C, and the District of Fort St. James a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services for residents in Electoral Area C and the District of Fort St. James.

Boundaries

2. The boundaries of the service area shall be all of Electoral Area C and the District of Fort St. James.

Participating Areas

3. The participating areas are Electoral Area C and the District of Fort St. James.

Cost Recovery

4. The annual cost of providing the service shall be recovered by one or more of the following methods:
 - a. Property value taxes imposed in accordance with Division 3, Part 11 of the

Local Government Act

- b. Fees and charges imposed under Section 397 of the *Local Government Act*;
- c. Revenues received by way of agreement, enterprise, gift, grant or otherwise;
- d. Revenues raised by other means authorized by the *Local Government Act*.

Tax Base for Property Value Taxes

- 5. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating municipalities in accordance with section 384 (2) (d) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.
- 6. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating electoral area in accordance with section 384 (5) (a) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.

Maximum Requisition

- 7. The maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the costs of this local service shall be FIFTY (\$0.50) CENTS per ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000) DOLLARS of net taxable value of land and improvements.

Apportionment

- 8. The cost of the service shall be apportioned among the Participating Areas on the basis of the converted value of land and improvements in the service area.

Citation

- 9. This Bylaw may be cited as "Electoral Area C Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1978, 2022."

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2022

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2022

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2022

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 1978.

Corporate Administrator

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES this day of , 2022

ASSENT OF ELECTORS OBTAINED this day of , 2022

ADOPTED this day of , 2022

Chairperson

Corporate Administrator



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

ELECTORAL AREA G RECREATION CONTRIBUTION SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW NO. 1979, 2022

A Bylaw to establish a service for financial contributions to organizations providing recreation services in Electoral Area G.

WHEREAS a Regional District may, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, operate any service the Board considers necessary or desirable for all or part of the Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako wishes to establish a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services within Electoral Area G;

AND WHEREAS participating area approval has been obtained in accordance with the *Local Government Act*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Regional Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

Service Established

1. The Regional District hereby establishes, within the boundaries of Electoral Area G, the District of Houston, and the Village of Granisle a service for the purpose of contributing financially to organizations providing recreation services for residents in Electoral Area G, the District of Houston, and the Village of Granisle.

Boundaries

2. The boundaries of the service area shall be all of Electoral Area G, the District of Houston and the Village of Granisle.

Participating Areas

3. The participating areas are Electoral Area G, the District of Houston, and the Village of Granisle.

Cost Recovery

4. The annual cost of providing the service shall be recovered by one or more of the following methods:

- a. Property value taxes imposed in accordance with Division 3, Part 11 of the *Local Government Act*
- b. Fees and charges imposed under Section 397 of the *Local Government Act*;
- c. Revenues received by way of agreement, enterprise, gift, grant or otherwise;
- d. Revenues raised by other means authorized by the *Local Government Act*.

Tax Base for Property Value Taxes

- 5. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating municipalities in accordance with section 384 (2) (d) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.
- 6. The tax base for property value taxes shall be for the participating electoral area in accordance with section 384 (5) (a) of the *Local Government Act* - the net taxable value of land and improvements in the participating area.

Maximum Requisition

- 7. The maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the costs of this local service shall be FIFTY (\$0.50) CENTS per ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000) DOLLARS of net taxable value of land and improvements.

Apportionment

- 8. The cost of the service shall be apportioned among the Participating Areas on the basis of the converted value of land and improvements in the service area.

Citation

- 9. This Bylaw may be cited as "Electoral Area G Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1979, 2022."

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2022

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2022

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2022

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 1979.

Corporate Administrator

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES this day of , 2022

ASSENT OF ELECTORS OBTAINED this day of , 2022

ADOPTED this day of , 2022

Chairperson

Corporate Administrator



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
MEMORANDUM

To: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors

From: Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services

Date: May 26, 2022

Subject: Fort Fraser Water and Sewer System Upgrades

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board utilize up to \$365,000 of Northern Capital Planning Grant and Federal Gas Tax Contributions for the following 2022 projects: replacement of Dock Avenue and Telegraph Trail's Water Distribution Infrastructure, Lagoon Facility Upgrade, Manhole Repairs, and the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Feasibility Study.
 2. That the Board direct award the 2022 design, tendering, and management contract to True Consulting.
-

BACKGROUND

In 2019, Fort Fraser upgraded a large portion of the Water and Sewer infrastructure. At that time, the pipes along Dock Avenue were also scheduled for upgrades, however, due to Budget constraints this portion was to be completed at a later date.

There are also several outstanding high priority sewer manhole repairs and lagoon facility improvements that have been identified and need to be completed. The Water and Sewer infrastructure along Telegraph Trail also requires upgrades and an old redundant section of water main is ready for decommissioning and abandonment.

2022 WATER AND SEWER UPGRADES

In 2019 the design and project management and assessment of the Water and Sewer upgrades was completed by True Consulting (True). Staff reached out to True in early 2022 requesting a quote for updating the Dock Avenue Design, developing the Telegraph Trail Design, Tendering, and project management for the 2022 works. Due to their knowledge and history with the Fort Fraser Water and Sewer System, their reputation in this field, cost (\$69,000) and availability for completing the proposed 2022 works, staff recommends direct award of the design, tendering and project management portion of this project to True Consulting. The RDBN Procurement policy allows direct award of construction contracts under \$75,000.

At the April 13, 2022 Commission meeting, the construction plan and estimated cost of Dock Avenue upgrades were presented along with the design costs for the Telegraph Trail upgrades and costs to complete upgrades to sewer manholes and lagoon facility. The original budget (2019) needs to be updated for current inflation and did not encompass the current scope of design and construction. Also included in the new budget is an infrastructure feasibility study for the system. The staff memo to the Commission on April 13 is attached and the recommendations from the Commission meeting are as follows:



Excerpt from the April 13, 2022 Fort Fraser Local Community Commission Meeting Minutes

Water/
Wastewater
Report Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor provided an overview of Fort Fraser Water and Sewer Project Expenditures memorandum.

Discussion took place regarding:

- costs and construction plans for 2022 which include the Dock Ave replacement upgrades and engineering and designing of Telegraph Trail (2023 would focus on construction)
- Increased costs to finish Dock Ave., design of Telegraph Trail, upgrades to sewer manholes and lagoon facility, feasibility study for that infrastructure
- Sewer system increase of flow in springtime requiring manholes to be repaired
- Lagoon facility is required to install an inflow meter and recalibrate the out flow
- Manage and monitor contamination into the environment.

Mark suggested including the proposed works into the budget and using Northern Capital Planning Grant funding and Gas Tax Contribution towards it. As well as the suggestion to be able to possibly work both projects if time and construction permits allow.

Janette Derksen asked the Commissioners their stance on isolating and abandonment of the old line down to the old pumphouse on Telegraph Trail. The Commissioners agreed to go ahead with the abandonment of the old line.

FFLCC 22-02-4 Moved by Mark Parker /Seconded by Don Webster

That the Commission recommend that the Board utilize Northern Capital Planning Grant and Federal Gas Tax Contribution for the following 2022 projects: replacement of Dock Avenue and Telegraph Trail's Water Distribution Infrastructure, Lagoon Facility Upgrade, Manhole Repairs, and the Sanitary Sewer Improvement Feasibility Study.

Carried Unanimously

FFLCC 22-02-5 Moved by Don Webster /Seconded by Mark Parker

1. That the Commission recommend that the Board approve the Fort Fraser 2022 Water and Sewer Capital Budget Amendment.
2. That the Commission recommend that the Board direct award the 2022 design, tendering, and management contract to True Consulting.

Carried Unanimously

*Fort Fraser Water & Sewer
System Upgrades
May 26, 2022*



The commission passed a motion to approve the increase to the original budget (2022) from \$145,000 to \$365,000 to accomplish the expanded scope of the 2022 design and construction plan. It was recommended and moved by the Commission to utilize Northern Capital Planning Grant and Gas Tax funds for the project.

Once the project Tender has been completed, Staff will present the construction bids and recommend a formal budget amendment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alex Eriksen
Director of Environmental Services

Attachments:

1. Memorandum - Fort Fraser Water and Sewer Expenditures – April 13, 2022



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
MEMORANDUM**

To: Fort Fraser Local Commission

From: Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor

Date: April 13, 2022

Subject: Fort Fraser Water and Sewer Project Expenditures

RECOMENDATION

1. That the Commission recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Fort Fraser 2022 Water and Sewer Capital Budget Amendment.
2. That the Commission recommend that the Board of Directors direct award the 2022 design, tendering and management contract to True Consulting.

BACKGROUND

The Fort Fraser Water Distribution system replacement project was completed in 2019. Due to the projects budget constraints the RDBN chose to delay the Dock Avenue portion of the project until a later date. 2020 was a wet summer prohibiting the work to be complete and in 2021 the project was delayed again due to limited staff capacity.

Replacement of Dock Avenue and Telegraph Trail's Water Distribution Infrastructure

True Consulting, the engineering firm contracted to design and manage the previous upgrades to the Ft. Fraser Water and Sewer System provided a quote in March 2022 for Designing, Tendering and Project Management of the Dock Avenue and Telegraph Trail upgrades. The estimated costs are attached, describing the costs to be \$69,000. Although, staff proposes to only complete the Design portion of the Telegraph Trail upgrades, leaving the construction for 2023.

The 2022 budget includes \$100,000 for this project.

Sewer Projects

It is also recommended to undertake a comprehensive sanitary sewer improvement feasibility study. The 2019 study (Fort Fraser Sewer Condition Assessment) did not evaluate the recommendations in terms of practicality. When completing major water projects, it would be of value to consider high to medium priority areas for sewer repairs. In 2023, when the Telegraph Trail project is underway it would be good to include the major repairs needed on the sewer collection line in that area.

For 2022, it is recommended that monies be budgeted for the repairs on the high priority Manholes (MH 12,14,20, 22, 27,29,33a and 38) that have been showing high volumes of infiltration. Also, the replacement and installation of isolation valves and inflow meter for the lagoon facility. These additional monies will need to be amended in the budget.

The 2022 budget includes \$45,000 for these upgrades.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Item	Original Budget	Amended Amount	Total New Budget
True Consulting Costs (Telegraph Trail Design, Tendering, Project Management):		\$40,000	
Dock Avenue Water Distribution System Construction 2022:	\$100,000	\$140,000	\$240,000
Lagoon Facility Upgrade:	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$45,000
Manhole Repairs:	\$30,000		\$30,000
Sanitary Sewer Improvement Feasibility Study (True):		\$10,000	10,000
Total:	\$145,000	\$220,000	\$365,000

Staff is requesting to utilize Area 'D' Gas Tax funds and/or reserves for the above projects in 2022 and funds are available.

DIRECT AWARD

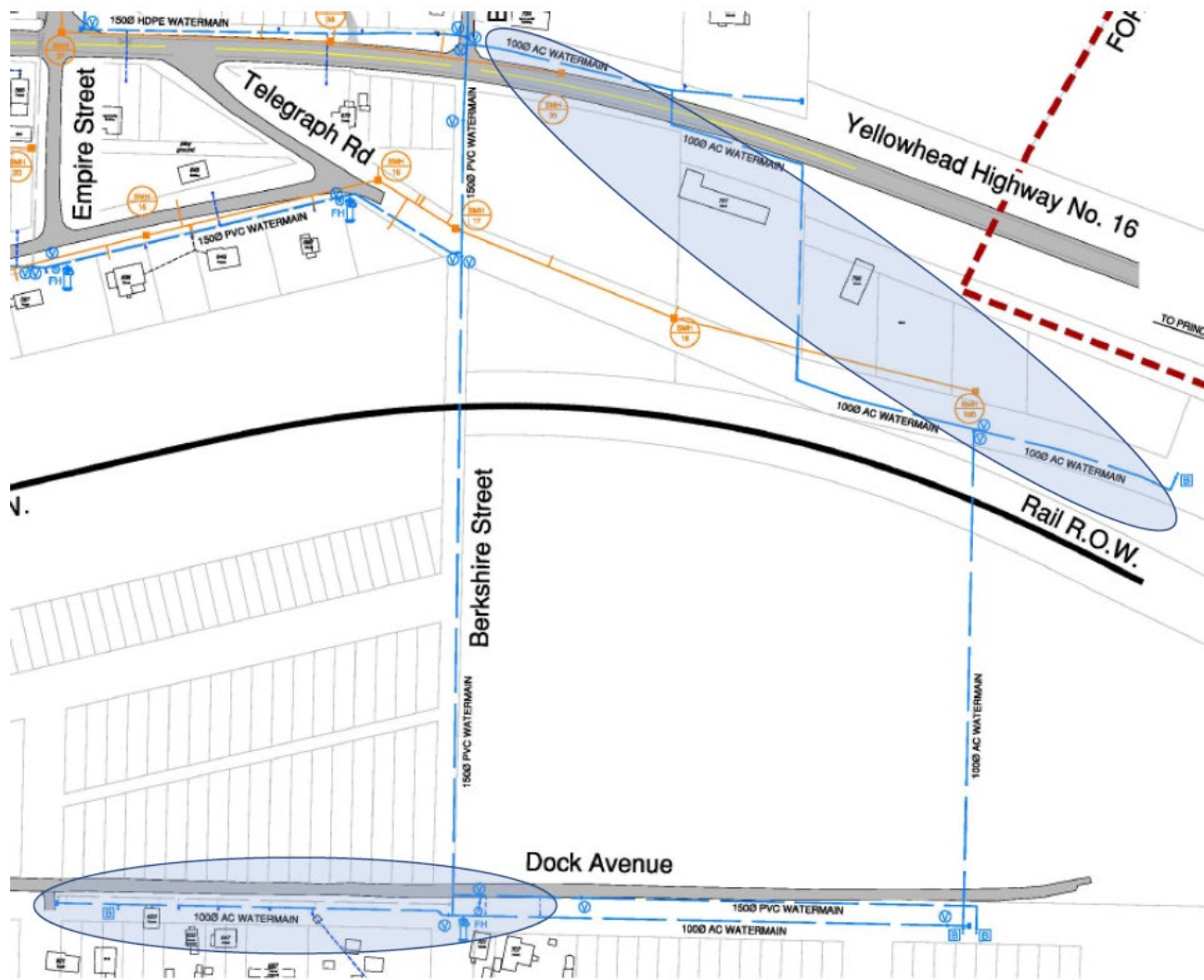
Due to time constraints for tendering and construction and True Consulting's familiarity and previous work on the Ft. Fraser Water and Sewer System, Staff recommends that the design, tendering and Project Management contract be awarded directly.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Derksen

Attachments:

1. Fort Fraser Watermain Replacement Phase 2 – Fee Schedule – True Consulting
2. Dock Avenue Cost Estimate – 2022 – True Consulting
3. Map – Proposed Water Projects 2022/23





Fort Fraser Water System Improvements Phase 2 Fee Schedule



TASK		TEAM MEMBER Hourly Rate	TRUE Consulting					TRUE Hours	TRUE Fees	TRUE Disb.	Sub-Consultant Fees	TOTAL Fees & Disb.	
			Engineer of Record \$180	Auto CAD Lead \$140	Construction Lead \$160	Topographic Survey \$185	BCLS Survey \$185						Administration \$80
1	Desk top review, site visit, topo survey, and base preparation		12	8		12			32	\$5,500	\$1,775		\$7,275
2	Preparation of utility right of way Explanatory Plan						8		8	\$1,480			\$1,480
3	Prepare design drawings and permitting application		16	80				2	98	\$14,240			\$14,240
4	Preparation of MMCD tender documents		20					4	24	\$3,920			\$3,920
5	Contractor procurement via MMCD tender process		20					4	24	\$3,920	\$525		\$4,445
6	Contract Administration during construction		10	20				4	34	\$4,920			\$4,920
7	Complete construction inspections, testing, and reporting		4	10	120			8	142	\$21,960	\$4,500		\$26,460
8	Prepare project completion documentation		6	20			8	4	38	\$5,680	\$525		\$6,205
TRUE Hours			88	138	120	20	8	26	400				
TRUE Fees			\$15,840	\$19,320	\$19,200	\$3,700	\$1,480	\$2,080		\$61,620			
TRUE Disbursements											\$7,325		
Subconsultant Fees											\$0		
Total Fees & Disbursements (excluding GST)											\$68,945		



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
From: Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: Committee Meeting Recommendations – May 12, 2022

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Recommendation 1 to 3 as written

BACKGROUND

The following are the recommendations from the May 12, 2022 Committee Meetings for the Regional Board's consideration and approval.

Committee of the Whole Meeting – May 12, 2022

Recommendation 1:

Re: Write letters to Premier Horgan, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

"That the Board write letters to the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada in regard to ending human trafficking, sex trafficking and prostitution in BC; and further request that law enforcement and education are increased to achieve the ending of human trafficking and provide safety for citizens."

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – May 12, 2022

Recommendation 2:

Re: COVID-19 Relief Fund Applications

"That the Board approve the following applications for COVID-19 Relief Funds:

-Electoral Area "B" (Burns Lake Rural)

-Lakes District Film Appreciation Society – Insurance, Utilities - \$6,002

-Electoral Area "D" (Fraser Lake Rural)

-Fraser Lake Saddle Club – Insurance, Utilities - \$2,451

-Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

-Lakes District Film Appreciation Society – Insurance, Utilities - \$6,002."



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

Waste Management Committee Meeting – May 12, 2022

Recommendation 3:

Re: Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory

“That the Board approve XCG as the consultant for conducting the Waste Characterization and Recycling Feedstock Inventory in 2022/2023.”



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board

From: Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services

Date: May 26, 2022

Subject: Union of BC Municipalities Convention 2022 – September 12-16, 2022 – Whistler, B.C.
- Attendance Authorization
- Resolution Deadline
- Minister/Ministry Staff Meetings

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

That the Board authorize attendance of Chair Thiessen and Rural Directors at the UBCM Convention from September 12-16, 2022 in Whistler, B.C.

BACKGROUND

This year's UBCM Convention is being held in Whistler, B.C. from September 12-16, 2022. At this time, as per RDBN policy, formal authorization is being requested for the Chair and Rural Directors to attend. The CAO and Deputy CAO will also be attending this event as per past practice.

The UBCM resolution deadline is June 30, 2022. The June 16th Committee of the Whole Agenda will include a discussion item in this regard. If the Board wishes to submit any resolutions, the topic and background information should be submitted to staff by June 17th for staff to draft and include on the June 30th Board Agenda for approval.

The June 16th Committee of the Whole Agenda will also include a discussion item in regard to Minister/Ministry Staff Meeting requests. We have not yet received information in regard to the deadline for submitting these requests.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: **Canada Community Building Funds – Cycle 16 Commuter Trail**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

That the Board approve allocating \$26,000 of the previously approved \$300,000 for the construction of the Cycle 16 Commuter Trail to the Cycle 16 Society for costs associated with design and project management of phase one of the trail.

BACKGROUND

In October 2020, the Board approved a \$300,000 contribution to the Cycle 16 Commuter Trail from Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) Federal Gas allocation as leveraging for a Provincial Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) grant opportunity. The CERIP grant was not successful.

In 2021, the project application was approved through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Program, which required no leveraging.

The approved Federal Gas Tax (now Canada Community Building Funds) remains allocated to the trail project in the case of cost overruns, which are not anticipated to be significant. This proposal would take a portion (\$26,000) of the allocated funds and disperse them to the Cycle 16 Society to provide assistance with the final design and other factors for phase one of the project scheduled for construction this year.



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: **Northern Healthy Communities Fund
First Nations Capacity Building Application**

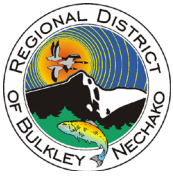
RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

That the Board supports the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's application to Northern Development Initiative Trust - Northern Healthy Communities Fund for the First Nations Engagement Capacity Building Project (Year Two).

BACKGROUND

Following the successful first year of the three-year First Nations Liaison pilot at the RDBN, an application has been submitted to the Northern Healthy Communities Fund (Capacity Building Stream) for Year Two of the pilot. Funding from this program supports the RDBN First Nations Liaison staff position.

A Board resolution is required to approve the application.
A copy of the application with attachments will be available at the Board meeting should Directors wish to review the information in greater detail.



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Justin Greer, Economic Development Assistant
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: **UBCM Strategic Priorities Fund Application**
Bulkley Valley Aquatic Centre Upgrade Project

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

- 1) That the Board supports the RDBN's application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' Strategic Priorities Fund for the Bulkley Valley Pool Upgrade Project, and;
 - 2) That the Board commits to providing overall financial management for the project.
-

BACKGROUND

Staff are preparing an application to the UBCM Strategic Priorities Fund for the Bulkley Valley Pool Upgrade Project. The Strategic Priorities Funding stream is delivered through the Community-Building Fund (formerly known as the Gas Tax Fund). The Program funds capital infrastructure projects up to 100% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$6 million. The upcoming intake deadline is June 30, 2022. A RDBN Board Resolution in support of the project is a required component for the application. The request is for \$3,103,082 which is 100% of the project budget.

Project Component	Estimated Amount
Heat Recovery System	\$703,082
Lobby and Administration Upgrades	\$2,400,000
Total	\$3,103,082

The proposed project will have two components install a waste energy recovery system to harness waste heat from the ice plant in the adjacent arena and transfer it to heat the pool. This project is the seventh and final step of an on-going energy conservation project that was recommended in a 2018 Facility Energy Study and Assessment. It will result in an estimated gas use reduction of 1,800 GJ/year for the Bulkley Valley Aquatic Centre.

This project will also incorporate upgrades to the lobby and administration area along with the addition of a new multipurpose fitness room. A recent Facility Function Study

determined that the BV Pool and Recreation Centre – built 31 years ago and owned by the RDBN – does not meet the demands of the community it serves. The renovation plans included in this project are Phase One of the Study's recommended actions and will improve public experience of the facility and increase programming capacity. Proposed Phases Two and Three of the Study will be reviewed and undertaken at a later date.

The Bulkley-Valley Aquatic Center Management Society has resolved to pursue funding for Phase One of the Facility Function Study. The Society's oversight Committee is planning to meet in advance of the application deadline to review the proposal and consider a letter of support.

Both the 2018 Facility Energy Study and Assessment and the 2022 Facility Function Study are available upon request.



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Shari Janzen, Economic Development Assistant
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: **Nechako Valley Exhibition Society - Letter of Support Request**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

That the Board provide a Letter of Support to the Nechako Valley Exhibition Society to be used for its funding applications for the Nechako Valley Exhibition Barn Upgrades Project.

BACKGROUND

The Beef Barn at the Nechako Valley Exhibition Grounds provides a facility for one of the province's most highly regarded beef shows at the annual Fall Fair. It was originally constructed with the help of a Canada Centennial Grant in 1967.

The project entails straightening and steel-cladding the exterior walls; widening the back door to an 8' sliding door; adding a track for the back and side doors; removing dilapidated fascia and installing new boards; for the purpose of enhancing the appearance and safety of the building while providing adequate entrances and egresses for people, cattle, and equipment.

The necessary renovations to the Beef Barn will enable the Exhibition to continue to attract producers from across the province to show their cattle in Vanderhoof and allow for other events to be held in the facility to promote the beef industry in the Northern Interior, while increasing tourism, enhancing opportunities for up-and-coming local producers, and raising the profile of Vanderhoof as a competitive locale in the industry.



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Date: May 26, 2022
Subject: Cycle 16 Trail – Release Motion to the Public

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Receive.

BACKGROUND

At the May 12, 2022 In-Camera Meeting, the Board passed the following motion:

That the following motion be released to the public:

I.C.2022-3-4 That the Board direct staff to award the contract for construction of Phase 1 of the Cycle 16 Trail to Terus Construction (formerly LB Paving) at a cost of \$1,304,787.54.

ATTACHMENTS:

None



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors

FROM: First Nations Liaison

DATE: May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

To receive/discuss.

BACKGROUND

As part of the RDBN's efforts for creating space to discuss the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions' 94 Calls to Action and how to support local First Nations in their advocacy for reconciliation efforts in the region, staff has prepared this memo to discuss the Calls to Action that focus on reconciliation, youth programs, and museum and archives.

Of the five Calls to Action brought forward in this report, only Call 70 has been marked as complete. These Calls all focus on the promotion of Indigenous youth programs and collaborating with Indigenous communities on undertaking policy reviews for museum and archive sites.

To address Call 66, the 2019 federal budget proposed to provide \$15.2 million over three years (2020 to 2022) for a pilot program to support Indigenous youth reconciliation initiatives, delivered by an existing non-profit organization called Canadian Roots Exchange¹. The pilot program seeks to establish strong pathways for Indigenous youth from across the country to come together, network, and engage with federal departments on key policy initiatives that impact them and their communities². Canadian Roots Exchange has used the funding to develop several initiatives that aim to mentor Indigenous youth and amplify their perspectives in decision-making.

Regarding Call 67, in 2019, Canadian Heritage announced funding for the Canadian Museums Association to undertake a national review of museum

¹ CBC News. Beyond 94 – Call 66. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform-single/beyond-94?&cta=66>

² CIRNAC. "Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action" – Youth Programs. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504660890/1557513687138>

policies in collaboration with Indigenous communities, which is expected to take two years³. The final report is expected to be completed in the fall of 2022⁴.

According to CBC News' Beyond 94, Call 68 was not started as the national funding program created to mark Canada's 150th anniversary had funding for some reconciliation events, but the process was not done in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and the funding was not exclusive to project of reconciliation⁵. Funding for the selected projects concluded in April 2018. However, the Government of Canada states that over \$3.6 million was invested in five signature projects that include a strong focus on Indigenous Communities and two were specifically designed to promote reconciliation amongst Indigenous and non-Indigenous People in Canada⁶.

Call 69 has been marked as in progress, despite Library and Archives Canada has not released a statement fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, although their webpage does note support for UNDRIP⁷. In 2018, Library and Archives Canada convened an Indigenous Advisory Circle to advise on various actions, protocols, projects, and the implementation of Indigenous documentary heritage initiatives⁸. In April 2019, Library and Archives Canada launched the Indigenous Heritage Action Plan, a 5-year plan guided by the TRC and was developed in consultation with the Indigenous Advisory Circle. The plan commits to upholding the rights defined in UNDRIP and the United Nations Joint-Orentlicher Principles.

Call 70 has been completed after a reconciliation framework for the Canadian Archives was completed in 2020 following a task force's review of archival policies⁹. Library and Archives Canada will continue to collaborate with the Steering Committee on Canada's Archives for the circulation and implementation of the reconciliation framework elements throughout the Canadian archival community¹⁰.

CALLS TO ACTION FOR DISCUSSION

Reconciliation and Youth Program

66. We call upon the federal government to establish multi-year funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices.

³ CBC News. Beyond 94 – Call 67. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform-single/beyond-94?&cta=67>

⁴ Canadian Museums Association. "Reconciliation Program."

<https://museums.ca/site/aboutthecma/reconciliationprogram>

⁵ CBC News. Beyond 94 – Call 68. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform-single/beyond-94?&cta=68>

⁶ CIRNAC. "Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action" – Museums and archives. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504831027/1557513782811>

⁷ CBC News. Beyond 94 – Call 69. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform-single/beyond-94?&cta=69>

⁸ CIRNAC. "Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action" – Museums and archives. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504831027/1557513782811>

⁹ CBC News. Beyond 94 – Call 70. <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform-single/beyond-94?&cta=70>

¹⁰ CIRNAC. "Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action" – Museums and archives. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524504831027/1557513782811>

Museums and Archives

67. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Museums Association to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of museum policies and best practices to determine the level of compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and to make recommendations.

68. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, and the Canadian Museums Association to mark the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation in 2017 by establishing a dedicated national funding program for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation.

69. We call upon Library and Archives Canada to:

- i. Fully adopt and implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *United Nations Joint-Orontlicher Principles*¹¹ as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.
- ii. Ensure that its record holdings related to residential schools are accessible to the public.
- iii. Commit more resources to its public education materials and programming on residential schools.

70. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Association of Archivists to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of archival policies and best practices to:

- i. Determine the level of compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *United Nations Joint-Orontlicher Principles*, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.
- ii. Produce a report with recommendations for full implementation of these international mechanisms as a reconciliation framework for Canadian archives.

¹¹ The United Nations Joint-Orontlicher Principles are a set of principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity. More can be found at the link: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G05/109/00/PDF/G0510900.pdf?OpenElement>



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors

FROM: First Nations Liaison

DATE: May 26, 2022

SUBJECT: UNDRIP as a Framework for a Reconciliation Action Plan

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

To receive/discuss.

BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2022, the Board requested staff to bring back a discussion paper that looks at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call 43 in greater detail and explores the use of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) to develop an internal reconciliation action plan.

This discussion paper provides detail on the Declaration, its implementation in Canada, discusses the concepts of consent and the duty to consult, examines several local government reconciliation action plans, and discusses what a plan could look like for the RDBN.

Should the Board wish to make amendments and formally adopt the draft reconciliation action plan, as found in the discussion paper, staff can bring the amended action plan for adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Discussion Paper: UNDRIP as a Framework for an Internal Reconciliation Action Plan

UNDRIP as a Framework for an Internal Reconciliation Action Plans

“[R]econciliation’ is about establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country. In order for that to happen there has to be awareness of the past, acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour.”

- *Truth and Reconciliation Commissions, 2015.*

Executive Summary

On March 17, 2022, the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Board asked staff to bring back a discussion paper that looks at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call 43 in greater detail and explores the use of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (referred to as UNDRIP, the UN Declaration, or the Declaration) to develop a meaningful reconciliation action plan. This discussion paper will provide details on the Declaration, its implementation in Canada, discuss free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) and the existing section 35, examine several local government reconciliation action plans, and discuss what a plan could look like for the RDBN.

Introduction

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report’s Call to Action 43:

“We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as the framework for reconciliation.”

confirms and promotes the use of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (referred to as “UNDRIP,” the “UN Declaration,” or the “Declaration”) as a framework for reconciliation.

The UN Declaration was adopted by the UN’s General Assembly in 2007, with only four opposing votes. It was the first international law that recognized the rights of Indigenous Peoples across the globe. Taking over two years to develop, the Declaration is a recommended framework for reconciliation and relationship building. The UN Declaration has 46 articles and should be read and interpreted in its entirety. The UN Declaration does not diminish other human rights but instead recognizes the rights

Indigenous Peoples have over themselves and their lands. As it was created at an international level, it is reflective of Indigenous Peoples across the globe.

Canada was one of the four nations that initially voted against the Declaration in 2007. However, it has since reversed that vote and position. In 2019, the Province of British Columbia (BC) was the first government in Canada to pass legislation to adopt the Declaration and align existing laws with its principles. In 2021, the Government of Canada followed suit.

As part of the TRC, many Calls to Action include the recognition of UNDRIP and its principles for all orders of government, and for organizations and institutions (such as ranging from RCMP to hospitals, to law schools) to uphold its principles and use it as a framework for reconciliation. Self-determination is a large component of UNDRIP. Through recognizing Indigenous Peoples' rights to govern themselves, past colonial wrongdoings, and the continued legacy of the *Indian Act*, can meaningful relationships be fostered. Many local governments across BC have begun to adopt UNDRIP into their organization and use it as a reference for developing a reconciliation action plan in collaboration with First Nation governments, Indigenous Peoples, and organizations.

This paper will provide background on the Declaration, its application, key concepts (including the difference between FPIC and the Duty to Consult), and a discussion of existing local government reconciliation plans.

The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

Background

The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* was collaboratively developed by Indigenous Peoples from across the world. In 1982, the Economic and Social Council established the Working Group on Indigenous Populations with the mandate to develop a set of minimum standards that would protect Indigenous Peoples¹. The first draft of the declaration on the rights of Indigenous peoples was submitted to the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in 1994².

The UN Declaration sets out the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples –including their right to language, culture, employment, health, and education – emphasizing self-determination, the right to maintain and strengthen their own institutions, cultures, and traditions, and pursue developments in keeping with their own needs and aspirations³. The rights set out in the Declaration are “the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of indigenous peoples of the world” and do not limit any domestic rights⁴. The process took significant time, as the right to self-determination for Indigenous Peoples and control over natural resources existing on their traditional lands required further discussion.

¹ The United Nations. “Historical Overview.”

² Ibid.

³ Favel, Blaine and Ken S. Coates. 2016. “Understanding UNDRIP: Choosing action on priorities over sweeping claims about the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.” Page 8.

⁴ Ibid

“The UN Declaration does not create new rights but elaborates on existing ones that are enshrined in various international human rights treaties and instruments, placing them in the context of indigenous peoples’ realities”⁵. In addition to elaborating on existing rights that should be afforded to Indigenous Peoples around the world, the Declaration “...outlines specific obligations on the part of nations in how they relate to Indigenous peoples and their land...”⁶. As the Declaration is reflective of the distinct nature and histories of Indigenous peoples across the globe, the Declaration “... reject[s] previous approaches aimed at ‘assimilating’ indigenous peoples into the mainstream, a policy that is now recognized as a major contributor to the loss of indigenous identity”⁷.

On September 13, 2007, the UN’s General Assembly adopted the Declaration, thus making it part of international law⁸. Despite the Declaration receiving the needed amounts of votes to pass into law, there were four opposing votes – The United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada⁹. The arguments against UNDRIP were that “...the level of autonomy recognized for Indigenous peoples in UNDRIP was problematic and would undermine the sovereignty of their own states, particularly in the context of land disputes and natural resource development”¹⁰. However, since then, all opposing states have now endorsed UNDRIP.

UNDRIP in Canada

Despite having an Indigenous population, Canada voted against UNDRIP in 2007, citing non-alignment with existing laws that ‘protect’ Indigenous rights – i.e., the *Indian Act* and existing treaties with Nations. There was a misplaced fear that UNDRIP would give Indigenous governments a veto and that existing treaties and legal proceedings would have a greater weight.

Even without not endorsing UNDRIP, Canadian courts often used it as an interpretive tool for domestic laws and applied it to cases. Even before UNDRIP had passed the UN’s General Assembly, the Canadian court system had begun recognizing Indigenous rights and title and government activities that infringed upon it with monumental cases such as the 1997 *Delgamuukw* and then again in the 2014 *Tsilhqot’in* rulings.

In 2010, the Harper government endorsed UNDRIP describing it as an “aspirational document,” but never made any tangible action on implementing it¹¹. Reservations to endorse UNDRIP in 2007 were based on the provisions that dealt with “...lands, territories and resources; free, prior and informed consent when used as a veto; self-government without recognition of the importance of negotiations; intellectual property; military issues; and the need to achieve an appropriate balance between the rights and obligations of Indigenous peoples, States and third parties”¹². However, in 2015, Prime Minister

⁵ United Nations. 2014. “Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” Page 13.

⁶ Wilt, James. 2017. “Implementing UNDRIP is a Big Deal for Canada. Here’s What You Need to Know.”

⁷ United Nations. 2014. “Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” Page 14.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Favel, Blaine and Ken S. Coates. 2016. “Understanding UNDRIP: Choosing action on priorities over sweeping claims about the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.” Page 16.

¹¹ Wilt, James. 2017.

¹² Favel, Blaine and Ken S. Coates. 2016. Page 19.

Justin Trudeau promised to uphold UNDRIP and work towards implementing it and addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action among other campaign promises.

In 2016, NDP MP Romeo Saganash, the Intergovernmental Relations critic, introduced a private member's bill that called for the implementation of UNDRIP¹³. The bill called for UNDRIP to be affirmed as a universal international human rights instrument with application in Canadian law. It also called on Indigenous Peoples and the Government of Canada to work collaboratively to ensure Canadian laws are consistent with the Declaration and that a national action plan be created¹⁴. The private member's bill did not pass but provided a legislative framework for BC's 2019 *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and the Government of Canada's 2021 legislation to adopt UNDRIP. The BC DRIPA and Federal Government UNDRIP bills are almost identical. Both are legislation that commits to aligning existing laws with UNDRIP and committing to recognizing and upholding the self-determination of Indigenous governing bodies.

Many local governments have also used UNDRIP as a framework to develop local reconciliation action plans to help meaningfully advance relationship building. However, much hesitancy and pushback on UNDRIP reside in the fear that free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) could amount to Indigenous Peoples having the power to veto development projects that impact their traditional territories¹⁵.

Consultation and Consent

Consultation and consent are large components of the discussion of UNDRIP and its implementation in Canada. UNDRIP seeks to achieve collaborative consent, where "...Indigenous and non-Indigenous governments commit to working together over the long run, each with their asserted authority, and with a goal of achieving each other's consent on decisions, policies and plans."¹⁶ This section explores the existing duty to consult and free, prior and informed consent as stated in UNDRIP.

Duty to Consult and, where appropriate, Accommodate

As set out in section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982* "[t]he existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed"¹⁷. This section recognizes that before European arrival in North America, Indigenous peoples "...were already here, living in communities on the land, and participating in distinctive cultures, as they had done for centuries"¹⁸. The Canadian courts developed the doctrine of the duty to consult as a way to protect these rights and, where appropriate, accommodate¹⁹.

The Supreme Court of Canada has interpreted section 35 rights as a means to advance reconciliation and recognized the importance of consultation in the protection of those rights – articulating that

¹³ Favel, Blaine and Ken S. Coates. 2016. Page 20.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Wilson, N. Olivier. 2021. "A new era for Indigenous rights in Canada?"

¹⁶ Simms, Rosie et al. 2018. "Collaborative consent as a path to realizing UNDRIP." *Policy Options*.

¹⁷ *Constitution Acts, 1867 to 1982. Part 2: Rights of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada*.

¹⁸ Harding, Reece and Julia Tikhonova. 2021. "Indigenous Relations: Challenges, possibilities, and the future of collaborative governance." Page 2.

¹⁹ Brideau, Isabelle. 2019. "Background Paper: The Duty to Consult Indigenous Peoples." *Library of Parliament*.

“[r]ather than pitting Aboriginal peoples against the Crown in the litigation process, the duty recognizes that both must work together to reconcile their interests”²⁰.

“The duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous Peoples, requires that federal and provincial governments have a dialogue with Indigenous groups about the contemplated government actions or decisions that might have a negative impact on Aboriginal and treaty rights”²¹. Its goal is to listen to views and concerns, and where necessary and possible modify actions to avoid unlawful infringement on those rights. While it is not expressly set out in constitutional documents of legislation, it is a common law requirement grounded in the honour of the Crown and enshrined in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* through prior court proceedings²².

In 1990, the Supreme Court of Canada set out the *Sparrow Test*²³ for determining whether an infringement on Indigenous Rights and Title is justified. The Test first seeks to define whether or not a right has been infringed upon by government activity if it²⁴:

- Imposes undue hardship on the First Nation;
- Is considered by the court to be unreasonable;
- Prevents the right-holder from exercising that right.

The Test then outlines what might justify an infringement upon an Indigenous right, if²⁵:

- The infringement serves a “valid legislative objective.” The court suggested a valid legislative objective would be conservation of natural resources, in which First Nations interest would come second only to that;
- “There has been as little infringement as possible in order to effect the desired result;”
- Fair compensation was provided;
- Indigenous groups were consulted or “at the least... informed.”

The Supreme Court also acknowledged that other considerations might be taken into account, depending on the circumstances of the infringement²⁶.

Based upon the criteria to at minimum “inform”, the current consultation has created a “death by a thousand cuts” for First Nations, as they have the onus of dealing with hundreds of referrals for consultations that use critical financial and human resources to process²⁷. The duty to consult does not include a duty to reach an agreement, but rather the existing commitment is to a meaningful process of consultation after which the Crown may overlook any concern and continue to implement a project²⁸. The process fails to respect First Nation jurisdiction by promoting engagement processes that treat

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Centre for Constitutional Studies. 2021. “The Sparrow Test: Justifying Infringements of Aboriginal or Treaty Rights.”

²⁴ Salomons, Tanisha and Erin Hanson. “Sparrow Case”.

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Ibid

²⁷ Yellowhead Institute. 2019. “Three Frameworks of Consent.”

²⁸ Morales, Sarah. “Braiding the Incommensurable: Indigenous Legal Traditions and the Duty to Consult.” Page 67.

communities as mere stakeholders rather than legitimate decision-makers holding constitutionally protected rights.

Free, Prior, and Informed Consent

Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) is a term prominent within UNDRIP. Articles 10, 19, 28(1), 29(2), and 32(2) reference it. The principles of FPIC are rooted in “...the recognition that Indigenous peoples, as self-determining peoples, should be empowered to make decisions over their future and that of their traditional lands”²⁹. Controversy over its meaning and conflicting interpretations were prominent roadblocks to implementing UNDRIP in Canada. The term has often been mischaracterized as a veto, which could pose a risk to investments in the natural resource sector across the country³⁰. However, FPIC is a process of securing consent through partnerships and building meaningful relationships with Indigenous Peoples³¹.

Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC), at its highest level, is defined as³²:

- **Free:** Consent given voluntarily and without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation. A process that is self-directed by the community from whom consent is being sought, unencumbered by coercion, expectations, or timelines that are externally imposed.
- **Prior:** consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.
- **Informed:** nature of the engagement and type of information that should be provided prior to seeking consent and also as part of the ongoing consent process.
- **Consent:** collective decision made by the rights holders and reached through the customary decision-making processes of the communities.

Unlike the duty to consult, FPIC seeks to create a process in which partnerships, dialogue, and understanding occur. By Indigenous Peoples having a say in matters that impact them and for their voices, concerns, and decisions to be respected can consent be received.

Application and Implementation

To some legal experts, UNDRIP is “...a general statement of comprehensive, long-term objectives and a recognition of widely-held historical experiences of Indigenous peoples around the world. But without action by national governments to codify UNDRIP in their legal, political, and constitutional arrangements, it is widely viewed as an aspirational rather than practical document”³³. In its practical interpretation, UNDRIP “... calls on member nations to update domestic laws and policies to reflect its spirit and letter in order for UNDRIP to have substantial practical effect”³⁴.

²⁹ Papillon, Martin and Thierry Rodon. 2017. “Indigenous Consent and Natural Resource Extraction: Foundations for a Made-in-Canada Approach.” *IRP Insight*. No. 16. Page 2.

³⁰ Justice Canada. 2021. “Bill C- 15: What we learned report.” Page 19-20.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Yellowhead Institute. 2019. “Three Frameworks of Consent.”

³³ Favel, Blaine and Ken S. Coates. 2016. “Understanding UNDRIP: Choosing action on priorities over sweeping claims about the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.” Page 22.

³⁴ Ibid.

Despite not having previously adopted legislation to align existing domestic laws and policies with UNDRIP, international law was used by domestic courts as an interpretive tool at the discretion of judges in relevant cases. UNDRIP fundamentally seeks to move from a colonial relationship that has the Government of Canada control all aspects of Indigenous Peoples' lives towards a Canada in which Indigenous Peoples have self-determination³⁵. The implementation of legislation to align existing laws with UNDRIP seeks to establish a process that would make laws and policies consistent with UNDRIP principles³⁶.

In the preamble of the Declaration, as well as in the Articles, there is an explicit recognition of the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples. The "...collective rights to protect the culture, identity and existence of indigenous peoples," including the right to self-determination, right to lands, territories, resources, and cultural rights³⁷.

BC's DRIPA Action Plan

In February 2022, the Province of BC released their action plan for the Declaration Act. This Plan has 89 action items that various provincial ministries will be responsible for implementing from 2022 to 2027³⁸. The Plan was developed in collaboration with Indigenous organizations and First Nation governments. The Plan looks to include Indigenous Peoples in all aspects of Provincial government, thus creating an inclusive and resilient BC. Changes to legislation are slowly being implemented. Themes for action items include (1) self-determination and inherent right of self-government, (2) title and rights of Indigenous Peoples, (3) ending Indigenous-specific racism and discrimination, and (4) social, cultural, and economic well-being.

The Action Plan is specific to the Government of BC and is a road map for the provincial government to work on implementing UNDRIP in all aspects of their policies, laws, legislations, and programs. Only two action items will have a direct impact on local governments, which will be the following:

1.11 Support inclusive regional governance by advancing First Nations participation in regional district boards. (*Ministry of Municipal Affairs*)

4.27 Review the principles and processes that guide the naming of municipalities and regional districts, and evolve practices to foster reconciliation in local processes. (*Ministry of Municipal Affairs*)

Both of these items fall under the purview of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, which has committed to working with and supporting local governments on their reconciliation journeys with neighbouring First Nations and Indigenous organizations.

³⁵ Gunn, Brenda L. "Beyond Van der Peet: Bringing together International, Indigenous and Constitutional Law." Page 33.

³⁶ Hille, Kevin, Roger Townshend, and Jaclyn McNamara. 2021. "Bill C-15 (UNDRIP Act) Commentary." Page 1.

³⁷ United Nations. 2014. "Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples." Page 14.

³⁸ Tikhonova, Julia, and Reece Harding. 2022. "Province releases DRIPA action plan: implications for local governments."

Discussion: Existing Local Government Reconciliation Action Plan

Across Canada and in BC, many cities and regional districts (or their counterparts) have created reconciliation action plans and begun reconciliation work.

City of Vancouver

In June 2013, the City of Vancouver declared a year of reconciliation. This year-long initiative featured gatherings, dialogue, public education, and workshops that sought to build shared understanding and create a legacy for meaningful change in society³⁹. The City has developed a UNDRIP Task Force in partnership with the Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation⁴⁰. The City has created an Indigenous Relations division that provides strategic advice on the City's overarching approach to reconciliation and intergovernmental relations across the City's business units⁴¹.

Capital Regional District

In 2015, the Capital Regional District (CRD) established the Special Task Force on First Nations Relation. Since then, it has released a statement of reconciliation that acknowledges the land, Nations, Peoples, and the individual and collective histories that had shaped the boundaries of the Regional District⁴². The First Nation Relations department/division was created to support the CRD to build enduring relationships with neighbouring First Nations governments and internal cultural awareness.

City of Prince George

Since 2015, the City of Prince George has been working closely with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, whose traditional territories the City is located upon⁴³. In 2017, the city, Lheidli T'enneh, and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George signed an MOU on Cooperation and Communication⁴⁴. In collaboration with Lheidli T'enneh, the City of Prince George's onboarding training for employees has three First Nations cultural awareness training modules that include 3 videos from the Nation that provides a local understanding of shared and individual histories of the area and the impacts of colonialism and settlement of Prince George on the Nation and its members.

City of Toronto

On March 16, 2022, the City of Toronto released its ten-year reconciliation action plan that will guide advancing truth, justice, and reconciliation with Indigenous People in the City of Toronto⁴⁵. The City's one-year work plan lists 28 tangible actions that various departments will lead to advance meaningful reconciliation in 2022⁴⁶. Actions range from research and the development of tool kits to formal apologies for past mis-practices, advocacy, revitalization, and land redress. The one-year work plan is

³⁹ City of Vancouver. "Year of Reconciliation."

⁴⁰ City of Vancouver. "UNDRIP task force."

⁴¹ City of Vancouver. 2021. "Reconciliation Update." Page 5.

⁴² Capital Regional District. "Statement of Reconciliation."

⁴³ City of Prince George. 2018. "Reconciliation Framework."

⁴⁴ City of Prince George, Lheidli T'enneh, and Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. 2017. "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Communication".

⁴⁵ City of Toronto. 2022. "Actions to advance truth and justice for Indigenous People in the City of Toronto: Reconciliation Action Plan 2022-2032." And "2022-2032: Reconciliation Action Plan."

⁴⁶ City of Toronto. 2022. "2022 Year one work plan."

comprehensive and requires all staff and city councillors to work collaboratively with local First Nation governments and urban Indigenous populations.

Potential RDBN Reconciliation Action Plan

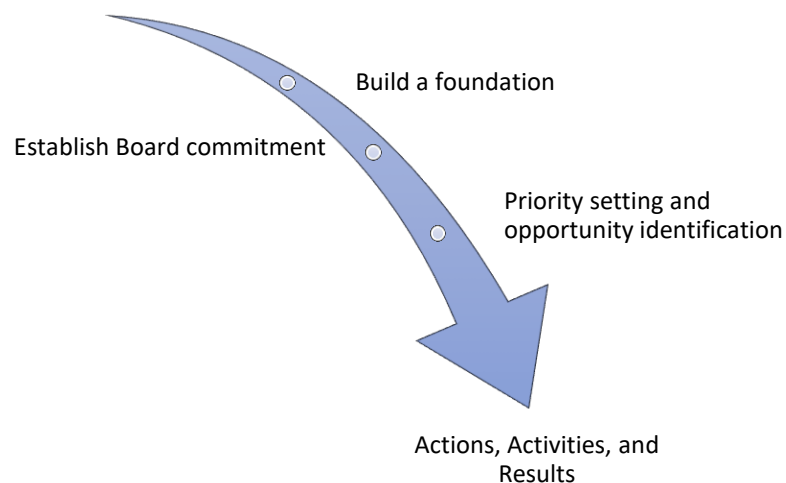
The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako spans across the traditional territories of four distinct language groups (Dakelh, Nedut'en, Tse'khene, and Wet'suwet'en), with 14 distinct First Nations with communities, and many others with reserve lands and territorial claims. In recognizing that before colonialism and the western-settler influence, Indigenous Peoples lived on this land since time immemorial and prospered from their own socioeconomic systems that saw them interact with neighboring Nations. Recognizing that through colonialization, Indigenous Peoples' access to the lands, livelihoods, and cultures was restricted and caused immense social, cultural, and economic damage, while allowing for settler populations to flourish at their expense.

“Reconciliation cannot occur without listening, contemplation, meditation, and deeper internal deliberation.”

-Truth and Reconciliation Commission, 2015.

As discussed in the section above, a reconciliation action plan sets out an overarching commitment of an organization to meaningfully advance reconciliation activities and lists tangible actions. Reconciliation requires dedicated effort and work from everyone, in all aspects of social, cultural, economic, and environmental spheres of life. It is important to note that any developed plan would require all RDBN staff to participate and take ownership in meaningful reconciliation and relationship building. Reconciliation is not a blanket statement that can be directly replicated across distinct Nations within the Bulkley-Nechako watershed. As such, by creating a high-level plan, staff and Board members will be empowered to foster unique and distinct relationships with each Nation on whose traditional territory the RDBN's work spans across.

Reconciliation Framework Components



All reconciliation work and efforts must recognize the local history of relationships between Indigenous communities and neighboring municipalities⁴⁷. Without understanding these past relationships and their impacts on local First Nations, reconciling the past and creating an inclusive future in the region cannot be properly achieved.

As flagged within the ten principles of reconciliation from the TRC's What We Heard Report (see annex for the fulsome list), reconciliation and relationship-building with First Nation communities and government must be grounded in respect, trust, and understanding. Reconciling past historic practices and committing to creating an inclusive future, which respects the rights and title of Indigenous Peoples, is essential. Reconciliation is an *all of society* activity. As such, any reconciliation plan for the RDBN needs to include each department, all staff persons, and Board members. The Plan also needs to be adaptive to each of the distinct Nations on whose traditional territories the Regional District operates across.

The below draft action plan has been inspired by the action plans that other municipalities and regional districts have developed and is reflective of the internal work that the RDBN must undertake. None of the below activities are meant to be prescriptive to First Nation communities but illustrate the actions and initiatives that must occur internally to begin the process of meaningful reconciliation in the region.

Reconciliation Draft Action Plan		
	Activities	Cost
Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statement of Reconciliation and apology on behalf of the Regional District for past relationships and practices. - Commitment of Directors to engage and build elected-to-elected level relationships with neighboring Nations - Advocate for issues as identified by Nations to provincial and federal government - Working with Nations and the Province to envision First Nation representation on the Regional District Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings
Corporate Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and maintain staff-to-staff relationships with Nations - Support Board and Departments in engaging and building relationships with Nations and organizations that represent Indigenous Peoples - Organize cultural awareness and education sessions for staff and Board members - Support Nations on project and initiatives, as requested, via letters of endorsement or coordinating meetings with Board and/or Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings - Budget for annual cultural awareness and education sessions

⁴⁷ McElroy, Justin. 2022. "Why reconciliation in small towns might progress more slowly than at provincial, federal levels." *CBC News*.

	- Assist Board in coordinating meetings with Nations	
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build staff-to-staff level relationships with Nations' economic development teams and development corporations - Engage with Nations and work collaboratively on economic development projects and initiatives throughout the region - Support grant applications and projects, as requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings
Environmental Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build staff-to-staff level relationships with Nations - Engage with Nations on waste management practices - Develop agreements and projects for collaboration on waste disposal and recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings
Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build staff-to-staff level relationships with Nations' planning and referral departments - Develop a collaborative framework for conducting building inspections on reserve, as requested, and for conducting community engagement, consultation, and referral processes - Work collaboratively on regional transit plans and programs - Collaborate on short- and long-term planning, and developing parks and recreation plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings
Protective Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build staff-to-staff level relationships with Nations' Emergency Management team - Collaborate on preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation initiatives - Support an integrative emergency management program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings
Financial Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build staff-to-staff level relationships with Nations - Support Departments in developing service agreements with Nations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time - Financial cost of supporting meetings

Annex

Ten Principles of Reconciliation

As found in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's What We Heard report, the following ten principles of reconciliation should be used as a guide for a reconciliation action plan:⁴⁸

1. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* is a framework for reconciliation at all levels and across all sectors of Canadian society.
2. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, as the original peoples of this country and as self-determining peoples, have Treaty, constitutional, and human rights that must be recognized and respected.
3. Reconciliation is a process of healing of relationships that requires public truth sharing, apology, and commemoration that acknowledge and redress past harms.
4. Reconciliation requires constructive action on addressing the ongoing legacies of colonialism that have had destructive impacts on Aboriginal peoples' education, cultures and languages, health, child welfare, the administration of justice, and economic opportunities and prosperity.
5. Reconciliation must create a more equitable and inclusive society by closing the gaps in social, health, and economic outcomes that exist between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.
6. All Canadians, as Treaty peoples, share responsibility for establishing and maintaining mutually respectful relationships.
7. The perspectives and understandings of Aboriginal Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers of the ethics, concepts, and practices of reconciliation are vital to long-term reconciliation.
8. Supporting Aboriginal peoples' cultural revitalization and integrating Indigenous knowledge systems, oral histories, laws, protocols, and connections to the land into the reconciliation process are essential.
9. Reconciliation requires political will, joint leadership, trust building, accountability, and transparency, as well as a substantial investment of resources.
10. Reconciliation requires sustained public education and dialogue, including youth engagement, about the history and legacy of residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal rights, as well as the historical and contemporary contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canadian society.

Articles of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

ARTICLE 1

Indigenous peoples have the right to the full enjoyment, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights law.

ARTICLE 2

⁴⁸ The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. 2015. "What we have learned: Principles of truth and reconciliation." Page 3 and 4.

Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

ARTICLE 3

Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

ARTICLE 4

Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

ARTICLE 5

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

ARTICLE 6

Every indigenous individual has the right to a nationality.

ARTICLE 7

1. Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
2. Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.

ARTICLE 8

1. Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture.
2. States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:
 - (a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities;
 - (b) Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources;
 - (c) Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of their rights;
 - (d) Any form of forced assimilation or integration;
 - (e) Any form of propaganda designed to promote or incite racial or ethnic discrimination directed against them.

ARTICLE 9

Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the community or nation concerned. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.

ARTICLE 10

Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.

ARTICLE 11

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature.

2. States shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples, with respect to their cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free, prior and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs.

ARTICLE 12

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites; the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of their human remains.

2. States shall seek to enable the access and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains in their possession through fair, transparent and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned.

ARTICLE 13

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that indigenous peoples can understand and be understood in political, legal and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

ARTICLE 14

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.

2. Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.

3. States shall, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language.

ARTICLE 15

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.

2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

ARTICLE 16

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that State-owned media duly reflect indigenous cultural diversity. States, without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect indigenous cultural diversity.

ARTICLE 17

1. Indigenous individuals and peoples have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law.

2. States shall in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples take specific measures to protect indigenous children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, taking into account their special vulnerability and the importance of education for their empowerment.

3. Indigenous individuals have the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

ARTICLE 18

Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.

ARTICLE 19

States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.

ARTICLE 20

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.
2. Indigenous peoples deprived of their means of subsistence and development are entitled to just and fair redress.

ARTICLE 21

1. Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
2. States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

ARTICLE 22

1. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
2. States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

ARTICLE 23

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.

ARTICLE 24

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals. Indigenous individuals also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services.
2. Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.

ARTICLE 25

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

ARTICLE 26

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

ARTICLE 27

States shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process.

ARTICLE 28

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.
2. Unless otherwise freely agreed upon by the peoples concerned, compensation shall take the form of lands, territories and resources equal in quality, size and legal status or of monetary compensation or other appropriate redress.

ARTICLE 29

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources. States shall establish and implement assistance programmes for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination.
2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in the lands or territories of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent.
3. States shall also take effective measures to ensure, as needed, that programmes for monitoring, maintaining and restoring the health of indigenous peoples, as developed and implemented by the peoples affected by such materials, are duly implemented.

ARTICLE 30

1. Military activities shall not take place in the lands or territories of indigenous peoples, unless justified by a relevant public interest or otherwise freely agreed with or requested by the indigenous peoples concerned.
2. States shall undertake effective consultations with the indigenous peoples concerned, through appropriate procedures and in particular through their representative institutions, prior to using their lands or territories for military activities.

ARTICLE 31

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.
2. In conjunction with indigenous peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

ARTICLE 32

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources.
2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.
3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact.

ARTICLE 33

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions. This does not impair the right of indigenous individuals to obtain citizenship of the States in which they live.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of their institutions in accordance with their own procedures.

ARTICLE 34

Indigenous peoples have the right to promote, develop and maintain their institutional structures and their distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices and, in the cases where they exist, juridical systems or customs, in accordance with international human rights standards.

ARTICLE 35

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the responsibilities of individuals to their communities.

ARTICLE 36

1. Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.
2. States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of this right.

ARTICLE 37

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements concluded with States or their successors and to have States honour and respect such treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.
2. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating the rights of indigenous peoples contained in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

ARTICLE 38

States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of this Declaration.

ARTICLE 39

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

ARTICLE 40

Indigenous peoples have the right to access to and prompt decision through just and fair procedures for the resolution of conflicts and disputes with States or other parties, as well as to effective remedies for all infringements of their individual and collective rights. Such a decision shall give due consideration to the customs, traditions, rules and legal systems of the indigenous peoples concerned and international human rights.

ARTICLE 41

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations shall contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance. Ways and means of ensuring participation of indigenous peoples on issues affecting them shall be established.

ARTICLE 42

The United Nations, its bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and specialized agencies, including at the country level, and States shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow up the effectiveness of this Declaration.

ARTICLE 43

The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and wellbeing of the indigenous peoples of the world.

ARTICLE 44

All the rights and freedoms recognized herein are equally guaranteed to male and female indigenous individuals.

ARTICLE 45

Nothing in this Declaration may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights indigenous peoples have now or may acquire in the future.

ARTICLE 46

1. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, people, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to the Charter of the United Nations or construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States.
2. In the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all shall be respected. The exercise of the rights set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law and in accordance with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and strictly necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society.
3. The provisions set forth in this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance and good faith.

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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board

From: Michelle Roberge, Regional Agriculture Coordinator, East
Megan D'Arcy, Regional Agriculture Coordinator, West

Date: May 26, 2022

Subject: **Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update**

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Receive.

BACKGROUND

Newsletter: Attached is Issue #11 (May 2022) of the Growing Opportunities Newsletter for your receipt.

Podcast: Podcasts that have been released since the last Board meeting include:

- Veggie Tales

Both the newsletter and podcast can be accessed from the RDBN Growing Opportunities webpage: <https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/agriculture/growing-opportunities-rdbn-ag-newsletter>

The podcasts can also be downloaded from wherever you get your podcasts.

The Agriculture Coordinators encourage all Directors to subscribe to receive the newsletter automatically each month by subscribing at the same page link above.

ATTACHMENTS:

Growing Opportunities Newsletter Issue 11

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

Bulkley-Nechako Agriculture Update



May 2022, Issue 11

AG TEAM UPDATE

A lot of attention has been focused on the Avian Influenza outbreak that is happening in BC. Find the links you need to stay informed later in this issue. As well, get ready for the Farmers' Market! Markets are opening up across the region in the coming weeks, so get excited and if you have never sold at a market before, we hope the information below will help you get started! If markets aren't your thing, you can also connect with consumers through our online [Connecting Consumers and Producers directory](#). [Click here to get listed!](#)

Connecting Consumers and Producers
Community Event Funding

Grant Funding Available
Funding up to \$1,100 per event
Guidelines and Application at www.rdbn.bc.ca
Application Deadline: July 31, 2022




Avian Influenza

To stay up to date with the Avian Influenza outbreak in BC, please go to:

[The BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food AI page: Avian influenza \(AI\)](#)

The RDBN has produced a [biosecurity fact sheet](#) and added other helpful links on our [website](#).

RDBN GO Podcast!

We hope you have been enjoying the GO Podcasts. We are nearing the end of our first podcast series already! New since the last newsletter, you can listen to Michelle talk with producers about vegetable market gardening, and then Megan shares insights into small-scale livestock farming. To end the series, Michelle will pull together all the tips and tricks around the various ways of marketing your farm products – whatever they may be (bees, veggies, protein, live animals, etc.). Find the podcasts...

- ∞ Direct from the [RDBN website](#)
- ∞ Direct from our [Buzzsprout page](#):
- ∞ Direct from [CICK Radio](#)
- ∞ Wherever you get your podcasts (Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, etc.)

The next topics to be release will be:

MAY 16, 2022 Small-scale Livestock Keeping

Most producers in the RDBN keep animals such as chickens, milk goats, pigs, and sheep. This episode has producers share their experiences growing their herds, some tips on husbandry, and also great information on processing animals.



Sheep farming in the RDBN.

MAY 30, 2022 Marketing Overview for Producers

In this last podcast of the series we'll look back and bring together all the different ways our previous guests, along with some new guests, market their products. From the tech savvy to direct person-to-person marketing, this podcast hopes to help you increase your reach and better help you connect to consumers to support your farm business.



Fort St. James Farmers' Market.

Farmers' Markets!

Farmers' Markets are a beloved part of summer for many. Consumers flock to markets to get fresh vegetables, hand-made soaps and tinctures, locally raised meats, fresh baked goods, mushrooms and other forage foods, and much more! For a quick-view of each of the markets in the RDBN by going to our online guide – [Farmers' Markets Guide for the RDBN](#).

How do I SELL my products at a Farmers' Market?

- ∞ Many of the Farmers' Markets in the RDBN are members of the [BC Farmers' Market Association](#) and have set guidelines of what is allowed to be sold at a market. *The general rule is... if you can make it, bake it, or grow it, you can sell it at the Farmers' Market.* It is best to check with each individual market however, as each market has their own specific guidelines. Every market has a **Market Manager** that is there to help you.
- ∞ There are some markets in the RDBN that are independent and therefore may allow a wider range of items that you can sell.
- ∞ Every market will charge a fee for your space to set-up and sell your products. These fees vary by market, again check with the market(s) you are interested in vending at as to the costs associated with that market.
- ∞ Having great products to sell isn't the only thing you need for the market. You'll likely need to supply your own table, tent, power cables (if applicable), signs, price board, chair, table cover etc. Have a look at the set-up of your favourite vendors to get ideas of what you'll need for your booth.
- ∞ For some types of food you'll also need a permit and/or letter from the Health Authority that states your products are safe to sell. The [Temporary Food Markets Guideline for Temporary Markets](#) will help you to understand what is required depending on your food product(s). You can also ask the Market Manager.
- ∞ One more consideration is insurance. Check with your market to see what is needed.

Once you have all the permits, displays, prices etc. figured out, it is time to start selling! Selling at a Farmers' Market can be a wonderful opportunity to:

- ∞ **Meet new customers!** Having a conversation with someone interested in your product can be a powerful and effective marketing strategy. People love the story behind a business, and who best to share that story than you, the producer! Be sure to have business cards or pamphlets to hand out to potential customers.
- ∞ **Generate income!** There will be slow days at the market, but one thing is certain - seeing your stock go down can be a real boost to the system. Some producers make the majority of their income at Farmers' Markets.
- ∞ **Understand what customers like!** By talking with customers and watching how they decide on which of your products to buy can help you with planning for the next markets. You might want to bring more of a certain product, bring products that customers inquire about, or change your display to highlight the popular products, etc.
- ∞ **Get off the farm!** Sometimes spending a day off the farm out in community can bring a bit of break to the daily routine.

**[Farmers' Markets Guide
for the RDBN](#)**

159 Farmers' Markets in the RDBN



Fort St. James Farmers' Market
Market contact: kristennutbrown@gmail.com

Vanderhoof Farmers' Market
Market contact: vanderhooffarmersmarket@gmail.com



Fraser Lake Community Market
Market contact: plowman@netbistro.com

Southside Farmers' Market
Market contact: pondgrass@hotmail.ca



Burns Lake Community Market
Market contact: info@burnslakechamber.com

Houston BC Farmers' Market
Market contact: emma@houstonlinktolearning.ca



Bulkley Valley Farmers' Market
Market contact: manager@bvfm.ca

New Hazelton Visitor Information Centre
Market contact: market@hazeltonfarmers.ca



Please let us know what you'd like to see in the next Growing Opportunities eNewsletter!

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