

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**MEETING NO. 12**

**Thursday, October 13, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill  
Shane Brienen  
Mark Fisher  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Linda McGuire  
Bob Motion  
Chris Newell  
Mark Parker  
Jerry Petersen  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Sarrah Storey  
Henry Wiebe

Director Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa

Absent

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – left at 10:50 a.m., returned at 2:56 p.m.  
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 1:35 p.m., left at 2:48 p.m.  
Cameron Hart, Economic Development Assistance – left at 10:50 a.m.  
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services  
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 2:22 p.m., returned at 2:48 p.m.  
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley, via Zoom – arrived at 11:20 a.m., left at 11:35 a.m. returned at 12:45 p.m., left at 1:17 p.m.  
Barrett Kennedy, Socio-economic Advisor, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy – via Zoom, left at 11:39 a.m.  
Ian McLeod, Community Relations Lead, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy – left at 11:41 a.m.  
Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy – left at 11:41 a.m.  
Lauren Quan, PEng., Lead, Manitoba Solid Waste – Management Tetra Tech – via Zoom - arrived at 1:36 p.m., left at 2:48 p.m.

Others (Cont'd) Jeremy Reid, EIT Project Engineer, Tetra Tech – via Zoom - arrived at 1:34 p.m., left at 2:48 p.m.  
Nicole Stuckert, Sr. Land Management, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy – via Zoom – left at 11:39 a.m.  
Natasha Westover, External Issues and Media Lead, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy – via Zoom – left at 11:39 a.m.  
Dale Bellavance, Hudson Bay Mountain Resort - left at 11:19 a.m.  
Gary Mathiesen, Hudson Bay Mountain Resort – left at 11:19 a.m.

Media Frank Peebles, Prince George Citizen – left at 11:39 a.m., returned at 11:54 a.m.

## **FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

### **STAFF INTRODUCTION**

Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development introduced Cameron Hart, Economic Development Assistant.

### **AGENDA**

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

#### **2022-12-1**

“That the Board Meeting Agenda of October 13, 2022 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Board Meeting Minutes September 22, 2022**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Petersen

#### **2022-12-2**

“That the Board Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2022 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Connectivity Meeting Minutes -August 11, 2022**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Motion

#### **2022-12-3**

“That the Board receive the Connectivity Committee Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **TC ENERGY – COASTAL GASLINK PROJECT – Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor, Ian McLeod, Community Relations Lead and Nicole Stuckert, Sr. Land Management RE: Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP)**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor and Ian McLeod, Community Relations Lead, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy.

Messrs. Moulton and McLeod and Ms. Stuckert provided a PowerPoint Presentation

Coastal GasLink (CGL):

- Project Overview
- 2022 Project Highlights
- 2022 New Prime Contractor – Section 6
- 2022 New Prime Contractors – Section 5 and 7
- SEEMP Implementation: January – October 2022
- SEEMP Report #7 Engagement – (December 2021 – May 2022)
- SEEMP Report #7 Highlights
- Socio-economic Engagement Themes (2022)
- Employment
- Economic benefits-Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Education and Training
- Emergency and Health Services
- Housing
- Waste Management
- Traffic Management & Road Use
- “Legacy of Giving” Campaign Update
- Creating a legacy of safety and respect.

The following was discussed:

- Relationship building challenges
- Concerns regarding:
  - o Traffic
    - Pullouts on Forest Service Roads (FSR) not designed for the significant amount of traffic
  - o Economics - legacy funding
  - o Waste management
- CGL working on traffic management and road use
  - o Radio protocols
  - o Updated signage
  - o Eliminated “up” calling
  - o CGL working with Ministry of Forests and Canfor
  - o Speed reduction initiatives
  - o CGL continues to monitor and address concerns on an ongoing basis
- Rig mat recycling/re-use/re-purpose
  - o Agriculture sector usage
  - o RDBN Solid Waste Facilities
  - o Bio-energy Plants

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **TC ENERGY – COASTAL GASLINK PROJECT – Tanner Moulton, Public Affairs Advisor, Ian McLeod, Community Relations Lead and Nicole Stuckert, Sr. Land Management RE: Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP) (Cont'd)**

- Preplanning for unexpected occurrences e.g. rig mats
- Implementation of a zero-waste strategy
- Local workforce
- Impacts to BC Ambulance/lack of paramedics
- CGL municipal engagement
- Working with the BC Oil and Gas Commission in the region
- Impacts to healthcare in communities throughout the region.

Zoom Connection disrupted at 11:39 a.m.

Chair Thiessen thanked Messrs. Moulton and McLeod for attending the meeting.

## **ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)**

### **Bylaws for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

The applicant, Dale Bellavance, was given an opportunity to explain their development proposal. There was discussion regarding the need for rooftop sprinkler systems to reduce wildfire risk.

Rezoning Application                      Moved by Director Fisher  
RZ A-01-22 (HBM) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>      Seconded by Director Atrill  
Reading Report Rezoning  
Bylaw No. 1980, 2022  
Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa  
Rural)

2022-12-4

1. "That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1980, 2022 be given first and second reading this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.
2. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1980, 2022 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area A.
3. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1980, 2022 also serve as the public hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1984, 2022.

**ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors) (CONT'D)**

**Bylaws for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading (Cont'd)**

4. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1980, 2022 not be scheduled until a draft of the proposed new covenant is available for public review to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rezoning Application  
RZ A-01-22 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Reading for Rezoning  
Bylaw No. 1984, 2022  
Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa  
Rural)

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-12-5

1. “That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1984, 2022 be given first and second reading this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.

2. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1984, 2022 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area A.

3. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1984, 2022 also serve as the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1980, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Break for lunch at 12:04 p.m.**  
**Reconvened at 12:45 p.m.**

**DELEGATION**

**Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley – via Zoom RE: Update**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley.

MP Bachrach provided the following update:

- Rail Safety and the Effects of Railway Operations on the Surrounding Communities in which they Operate Report
  - o Convened hearings into rail safety and impact on communities
  - o Chair Thiessen presented to the Standing Committee
  - o May of 2022 finalized Report
    - Outlined recommendations 26-33.

## **DELEGATION**

### **Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley – via Zoom RE: Update (Cont'd)**

#### Canada Post

- Worked with Director Lambert to ensure operations of a Post Office on the Southside of Francois Lake
- Recognized Director Lambert for his advocacy for a post office on the Southside.

#### Passport Challenges

- Federal Government issue
  - o Didn't anticipate the resurgence of travel
- Advocating for Federal Government to open passport office in northern BC
- Federal government has been opening offices across Canada but not in northern BC
  - o No offices north of Kelowna
- Requested the Federal Minister of Travel and Tourism open a Passport Office in northern BC.

#### Rapid Rise in Cost of Living

- Need to help families during challenging times
- Focus on those with limited resources
- Advocating in Ottawa to provide supports
- Working on other issues of increase costs
- Seeing some increase in costs well beyond actual cost of items
- Seen price fixing in groceries
  - o Concerned families are being charged exorbitant costs where not necessary.

MP Bachrach expressed his appreciation to the Board for their work as elected officials.

#### Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Private rail crossing blockages by CN trains
  - o Onerous process to report issues
- Railway and rail yard – untidy areas
  - o District of Vanderhoof has written a letter to CN
- High cost of internet/cell service in rural Canada
  - o Federal Governments promise of 98% of Canadians will have broadband by 2026
    - Relying on competition
    - Very little competition in rural BC
    - Advocating that all Canadians have access to a basic plan that meets the international metrics of affordability
    - Continue to advocate
- Cost of living expenses
  - o High shipping costs for small businesses
  - o Finding ways to support small business online ordering/shipping

## **DELEGATION**

### **Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena-Bulkley Valley – via Zoom RE: Update (Cont'd)**

- Labour shortage
  - o International workers/professionals e.g. veterinarians
  - o Barriers for professionals to work in Canada
  - o MP Bachrach noted the labour shortage across every sector and striking a balance – expediting the process for international workers and ensuring that adequate skills and language abilities are considered
  - o MP Bachrach will follow-up with additional information
- Northern Residents Deduction and claim for living in a prescribed northern zone
  - o Granisle has inquired about the potential to change the prescribed zones to include Granisle
  - o MP Bachrach indicated that there is a reluctance by the Federal Government Finance Department to revisit the zones
  - o MP Bachrach requested suggestions be forwarded to him
- Director Storey working with Minister Beare, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture to implement Kiosks at Service BC and Service Canada offices to assist with the Passport wait times and challenges taking place.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Bachrach for attending the meeting.

### **Book Presentation - History Matters: Stories and Photographs from the Archives of the Lakes District Museum**

Chair Thiessen commented that the RDBN was presented with a complimentary copy of "History Matters: Stories and Photographs from the Archives of the Lakes District Museum from the Lakes District Museum Society Board Member.

## **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **Land Referrals**

Crown Land Application  
Referral No. 149571082  
Electoral Area G  
(Houston/Granisle Rural)

Moved by Director Newell  
Seconded by Director Brienens

2022-12-6

"That the comment sheet on Crown Land Application Referral No. 149571082 be provided to the Province."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CONT'D)**

### **Land Referrals (Cont'd)**

Coastal GasLink Pipeline  
-Socio-economic Effects  
Management Plan (SEEMP)

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Newell

2022-12-7

"That the Board identify any community impacts that it would like addressed through the Socio-economic Effects Management Plan's adaptive management process."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board identified the following concerns to be raised as part of CGL's Socio-economic Effects Management Plan's adaptive management process:

- Lack of community benefit and positive legacy;
- Safety of traffic on forest service roads being utilized by Coastal GasLink
- Improved waste management practices.

## **BUILDING INSPECTION**

BC Energy Step Code Board  
Update

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Fisher

2022-12-8

"That the Board receive the Director of Planning's BC Energy Step Code Board Update memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding previous correspondence sent to the Minister Responsible for Housing regarding challenges of building in northern BC, cultural homes and utilizing local building materials. The Province has proposed changes to the BC Energy Step Code regarding the need for an energy advisor in the building process in response to advocacy from local governments in the north.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

Agriculture Plastics Recycling -2022 Update Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-12-9 "That the Board receive the Director of Environmental Services' Agricultural Plastics Recycling – 2022 Update memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place in regard to providing an update to local agriculture producers.

Solid Waste User Fee Implementation (Cost Recovery) Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Parker

2022-12-10 "That the Board approves the User Fee Implementation Work Plan as summarized in Table 8-1 of the report, and direct staff to proceed with the implementation and to provide quarterly updates to the Board on the status of the implementation."

Opposed: Director Newell CARRIED  
Director Lambert  
(All/Directors/Majority)

Discussion took place regarding:

- Review process during budget process
- Clarifying exact numbers
  - How much waste, diversion
  - Reduce or increase cost to taxpayer – accountability to the taxpayer
- Invitation to RDBN staff to present to Village of Granisle
- Incentivize diversion
- RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan adoption in September 2018
- Specific data to be provided as move through plan
  - Annual reporting to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
    - Increase scope of regulations
- Volume based – needs to be concise.

**Break at 2:22 p.m.**  
**Reconvened at 2:37 p.m.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT (CONT'D)

### Solid Waste User Fee Implementation (Cost Recovery) (Cont'd)

#### Discussion (Cont'd)

- Bringing forward questions, concerns and moving forward with plan
- Meeting with Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC)
  - Municipal representation
- Timeline of implementation
  - Quarterly updates
- Other Regional Districts throughout the province have implemented Solid Waste User Fees
- Working with RDBN staff regarding information gathering.

## ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

### Committee Meeting Recommendations -October 13, 2022

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

### 2022-12-11

"That the Board approve the October 13, 2022 Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Recommendation 1 as follows:

#### Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – October 13, 2022

##### Recommendation 1:

##### RE: Final COVID-19 Relief Funds Allocation

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

##### **Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)**

- Regional Transit Service – Operations - \$20,562

##### **Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)**

- Regional Transit Service – Operations - \$2,400

##### **Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)**

- Fort St. James Music Makers – Insurance and Utilities  
- \$5,000

- Fort St. James Curling Club – Hydro - \$3,598

##### **Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)**

- Regional Transit Service – Operations - \$2,512

##### **Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)**

- Regional Transit Service – Operations - \$9,097

##### **Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)**

- Village of Granisle – Solar panels for rural connectivity tower  
- \$3,288

- Granisle Power Boat Club – Insurance and Hydro - \$3,064."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

20<sup>th</sup> Annual BC Natural  
Resources Forum  
-January 17-19, 2023, Prince  
George, B.C.

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-12-12

"That the Board authorize the attendance of the Chair and any Rural Directors wishing to attend the 20th Annual BC Natural Resources Forum in Prince George, B.C on January 17-19, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Gowan Road Street Lighting  
Service Establishment Bylaw  
No. 1983, 2022

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Wiebe

2022-12-13

"That Gowan Road Street Lighting Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1983, 2022 be adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Electoral Area A Recreation  
Contribution Service  
Establishment Bylaw  
No. 1976, 2022

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-12-14

"That Electoral Area A Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1976, 2022 be adopted this 13th day of October, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Electoral Area B and E  
Recreation Contribution  
Service Establishment Bylaw  
No. 1977, 2022

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-12-15

"That Electoral Areas B and E Recreation Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1977, 2022 be adopted this 13th day of October, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Electoral Area C Recreation Moved by Director Greenaway  
Contribution Service Seconded by Director Motion  
Establishment Bylaw  
No. 1978, 2022

2022-12-16 "That Electoral Area C Recreation Contribution Service  
Establishment Bylaw No. 1978, 2022 be adopted this 13th day  
of October, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Electoral Area G Recreation Moved by Director Newell  
Contribution Service Seconded by Director McGuire  
Establishment Bylaw  
No. 1979, 2022

2022-12-17 "That Electoral Area G Recreation Contribution Service  
Establishment Bylaw No. 1979, 2022 be adopted this 13th day  
of October, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Policy Revisions Moved by Director Motion  
Seconded by Director Brienen

2022-12-18 "That the Board approve the removal of references to the  
Executive Committee in its existing policies."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Riis- Christianson removed himself from the meeting at 2:56 p.m. due to a conflict  
of interest regarding being employed by the Lakes District Museum Society.

Lakes District Arts and Culture Moved by Director Atrill  
Fund Request – Lakes Seconded by Director Lambert  
District Museum Society

2022-12-19 "That the Lakes District Museum Society be given \$10,000 in  
Lakes District Arts and Culture Fund monies for a Search for  
Burns Lake's Centennial Artist project."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Riis-Christianson returned at 2:57 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Canada Community - Building Moved by Director Petersen  
Fund BC – Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) and Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) – Cluculz Lake Fire Hall Truck Acquisition

2022-12-20

1) “That the Board authorize contributing up to \$50,500 of Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) and up to \$300,000 of Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Fire Hall Infrastructure Project, and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$350,500 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Community - Building Moved by Director Petersen  
Fund BC – Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) – Somerset Estates Sewer Capital Reserve Contribution

2022-12-21

1) “That the Board authorize contributing up to \$120,000 of Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Wastewater Infrastructure Project, and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$120,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund -Volunteer and Composite Fire Department Training & Equipment Grant Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-12-22 "That the Board supports the application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Volunteer and Composite Fire Department Training & Equipment Grant (CEPF-VCFDTE) to provide specialized training courses and essential equipment for the four rural departments and provide overall grant management for the project."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bulkley River Freshet After -Action Report Moved by Director Atrill  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-12-23 "That the Board receive the Emergency Program Coordinator's Bulkley River Freshet After-Action Report memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Department Quarterly Reports – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-12-24 "That the Board receive the Director of Corporate Services' Department Quarterly Reports – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-12-25 "That the Board receive the Agriculture Coordinators (East and West) Growing Opportunities Newsletter and Podcast Update memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE**

Ministry of Forests – RDBN  
Support for Construction  
of the Anahim Connector  
Emergency Egress Route  
-Ulkatcho First Nation

Moved by Director Atrill  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2022-12-26

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Forests regarding RDBN Support for Construction of the Anahim Connector Emergency Egress Route – Ulkatcho First Nation.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **PRESENTATION TO OUT GOING DIRECTORS**

Chair Thiessen presented plaques to Directors Fisher, Greenaway and Petersen. Director Petersen presented a plaque to Chair Thiessen.

## **VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

Village of Granisle - Update

Director McGuire provided an update regarding:

- Village of Granisle acquiring the mall in the community through a tax sale in 2021
- Meeting at UBCM with Minister Farnworth
  - Village of Granisle requested to have RCMP stationed and living in the community
- Author Caroll Simpson is returning to Granisle to promote her book Alone in the Great Unknown. The story is about her time managing a lodge near Granisle.

Electoral Area B (Burns Lake  
Rural) – Update

Director Riis-Christianson spoke of:

- Attended the BC Cattlemen’s Open House in Burns Lake
  - Director Parker was recognized for the work he has done with the RDBN Rural/Agriculture Committee
  - Noted the demographic of the average age of farmers being over 50 years of age
  - Good meeting.
- Attended the Burns Lake TV Rebroadcasting Society meeting
  - Average age of volunteers over 60 years
  - Impacts to societies with aging membership

**VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)**

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

Director Lambert provided the following update:  
- Canada Post Office on the Southside  
- Future project – helipad  
- Commented about the items that are important to residents and the community and working to support the greater community

Electoral Area D (Fraser  
Lake Rural) – Update

Director Parker spoke of the amenities in the region and attending an event at the Rocky Hills Ranch in Fort Fraser and the incredible amenities, lessons and camps that are provided at the Ranch.

District of Houston-Update

Director Brienens spoke of:  
- Loss of Gitdumden Hereditary Chief Dini'ze Likhdiye (Russell Tiljoe). He was highly respected, and it will be a great loss for the community  
- Director Newell spoke of reconciliation and Director Brienens's supportive role.

Town of Smithers – Update

Director Atrill mentioned the following:  
- Bulkley Valley Museum Annual Cemetery Walk – October 15 and 16  
- Honoured Director Fisher and his legacy work in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural).

Village of Fraser Lake – Update

Director Storey provided the following update:  
- National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

Chair's Update

Chair Thiessen spoke of the following:  
- Attending National Truth and Reconciliation Day at Lejac  
- Dr. Nathan Young, Economist originally from Vanderhoof  
- Board accolades, leadership and passion for the region.

The Regional Board recognized the dedication, drive and passion of their colleagues as elected officials and the relationships that were built. They expressed appreciation for their communities, the region and RDBN staff.

Receipt of Verbal  
Reports

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-12-27

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

Moved by Director Storey  
Seconded by Director Newell

2022-12-28

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 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), may/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 Storey  
Seconded by Director Newell

2022-12-29

"That the meeting be adjourned at 3:50 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Gerry Thiessen, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services