

# AGENDA

## MEETING NO. 4

April 20, 2023

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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, April 20, 2023

### First Nations Acknowledgement

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>AGENDA – April 20, 2023</u>	Approve
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
7-25	Board Meeting Minutes – March 23, 2023	Approve
26-29	Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes - April 6, 2023	Receive
30-32	Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes - April 6, 2023	Receive

### DELEGATION

#### RIO TINTO

Aman Parhar, Advisor, Communities and  
Social Performance, Watershed Region  
Quinten Beach, Nechako Operations Coordinator  
RE: Update/Collaboration with First Nations

### ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING

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

33-50	Maria Sandberg, Planning and Parks Coordinator Rezoning Application RDBN 04-21, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Report - Bylaws 1996, 2023, 1997, 2023, 1998, 2023, 1999, 2023	Recommendation
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Meeting No. 4  
April 20, 2023

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (CONT'D)</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>Bylaw for Adoption</u>	
51-58	Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Step Code Prescriptive Option Adoption Report Building Bylaw Amendment No.1995, 2023	Recommendation
	<u>Other Items</u>	
59	Advisory Planning Commission Minutes Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)	Receive
60-61	Advisory Planning Commission Minutes Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)	Receive
62-64	Advisory Planning Commission Minutes Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)	Receive
65-66	Advisory Planning Commission Minutes Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)	Receive
	<u>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</u>	
	<u>Land Referral</u>	
67-69	Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner Crown Land Referral No. 6409430 Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)	Recommendation
	<u>Other Items</u>	
70-73	Agricultural Land Reserve Application Brochure	Discussion/Receive
	<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</u>	
74-83	Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor -Update: Metal Salvage – Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station	Recommendation



Meeting No. 4  
April 20, 2023

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATION REPORTS</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
84	Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services – Committee Meeting Recommendations - April 6, 2023	Recommendation
85-101	John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – Updating Chinook Community Forest Partnership Agreement	Recommendation
102	Sashka Macievich, Controller- Pool Filter Replacement – BV Regional Pool & Recreation Centre	Recommendation
103-111	Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – Grant in Aid for Areas B (Burns Lake Rural) and E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) -Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association	Recommendation
112	Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development- Canada Community-Building Fund BC – Area C (Fort St. James Rural) Charge North Level 2 Charging Network Project	Recommendation
113	Shari Janzen, Economic Development Assistant -Community Futures Nadina – Letter of Support Request	Recommendation
114	John Illes, Chief Financial Officer – Lakes Resiliency Project	Receive
115-141	Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services -Departmental Quarterly Reports – 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	Receive
<u>ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE</u>		
142-176	BC Cattlemen’s Association – Economic Impact Assessment of Veterinary Medicine in BC	Receive
177-178	Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills – Permanently Subsidized Seats for BC Students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine	Receive

Meeting No. 4  
April 20, 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

NEW BUSINESS

IN-CAMERA MOTION

That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(c), and (2)(b) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Labour relations
- Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance

ADJOURNMENT

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****MEETING NO. 3****Thursday, March 23, 2023**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Gladys Atrill – via Zoom Shane Brienen Leroy Dekens – left at 11:06 a.m., returned at 11:14 a.m. Martin Elphee Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert Linda McGuire Shirley Moon Kevin Moutray Chris Newell Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg Sarrah Storey- arrived at 10:06 a.m. Henry Wiebe
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Steve Davis, Building Inspector – arrived at 12:02 p.m., left at 12:06 p.m. Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – via Zoom – left at 12:06 p.m., returned in person at 12:45 p.m., left at 1:00 p.m. Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services – left at 1:00 p.m. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 12:06 p.m., returned at 1:08 p.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Others	Lori Borth, Regional Executive Director – Omineca Region, Ministry of Forests – left at 11:23 a.m. Beth Eagles, District Manager, Nadina Natural Resource District, Ministry of Forests – via Zoom – left at 11:23 a.m. Trevor Krisher, Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) Albert Nussbaum, Executive Director, Deputy Chief Forester, Office of the Chief Forester, Ministry of Forests – via Zoom – left at 11:00 a.m. Yvonne Parkinson, North Area Old Growth Lead, Ministry of Forests – left at 11:23 a.m.
	Media	Frank Peebles, LD News – arrived at 10:19 a.m.

**FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**STAFF RECOGNITION**

Chair Parker expressed his condolences regarding the passing of staff member Ken Heer, Fort St. James Transfer Station/Recycling Depot Attendant.

**AGENDA &  
 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-3-1

"That the Board Meeting Agenda of March 23, 2023 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINUTES**Board Meeting Minutes  
 February 23, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director McGuire

2023-3-2

"That the Board Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2023 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee of the Whole  
 Meeting Minutes  
 -March 9, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-3-3

"That the Board receive the following Committee Meeting Minutes:

-Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

- March 9, 2023

-Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes

- March 9, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## DELEGATION

### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - Albert Nussbaum, Executive Director, Deputy Chief Forester, Office of the Chief Forester, Lori Borth, Regional Executive Director – Omineca Region, Beth Eagles, District Manager, Nadina Natural Resource District, Yvonne Parkinson, North Area Old Growth Lead RE: Old Growth Deferral and Regional Concerns – Follow-up from 2022 UBCM Minister Conroy Meeting Commitment

Chair Parker welcomed Albert Nussbaum, Executive Director, Deputy Chief Forester, Office of the Chief Forester, Lori Borth, Regional Executive Director – Omineca Region, Beth Eagles, District Manager, Nadina Natural Resource District, Yvonne Parkinson, North Area Old Growth Lead, Ministry of Forests.

Mses. Borth and Parkinson provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

#### Ministry of Forests Update

- Introductions
- Ministry of Forests Overview
- Old Growth
  - o Paradigm shift
  - o Required conditions for change
  - o Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework
  - o Regional Engagement Workshops
- Operational Issues
  - o Forest Stewardship Plan amendments
  - o Lakes Timber Supply Area (TSA) – Apportionment of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)
  - o Other issues to discuss
- Salvage of Burnt Timber
- BC Timber Sales.

The following was discussed:

- Changing priorities
- CANFOR – Forest Stewardship Amendment to its Multi-District Forest Stewardship Plan
- Lakes Timber Supply Area (TSA) – Apportionment of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)
  - o Work in progress
  - o Expect Minister of Forests decision in the future
  - o Apportionment decision independent of Old Growth Deferral
  - o Lakes Resiliency Project
    - Collaborative Process
    - Stakeholder Group - First Nations, industry, range tenures, local government
    - Forest Landscape Plan will replace Forest Stewardship Plan
    - May be some impacts to available volume if a new AAC is required
    - Not dependent on old growth – awareness of the potential impact in the future

### **DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

- AACs are completed every 10 years
  - o Some take longer due to a number of considerations
  - o Ministry is working to address the AAC's that have reached their 10 year deadlines
  - o A Monitoring program is in place
  - o Ministry avoids speculation of governmental land use decisions
- Collaboration with other Ministries
- Local Government representatives the first line for constituents – need good communication and understanding
- Understanding of the Federal Government's 30 by 30 plan to conserve 30 percent of Canada's land and water by 2030
  - o Concerns regarding potential impacts
- Old Growth Deferral
  - o Inaccurate inventories
    - Ministry of Forests recently made an investment in improving inventories
    - Utilizing new technology
      - Provincial Government has yet to fund LIDAR technology
      - Local companies have conducted some LIDAR scans of areas
  - o Local government consultation is needed
  - o Regional sessions being planned
    - Various stakeholders are invited
  - o Additional sessions for local governments through the Union of B.C. Municipalities
    - Session is scheduled at the same time as the 2023 BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) Convention
  - o Old growth impacts to grazing leases
    - Deferral areas will impact grazing leases
    - Impact to Agriculture sector
    - Forestry/Agriculture are intertwined
    - Agriculture needs to be considered when deciding old growth deferral areas
  - o Concerns regarding potential impacts
  - o Finding a balance
    - Differences between northern B.C. and southern B.C.
  - o Need to know what the Province's assistance for community transitions will be
- Ensuring that everyone is working together for a healthier forest ecosystem and strengthening of communities
- Ministry of Forests is clearly hearing the need for local input and initiatives in the decision making process
- Local understanding of impacts of mill closures to communities
  - o Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI) and Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) meeting with District of Houston regarding the recent mill closure
- The Province's "A New Future for Old Forests" Recommendation 14 Transition Support for Communities

## **DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

- Ministry of Forests indicated they recognized the need for:
  - o An overview of the old growth inventory and that current mapping is inadequate
  - o Transition plans for communities
  - o Local governments to be a voice for communities
- Timeline of Old Growth Deferral review process and Action Plan implementation
- Salvage Burnt Timber
  - o Salvaging is situationally specific
    - Ms. Eagles will follow-up with Director Lambert to provide additional information
- BC Timber Sales
  - o MoF recognizes and acknowledges the need to have timber sales
  - o Hoping to see progress soon
- BC Wildfire Liaison in the RDBN EOC during wildfire events
  - o Ms. Borth will bring forward the information to her management team
- Quarterly updates from Ministry of Forests.

Chair Parker thanked Mr. Nussbaum, Mses. Borth, Eagles and Parkinson for attending the meeting.

## **ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING**

### **Bylaw for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

Building Bylaw Amendment for Energy Conservation Step Code Prescriptive Option Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Secoded by Director Greenaway  
-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Readings of Building Bylaw Amendment No. 1995, 2023

2023-3-4

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023 be given first, second and third reading this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Discussion took place regarding:

- Bylaw applies to rural areas and information has been shared with member municipalities
- Cultural building practices e.g. log home construction
  - Province did make some concessions for log home construction
  - Building Inspection will be attending training in regard to the Province's requirements
- Challenges regarding the Province providing local governments two months' notice to amend their Building Bylaws.

### **Bylaw 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading and Adoption**

Rezoning Application  
RZ A-02-22 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading and  
Adoption for Rezoning Bylaw  
No. 1993, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Brienen

2023-3-5

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1993, 2023.

2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1993, 2023 be given third reading and adoption this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **OTHER ITEMS**

Advisory Planning  
Commission Minutes  
Electoral Area B (Burns Lake  
Rural)

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-6

"That the Board receive the Advisory Planning Commission Minutes for Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Advisory Planning  
Commission Unofficial  
Minutes Electoral Area E  
(Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-3-7

"That the Board receive the Advisory Planning Commission Unofficial Minutes for Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Advisory Planning  
Commission  
Minutes Electoral Area C  
(Fort St. James Rural)

Moved by Director Greenaway  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-8

"That the Board receive the Advisory Planning Commission Minutes for Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Other Items

#### Recent ALR Applications

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-9

"That the Board receive the Planning Technician's Recent ALR Applications memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Agricultural Land Commission decision making process
- The Board's considerations of local values and recommendations
- Under legislation the ALC has defined requirements when reviewing an application
- Challenges regarding lobbying for local government input in the decision-making process and staff time
- Impacts and importance of ALC decision
- Board orientation regarding the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission and its process
- Submitting a video to the ALC providing comments regarding applications
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries allowance of a second residence on certain Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Parcels and the challenges regarding the restrictions associated with the limited amount of soil that is allowed to be disturbed
- Challenges of connecting with ALC staff
- Bringing forward concerns at the 2023 Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention Minister meetings.

#### Prince Rupert Gas

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

#### Transmission Response Letter

Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-10

"That the Board receive the Director of Planning's Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Response Letter memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **PARKS AND TRAILS**

#### **Highway 35 Multi-use Trail Conceptual Design Study**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-11

"That the Board authorize staff to enter a contract with WSP Canada Inc. for the completion of a Highway 35 Multi-use Trail Conceptual Design Study."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **BUILDING INSPECTION**

#### **Section 57 Notice on Title 405 Raymond Rd. - Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural)**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Dekens

2023-3-12

1. "That the Board receive the property owners request for deferral on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That the Corporate Officer be directed to file a Notice in the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made under Section 57 of the Community Charter relating to land legally described as Lot 2, Section 5, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District, Plan 7322 (405 Raymond Road)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Break for Lunch at 12:06 p.m.**

**Reconvened at 12:45 p.m.**

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

#### **Committee Meeting Recommendations -March 9, 2023**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Newell

2023-3-13

"That the Board approve the March 9, 2023 Committee Meeting Recommendations 1 through 6 as written:

#### **Committee of the Whole – March 9, 2023**

##### **Recommendation 1:**

##### **Re: North Central Local Government Association Resolutions**

"That the Board approve the following resolutions for consideration at the NCLGA Convention: 1. Healthcare Worker Shortage 2. Building Bylaw Enforcement 3. Clean

### ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Transportation Action Plan for Rural and Northern Communities.”

**Recommendation 2:**

**Re: RDBN Draft Letter – Provincial Vaccine Mandate for Healthcare Professionals**

“That the Board approve and send the RDBN Letter – Provincial Vaccine Mandate for Healthcare Professionals to the Honourable David Eby, Premier, The Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, Dr. Henry, Provincial Health Officer and Northern Health.”

**Recommendation 3:**

**Re: Five Year Financial Plan**

“That the local fire services that are provided by member municipalities, the Vanderhoof Pool Services, and the Smithers Recreation and Culture Service be included in the 2023 Five Year Financial Plan.”

### Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – March 9, 2023

**Recommendation 4:**

**Re: BC Rural Center “Keeping it Rural” Conference June 1-2, 2023 in Kelowna**

“That the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors at the 2023 Keeping it Rural Conference June 1-2, 2023, in Kelowna, BC.”

**Recommendation 5:**

**Re: Northwest Trade Expo May 5-6 in Smithers**

“That the Board approve spending \$550 from Rural Government for the rental of an RDBN booth at the Northwest Trade Expo.”

**Recommendation 6:**

**Re: Veterinary Drug Regulations Research**

“That the Board direct staff to further investigate the veterinary drug and medicated feed regulation and licencing requirements.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Five Year Financial Plan

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-3-14

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1994, 2023 be given third reading as amended and adoption this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BC Provincial Nominee Program - Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot Participation

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-15

"That the Board approve resuming participation in the BC Provincial Nominee Program – Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Community-Building Fund BC – Area B (Burns Lake Rural) Gerow Island Road Street Lightning Project

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-16

1) "That the Board authorize contributing up to \$15,000 of Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Local Roads Infrastructure project and further,

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$15,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Town of Smithers  
-Community Emergency  
Preparedness Fund Disaster  
Risk Reduction – Climate  
Adaptation (Category 1)  
Application

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-3-17

“That the Board approve the Town of Smithers to apply for, receive, and manage grant funding from the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - Disaster Risk Reduction - Climate Adaptation Grant (Category 1) on behalf of the Regional District for the Airport South Slope Monitoring Project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Union of BC Municipalities  
-Community Emergency  
Preparedness Fund  
-Emergency Operations Centre  
Application

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Brienens

2023-3-18

“That the Board supports the submission of an application to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre for the 2023 funding stream. Further, that the Board authorize staff and understands that if the grant is approved, the RDBN will receive and manage all grant funding, and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Growing Opportunities  
Newsletter Update

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-3-19

“That the Board receive the Regional Agriculture Coordinator’s Growing Opportunities Newsletter Update memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Beswick Hildebrandt Lund  
Chartered Professional  
Accountants – RDBN Audit  
Planning

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Brienen

2023-3-20

“That the Board receive the correspondence from Beswick Hildebrandt Lund, Chartered Professional Accountants regarding the RDBN Audit Planning.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CANFOR – Forest Stewardship  
Amendment to its Multi-  
District Forest Stewardship Plan

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Dekens

2023-3-21

“That the Board receive the correspondence from CANFOR regarding its Forest Stewardship Amendment to its Multi-District Forest Stewardship Plan.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Energy  
Association – Charge North  
-Budget Update and  
Opportunity to Install  
Additional Level 2 EV Charging  
Stations

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-3-22

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Community Energy Association – Charge North regarding its Budget Update and Opportunity to Install Additional Level 2 EV Charging Stations.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Greenaway spoke of the opportunity to install an EV charging station in Electoral Area C. Staff will follow up.

Ministry of Forests – Multi-  
Sectional Regional Workshop  
on Implementing Old Growth  
Strategic Review

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-3-23

“That the Board authorize the Rural Directors attendance to a Multi-Sectional Regional Workshop on Implementing Old Growth Strategic Review.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)**

Ministry of Forests – Multi-Sectional Regional Workshop on Implementing Old Growth Strategic Review Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Dekens

2023-3-24

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Forests regarding Multi-sectional Regional Workshop on Implementing Old Growth Strategic Review.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Municipal Affairs -BC Building Stronger Communities with \$1 Billion Growing Communities Fund Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-24

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs regarding the BC Building Stronger Communities with \$1 Billion Growing Communities Fund; and further, that the letter on the Supplementary agenda regarding the RDBN Allocation be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General -Response to RDBN Letter to Premier Eby – Government of Canada’s Amendments to the Firearms Act Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-25

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in Response to RDBN Letter to Premier Eby – Government of Canada’s Amendments to the *Firearms Act*.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)**

North Central Local  
 Government Association  
 -NCLGA Member Notice:  
 Proposed Annual Membership  
 Fee Increase

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Storey

2023-3-26

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the North Central Local Government Association – NCLGA Member Notice: Proposed Annual Membership Fee Increase.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding the importance of the work that the NCLGA conducts and the increase in membership fees not being sustainable for the long term. Hosting and host communities of the NCLGA AGM was discussed.

North Central Local  
 Government Association  
 -Call for Nominations for  
 Positions on the NCLGA Board  
 of Directors – 2023/2024

Moved by Director Storey  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-27

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the North Central Local Government Association – Call for Nominations for Positions on the NCLGA Board of Directors – 2023/2024.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SkeenaWild Conservation  
 Trust – Letter to the  
 Honourable Nathan Cullen,  
 Minister of Water, Land and  
 Resource Stewardship  
 – Cancellation of Conservation  
 Lands

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-3-28

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the SkeenaWild Conservation Trust – Letter to the Honourable Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship – Cancellation of Conservation Lands.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board directed staff to follow-up with Minister Cullen requesting a copy of his response to the SkeenaWild Conservation Trust.



### ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Union of B.C. Municipalities Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Provincial Response to 2022 Seconded by Director Greenaway  
Resolutions – Veterinarian  
Shortage

2023-3-29 "That the Board receive the correspondence from the Union of B.C. Municipalities regarding Provincial Response to 2022 Resolutions – Veterinarian Shortage."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Village of Granisle-Update Director McGuire provided the following update:  
 - 2023 budget process  
 - 58 new docks for the Marina are on order and delivery is expected at the end of March. They will be installed once the ice melts.

Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) – Update Director Stoltenberg spoke of attending the upcoming Business Forum in Telkwa – March 28-29, 2023 and Northwest Trade Expo in Smithers – May 5-6, 2023.

District of Vanderhoof-Update Director Moutray noted the District is in the midst of its Budget Process. He also attended the Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA) Elected Officials Series (EOS) in Prince George March 15-16, 2023. It was a good event.

Electoral Area G (Houston Rural)-Update Director Newell spoke of the Canfor Sawmill closures and concerns regarding the impact to employees and residents in the area.

Village of Burns Lake-Update Director Wiebe provided the following update:  
 - Continuing with the 2023 Centennial Celebration Planning  
 - Centennial Fishing Derby hosted by CGL raised in excess of \$120,000 for the community  
 - Ultrasound is available at the Lakes District Hospital on a two-week rotation  
 - College of New Caledonia Burns Lake Campus is offering the Licensed Practical Nursing Program.

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

Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)-Update

Director Greenaway spoke of the following:

- Received an invitation to participate on a Harm Reduction Committee in Fort St. James
  - Working to install three sharps bins throughout the community
- Attended first Advisory Planning Committee Meeting (APC)
- Food Security Program will be implemented soon.

District of Houston-Update

Director Brienen spoke of the following:

- Attending the LGLA EOS in Prince George
- Canfor Sawmill closure
  - Last logs will go through the mill March 31, 2023
  - Decommissioning
  - Logs remaining in the yard will be transferred to mills elsewhere
  - Impacts different throughout the community and region
  - Awareness of forestry-maintained roads and deactivations
- Job Fair at the Claude Parish Memorial Arena – April 15, 2023 -10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Town Hall Meeting will follow at 2:30 p.m. at Houston Secondary School.

Town of Smithers-Update

Director Atrill provided the following update:

- Community hosted a Fam (Familiarization) Tour for Film Location Managers
  - Expanding the diversity of the region
  - Took back a catalogue of photos for future production consideration
- Hudson Bay Mountain Resort is still open with good spring ski conditions
- Smithers Secondary School Drama Production – “Mamma Mia! It was a sell out show and additional shows were added.
- Attended the LGLA Elected Officials Series in Prince George – good session
- Town of Smithers Roads
  - Gravel on the roads from the winter is creating air quality alerts
- Town of Smithers tax increase
- Community Open House regarding Homelessness and Tent Encampment on March 27, 2023.

## VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

### District of Fort St. James -Update

Director Elphee spoke of:

- Sharps Program in the Community
- Logs moving out of the community to Quesnel
- Seniors Housing Complex construction moving forward
- Local contractor has started development of a new subdivision in the community
- Supporting Valemount, B.C.'s bid for Strongest Town 2023.

### Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)-Update

Director Moon provided the following update:

- Sale prices for cattle are setting records at \$3,500 for a 2000-pound bull and 900-pound yearlings for over \$2,000 at the Vanderhoof Sale Barn
- Nechako Watershed Roundtable
  - Large Lakes Monitoring Study
    - Studying the health and fish habitat of the lakes.

### Village of Telkwa-Update

Director Dekens noted the following:

- Business Forum in Telkwa – March 28-29, 2023
- Budget discussions
- Received grant for waterline upgrades – construction beginning mid April
- Discussing Block Watch Program in the community.

### Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)-Update

Director Riis-Christianson provided the following update:

- Attended the College of New Caledonia Burns Lake Campus Open House
  - Impressed with course offerings including a new course, Introduction to Cultural Resource Management
- Meeting with Telus Representatives and have a telephone call scheduled next week to discuss building a relationship moving forward
- Asked to speak at the Broadband Conference but declined in reviewing the potential benefit to the RDBN.

### Village of Fraser Lake-Update

Director Storey mentioned the following:

- UBCM Advocacy Days in April
- UBCM Old Growth Local Government Session during the COFI Convention – sent message to UBCM regarding the conflicting date
- 2023 Budget process – a lot of projects
- Reviewing applicants for Economic Development Officer Position
- Received approval for a Northern Development Initiative Trust Internship
- Paving projects – collaboration with member municipalities

### VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

- Brought forward concerns regarding decriminalization of drugs to the Union of B.C. Municipalities
- Drone Initiative Project - Phase 1 is complete
  - Testing altitudes and weather patterns to potentially deliver medication and supplies to rural and remote areas
  - Funding for Phase 2 is being considered.

#### Chair Parker/Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)-Update

Chair Parker provided the following update:

- Province announced today that it is permanently subsidizing seats for BC students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)
- The Province has also indicated it is exploring other options through the University of Northern B.C.
- Economic Impact Study of Veterinary Medicine in BC is complete and will be distributed to the Board once a release date is determined.

#### Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Storey  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-3-30

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Director Stoltenberg brought forward the importance of moving forward with the implementation of the Solid Waste Management Plan and public participation through the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

### IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director McGuire

2023-3-31

"That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(c), and (2)(b) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Labour relations
- Cycle 16 Trail
- Boundary Re-Alignment."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Brienen

2023-3-32

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:55 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate  
Services

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKOCOMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGThursday, April 6, 2023

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Shane Brienen Leroy Dekens Martin Elphee Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert Linda McGuire – via Zoom Shirley Moon Kevin Moutray Chris Newell Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg Sarrah Storey – via Zoom
	Directors Absent	Gladys Atrill, Town of Smithers Henry Wiebe, Village of Burns Lake
	Alternate Directors	Charlie Rensby, Village of Burns Lake Frank Wray, Town of Smithers
	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 11:00 a.m. Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services – arrived at 10:34 a.m., left at 10:55 a.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Media	Frank Peebles, LD News – arrived at 10:33 a.m.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

AGENDA &  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2023-4-1 “That the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 6, 2023 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## MINUTES

### Committee of the Whole Minutes – March 9, 2023

Moved by Director Brienen  
 Seconded by Director McGuire

#### C.W.2023-4-2

“That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2023 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## REPORTS

### Code of Conduct

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Moutray

#### C.W.2023-4-3

“That the Committee recommend that the Board adopt the revised Code of Conduct.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### Accessibility Act Timeline

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

#### C.W.2023-4-4

“That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to pursue Joint-Committee establishment with interested partners within the region; and further, that Section 10 of the Draft Terms of Reference be amended replacing Committee Chair with Board Chair.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Newly adopted *Act* and local government requirements
- Terms of Reference to be a living document
- A support hub has been established to provide resource documents and examples of plans
- Committee membership is not yet formalized and will be dependent on member municipalities interest in participating in a joint committee
- Potential time commitment and goal to develop a plan
- Challenges meeting the requirements of the *Accessible BC Act* by the Province’s September 2023 deadline
  - o Potentially requesting an extension for the adoption of an Accessibility Plan by the deadline
- Town of Smithers *Accessibility Act* Committee
- Board members interested in participating can provide their name to Chair Parker.

## REPORTS (CONT'D)

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis Report Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

C.W.2023-4-5

"That the Committee receive the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis Report."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Appreciation to staff for the work on the HRVA process and report
- Follow-up and monitoring of regional organizations training e.g. S-100 Basic Fire Suppression and Safety Training
  - o Challenging to determine and keep a data base of all those trained in the region
  - o Staff will reach out to agencies
- Staff will be moving through the recommendations through its Work Plan
- Storm Water Flooding Hazard was not considered in the report. Staff will follow-up.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport -Geographical Name Change -Rescind Cripple Creek Moved by Director Dekens  
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2023-4-6

"That the Committee receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport – Geographical Name Change – Rescind Cripple Creek."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Union of BC Municipalities -Potential Land Opportunities for Housing within your Local Government Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Dekens

C.W.2023-4-7

"That the Committee receive the correspondence from the Union of BC Municipalities – Potential Land Opportunities for Housing within your Local Government."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



**NEW BUSINESS**

**Business Forum in Telkwa  
 March 28-29, 2023**

Alternate Director Wray thanked staff and the Village of Telkwa for hosting the Business Forum in Telkwa on March 28-29, 2023. He noted it was a wonderful, well-organized event with interesting speakers and panelists.

**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Brienen

**C.W.2023-4-8**

"That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(e) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Land acquisition."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Lambert  
 Seconded by Director Brienen

**C.W.2023-4-9**

"That the meeting be adjourned at 11:03 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of  
 Corporate Services

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKORURAL/AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGThursday, April 6, 2023

**PRESENT:**

Chair	Clint Lambert
Directors	Judy Greenaway Shirley Moon Chris Newell – via Zoom Mark Parker Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner – left at 11:32 a.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Others	Martin Elphee, District of Fort St. James Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle – via Zoom Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof Charlie Rensby, Village of Burns Lake Frank Wray, Town of Smithers

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lambert called the meeting to order at 11:22 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director StoltenbergRDC.2023-3-1

"That the Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for April 6, 2023 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLYMINUTESRural/Agriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
-March 9, 2023Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director StoltenbergRDC.2023-3-2

"That the minutes of the Rural/Agriculture Committee meeting of March 9, 2023 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Land Referral

Crown Land Application  
Referral No. 7410295  
Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof  
Rural)

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2023-3-3

"That the comment sheet be amended to clarify the applicant's intent regarding burning timber or other materials and consideration for dust mitigation measures; and further, that the comment sheet as amended be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410295."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Clarifying
  - o Burning of timber
  - o Traffic and road dust mitigation measures
- First Nations consultation
- Agricultural Land Commission Process
- Temporary Use Permit Process.

## RURAL REPORT

Rural Bursary Policy  
Discussion

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RDC.2023-3-4

"That the Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development's Rural Bursary Policy Discussion memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Targeting areas where there is recruitment and retention challenges
- Utilizing the school's Scholarship/Bursary Committees to distribute the scholarship/bursary to graduating students
- Taxing rural government
  - o Individual Electoral Areas continue with Grant in Aid
  - o All rural areas – rural government
  - o Government to government transfer
  - o Grant in lieu of taxes for Electoral Areas D and E
- Areas A and G having two Secondary Schools
- Continuing the current practice of grant in aid.
- Drafting a policy to bring back for Board consideration.

### **RURAL REPORT (CONT'D)**

#### **Rural Bursary Policy Discussion**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Moon

RDC.2023-3-5

"That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to draft a Rural Bursary Policy and budget options to be brought forward for the Committee's consideration."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **BC Rural Centre's "Keeping it Rural" Conference in Kelowna - June 1-2, 2023**

Director Moon brought forward attending the BC Rural Centre's "Keeping it Rural" Conference in Kelowna on June 1-2, 2023.

#### **Virtual UBCM Old Growth Local Government Session April 13, 2023**

Director Greenaway brought forward attending and registration for the virtual UBCM Old Growth Local Government Session on April 13, 2023.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
 Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2023-3-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 11:51 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Clint Lambert, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of  
 Corporate Services



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board

**From:** Maria Sandberg, Planning and Parks Coordinator

**Date:** April 20, 2023

**Subject:** Rezoning Application RZ RDBN 04-21, First and Second Reading for Rezoning Bylaws 1996, 2023, 1997, 2023, 1998, 2023, and 1999, 2023

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

1. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023", "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023", "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023" and "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023" be given first and second reading and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.
2. That the Public Hearing for "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023", "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023", "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023" and "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023" be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area B.

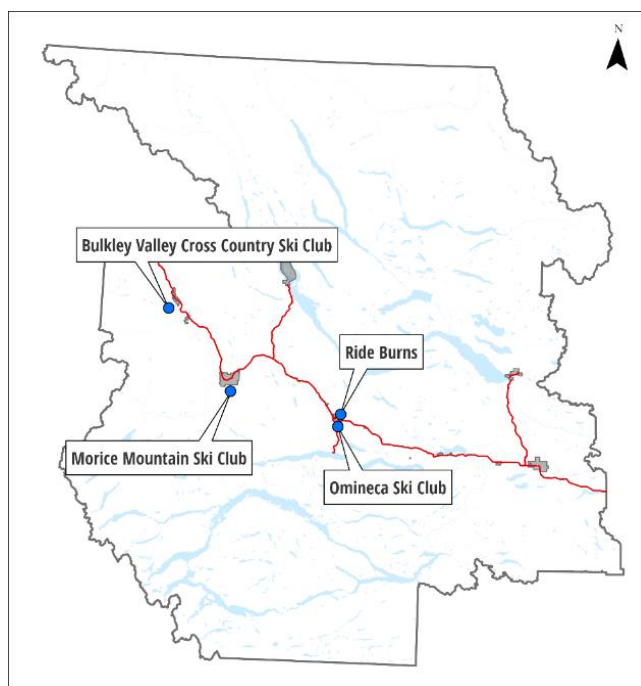
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### BACKGROUND

Staff have reviewed outdoor recreation facilities in the region to ensure that the lands are appropriately zoned to accommodate existing and anticipated future facilities and services.

The RDBN Zoning Bylaw allows parks and trails in all zones; however, facilities such as clubhouses and fairgrounds are only allowed in the Recreation Zone (P2). Firing ranges are only allowed in the Special Recreation Zone (P2A).

Staff have worked with the following four recreation clubs whose lands require rezoning to P2 or P2A to accommodate existing or proposed future outdoor recreation facilities.



- Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club, Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)
- Omineca Ski Club, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)
- Ride Burns, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)
- Morice Mountain Ski Club, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)

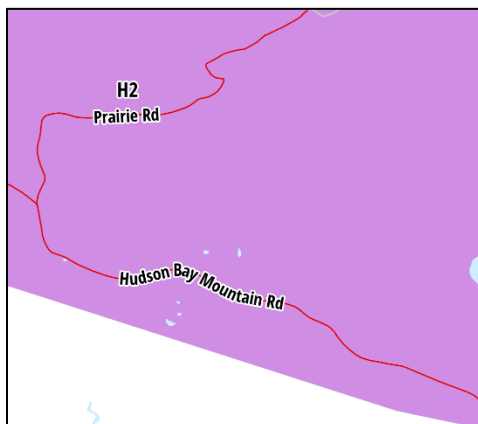
## OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

### ELECTORAL AREA A

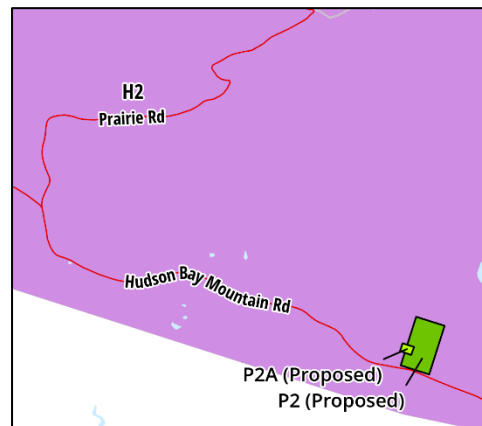
<b>Name:</b>	Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Unsurveyed Crown Land
<b>OCP Designation:</b>	Resource (RE) Designation in the Smithers Telkwa Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1704, 2014 (the OCP)
<b>Zoning:</b>	Large Holdings Zone (H2) in RDBN Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020 (the Zoning Bylaw)
<b>ALR Status:</b>	Not in the ALR
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Recreation
<b>Location:</b>	8767 and 8779 Hudson Bay Mountain Rd, about 5 km southwest of the Town of Smithers

Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club (BVCCSC) has a Partnership Agreement with the Province through Recreation Sites and Trails BC to maintain ski trails on Crown land. Their club facility “Bulkley Valley Nordic Centre” includes a clubhouse, parking lot, caretaker cabin, a wax hut, maintenance buildings, a concrete underpass beneath Hudson Bay Mountain Road and a timing hut. In addition, there is a biathlon range with an adjacent biathlon cabin located west of the main facility. The application area is in the building inspection service area.

The proposed zoning amendment from H2 to P2 includes the club facilities and is 13.2 ha in size. The proposed zoning amendment from H2 to P2A includes the biathlon range and cabin and is 0.9 ha in size.



**Current zoning**



**Proposed zoning**

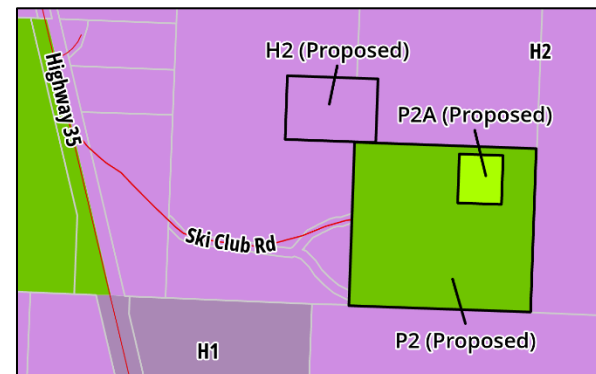
**ELECTORAL AREA B**

<b>Name:</b>	Omineca Ski Club
<b>Subject Property:</b>	District Lot 1884, Range 5, Coast District
<b>OCP Designation:</b>	Parks and Recreation Designation (P) in Burns Lake Rural and Francois Lake (North Shore) Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1785, 2017 (the OCP)
<b>Zoning:</b>	Large Holdings Zone (H2) and Recreation Zone (P2) in RDBN Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020
<b>ALR Status:</b>	Not in the ALR
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Recreation
<b>Location:</b>	3242 Ski Club Rd, about 4 km south of the Village of Burns Lake

The Omineca Ski Club (OSC) facilities include a clubhouse/lodge, parking lot, wax cabin and maintenance buildings as well as a biathlon range. The application area is within the building inspection area.

The existing P2 zoning meant for the clubhouse and structures was incorrectly placed during the digitization process of Zoning Bylaw No. 700 in the early 2000s and this error was carried forward into Zoning Bylaw No. 1800.

The proposed zoning amendment from H2 to P2 includes the club facilities and is 13.7 ha in size. The proposed zoning amendment from H2 to P2A includes the biathlon range and is 0.8 ha in size.

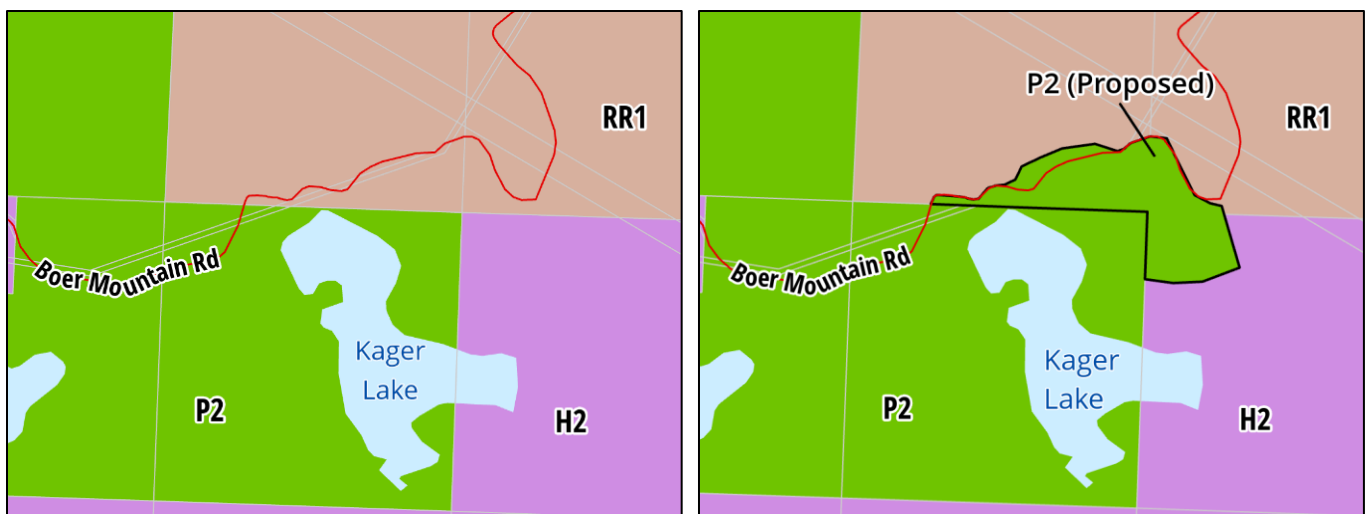
**Current zoning****Proposed zoning**

**ELECTORAL AREA B**

<b>Name:</b>	Ride Burns
<b>Subject Properties:</b>	SE1/4 District Lot 4172, Range 5, Coast District, W1/2 District Lot 4176, Range 5, Coast District and NW1/4 District Lot 4168, Range 5 Coast District
<b>OCP Designation:</b>	Resource (R) and Parks and Recreation (P) Designation in the Burns Lake Rural and Francois Lake (North Shore) Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1785, 2017 (the OCP)
<b>Zoning:</b>	Large Holdings Zone (H2) and Rural Resource Zone (RR1) in RDBN Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020 (the Zoning Bylaw)
<b>ALR Status:</b>	Not in the ALR
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Recreation
<b>Location:</b>	3845 Boer Mountain Rd, about 3 km east of the Village of Burns Lake

The Burns Lake Mountain Biking Association (Ride Burns) operate and maintain a mountain bike trail system within Recreation Reserves REC32077 (Boer Mountain) and REC0574 (Kager Lake), approximately 4,000 ha in size. In addition to the trail system, the facilities include a campground at Kager Lake and several shipping containers at the top of Boer Mountain. The application area is in the building inspection service area.

The proposed zoning amendment from RR1 and H2 extends the P2 zoning to cover the campsite and potential future facilities is 13.1 ha in size.

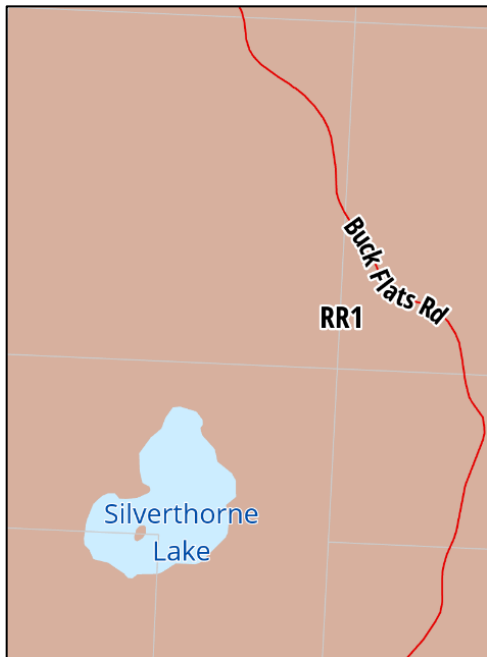
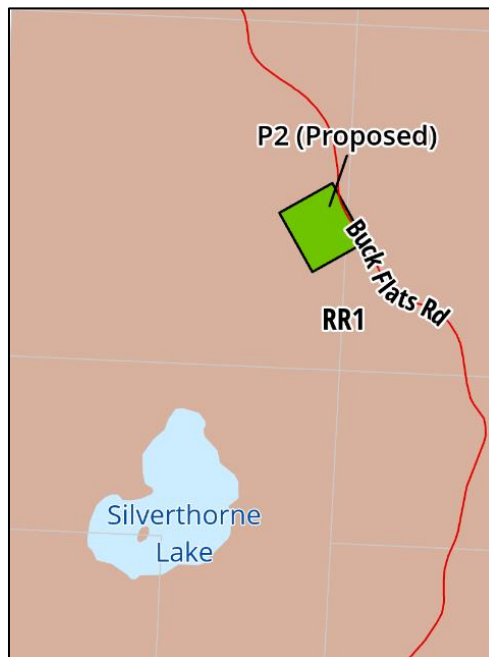
**Current zoning****Proposed zoning**



**ELECTORAL AREA G**

<b>Name:</b>	Morice Mountain Nordic Ski Club
<b>Subject Properties:</b>	District Lot 4244, Range 5, Coast District and W1/2 District Lot 4247, Range 5, Coast District
<b>OCP Designation:</b>	Resource Designation (R) in the Houston, Topley, Granisle Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1622, 2011 (the OCP)
<b>Zoning:</b>	Rural Resource Zone (RR1) in RDBN Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020 (the Zoning Bylaw)
<b>ALR Status:</b>	Not in the ALR
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Recreation
<b>Location:</b>	9119 Buck Flats Rd, about 3 km south of the District of Houston

The Morice Mountain Nordic Ski Club operates the Morice Mountain Ski Trail/ Silverthorne Lake Rec Site. The club has a partnership agreement with the Province to manage, construct and maintain the trails within this recreation area, specifically for non-motorized use. The facilities include a clubhouse, accessory structures and a parking lot near Buck Flats Rd. and a nine-site campground with a boat launch and picnic shelter on Silverthorne Lake, as well as a remote alpine cabin located on the east slope of Morice Mountain. The application area is in the building inspection service area. The proposed zoning amendment from RR1 to P2 includes the club facilities and is 8.9 ha in size.

**Current zoning****Proposed zoning**

## DISCUSSION

### Official Community Plans (OCPs)

The Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club application area is designated Resource (RE) in the “Smithers Telkwa Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1704, 2014”, which contains the following policy:

- 3.9.2(9) *Rezoning applications to allow outdoor and community recreation activities such as firing ranges, fairgrounds, race tracks, and golf courses, may be approved where it can be demonstrated that the uses will not have an unacceptable negative impact on a residential area or the natural environment.*

Omineca Ski Club and Ride Burns application areas are both designated Resource (RE) and Parks and Recreation (P) in in the “Burns Lake Rural and Francois Lake (North Shore) Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1785, 2017. The applicable OCP policies are outlined below:

#### Parks and Recreation (P) Designation

- 3.7.2(8) *Rezoning applications to allow active use community and outdoor recreation uses such as golf courses, archery ranges, fair grounds, rodeo grounds, community halls, theatres, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, swimming pools, skating rinks, and riding arenas may be considered on lands designated Parks and Recreation subject to the following criteria.*

*(a) sufficient on-site parking is provided.*

*(b) the proposed use will not create an amount of traffic, noise or other impact that will adversely affect the rural character of the area.*

*(c) traffic management issues will be considered and addressed appropriately.*

*(d) the proposed development will have no notable impact on the natural environment.*

*(e) the proposed use will have no notable impact on neighbouring land uses or property owners.*

*(f) the proposed use has the support of the Agricultural Land Commission if the land is within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).*

*(g) it is clear that the community interest is not better met by keeping the land in its natural state and for limiting its use to passive types of recreation.*

#### Resource Designation (RE):

- 3.8.2(1) *Only uses directly associated with agriculture and grazing, mineral or aggregate extraction, fish and wildlife management, wilderness oriented recreation, and necessary*

*institutional, public, utility or transportation services use will be permitted in the Resource (RE) designation.*

The Morice Mountain Nordic Ski Club application area is designated Resource (RE) in the “Houston, Topley, Granisle Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1622, 2011” which contains the following policy:

3.8.2(7) *Rezoning application to allow outdoor and community recreation activities such as firing ranges, fairgrounds, race tracks, and golf courses, shall be considered on Resource designated lands where it can be demonstrated that the uses will not have an unacceptable environmental impact.*

**Zoning**

The permitted uses in the P2 and P2A Zones are as follows:

Permitted Uses in P2 Zone		Permitted Uses in P2A Zone	
Principal	Secondary	Principal	Secondary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>clubhouse</i></li> <li>• <i>community recreation</i></li> <li>• <i>outdoor recreation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>agriculture</i></li> <li>• <i>campground</i></li> <li>• <i>convenience retail store</i></li> <li>• <i>dwelling unit in a principal building</i></li> <li>• <i>farmers’ market</i></li> <li>• <i>primitive campground</i></li> <li>• <i>restaurant</i></li> <li>• <i>single family dwelling</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>clubhouse</i></li> <li>• <i>community recreation</i></li> <li>• <i>outdoor recreation</i></li> <li>• <i>special recreation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>agriculture</i></li> <li>• <i>campground</i></li> <li>• <i>convenience retail store</i></li> <li>• <i>dwelling unit in a principal building</i></li> <li>• <i>farmers’ market</i></li> <li>• <i>primitive campground</i></li> <li>• <i>restaurant</i></li> <li>• <i>single family dwelling</i></li> </ul>

**Staff comments**

The proposed rezonings are in accordance with applicable OCP policy.

The Recreation Zone (P2) is appropriate for community recreation uses such as community halls, horse riding arenas, baseball diamonds and outdoor recreation uses that require larger land holdings such as golf courses, fairgrounds, and skiing facilities.

The Special Recreation Zone (P2A) is intended to accommodate recreational uses with the potential to have a notable negative impact on adjacent residential development. Special recreational uses include the use of motorized vehicles, racetracks for motorized vehicles, drive-in theatres and firing ranges. Both application areas proposed for rezoning to the P2A

Zone (Omineca Ski Club and Bulkley Valley Nordic Centre), involve small scale biathlon ranges that are located close to clubhouses and away from any residential development.

Staff recommend that Bylaws No. 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 receive first and second readings. The application areas are located in three electoral areas. Staff propose that a single public hearing be held electronically by Zoom and telephone and be chaired by the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area B.

## **REFERRAL COMMENTS**

**Electoral Area A Advisory Planning Commission:** recommends approval and acceptance of the amendments.

**Electoral Area B Advisory Planning Commission:** supports the rezoning proposal.

**Electoral Area G Advisory Planning Commission:** recommend the Board approve the proposed rezoning.

### **Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure:**

*“Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Ministry sees no impact to our infrastructure. Pursuant to section 52 of the Transportation Act, the Ministry of is prepared to endorse the Bylaw after its third reading.”*

### **Recreation Sites and Trails BC:**

*“Based on a meeting with Jason and Maria on March 1st, in review of attached referral document, I am understanding of the following:*

1. *BVCCSC, OSC, MMNSC and Ride Burns targeted given existing, applicable infrastructure in place and plans to add more in the near future, which was based on conversations between the club and RDBN. I asked the question why not similar type recreation sites such as Canyon Creek, Bulkley River, Lunan Road, and Hankin-Evelyn, where buildings exist. The reasons include either too remote, not nearby to private land, and/or no or few applicable buildings in place currently.*
2. *The proposed amendments to include the targeted areas as either P2 or P2A zones would allow for adding infrastructure. The current zoning does not.*
3. *RDBN has received confirmed support from each club for the proposed re-zoning.*

### **Suggested Conditions:**

1. *For future applications from any club / proponent that overlaps with a recreation site, recreation reserve, or recreation trail, RDBN sends a formal referral to*

*RSTBC, where the key point of contact is the District Recreation Officer (me) at [Brandy.Hughes@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brandy.Hughes@gov.bc.ca).*

2. *The clubs are made aware of the following:*
  - a. *Building permits can be processed / approved as early as two weeks from receipt of application if application completed in full.*
  - b. *The building permit fee is 6% of the estimated value at construction.*
  - c. *Not every building requires a building permit.*
3. *RDBN includes in the building permit process a checkbox that indicates the proponent (club) has applied to RSTBC for section 57 authorization for the proposed infrastructure. RDBN is understanding that each BVCCSC, OSC, MMNSC and Ride Burns have legal agreements with the Province for the maintenance of these facilities. The agreement does not provide authority for construction, maintenance or rehabilitation of a trail or other recreation facility on Crown land. This is authorized under Section 57 of the Forest and Range Practices Act and authority delegated to the Recreation Officer (me). More information found here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/camping-hiking/sitestrails/program/authorizations>*

*I believe it was agreed that RSTBC and RDBN would work collaboratively on any file that involves an established recreation site or trail.”*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023
- Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023
- Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023
- Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BYLAW NO. 1996**

A Bylaw to Amend "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020"

---

The Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in open meeting enacts as follows:

That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020" be amended such that portions of the following lands totalling ±14.1 ha are rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2) and the Special Recreation Zone (P2A):

Unsurveyed Crown Land as shown on Schedule "A", which is incorporated in and forms part of this bylaw.

This bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023".

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023".

DATED AT BURNS LAKE this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

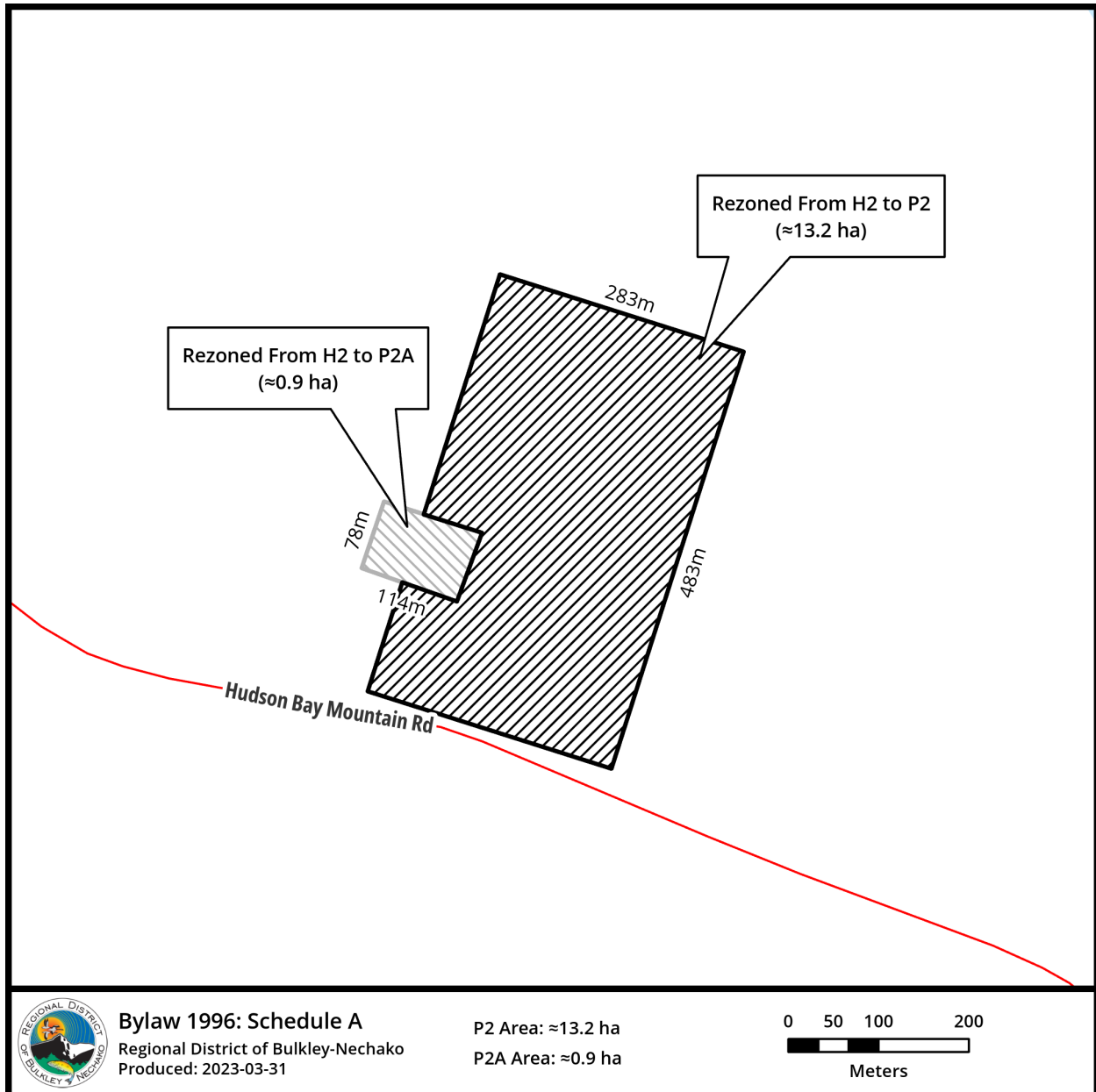
\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

**SCHEDULE "A" BYLAW NO. 1996**



The ±13.2 ha portion of unsurveyed Crown Land being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2); the ±0.9 ha portion of unsurveyed Crown Land being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Special Recreation Zone (P2A), as shown.

I hereby certify that this is Schedule "A" of Bylaw No. 1996, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BYLAW NO. 1997**

A Bylaw to Amend "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020"

The Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in open meeting enacts as follows:

That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020" be amended such that portions of the following lands totalling ± 14.5 ha are rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2) and the Special Recreation Zone (P2A) and that a ± 2.8 ha portion of the following lands are rezoned from the Recreation Zone (P2) to the Large Holdings Zone (H2):

District Lot 1884, Range 5, Coast District as shown on Schedule "A", which is incorporated in and forms part of this bylaw.

This bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023".

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023".

DATED AT BURNS LAKE this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

<p>Approved pursuant to section 52(3)(a) of the <i>Transportation Act</i>  this _____ day of _____, 20____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>for Minister of Transportation &amp; Infrastructure</p>
--



ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

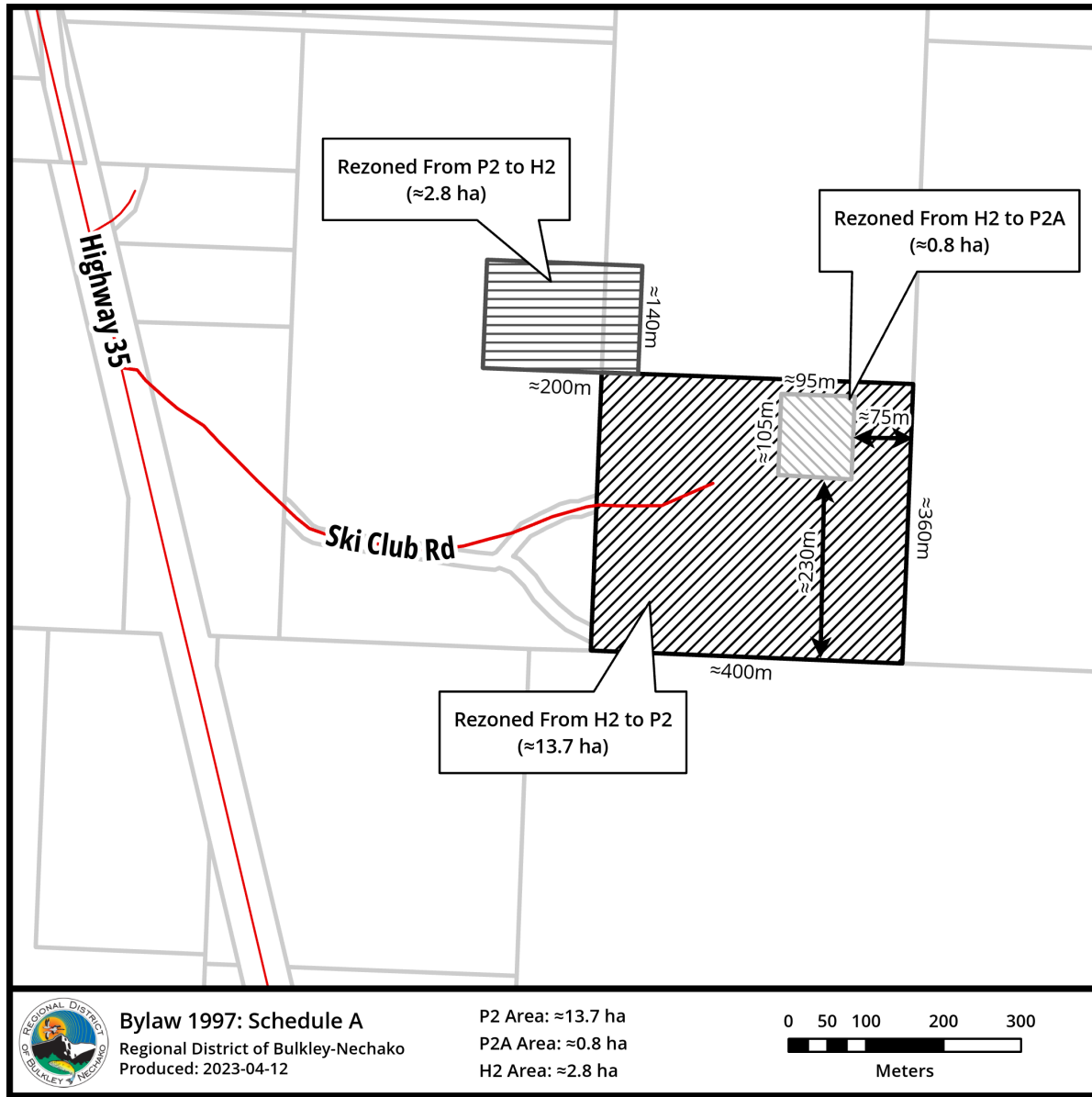
\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Administrator

**SCHEDULE "A" BYLAW NO. 1997**



A ±13.7 ha portion of District Lot 1884, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2); a ±0.8 ha portion of District Lot 1884, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Special Recreation Zone (P2A) and a ± 2.8 ha portion of District Lot 1884, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Recreation Zone (P2) to the Large Holdings Zone (H2), as shown.

I hereby certify that this is Schedule "A" of Bylaw No. 1997, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate Administrator



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BYLAW NO. 1998**

A Bylaw to Amend "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020"

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The Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in open meeting enacts as follows:

1. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020" be amended such that a ±6.7 ha portion of the following lands is rezoned from the Rural Resource Zone (RR1) to the Recreation Zone (P2):

The Southeast 1/4, District Lot 4172, Range 5, Coast District as shown on Schedule "A", which is incorporated in and forms part of this bylaw.

2. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020" be amended such that portions of the following lands totalling +6.5 ha are rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2):

The West 1/2, District Lot 4176, Range 5, Coast District and the Northwest 1/4, District Lot 4168, Range 5, Coast District, as shown on Schedule "A", which is incorporated in and forms part of this bylaw.

This bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023".

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023".

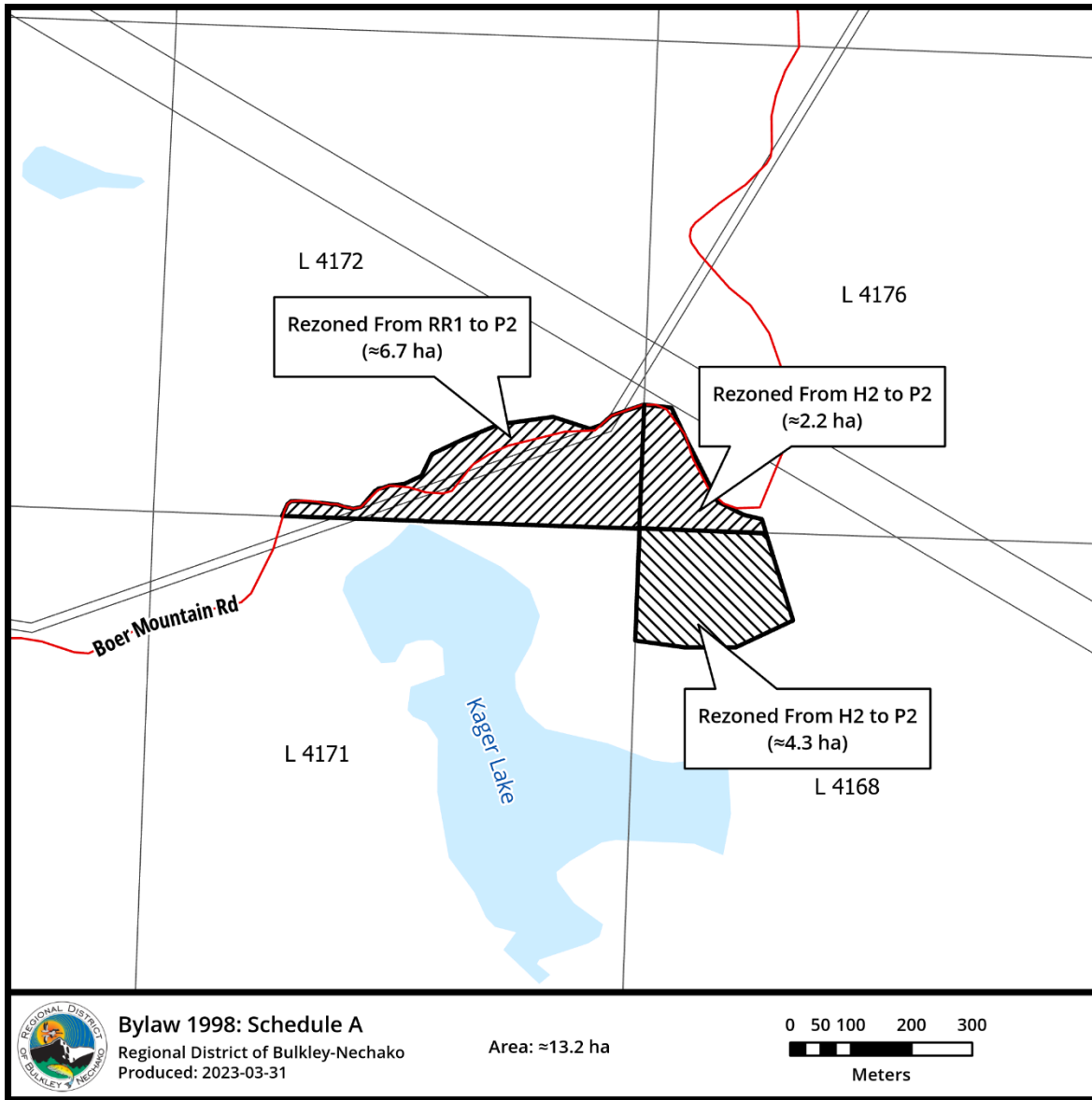
DATED AT BURNS LAKE this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

**SCHEDULE "A" BYLAW NO. 1998**

A ±6.7 ha portion of the Southeast 1/4, District Lot 4172, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Rural Resource Zone (RR1) to the Recreation Zone (P2); the ±2.2 ha portion of the West 1/2, District Lot 4176, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2); and a ±4.3 ha portion of the Northwest 1/4, District Lot 4168, Range 5, Coast District being rezoned from the Large Holdings Zone (H2) to the Recreation Zone (P2), as shown.

I hereby certify that this is Schedule "A" of Bylaw No. 1998, 2023.

---

Corporate Administrator



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BYLAW NO. 1999**

A Bylaw to Amend "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020"

---

The Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in open meeting enacts as follows:

That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020" be amended such that an ±8.9 ha portion of the following lands is rezoned from the Rural Resource Zone (RR1) to the Recreation Zone (P2):

District Lot 4244, Range 5, Coast District and the West 1/2, District Lot 4247, Range 5, Coast District, as shown on Schedule "A", which is incorporated in and forms part of this bylaw.

This bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023".

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023".

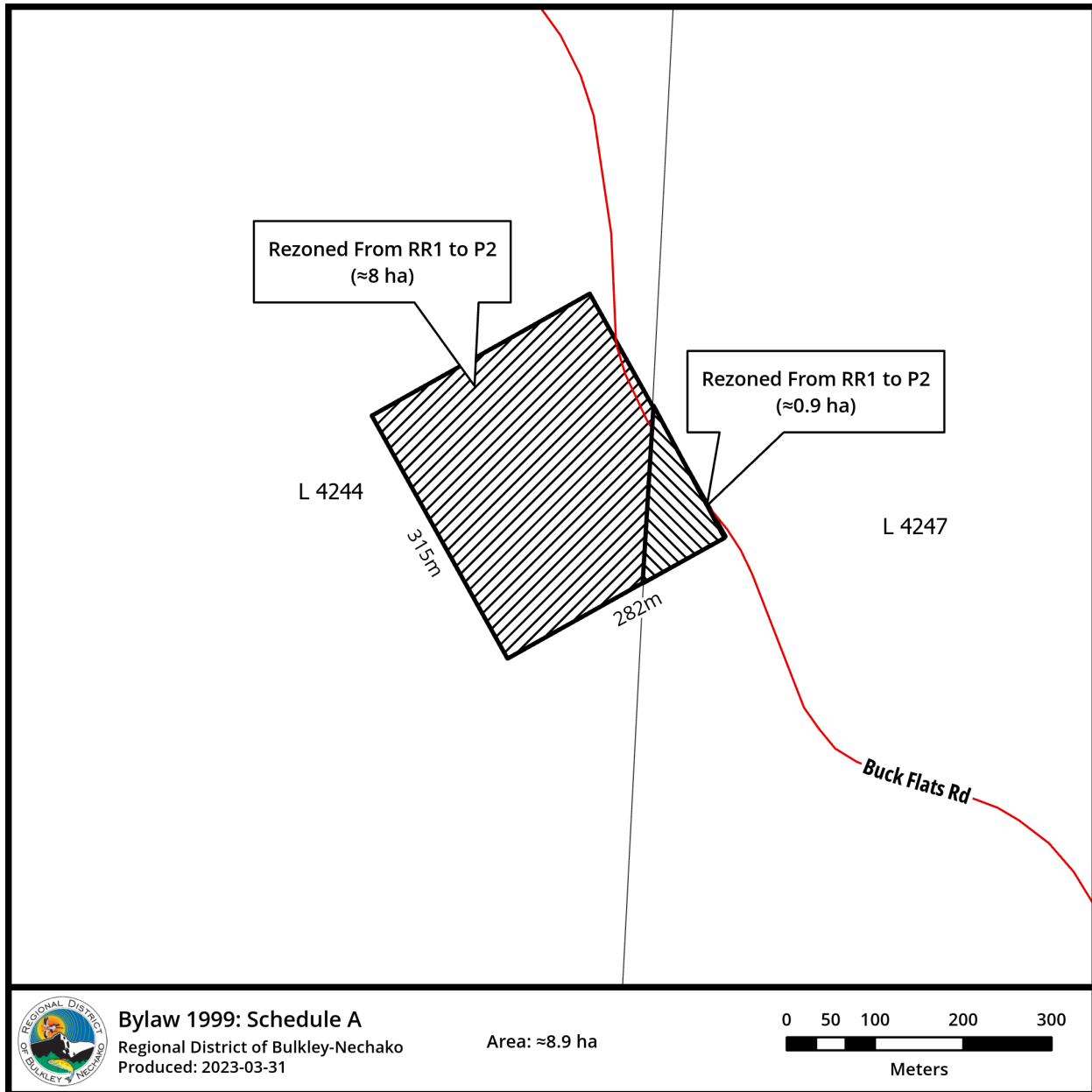
DATED AT BURNS LAKE this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

**SCHEDULE "A" BYLAW NO. 1999**

An ±8 ha portion of District Lot 4244, Range 5 Coast District being rezoned from the Rural Resource Zone (RR1) to the Recreation Zone (P2); a ±0.9 ha portion of the West 1/2, District Lot 4247, Range 5 Coast District being rezoned from the Rural Resource Zone (RR1) to the Recreation Zone (P2), as shown.

I hereby certify that this is Schedule "A" of Bylaw No. 1999, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate Administrator



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Building Bylaw Amendment for Energy Conservation Step Code Prescriptive Option

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

That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023" be adopted.

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On February 8<sup>th</sup> the Province informed local governments that it has amended the *Building Act* and *BC Building Code* to implement Step 3 of the performance-based Energy Conservation Step Code, requiring most new construction in BC to be 20% more energy efficient. To accommodate jurisdictions with limited access to energy advisors the Province has provided a prescriptive option for Part 9 buildings (small buildings, including dwellings and small apartments smaller than 600 m<sup>2</sup> and three stories or less). This option allows builders to avoid the process involving energy modelling, airtightness testing, and commissioning of building equipment by meeting increased prescribed building standards (insulation, energy efficient windows and doors). However, the prescriptive option is not available until a local government passes a bylaw enabling this alternative approach.

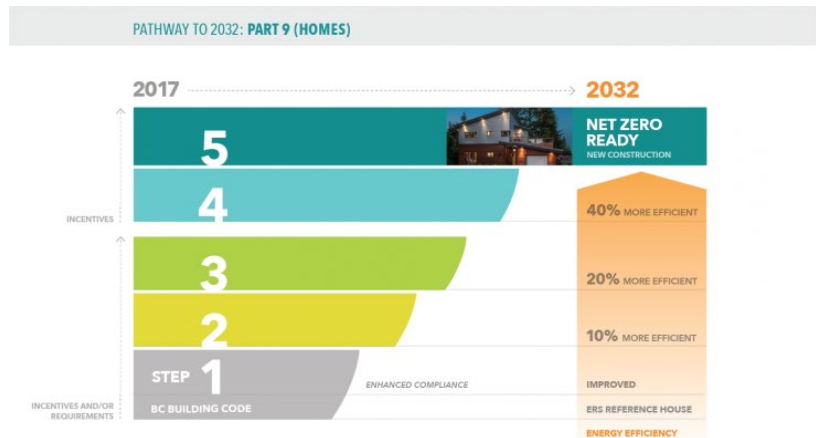
The Province has also indicated that the changes to the *Building Act* and *BC Building Code* establish a Zero Carbon Step Code which is not required to be met at this time, unless a local governments passes a bylaw requiring compliance.

This report recommends that the Board adopt Bylaw No. 1995 to amend "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw No. 1634, 2012" to allow local builders to use the prescriptive alternative to the Energy Conservation Step Code in the RDBN. The new Building Code requirements come into effect May 1, 2023; therefore, adopting this bylaw enabling the prescriptive option is a priority for staff.

It is noted that Bylaw No. 1995 also contains housekeeping amendments regarding snow loads, and reference to the most recent version of the Building Bylaw and *BC Building Code*.

## BC ENERGY STEP CODE OVERVIEW

The Energy Conservation Step Code is a Provincial Government initiative for all new buildings to be net zero ready by 2032. A net-zero energy building is one that has reduced energy requirements and renewable energy systems, so that the building produces as much energy as it consumes.



The Energy Step Code is performance based. Buildings will be required to be energy modelled prior to construction to ensure the building meets the energy efficiency standard of the “step” being implemented. The building must then be “commissioned”, including testing for airtightness prior to occupancy. Each “step” establishes targets relating to the efficiency of the total building, the building envelope (air leakage, insulation, windows and doors, etc.) and the performance of the mechanical systems (heating, cooling, ventilation, etc.). This design and testing work must be performed by a qualified “energy advisor” or “energy modeller”. Energy advisors must pass specified exams and be registered with Natural Resources Canada as having met the required qualifications to deliver EnerGuide rating services for eligible homes in Canada. Energy Modellers are similar to Energy Advisors but may not be affiliated with a Service Organization and the EnerGuide Rating System. Energy modellers may use other energy simulation software that meets the BC Energy Step Code’s requirements.

Implementing the BC Energy Conservation Step Code performance requirements through the local government Building Permit process would include the following steps:

- The builder works with an energy advisor during building design to create a model of the proposed building showing it will meet the applicable energy efficiency standard or “step”.
- The energy advisor provides a standardized report including a satisfactory energy model at time of building permit application. A building permit could not be issued without this report from an energy advisor.
- The builder must inform the energy advisor of any changes to the building design (e.g. window specifications, mechanical system, insulation level, etc) to ensure that the energy model indicates compliance to the applicable energy efficiency standard.
- A mid-construction blower door test conducted by an energy advisor to test airtightness before finishing is advised but may not be required.



- A final inspection and air-tightness test is conducted by an energy advisor, who then submits a standardized “as-built” report to the local government prior to final inspection or occupancy, to verify airtightness and energy performance.
- If minimum required energy efficiency and adequate air-tightness is not achieved, as verified by the energy advisor, an occupancy permit may not be issued.

The RDBN, and other local governments, raised concerns with the Province that the requirement to retain the services of an energy advisor to undertake energy modeling, airtightness testing, and commissioning of building equipment may be problematic in areas of the Province with limited access to energy advisors or energy modelers. In response to this concern the Province has made accommodation for a prescriptive option which allows builders to avoid the energy modelling, airtightness testing, and building commissioning process by meeting increased prescribed standards.

## **BUILDING ACT AND BC BUILDING CODE CHANGES**

### **Part 9 Buildings**

The Province has amended the *Building Act* and *BC Building Code* to mandate the following for buildings regulated under Part 9. This includes dwellings and small apartments, which are smaller than 600 m<sup>2</sup> and three stories or less.

- Part 9 buildings must meet the Energy Conservation Step 3 (20% better) standard using an energy advisor or modeler to ensure the standard is met, **or alternatively**
- Dwellings can meet prescriptive standards if this option is authorized by a RDBN Bylaw. This prescriptive option includes meeting higher insulation requirements (for example from R24 to R30 in walls, R60 to R80 in a flat ceiling) and more efficient windows and doors. Meeting the new standards removes the requirements for energy modelling or air tightness testing and are designed to ensure the 20% or better standard for northern and remote communities are met.

The Province has indicated that the *Building Act* is worded such that the prescriptive option is not available until a local government passes a bylaw enabling this alternative. Should the Board adopt “Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023” the RDBN may issue building permits allowing construction according to the performance-based option using energy modelling or the prescriptive option.

### **Part 3 Buildings**

Part 3 buildings such as offices, large multi-family dwellings, hotels and motels, and buildings with retail and service occupancies must meet Energy Conservation Step 2 performance standards using an energy advisor or modelers to ensure the standards are met. Public sector occupancies such as schools, libraries, hospitals, colleges, and care centres must meet the Step 1 standard and restaurants, theatres, and prisons must meet a

standard similar to 20% better based on Part 10 of the BC Building Code. There is no prescriptive option for part 3 buildings

### **Carbon Pollution Standards**

The *BC Building Code* now includes a Zero Carbon Step Code which established carbon pollution standards. The Province indicates that these standards are not mandated at this time. Local governments are being encouraged to consider voluntary implementation of these standards by bylaw. It is expected that the standards may increase in future years with the intent that all new building are zero carbon by 2030. The standards include specific greenhouse gas emission levels that may be met by utilizing electricity and / or heat pumps for space and water heating.

These standards include operational carbon (use of building) and not embodied carbon (all parts of building lifecycle). The standards are performance only with no prescriptive options. There are separate standards for part 9 buildings and different types of part 3 buildings. Staff are not recommending that the RDBN adopt a bylaw mandating the carbon pollution standards at this time.

### **HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENTS TO THE BUILDING BYLAW**

Proposed Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995 also contains the following housekeeping amendments.

- Replacement of the definition of *BC Building Code* to correct the outdated reference to enactment under the *Local government Act*.
- Replacement of Schedule "B" to include updated climate data relating to snow loads.

It is noted that staff are working on a new Building Bylaw for consideration by the Board in late 2023 or 2024. The above amendments are proposed for inclusion in Bylaw No. 1995 as they are a priority for staff and are expected to be non-controversial.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023

Schedule B from existing Bylaw

Update from the Building and Safety Standards Branch



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BUILDING BYLAW AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1995, 2023**

A Bylaw to Amend "Regional District of  
Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw No. 1634, 2012"

---

The Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in open meeting enacts as follows:

1. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw No. 1634, 2012" be amended such that the definition of Building Code in Section 4.1 is removed and replaced with the following wording:

*Building Code means the British Columbia Building Code as adopted by the Minister responsible under Provincial legislation, as amended or re-enacted from time to time.*

2. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw No. 1634, 2012" be amended such that Schedule "B" is removed and replaced with the Schedule "B" attached as Schedule "A" to this bylaw.
3. That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw No. 1634, 2012" be amended such that the following new Section 18 is added, and the previous Sections 18 to 24 are renumbered:

*18. Conservation of Energy*

*18.1 In relation to the conservation of energy, buildings may be constructed on or after May, 1, 2023 in accordance with sections 9.36.2 to 9.36.4 of Division B of the Building Code.*

This bylaw may be cited as "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023".

READ A FIRST TIME this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023".

DATED AT BURNS LAKE this            day of            2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

ADOPTED this            day of            2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Administrator

**SCHEDULE "A" BYLAW NO. 1995****REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

BUILDING BYLAW NO. 1634, 2012

**SCHEDULE "B"****CLIMATIC DATA**

Climatic Zone 7A for all areas within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

LOCATION	GROUND SNOW LOAD (kPa)	ASSOC. RAIN LOAD (kPa)
Hudson Bay Mountain		
1450 m (Prairie Village)	9.2	0.3
1288 m (Alpine Way)	7.6	0.3

The following snow/rain values are to be used when calculating roof design live loads (applicable for elevations less than 800 m above sea level):

Smithers Area	4.1	0.2
Houston Area	4.1	0.2
Granisle Area	4.1	0.2
Burns Lake Area	4.1	0.2
Fraser Lake Area	4.1	0.2
Vanderhoof Area	4.1	0.2
Fort St. James Area	4.1	0.2

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**BUILDING BYLAW NO. 1634, 2012**

**SCHEDULE “B”**

**CLIMATIC DATA**

The following snow/rain values are to be used when calculating roof design live loads (applicable for elevations less than 800 m above sea level):

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>GROUND SNOW LOAD (kPa)</u>	<u>ASSOC. RAIN LOAD (kPa)</u>
Smithers Area	3.4	0.2
Houston Area	3.4	0.2
Granisle Area	3.8	0.2
Burns Lake Area	3.4	0.2
Fraser Lake Area	3.4	0.2
Vanderhoof Area	3.4	0.2
Fort St. James Area	3.4	0.2

## Update from the Building and Safety Standards Branch

### BC Building Code changes coming May 1, 2023

The BSSB is happy to announce that the building code changes to enable 20% better energy efficiency and provide an opt-in Zero Carbon Step Code (formerly known as the Carbon Pollution Standard) were signed by the Minister of Housing last week.

Here are some highlights:

- These Code changes take effect May 1, 2023. By that date, most new construction in BC must be 20% more energy efficient than base 2018 BC Building Code.
- The opt-in Zero Carbon Step Code will also be available for local governments to reference starting May 1, 2023.
- [Read the amendment to the Building Act General Regulation online.](#)
- [Read a PDF convenience copy of the BC Building Code changes \(for information only\).](#)
- The performance approach for Step 3 in Part 9 construction remains the default option. Local governments wishing to enable a prescriptive energy efficiency approach for Step 3 in Part 9 construction must pass a bylaw to enable that approach. This responds to feedback from rural or remote communities who wish to maintain a prescriptive-based option, while also meeting requests from other local governments wishing to retain the performance-based approach.
- Backup heat from wood stoves and decorative gas fireplaces will be excluded from GHG modelling in Part 9 buildings. This responds to feedback from communities that experience frequent power outages.

The Building and Safety Standards Branch will release more information in the coming weeks to support a smooth rollout of the change. Email

[building.safety@gov.bc.ca](mailto:building.safety@gov.bc.ca) if you have questions.

**Advisory Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

<b>Electoral Area A</b>	<b>Meeting Date: March 6, 2023 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Meeting Location: Virtually via Zoom</b>
<b>Attendance</b>		
<u>APC Members</u>		<u>Electoral Area Director</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Trueit-MacDonald		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director Stoney Stoltenberg
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Posthuma (unable to connect)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alternate Trever Krisher
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandra Hinchliffe		<u>Other Attendees</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Watson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Llewellyn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Koopman		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Patterson
Chairperson: Sandra Hinchliffe		Secretary: Natalie Trueit-MacDonald
Call to Order: 7:10pm		
<b>Agenda</b>		
7:00 – 7:30	APC Workshop	
7:30	RDBN 01-22 (Housing Text)	
	RDBN 02-22 (Parkland Dedication)	
	RDBN 04-21 (Recreation Clubs)	
Applications (Include application number, comments, and resolution)		
<u>RDBN 01-22 (Housing Text)</u>		
The APC is looking forward to more conversation regarding lot size and fair taxation		
<u>RDBN 02-22 (Parkland Dedication)</u>		
The APC expressed concerns that that cost for a developer could be too high		
<u>RDBN 04-21 (Recreation Clubs)</u>		
The APC recommends approval and acceptance of the amendments		
Meeting Adjourned 8:24pm	Secretary Signature NCMT-Mac <i>NCMT-MacDonald</i>	

Advisory Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes

RECORDED  
BULK

MAR 01 2023

Electoral Area D	Meeting Date: March 1, 2023, 7:00 pm	Meeting Location: Zoom
<b>Attendance</b>		
<u>APC Members</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Brown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Blomquist <input type="checkbox"/> Trevor Tapp <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Campbell		<u>Electoral Area Director</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director Mark Parker <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Director Jason Regnier  <u>Other Attendees</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner (note-taker)
Chairperson: Art Blomquist (Acting Chair)		Secretary: Shelley Campbell
Call to Order: 7:11 pm		
<p><b>APC Workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Danielle Patterson gave an APC workshop. PowerPoint from workshop will be circulated for reference.</li> <li>- Workshop covered the role of the APC, the APC review process, meeting protocols, independence of the APC, APC meetings, the APC manual and website, as well as APC comments and recommendations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Appointment of Chair and Secretary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trevor Tapp was nominated as Chair. No objections. Trevor Tapp was appointed.</li> <li>- Shelley Campbell was nominated as Secretary. No objections. Shelley Campbell was appointed.</li> <li>- Art Blomquist was made Acting Chair for tonight's meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>RDBN 01-22 (Housing Text)</b></p> <p>Jason Llewellyn summarized the proposed zoning changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focused on number of dwelling units rather than form of dwellings units and looking to simplify zoning language.</li> <li>- The Bylaw regulates at least 2 dwellings in zones in 3 key ways: allows a Single Family Dwelling with secondary suite, 2 Single Family Dwellings, or a duplex.</li> </ul> <p>APC member discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Potential for change to effect property values.</li> <li>- Questions about parcel limit size for 2 dwellings.</li> <li>- Jason Llewellyn stated the maximum would be 2 dwellings for the R1 to R6 Zones, which are smaller parcels. H1 Zone over 4 ha, Ag1 Zone, and RR1 Zone would allow 4 dwellings.</li> <li>- Discussed second dwellings in ALR.</li> </ul> <p>APC Motion: <i>"The APC supports the proposal."</i></p>		



**RDBN 02-22 (Parkland Dedication)**

Jason Llewellyn summarized proposal to add parkland dedication policies to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and explained the Local Government regulations for parkland dedication or cash in lieu. The proposed policy would provide direction for the board for making decisions to accept land or cash in lieu.

**APC Discussion:**

- Part of housing issues is many potential builders would lose money at subdivision.
- Property assessments are increasing in Fraser Lake.
- Some lakefront parcels can make money at subdivision.

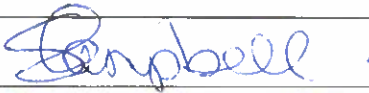
APC Motion: *"Recommend the Board support the proposal as presented."* No objections.

**Director Parker – FYI on Parks and Recreation Service**

Some Electoral Areas have entered into a Parks and Recreation Service but Area D has not. Meetings were held with the public, and he received no feedback from the public or community groups. If APC members hear of any interest, please let him know.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:47 pm

Secretary Signature



## Advisory Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Electoral Area F	Meeting Date: February 22, 2023 7:00 pm	Meeting Location: Zoom
<b>Attendance</b>		
<u>APC Members</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <del>Mike Pritchard</del>	<u>Electoral Area Director</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Klassen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director Shirley Moon	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Rodts (arrived at 7:10 pm)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alternate Director Alex Kulchar	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Ephrom	<u>Other Attendees</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Gehrmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner, note-taking	
Chairperson: Henry Klassen		Secretary: Barb Ephrom
Call to Order: 7:05 pm		
Agenda:	7:00 pm-7:30 pm	APC Workshop
	7:30 pm-	RDBN 01-22
<b><u>APC Workshop and Introductions</u></b>		
Jason Llewellyn requested Henry Klassen be Acting Chair until completion of the APC workshop. H. Klassen agreed.		
Meetings called to order at 7:05 pm. H. Klassen invited Jason Llewellyn to give introductions and begin the workshop.		
Jason Llewellyn led a round of introductions.		
Jason Llewellyn and Danielle Patterson presented an APC Workshop via PowerPoint (slides attached to minutes).		
<b><u>7:44 pm – Nomination of Chair and Secretary</u></b>		
Jason Llewellyn: Thanked Henry Klassen for being Acting Chair for the beginning of the meeting. J. Llewellyn asked if anyone wanted to nominate a Chair, he will receive the nominations. No one came forward to nominate a Chair.		
Jason Llewellyn: If anyone is interested in nominating themselves, he will receive nominations.		
No one came forward to nominate themselves for Chair.		
Barb Ephrom: Nominated Henry Klassen for Chair.		
Henry Klassen: Accepted nomination as Chair.		
Jason Llewellyn: Asked if there was any opposition. No opposition.		
Jason Llewellyn: Asked Henry Klassen, as Chair, if he would like to nominate a Recording Secretary.		
Chair Klassen: Asked the other APC members if they had experience on a committee or as a Recording Secretary.		

Ben Rodts and Kelly Gehrman stated they have no prior experience. Barb Ephrom stated she has committee experience and acted as Recording Secretary once.

Chair Klassen nominated Barb Ephrom as Recording Secretary.

Barb Ephrom accepted the nomination for Recording Secretary.

Chair Klassen noted the APC may wish to revisit the appointments once they had a chance to meet in person.

**RDBN 01-22:**

Jason Llewellyn gave an overview of RDBN 01-22, which discusses options to simplifying the regulation of dwellings and increase housing type options in the rural area in response to the 2021 Housing Needs Report. The B.C. Building Code has removed language limiting the size of secondary suites. The difference between a secondary suite and a duplex has narrowed. Staff are looking to amend the zoning bylaw to allow every property to have at least two dwellings, without regulated the form (duplex, two single family dwellings, or a single family dwelling with a secondary suite, house with garage suite, etc.).

At the APC's discretion, they may comment at this meeting or could meet at another date within the next month and provide comments then.

Discussion and questions around the proposal:

Members asked about additional agency requirements, such as Northern Health needing to be met.

J. Llewellyn: The water and sewer systems must meet Northern Health standards; staff is comfortable that these provide the right checks and balances.

H1 to H1A is a common rezoning request to have two dwellings and most of these rezonings have been approved by the Board. One of largest enforcement issues is illegal dwellings above garages. This proposal would allow those to build them legally, through a proper process.

Members asked the percentage of lake parcels over 2 ha. They discussed the potential for minimum size requirements, and considerations around lakes due to concern about environmental health of lakes, such as Cluculz Lake. It was noted that water quality testing is showing an increased impact on Cluculz Lake. Asked if this was a change to entire Zoning Bylaw.

J. Llewellyn: Feedback on special considerations for lakes is appreciated. Does not have a figure on the percentage of parcels over 2 ha but showed a map of Cluculz Lake on Zoom screen and said more information is available in the RDBN Shoreland Development report. Biggest impact in Area F is to the H1 Zone, which currently requires a parcel to be over 4 ha for a second dwelling. This proposal would remove that size requirement. Also, R3 and R4 allow one single family dwelling and this proposal would allow two single family dwellings. The proposed changes are to the entire Zoning Bylaw.

Members discussed on changes to year-round population on the lake and asked if there was any research on this. Discussion includes the increased crowding on Cluculz Lake versus what original residents may expect and discussed if something like a survey could be done with residents to see if the change would be accepted.

J. Llewellyn: No specific research. Staff's opinion was that Northern Health septic regulations would prevent a significant uptake in additional dwellings on small parcels. A limit on total floor area could be explored. Staff would put some thought into a survey and noted that looking at this type of question can be difficult to survey in an objective way with limited information.

64  
Members discussed the complexity of the proposal and the major changes it could create. The need for more housing was discussed as was the need for potential site-specific areas, such as waterfronts, that may need different approaches. Discussed the importance of community feedback early in the process, and potentially town-hall-style meetings. ¶

¶  
J. Llewellyn: At the minimum there would be a Public Hearing for any proposed changes and there will be discussion with the Board for direction on any other levels of engagement, balancing workload and capacity issues. Said he thinks specialized housing should be in municipalities to keep it cost-effective and prevent inefficiencies in services, environmental issues, and impacts on rural character. ¶

¶  
Members discussed the need or for specialized housing in municipalities for access to services and that proximity to services was a key factor in people choosing where to live. Discussed how increases rural housing creates needs for services (school buses, etc.). ¶

¶  
Members were in favour of staff summarizing the notes and sending them to all APC members. The members agreed that they would return them in about three weeks with any additional comments. Discussed potentially having an additional in-person APC meeting to discuss the topic further. ¶

¶  
Members asked about how to know what zone the properties are in. There was discussion that lots that are near lakes but not on lakes can still have a detrimental impact because they access the water, have septic systems, and use boats, four-wheelers, etc. Challenge of septic on properties and those accessing lakes dumping septic on roads/in water at Cobb Lake, Gravel Lake too. ¶

¶  
Members discussed that the lake is accessed by more than area residents and that the public adds pressure to lakes too. Staff were asked why there is a proposal to increase housing when the lake is more than 20 percent overdeveloped. ¶

¶  
J. Llewellyn: Most parcels in Electoral Area F are Agriculture (Ag1) Zone and in the ALR or in the Small Holdings Zone which are about 5 acres. Said most parcels are too small at Cluculz Lake for Type Septic systems and Type 2 anf Type 3 systems are expensive with special maintenance requirements. Staff are seeking early feedback from the APC to gather input at the preliminary stage. ¶

Meeting Adjourned 8:43 pm

Secretary Signature

*Barb Ephron*

**Advisory Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

<b>Electoral Area G</b>	<b>Meeting Date: March 2, 2023, 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Meeting Location: Zoom</b>
<b>Attendance</b>		
<u>APC Members</u>		<u>Electoral Area Director</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Gibson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director Chris Newell (left at 7:21 pm)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elijah Newell		<input type="checkbox"/> <del>Alternate Director Andrea Newell</del>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Robinson		<u>Other Attendees</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Euverman		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning, RDBN
<input type="checkbox"/> <del>Dennis Tait</del>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner, RDBN (note-taker)
Chairperson: Mary Robinson		Secretary: Tom Euverman (Acting Secretary)
Call to Order: 7:05 pm		
<p><b>Nomination of Chair and Secretary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mary Robinson nominated Elijah Newell as Chair.</li> <li>- Elijah Newell nominated Mary Robinson as Chair.</li> <li>- Tom Euverman made a motion that Mary be appointed Chair. Seconded by Mary Robinson. No objections. Mary is Chair.</li> <li>- Mary Robinson called for nominations for Secretary. Elijah nominates Dennis. Dennis is not present. Membership voted to appoint Dennis and stated they can revote at the next meeting if Dennis opposes.</li> <li>- Tom Euverman to be Acting Secretary for this meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>APC Workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Danielle Patterson gave an APC workshop. PowerPoint from workshop will be circulated for reference.</li> <li>- Workshop covered the role of the APC, the APC review process, meeting protocols, independence of the APC, APC meetings, the APC manual and website, as well as APC comments and recommendations.</li> </ul> <p><b>RDBN 01-22 (Housing Text)</b></p> <p>Jason Llewellyn summarized the proposed zoning changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most zones allow a single family dwelling with a secondary suite or a duplex.</li> <li>- Looking to simplify the requirements for form/style of dwelling in the Zoning Bylaw so parcels can have at least 2 dwellings, regardless of whether it is a suite, a duplex, garage suite, etc.</li> <li>- Some APCs have shared concerns about smaller waterfront parcels.</li> <li>- Larger parcels (typically H2 Zone, Ag1 Zone and RR1 Zone) could have 4 dwellings.</li> </ul> <p>APC discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effect on smaller parcels versus larger parcels.</li> <li>- Restrictions for water and sewer (could it be shared?), following Northern Health regulations, and building permits.</li> </ul> <p>Jason Llewellyn confirmed that sewer and water could be shared if it met Northern Health requirements.</p> <p>Carol Gibson motion for proposal to be supported. Seconded by Elijah Newell. No objections. Motion carried.</p> <p><b>RDBN 02-22 (Parkland Dedication)</b></p> <p>Jason Llewellyn summarized proposal to add parkland dedication policies to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and explained the Local Government regulations for parkland dedication or cash in lieu (creation of 3 or more parcels where at least one parcel is less than 2 ha). The proposed policy would provide direction for the Board when making decisions to accept land or cash in lieu.</p> <p>APC Discussion:</p>		

- Concerned that if 3 or more parcels area asked for money, may create unnecessary expense for property owners. Maybe look at 10 or more parcels instead.
- May increase property prices. 5% of land value could be expensive.
- Should parks be paid for with general tax revenue or by those who are subdividing to bring more people to the area?
- Could be costly for smaller lots on lakes.
- More information may be needed. Concerns not good for rural area at this time.

Tom Euverman: Motioned to recommend the OCP not be amended with the parkland dedication policies as proposed. Seconded by Elijah Newell. No objections. Carried.

**RDBN 04-21 (Recreation Clubs)**

Jason Llewellyn introduced the proposal to ensure recreational sites had the correct zoning for current uses. Staff worked with recreation groups to find out where they may want to develop in the future when selecting zoning locations so those groups wouldn't have to come back to ask for rezoning to build. Trails allowed everywhere. Uses such as clubhouses and lookouts require P2 zoning.

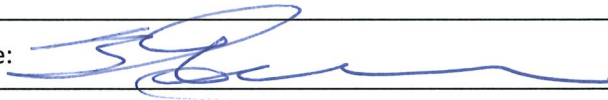
It was noticed that the Morice Mountain Nordic Ski Club didn't have the correct zoning for their building to ensure they can have development in that area. Staff contacted the group and they support this rezoning.

APC Discussion: straight forward and makes a lot of sense.

Carol Gibson: Motioned to recommend the board approve it the proposed rezoning. Seconded by Elijah Newell. No objections. Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:58 pm

Secretary Signature:







## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Crown Land Application Referral No. 6409430 for Licence of Occupation

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

That the attached comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application Referral No. 6409430 for a Licence of Occupation.

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### BACKGROUND

The Regional District has received a referral request for Surge Copper Corp.'s Licence of Occupation (Industrial – Industrial Camps Uses). Due to permitting process changes with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Management (MEMLCI), the MEMLCI requires Surge Copper Corp. to apply for a Licence of Occupation (LoO) for their existing work camp as part of Surge Copper Corp.'s Notice of Intent (NOI) application process for their mining exploration. The request is for a ten-year LoO for the camp.

The work camp is in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural), near Tahsta Lake, an arm of the Nechako Reservoir. It is accessed from Houston, through a series of FSR roads and a private barge. The closest known residence is over 50+ km away.

Built in 2011 on an abandoned gravel pit, the thirty-person work camp is used for accommodations for seasonal mining exploration workers and covers 5.42 ha (13.39 ac). It consists of five ATCO trailers (with washrooms), four seasonal recreational vehicles, one shipping container, and two canvas tents for overflow sleeping quarters (shown in applicant submitted maps - [see link](#)). The camp is



typically open from June to October and is winterized in the off season, including locking buildings and disassembling the tents.

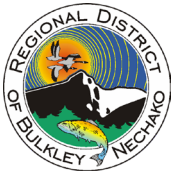
The applicant has provided a Management Plan ([see link](#)), which includes details on water supply, waste disposal, FireSmart practices, and environmental impacts. The Tweedsmuir Northern Caribou herd of the Northern Mountain Caribou population is in the exploration area. While the Management Plan states the work camp is outside of the restricted Caribou breeding area, the applicant has included the Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan ([see link](#)), to address any unintended encounters near camp and because camp workers may enter the Caribou's range during the mine exploration work. Northern Mountain Caribou population are a federal *Species of Concern* and Blue Listed in BC.

An Area of Interest Evaluation Detailed Report ([see link](#)), which includes First Nations consultation required for the area as well as licensed Crown Land users in the area.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Comment sheet
- [Applicant submitted maps \(link\)](#)
- [Management Plan \(Link\)](#)
- [Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan \(Link\)](#)
- [Area of Interest Evaluation Detailed Report \(Link\)](#)



Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral No. 6409430

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<b>Electoral Area:</b>	Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)
<b>Applicant:</b>	BC0225683 Inc. dba Surge Copper Corp.
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Mining operations camp
<b>Zoning:</b>	Not applicable
<b>OCP Designation:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Proposed Use Comply with Zoning:</b>	Not applicable
<b>If not, why?</b>	Not applicable
<b>Agricultural Land Reserve:</b>	No
<b>Access:</b>	Troitsa Main FSR, accessed via barge from Reach Road FSR
<b>Building Inspection:</b>	No
<b>Fire Protection:</b>	No
<b>Other comments:</b>	The Regional District's Floodplain Management Bylaw No. 1878, 2020 applies to the entire Regional District. Based on the provided Management Plan, the existing camp meets the Bylaw's setback requirements. The applicant is encouraged to review the Bylaw to ensure the camp meets flood construction level requirements. The Bylaw is available here: <a href="https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/planning/hazard-management/landslides-and-erosion">https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/planning/hazard-management/landslides-and-erosion</a>



# Agricultural Land Reserve Applications

## What is the Agricultural Land Commission?

The Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is an independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in British Columbia by administering the *Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) Act* and regulations.

## What is the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)?

The ALR can be thought of as a Provincial land use zone in which agriculture is recognized as the priority use. Farming is encouraged and non agricultural uses are regulated. If your property is in the ALR, it means that it is subject to the Agricultural Land Commission Act and Regulations.

The ALR takes precedence over, but does not replace other legislation and bylaws that may apply to the land. Local and regional governments, as well as other provincial agencies, are expected to plan in accordance with the provincial policy of preserving agricultural land.

## Is my property in the ALR?

The ALC has created an online mapping tool on their website that can help you determine if your property is in the ALR:

[www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/alr-maps/maps-and-gis](http://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/alr-maps/maps-and-gis)

The RDBN Planning Department can also assist you with this information if you provide the Parcel Identifier (PID), civic address or the legal description of your property.

## What Role Does the Regional District Play?

The Regional District provides online maps showing ALR boundaries. RDBN staff can provide assistance

reviewing ALC and RDBN requirements including policies and regulations that may affect RDBN residents; however, residents are encouraged to discuss ALR regulations directly with ALC staff.

## Applications in the ALR

There are several types of applications, listed below, that can be submitted to the ALC. Once an application is made the RDBN is involved in the application review process, and the RDBN Board makes a recommendation to the ALC regarding the application.

- Non-Adhering Residential Use
- Non-Farm Use
- Subdivision
- Inclusion
- Exclusion

For more information on any of these application processes, please contact an ALC Land Use Planner at 604-660-7000 or by e-mail at [ALC.North@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALC.North@gov.bc.ca) or contact the RDBN Planning Department.



## RDBN Planning Department

37 3rd Ave, PO Box 820  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Email [inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca)  
Website [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

Call us at: 250-692-3195  
Toll free 1-800-320-3339  
Fax 250-692-1220

# The Application Process

See below for a detailed step-by-step description of the process for Non-Adhering Residential Use, Non-Farm Use and Subdivision ALR applications.

## Speak with Staff

**1** Prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to speak with an ALC Land Use Planner and RDBN Planning Department staff about the proposed development. Staff can provide information on the application requirements and the review process. This will help ensure that a complete application is submitted and prevent unnecessary delays.

## Submit a Complete Application On-line

**2** A complete application with the required supporting documents must be submitted online to the ALC Application Portal to start the application process.

[www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/home](http://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/home)

The Regional District's portion of the application fee (see fee table on page 3) is payable to the RDBN and can be submitted by mail or at the RDBN Office.

## Request for Comments

**3** Once a complete application and fee has been received, staff will prepare a referral report and send it to the Regional Agrologist with the Ministry of Agriculture and the local Advisory Planning Commission (APC).

The APC is made up of appointed area residents and will evaluate the application. The applicant has the opportunity to present their application to the Area Director and the APC at their meeting. The APC will make a recommendation to the Regional District Board.

## 4 Staff report

Staff review all of the information related to an application, including the comments received from the Ministry of Agriculture and the APC. Staff then prepares a report for the Regional District Board. The RDBN report will include a summary of the proposed development, an analysis of the potential impacts, and a recommendation.

## 5 Board Consideration

The staff report is presented to the RDBN Board for consideration. The Regional District Board may decide one of the following:

- forward the application to the ALC with a recommendation that the application be supported.
- forward the application to the ALC with a recommendation that the application not be supported.
- not authorize the application to proceed to the ALC (only if a parcel is designated and / or zoned for Agriculture use).

## 6 Application sent to ALC

If the Board has resolved to forward the application to the ALC with a recommendation, staff will send the Board Report, Board Recommendation and other relevant information to the ALC via the Application Portal.

The applicant is responsible for paying the ALC of application fee directly to the ALC when forwarded by the RDBN.

If the RDBN Board decides not to forward the application to the ALC, the application will be considered closed.



## 7 ALC Review Process

Once the ALC receives the local government recommendation via the Application Portal and the application fee, the ALC will start their review process.

The ALC Commissioners are tasked with making a decision review the information provided in the application, they typically meet as a group to discuss the application. As a result of the discussion the Commissioners may request further information from the applicant or local government; request a site visit on the application property; request a meeting with the applicant; and or; direct staff to draft a decision. Once a decision is drafted, it is reviewed by all ALC Commissioners who considered the application.

When the ALC Commissioners are satisfied that the draft decision accurately reflects their consideration, they will authorize the decision to be released to the applicant and copied to the local government.

Throughout the application process, applicants will be notified in the Online Application Portal as the application moves through the process.

### Fee Table

Application Type	Pay to RDBN (when application is made)	Pay to ALC (when forwarded by RDBN)	Total Fees
Non-Adhering Residential Use	\$450	\$450	\$900
Soil Use to Place Fill and/or Remove Soil	\$750	\$750	\$1,500
Non-Farm Use	\$750	\$750	\$1,500
Subdivision	\$750	\$750	\$1,500

## Other Applications

**Inclusion Applications:** There is no application fee for applications to include land into the ALR. The majority of inclusion applications are submitted as a condition of an agricultural Crown grant. The RDBN Board has a policy to support inclusion applications that are a condition of a Crown grant.

**Exclusion Applications:** By September 30, 2020 exclusion applications can only be submitted by a Local Government. Please contact the Agricultural Land Commission or the RDBN for further information regarding this type of application.

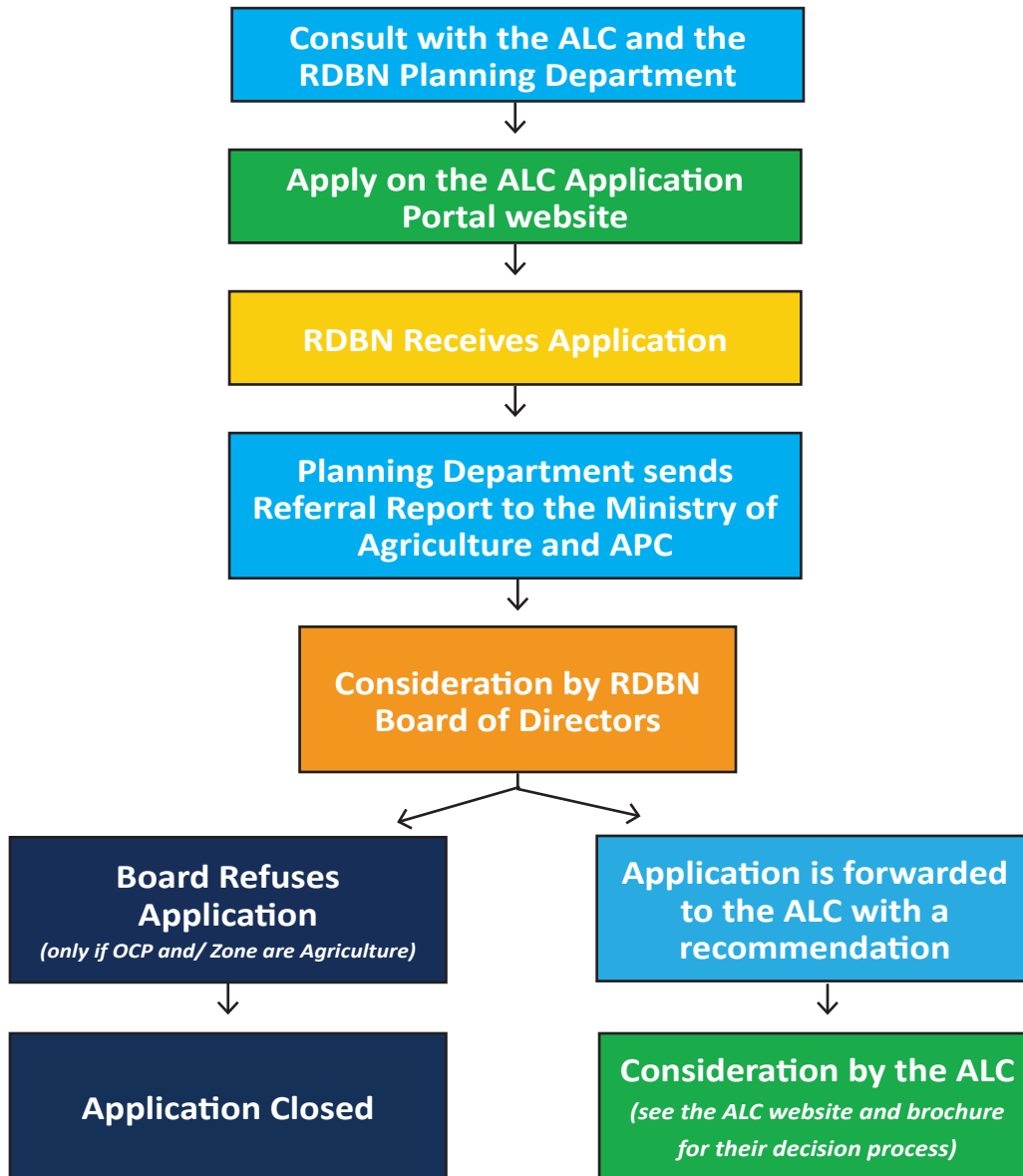
**Boundary Adjustments in the ALR:** If the Landowner is planning to do a boundary adjustment between two or more properties, a Provincial Approving Officer may approve a plan without the approval of the ALC following a number of conditions. For more information about this option, please contact your local Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure office.

## Timeline

The time required to process an ALR application varies depending on the scale of the proposed development and the number of issues that need to be addressed. Generally, expect the entire process to take a minimum of four months and up to one year.

See the following page for an overview of the RDBN part of the application process, and the attached ALC brochure “Quick Guide For Applicants” to learn more about the application process and requirements for the ALC Application Portal.

# The Approval Process



## RDBN Planning Department

37 3rd Ave, PO Box 820  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Email [inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca)  
Website [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

Call us at: 250-692-3195  
Toll free 1-800-320-3339  
Fax 250-692-1220



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Update: Metal Salvage – Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station

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

That the Board direct staff not to proceed with further metal salvaging programs and maintain the metal salvage ban at all sites within the Regional District.

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**BACKGROUND**

Metal salvage has a history at the RDBN and was banned in 2017 for public safety, to minimize conflict, and to maximize revenue.

In March 2022 Staff presented several strategies for increasing re-use options at the Transfer Stations and one option included revisiting a salvage mechanism for metal for re-use and repair.

At the June 16, 2022 Waste Management Committee meeting, and the subsequent June 30, 2022 Board meeting, the Board approved the concept for a metal salvage pilot program, and staff was directed to implement and provide an evaluation of the program at the end of 2022.

**REVENUE UPDATE**

The RDBN currently and historically outsources metal recycling to the highest bidder in a given year. Revenue from metal recycling fluctuates greatly from year-to-year as it is dependant on the commodity market at the time of bid.

In mid March 2023, the annual metal recycling contract was awarded to Schnitzer Steel who will purchase the RDBN's metal piles with the understanding that the piles have not been salvaged by the public or any other parties. This equals approximately \$410,000 of revenue for the RDBN in 2023 based on the estimated tonnes of metal currently stockpiled. 3 bids in total were received.

Staff reached out to Schnitzer Steel and Richmond Steel (2 of the bidders), both very experienced recycling companies within BC, to adjust their submitted quotes for the hypothetical scenario that our metal piles were openly salvaged by the public. Schnitzer

estimated a “40% or more” reduction in value and Richmond Steel’s response was “30% to 50%” reduction in value.

With respect to the 2023 recycling contract, a 40% reduction in value would equal a loss of about \$164,000 in revenue. A 40% reduction of the 2022 metal recycling revenue (\$314,000) would have equaled a \$125,000 loss of revenue.

There is clearly a financial benefit to keeping the metal salvage ban in place.

## **PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE**

In July 2022, management staff discussed options with site staff for feedback and formally met with the staff at the Burns Lake Transfer Station as this would be the host site. Staff also monitored the flow and habits of the public in and around the metal pile. The concept was also discussed with various site users, gathering more pros and cons of having the program running on site for the public. The feedback was taken into consideration and after several adjustments to the original concept, a final plan was completed in August 2022.

### **Evaluation**

Testing the procedure began in late August 2022. The following evaluation parameters for the pilot project are addressed:

- 1) Public Perception: Does the public use and value the ability to salvage re-usable metal items?
  - Staff assumes yes, however little information is available
- 2) Safety: Is the program providing a safe place and procedure for the public to drop-off and salvage metal items and for staff to manage the program?
  - It was observed that if the drop/salvage area fills up too fast, people tend to climb on the material posing a risk.
- 3) Site operations: Are the new zones interfering with site operations or obstructing other areas of the site?
  - Testing the procedure promptly identified a significant obstacle to operations at the designated area. A large area with soft soils under and around the metal pile was identified which would make the proposed procedure for clearing the salvage area a challenge. In dry conditions there was some success, but wet condition was not possible. Winter conditions were predicted to be a challenge due to slippery ground surfaces. The purpose of the program was to allow deposited metal at the salvage area to accumulate and be accessible for enough time for residents to salvage. The quantity of metal that was determined reasonable to allow for salvaging was not manageable for the site equipment, as it was too heavy and too far to push to the metal pile, while avoiding the softest areas. The

procedure also resulted in excessive soils being pushed into the metal pile which, in turn created more soil issues as the machine churned and removed dirt. The current site layout limited alternate locations without significant site re-design and capital funding.

- 4) Enforcement: Are the rules and procedures of the program being followed by the public with minimal conflict?
  - Not enough information
  
- 5) Staff Capacity: Is site and management staff utilizing excessive time managing the program properly, educating the public, dealing with conflict, or adjusting existing operational procedures to accommodate?
  - If the program were to proceed as designed, current staff would utilize too much time managing the physical operation, including landscaping and corrective measures.
  - There is not enough information to determine how much staff time would be required to accommodate and educate the public.

### Discussion

The general outcome of the evaluation was that the site layout, current staffing level and required infrastructure needed to properly accommodate this pilot program was far beyond the original scope and the pilot project needed to be re-evaluated.

Staff expects that the other RDBN Transfer Stations would face similar challenges with poor ground conditions and that only asphalt or concrete surfaces would be suitable for drop/push zones. This would be even more true for the busiest sites (Vanderhoof and Smithers) where metal would accumulate faster, thus impacting site staff capacity to a higher degree.

Historically, the RDBN's transfer stations were mainly set up and used for the public to drop off waste only. Over time, more waste diversion and recycling programs have been established on the sites allowing the public to safely browse the re-use shed and bays. Since 2021, both the recycling and transfer station attendants have been actively moving re-usable metal items from the metal pile to the re-use bays that is in good condition, highly sought after or has other known re-use value. This has continued to prove itself successful.

Enforcement is another issue that was discussed at length with site staff. Their concern was the amount of time expected to be used to prevent residents from accessing the main metal pile which poses a safety hazard. History has proven that this happens even during a "salvage ban" and enforcing the specific salvage area would likely result in conflict with the public.



## CLOSURE

In recognizing the financial benefit of the salvage ban, the operational challenges observed at the Burns Lake Transfer Station and expecting the same results at other sites, Staff would like to conclude this pilot project and rescind the March 17, 2022 motion. Even though the program fits with the RDBN's goals for increasing re-use, this approach will over-utilize valuable staff capacity with little return and probable conflict. Staff would like to continue to focus on improving the "re-usable metal items" program which is proving successful and has potential to grow with more public education.

### Attachments:

1. MEMORANDUM - RDBN Salvage and RE-use Programs - March 17, 2022
2. MEMORANDUM - Reusable Metal Salvage – Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station – June 16, 2022



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
MEMORANDUM**

To: Chair Fisher and Waste Management Committee  
 From: Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor  
 Date: March 17, 2022  
 Subject: RDBN Salvage and Re-Use Programs

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and Discuss.

**BACKGROUND**

The topic of re-use and salvage (ie. metal) has surfaced multiple times within Boardroom discussions over the years. Early in 2014-2016 there were various safety and logistical challenges with the re-use sheds. In 2017, the Board moved to adopt a ban on metal salvaging at the transfer stations with the addition of more re-use bays at all RDBN's public sites. Safety protocol for daily salvage of wood waste were created also in 2017. Many of these decisions were made based on safety concerns and reducing the RDBN's liability.

The re-use of materials and items is an important component of reducing waste and saving money for the end consumer. Although re-use and salvage is considered "delayed disposal", the consumption of salvaged material, rather than new goods, is a form of reduction, and thus helps to reduce overall waste generation. Especially with the current culture of consumerism and the rising costs of many goods, the Reduce and Re-use principles need to be encouraged and more widely practiced. Through the implementation of the RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan (2019) (SWMP). The RDBN is committed to promoting the waste reduction hierarchy, which is: prevention, reduction, re-use, recycle, recovery and residual. Re-use and salvage is an important component of reducing what goes into the landfill, and staff is continually working on methods of finding ways to give "new life" to old products.

One of the most significant actions taken was the aforementioned ban on metal salvaging, which increased public safety, reduced conflict and increased the revenue stream for recycled metal. In 2021, the topic of salvaging metal was brought forward, with a focus on the financial impacts (reduced revenue) of allowing the public to salvage. Staff was asked to provide potential options for public metal salvaging in the future. However, the topic of metal salvaging exists within the greater context of increasing overall salvage and re-use programs at RDBN Transfer Stations and will be addressed as such.

**CURRENT RE-USE AND SALVAGE OPTIONS**

Transfer Stations currently have options for public re-use or salvage of the following items or materials:

- Bicycles & Lawnmowers
- Windows & Doors
- Wood waste
- Re-use shed for household items

The following items/materials are salvaged by commercial handlers:

- Propane Bottles – Free
- 1 lb propane bottles – RDBN Expense
- Scrap Metal – RDBN Revenue
- Automotive Batteries – RDBN Revenue

The above lists do not include Recycling programs managed and funded by EPR or Stewardship programs.

## **FUTURE RE-USE OPTIONS**

Staff have determined that the most practical way of encouraging re-use at RDBN Transfer Stations is through the separation of Re-usable items and building materials, made available to the public.

When considering additions or changes to re-use programs, staff considers several factors including, cost, impact to site staff, site layout/dynamic, impacts to the public and management requirements. There must be clear benefit and minimal impact for a new program to be introduced.

Staff has developed several potential strategies to incorporate more re-use options at the RDBNs Transfer Stations based on the ‘re-usable item’ principle, as follows:

- 1) Establish additional re-use bays for items and materials considered to be re-useable. These will include:
  - a. Good building materials – tin roofing, intact lumber, insulation, fencing, etc.
  - b. Furniture - desks, sofas, tables, chairs, shelving, exercise equipment, etc
  - c. Re-useable metal items - metal drums, small motors, compressors, automotive parts, etc.
  - d. Miscellaneous – re-usable or repairable or highly sought-after items. Site staff will assist with facilitating this by using their discretion on what would be good and interesting to most.
- 2) Amend the Re-Use Shed acceptable items list to include CSA items like infant safety seats, cribs, strollers etc. The user will assume the risk for re-using these items
- 3) Designated Metal Salvage Area – the likely mechanism for this is the establishment of a day-drop area from which the public can salvage. This area would be cleared daily and added to the metal stockpile which would not be accessible to the public for safety reasons.
- 4) Instruct Site Attendants to not only inform the public and promote the re-use programs, but also to actively relocate re-useable items and material to the appropriate salvage bays, if dropped at a disposal location by the public.

The precise mechanisms for the above options have not been finalized and will likely require pilot initiatives to determine what challenges need to be addressed. Discussions with site staff and the public have revealed a willingness and desire for the above and staff is confident that they can be successful with appropriate planning. Initiatives for any of the above items or new options will be brought forward to the Committee before implementation.

## **CLOSURE**

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The potential new options for salvage and re-use are supported by the SWMP and are expected to be well utilized by the public if implemented.



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
MEMORANDUM**

To: Chair and Waste Management Committee

From: Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor

Date: June 16, 2022

Subject: Reusable Metal Salvage – Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee recommend that the Board approve the establishment of a reusable metal salvage pilot program at the Burns Lake Transfer Station.

**BACKGROUND**

At the March 17, 2022 Waste Management Committee meeting, Staff provided several potential operational site changes to increase re-use options at RDBN Transfer Stations. One of the initiatives was to try a 'daily' drop area for metal salvage. There was some apprehension from the committee to re-introduce the metal salvage concept due to the historical experiences the RDBN faced with the previous non-restricted salvage approach. The re-use of materials and items is an important component of reducing waste and saving money for residents, however, the potential loss of revenue for the RDBN from having our metal piles salvaged was a concern for the committee. Although this revenue is an important component of the funding model, the social aspect of re-usable materials persuaded most committee members to support staff efforts to explore the metal salvage option presented.

**PILOT PROGRAM CONCEPT**

Staff worked with site attendants to design a program that would provide respectful re-use options but also ensuring safety for staff and public. The focus of the program is to allow metal salvage for re-use and repair, not high-volume, or high value salvage. The goal for this pilot is to keep the development costs relatively low to allow management staff to truly assess the pilot programs progress over the next several months. The program should prevent high-volume salvage and be manageable for existing staff. The physical infrastructure needed for the program will be minimal and adjustable so the procedure can be refined as needed.

**Location**

Staff proposes to use Burns Lake Transfer Station for the pilot program, as it is close to management staff for monitoring purposes and is large enough to accommodate the public use area.

**Public Drop & Salvage Zone**

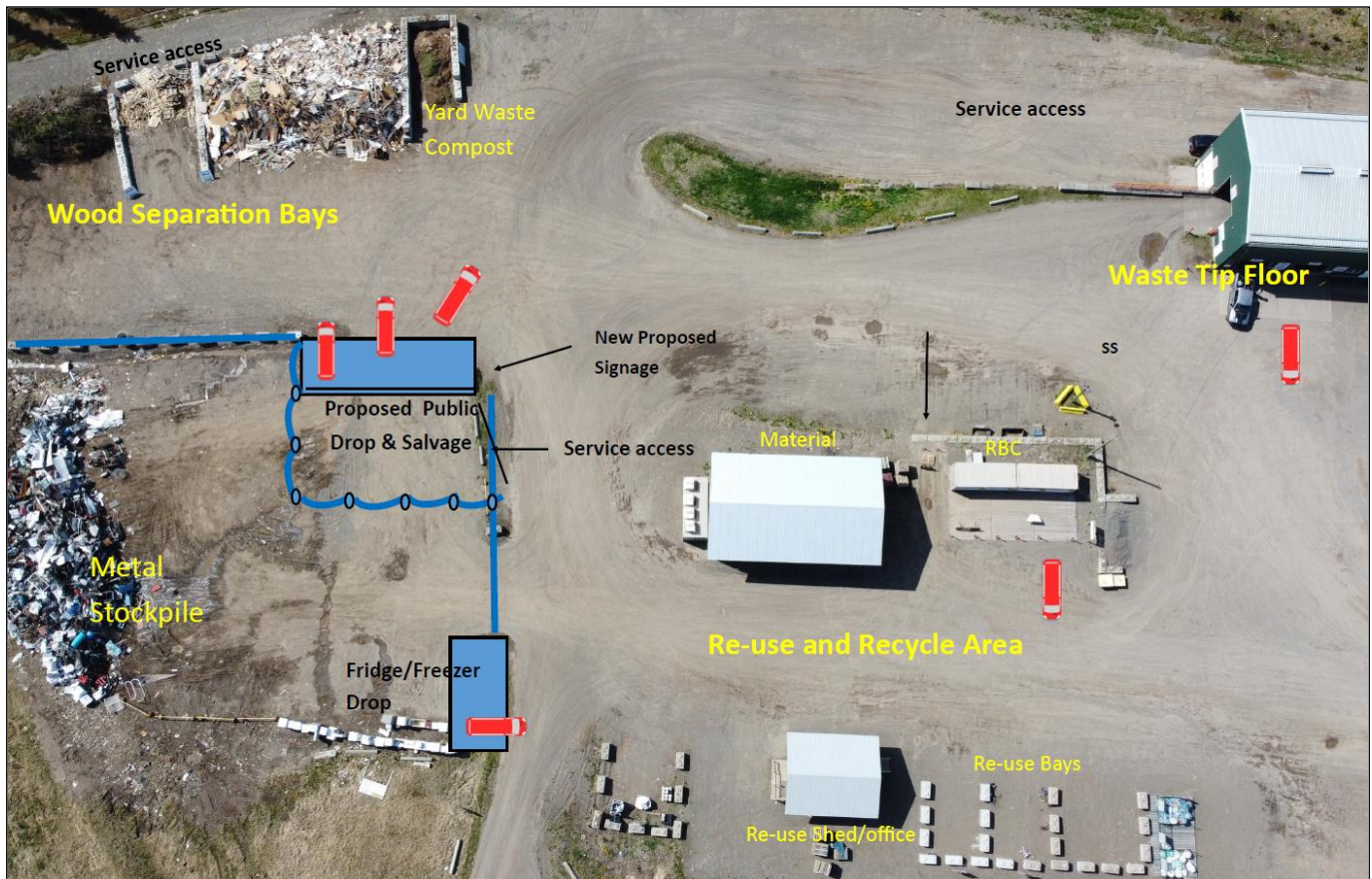
Staff will cordon off an area near the metal pile with portable barricades and signage that will be a barrier between the "Public Drop & Salvage" zone, and the "No-Public Access" zone (metal stockpile). Staff will monitor these zones but will allow the public to examine and salvage items that may be re-used for a project or repaired. Staff will inform people that high-volume or high-value salvage is not permitted.

The area chosen for the "Public Drop-off and Salvage" zone is in the line-of-sight from where attendants

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are mainly stationed. The dimensions of this zone will be based on the traffic and volumes of the metal at the site. As we do not want the public to crawl over or climb on the metal, the material in the zone will have to be kept to a safe height and dispersed appropriately. Rig-Mats will be placed at the public access point with rubber bumpers or curb stops to prevent vehicles from going too far into the zone. This will keep vehicles safe and minimize the impact to tires. Below is the concept layout for the Burns Lake Transfer Station.



Once the “Public Drop & Salvage” zone is full and/or the inventory is stagnant, staff will remove barriers and push metal material into the metal stockpile in the “No-Public-Access” zone, clearing the “Public Drop & Salvage” zone. Modifications to the plan might be needed to re-define and delineate the area should the public breach their zone. The intent is to keep the zones flexible to grow and shape as needed.

Staff will encourage the public to drop off specific re-useable items such as intact metal drums, small motors, compressors, automotive parts, tin roofing and fencing material etc. to the “Reusable Items” bay that is situated with the other Re-use bays. Staff will facilitate this by moving appropriate items to the “Re-useable items” bay if found. The “Re-useable Items” bay will be monitored and periodically cleaned up if the inventory is stagnant. The “Re-useable Items” bay has been tested at the Burns Lake Transfer Station for over approximately one year and has proven to be a successful initiative for re-use.

### Enforcement

Site staff will be provided additional training and suggested speaking-notes on ways to educate and



engage the public, encourage the safe and proper use of the program and to disengage if there is conflict. All program rules and procedures will be posted with clear signage and info boards at the “Public Drop & Salvage” zone. It has been recognized that allowing the opportunity to salvage metal for reuse and repair, will likely minimize some public confrontations over metal salvaging, but it is not expected to eliminate conflict.

### **Evaluating the Success of the Pilot**

There are several factors that will determine if the program is successful and practical to replicate at other transfer stations. These are:

- 1) **Public Perception:** Does the public use and value the ability to salvage re-usable metal items?
- 2) **Safety:** Is the program providing a safe place and procedure for the public to drop-off and salvage metal items and for staff to manage the program?
- 3) **Site operations:** Are the new zones interfering with site operations or obstructing other areas of the site?
- 4) **Enforcement:** Are the rules and procedures of the program being followed by the public with minimal conflict?
- 5) **Staff Capacity:** Is site and management staff utilizing excessive time managing the program properly, educating the public, dealing with conflict, or adjusting existing operational procedures to accommodate?

The assessment period for the program will be the remainder of 2022. If adjustments to the program are made to address issues that arise, the assessment period can be extended to evaluate the changes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janette Derksen  
Waste Diversion Supervisor

Attachments: None





## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Committee Meeting Recommendations – April 6, 2023

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

Recommendation 1 through 3 as written.

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### BACKGROUND

The following are the recommendations from the April 6, 2023 Committee Meetings for the Regional Board's consideration and approval.

#### Committee of the Whole – April 6, 2023

##### Recommendation 1:

**Re:** Code of Conduct

"That the Board adopt the revised Code of Conduct."

##### Recommendation 2:

**Re:** *Accessibility Act* Timeline

"That the Board direct staff to pursue Joint- Committee establishment with interested partners within the region; and further, that Section 10 of the Draft Terms of Reference be amended replacing Committee Chair with Board Chair."

#### Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting – April 6, 2023

##### Recommendation 3:

**Re:** Rural Bursary Policy Discussion

"That the Board direct staff to draft a Rural Bursary Policy and budget options to be brought forward for the Committee's consideration."

### ATTACHMENTS:

None





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## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board Meeting

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Updating Chinook Community Forest Partnership Agreement

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

That the Board approve the third amended and restated shareholders agreement for Chinook Community Limited Partnership Agreement and the Shareholder Resolution for Chinook Comfor Limited

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### BACKGROUND

#### Discussion

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako owns 894 shares of Chinook Comfor Limited on behalf of Electoral Area "B" and Electoral Area "E".

The purpose of the proposed amendment is to remove the need for each shareholder, including the Regional District, to approve the annual community forest budget.

The Board appoints two members of the community to be directors to the "operating" board of the community forest to review and approve operational decisions and act in the interest of the Regional District. The current appointed directors are Cindy Shelford (for Area "B") and Greg Hill (for Area "E").

The Shareholders Resolution formalizes the appointments of the directors to the Chinook Comfor Limited Board.

#### Attachments:

Chinook Shareholder Agreement  
Chinook Comfor Limited Shareholder Resolution

**THIRD AMENDED AND RESTATED  
SHAREHOLDERS' AGREEMENT**

THIS THIRD AMENDED AND RESTATED SHAREHOLDERS' AGREEMENT made effective as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ .

AMONG:

Yinka Dene Economic Development Limited Partnership  
("Wet'suwet'en Co.")

OF THE FIRST PART

AND:

Hunust' ot' en Investment Corp.  
("Nee Tahi Buhn Co.")

OF THE SECOND PART

AND:

Natanlii Developments Ltd.  
("Skin Tyee Co.")

OF THE THIRD PART

AND:

Noot'senay Enterprises Limited Partnership  
("Cheslatta Co.")

OF THE FOURTH PART

AND:

Lake Babine Nation Forestry Ltd.  
("Lake Babine Co.")

OF THE FIFTH PART

AND:

Ts'il Kaz Koh Development Limited Partnership  
(hereinafter called "Burns Lake Co.")

OF THE SIXTH PART

AND:

The Village of Burns Lake  
("Village")

OF THE SEVENTH PART

AND:

Regional District of Bulkley Nechako  
("Bulkley Nechako")

OF THE EIGHT PART

AND:

**Chinook Comfor Limited**, a company incorporated under the laws of the Province of British Columbia, Incorporation number: BC107018, having an office at 47805 Olson Road, Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E4  
(hereinafter called the "Company")

OF THE NINTH PART

**WHEREAS:**

A. Wet'suwet'en Co., Nee Tahi Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co., Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co., Village and Bulkley Nechako are the shareholders of the Company;

B. On July 15, 2019 the parties hereto agreed to the Second Amended and Restated Shareholders' Agreement to amend section 3.4(b) to require a quorum of seven (7) Shareholders to transact business at a meeting of the Shareholders; and

C. The parties now hereto wish to amend the Second Amended and Restated Shareholders' Agreement by deleting subsection 3.6(h) regarding the adoption of the annual Company budgets.

**NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSES** that in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants set forth in this Agreement, each of the parties agrees with the others as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS**

- 1.1 In this Agreement, the following words and phrases, unless there is something in the context inconsistent with them, will have the following meanings:
- (a) **"Act"** means the *Business Corporations Act* of British Columbia, as amended, or replacement legislation for such act;
  - (b) **"Articles"** means the articles of the Company as may be amended from time to time;
  - (c) **"Associate"** means, as to any party herein, any corporation that directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries controls, is controlled by or is under common control with such other person and for these purposes the term **"control"** means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to control the voting rights of fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the issued capital of a corporation or the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise;
  - (d) **"Auditors"** means the auditors of the Company from time to time or where the Company does not have auditors, its independent accountant;
  - (e) **"Bank"** means the banker of the Company from time to time;
  - (f) **"Board"** means the board of directors of the Company;
  - (g) **"Default"** has the meaning set out in section 6.1;
  - (h) **"Defaulting Shareholder"** has the meaning set out in section 6.1;
  - (i) **"Limited Partners"** means Wet'suwet'en First Nation, Nee Tahi Buhn First Nation, Skin Tyee First Nation, Cheslatta Carrier First Nation, Lake Babine First Nation, Burns Lake Band, Village of Burns Lake, Bulkley Nechako, and means any one of them;
  - (j) **"Limited Partnership"** means the Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership;

- (k) **“Limited Partnership Agreement”** means the limited partnership agreement dated for reference April 1, 2016, which creates and governs the Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership, and all amendments to such agreement;
- (l) **“Non-defaulting Shareholder”** individually and the **“Non-defaulting Shareholders”** collectively have the meaning set out in subsection 6.1(a);
- (m) **“Prime Rate”** means the floating rate of interest charged by the Bank in accordance with prevailing market conditions on short-term loans and designated as such by the Bank from time to time;
- (n) **“Secretary”** means the secretary of the Company;
- (o) **“Shareholders”** means Wet’suwet’en Co., Nee Tahi Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co., Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co., Village and Bulkley Nechako, and their permitted assigns and **“Shareholder”** means any one of them; and
- (p) **“Shares”** means at the relevant time the common shares in the capital of the Company issued and outstanding.

## **ARTICLE 2 INTERPRETATION**

- 2.1 This Agreement will in all respects be governed by and be construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia and the parties to this Agreement submit and attorn to the jurisdiction of the courts of the Province of British Columbia.
- 2.2 If a provision contained in this Agreement is invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect in any jurisdiction, the validity, legality and enforceability of such provision is not in any way affected or impaired in any other jurisdiction and the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained in this Agreement will not in any way be affected or impaired.
- 2.3 Wherever the singular is used in this Agreement, it is deemed to include the plural or the body politic or corporate where the context or the parties so require.
- 2.4 The headings of the sections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the construction of this Agreement.
- 2.5 A reference to this Agreement to a numbered or lettered section, or clause refers to the section, section or clause bearing that number or letter in this Agreement, unless otherwise stated.
- 2.6 All accounting terms not defined in this Agreement have those meanings generally ascribed to them in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applied consistently.
- 2.7 In the event of any conflict between this Agreement and the Articles, the terms of this Agreement will prevail and the Shareholders will vote their Shares to amend the Articles so that the Articles will conform with this Agreement. Upon execution of this Agreement, the Shareholders will cause the Articles to be amended to reflect the terms of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 3**  
**CONDUCT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMPANY**

- 3.1 The Shareholders will vote their Shares so that the Board is comprised of nine directors and so that one nominee of each of the Wet'suwet'en Co., Nee Tahí Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co., Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co., Village Shareholders and two nominees from the Bulkley Nechako shareholders (one to be appointed from Area B and one to be appointed from Area E) are directors of the Company. If a position on the Board is open for any reason, the Shareholder whose nominee formerly occupied such position is entitled to nominate a new director to fill the vacancy.
- 3.2 If a nominee to the Board of one of the Shareholders fails to vote and act as a director to carry out the provisions of this Agreement, the Shareholders will exercise their right as shareholders of the Company and in accordance with the Articles to remove such nominee from the Board and to elect in his or her place an individual nominated by the Shareholder whose nominee was removed.
- 3.3 The conduct of the business of the Company shall be governed in accordance with the Articles, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.
- 3.4 (a) The quorum required for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Board is **six (6) out of nine (9) directors**, comprising of at least four (4) of the nominees of each of Wet'suwet'en Co., Nee Tahí Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co., Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co., and two of the nominees of the Village of Burns Lake and Bulkley Nechako, subject to subsection 3.5;
- (b) The quorum required for the transaction of business at a meeting of Shareholders is seven (7) Shareholders in person or by proxy.
- 3.5 If a quorum is not present within one-half hour from the time set for a meeting of the Board, the meeting will be adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, and, if at the first adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within one-half hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned once more to the same day in the following week, at the same time and place, and if at the second adjourned meeting a quorum is still not present within one-half hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a majority of directors or their alternates will constitute a quorum;
- 3.6 Notwithstanding section 3.5, the following matters will only be undertaken upon the written consent of a least 4 of the shareholders of each of Wet'suwet'en Co, Nee Tahí Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co. Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co. and at least one of either Bulkley-Nechako or the Village (and the consent of each such shareholder must be signified by the written consent of all of the authorized signatories of the shareholder):
- (a) the undertaking by the Limited Partnership of any new business or project;
- (b) incurring by the Company on its own behalf or on behalf of the Limited Partnership of any capital commitment (including the purchase of any fixed asset) in excess of \$1,000,000.00 in respect of any one transaction;
- (c) entering into any contracts which have as a term (including any renewal or extension terms permitted under the contract), exceeding two years or requires

payment by the Company of an amount in excess of Four Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,500,000.00);

- (d) acquiring or disposing of any interest in any other corporation or partnership or entering into any joint venture or partnership with any other corporation or person;
  - (e) lending or providing any guarantee in respect of any amount whatsoever including, without limitation, a loan by the Limited Partnership to any person;
  - (f) increasing, reducing or cancelling the authorized or issued share capital of the Company or issuing or granting any option over the unissued share capital of the Company; and
  - (g) issuing any shares of any class in the capital of the Company (except for an issue of shares made pursuant to this Agreement).
- 3.7 Notwithstanding section 3.5, the following matters will only be undertaken upon the written consent of all of the shareholders:
- (a) disposing of any land or improvements of the Company or any other significant asset of the Company or the Company (other than in the normal course of business); and
  - (b) selling or disposing of the whole or a substantial part of the undertaking and goodwill or the assets of the Company or the Limited Partnership.

#### **ARTICLE 4 FINANCING AND SHAREHOLDERS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

- 4.1 Initially the subscribed capital of the Company is:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>COMMON SHARES</b>
Wet'suwet'en Co.	1415
Nee Tahi Buhn Co.	1415
Skin Tyee Co.	1415
Cheslatta Co.	1415
Lake Babine Co.	1415
Burns Lake Co.	1415
Village	596
Regional District	894

- 4.2 Funds required from time to time by the Company will be obtained, to the greatest extent possible, by borrowing from a chartered bank or other institutional lender.
- 4.3 No Shareholder is obliged to enter into any agreement of guarantee with respect to the indebtedness of the Company or to pledge his or her credit on behalf of the Company, except with the unanimous agreement of the Shareholders, and unless it is agreed in writing by all the Shareholders to make further loans to the Company, the sole financial obligation of a Shareholder is as set out in section 4.1. Any guarantees or additional Shareholder's loans will be borne by the Shareholders pro rata in proportion to the

shareholdings of Common shares in the Company, and if any of the Shareholders discharges any liabilities of the Company either directly or pursuant to a guarantee given under this section, the Shareholder discharging the liabilities has the right to be reimbursed by the Shareholders not so contributing so that in the end each of the Shareholders will have contributed in proportion to his or her pro rata shareholdings of Common shares.

## **ARTICLE 5 RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER**

- 5.1 No Shareholder may sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of, or offer to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of, any of his or her Shares unless agreed to in writing by all Shareholders, or expressly permitted pursuant to this Agreement.
- 5.2 If any Limited Partner transfers or assigns their interest in the Limited Partnership, (called a **“Transfer of Partnership Interest”**), in a manner permitted pursuant to the Limited Partnership Agreement, then the Limited Partner, shall concurrently transfer and assign its Shares (or if a portion only of its Limited Partnership interest is transferred and assigned, an equivalent portion of its Shares), without payment of any consideration for such Shares, to the assignee of the Limited Partnership interest and the parties hereto consent to such transfer and assignment of Shares.
- 5.3 Upon execution of this Agreement, the Shareholders will surrender to the Company and the Company will legibly stamp or endorse upon each certificate representing the Shares a statement as follows:

“The shares represented by this certificate are transferable only in compliance with and pursuant to the terms of an agreement among Wet’suwet’en Co., Nee Tahi Buhn Co., Skin Tyee Co., Cheslatta Co., Lake Babine Co., Burns Lake Co., Village of Burns Lake and Bulkley Nechako Regional District and the Company.”

## **ARTICLE 6 DEFAULT**

- 6.1 An event of default (a **“Default”**) arises if a Shareholder (the **“Defaulting Shareholder”**):
- (a) fails to observe, perform or carry out any of its obligations under this Agreement and such failure continues for thirty (30) days after any Shareholder not in default (the **“Non-defaulting Shareholder”** individually and the **“Non-defaulting Shareholders”**, collectively) has in writing demanded that such failure be cured;
  - (b) fails to take reasonable actions to prevent or defend assiduously, any action or proceeding, seizure, execution or attachment or which claims possession, sale, foreclosure, the appointment of a receiver or receiver-manager of its assets, or forfeiture of any of the Shares of the Defaulting Shareholder, and such failure continues for thirty (30) days after a Non-defaulting Shareholder has in writing demanded that such actions be taken or the Defaulting Shareholder fails to defend successfully any such action or proceeding; or

- (c) becomes a bankrupt or commits an act of bankruptcy or if a receiver or receiver-manager of its assets is appointed or makes any assignment for the benefit of creditors or otherwise.
- 6.2 If a Default occurs under section 6.1, the Non-defaulting Shareholder(s) may:
- (a) pursue any remedy available in law or in equity, each Shareholder acknowledging that specific performance, injunctive relief (mandatory or otherwise) or other equitable relief may be the only adequate remedy for a Default;
  - (b) take all actions in its own name or in the name of the Defaulting Shareholder, the Shareholders or the Company as may reasonably be required to cure the Default, and all payments, costs and expenses incurred by the Non-defaulting Shareholder(s) will be payable by the Defaulting Shareholder to the Non-defaulting Shareholder(s) on demand with interest as provided in section 7.1; and
  - (c) waive the Default provided that any waiver of a particular Default shall not operate as a waiver of any subsequent or continuing Default.

## **ARTICLE 7 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 7.1 If a Shareholder is required by this Agreement to pay monies to the other Shareholders such monies will bear interest at the Prime Rate (at the time the monies became payable) plus two percent (2%) per annum calculated and paid monthly until repayment in full of the monies owed.
- 7.2 This Agreement terminates:
- (a) if the Company:
    - (i) has a receiving order made against it;
    - (ii) goes into bankruptcy either voluntarily or involuntarily; or
    - (iii) makes a proposal to its creditors; or
  - (b) if the Shareholders and the Company consent in writing to the termination.
- 7.3 A Shareholder who has disposed of all of his or her Shares in compliance with the provisions of this Agreement is entitled to the benefit of and is bound by only the rights and obligations which arose under this Agreement prior to such disposition.
- 7.4 The Shareholders and the Company will execute such further assurances and other documents and instruments and do such further and other things as may be necessary to implement and carry out the intent of this Agreement.
- 7.5 The provisions of this Agreement constitute the entire agreement among the Shareholders, and among the Shareholders and the Company, and supersedes all previous expectations, understandings, communications, representations and agreements whether verbal or written among the Shareholders, or among the Shareholders and the Company, with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.



7.6 Any notice required to be given under this Agreement by any party will be deemed to have been given if faxed to, or delivered at, the address of the other parties as follows:

(a) If to Wet'suwet'en Co.: Box 760  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) If to Nee Tahi Buhn Co: 47805 Olson Road  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(c) If to Skin Tyee Co.: Box 131  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 2P0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(d) If to Cheslatta Co.: Box 909  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(e) If to Lake Babine Co: Box 879  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(f) If to Burns Lake Co.: Box 9000  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(g) If to Village of Burns Lake: 15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Box 570  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(h) If to Regional District of Bulkley Nechako:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

(i) If to the Company:

CHINOOK COMFOR LIMITED  
47805 Olson Road  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E4

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

or at such other address as the other parties to this Agreement may from time to time direct in writing, and any such notice is deemed to have been received, if faxed, forty-eight

(48) hours after the time of faxing and, if delivered, upon the date of delivery. If normal fax service is interrupted by any cause, the party sending the notice will utilize such other service as is not interrupted or will deliver the notice.

- 7.7 No Shareholder shall disclose any confidential information relating to the other Shareholders' finances and business affairs unless such information is in the public domain or was disclosed to the first-mentioned Shareholder by a third party under no confidential obligation to that Shareholder to whom the information relates, or such disclosure is required by law, governmental or regulatory body's rules, or such disclosure is given in connection with mediation or legal proceedings in respect of this Agreement.
- 7.8 Time is of the essence of this Agreement.
- 7.9 This Agreement enures to the benefit of and is binding upon the Shareholders and the Company and their respective personal representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns.
- 7.10 This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia.
- 7.11 This Agreement may be executed and transmitted by facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic means, and in as many counterparts as may be necessary, each of which so signed and transmitted shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts together shall constitute one and the same original instrument and notwithstanding the date of execution shall be deemed to bear the date written on page 1.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties to this Agreement have executed this Agreement.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of  
**Chinook Comfor Limited**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

[Signatures continue on following page]

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
**Yinka Dene Economic Development Limited Partnership** by the authorized signatory(ies) of its general partner

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of  
**Hunust'ot'en Investment Corp.**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of  
**Natanlii Developments Ltd.**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

[Signatures continue on following page]

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
**Noot'senay Enterprises Limited Partnership**  
by authorized signatory(ies) of its general partner  
Noot'senay Enterprises Ltd.

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of  
**Lake Babine Nation Forestry Ltd.**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
**Ts'il Kaz Koh Development Limited Partnership**  
by the authorized signatory(ies) of its general partner  
Ts'il Kaz Koh Development Corporation

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_

[Signatures continue on following page]

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of **Village of Burns Lake**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by the  
authorized signatory(ies) of  
**Regional District of Bulkley Nechako**

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHAREHOLDERS' RESOLUTIONS OF  
CHINOOK COMFOR LIMITED (the "Company")**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. A resignation as director has been received from Miles Fuller as the representative of Regional District Area E as at July 12, 2022;
- B. Greg Hill has consented in writing to act as a director of the Company as the representative of Regional District Area E as at July 12, 2022;
- C. A resignation as director has been received from James Rakochy as the representative of the Cheslatta First Nation;
- D. Miles Fuller has consented in writing to act as a director of the Company as the representative of Cheslatta First Nation;
- E. The Shareholders have determined that it is in the best interests of the Company to amend the Second Amended and Restated Shareholder's Agreement dated July 15, 2019 by deleting subsection 3.6(h) and approve the Third Amended and Restated Shareholders' Agreement as attached as Schedule "A"; and
- F. A Burns Lake Band Council Resolution has been passed on January 26, 2023 removing their nominee director, Robert Charlie, and replacing him with Ryan Tibbett as director of the Company; and
- G. Ryan Tibbett has consented in writing to act as a director of the Company as the representative of Ts'il Kaz Koh Development Limited Partnership.

**RESOLVED, AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION, THAT:**

- 1. Robert Charlie be removed as a director of the Company effective January 26, 2023.

**RESOLVED THAT:**

- 2. The resignations of Miles Fuller and James Rakochy be confirmed.
- 3. The following persons be appointed as directors of the Company to hold office until the next annual reference date of the Company, or until such persons cease to hold office if sooner:  
  
Greg Hill – July 12, 2022  
  
Miles Fuller – December 13, 2022
- 4. Ryan Tibbett be appointed as a director as at January 26, 2023.
- 5. The Third Amended and Restated Shareholders' Agreement be approved.

6. These resolutions may be executed and transmitted by facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic means, and in as many counterparts as may be necessary, each of which so signed and transmitted shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts together shall constitute one and the same original instrument and notwithstanding the date of execution shall be deemed to bear the date of January 26, 2023.

**YINKA DENE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,**  
by the authorized signatory(ies) of its general partner:

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**HUNUST' OT' EN INVESTMENT CORP.,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies):

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATANLII DEVELOPMENTS LTD.,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies):

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

[signatures continue on following page]

**NOOT'SENAY ENTERPRISES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,**  
by the authorized signatory(ies) of its general Partner,  
Noot'senay Enterprises Ltd.:

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**LAKE BABINE NATION FORESTRY LTD.,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies):

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**TS'IL KAZ KOH DEVELOPMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies) of its general partner,  
Ts'il Kaz Koh Development Corporation:

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

[signatures continue on following page]



**THE VILLAGE OF BURNS LAKE,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies):

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

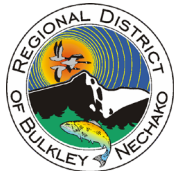
**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY NECHAKO,**  
by its authorized signatory(ies):

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair Parker and the Board of Directors  
**From:** Sashka Macievich, Controller  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Pool Filter Replacement – BV Regional Pool & Recreation Centre

---

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

That the Board approves the removal and replacement of the sand filters by DB Perks & Associates Ltd. for the BV Regional Pool & Recreation Centre in the amount of \$183,529.

---

### BACKGROUND

The Regional District issued a Request for Proposal on March 6, 2023, for the removal and replacement of three existing sand filters at the BV Regional Pool & Recreation Centre located in Smithers, with a closing date of March 31, 2023. The current filters were installed in November 2006 (Hot Tub) and May 2007 (Main Pool and Tot Pool).

Two vendors responded to the Request for Proposal; DB Perks & Associates Ltd, and Jet Controls Corp. The Proposal from Jet Controls Corp. has been disqualified as it is incomplete and missing significant mandatory requirements of the proposal.

DB Perks has provided a comprehensive proposal with detailed specifications and provided references from several municipal aquatic centres. The primary contractor holds factory certification from the supplier and is authorized in commissioning and startup.

The Bulkley Valley Aquatic Centre Management Society Board of Directors has passed a motion recommending that the pool filter replacement RFP be awarded to DB Perks & Associates Ltd for \$183,529. The BV Regional Pool & Recreation Centre Capital Budget will provide funds for this project.

Due to the current build time of 14-16 weeks for the filters, staff would like to move ahead on this project as soon as possible.



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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:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** **Grant in Aid for Areas B (Burns Lake Rural) and E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) – Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association**

---

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

That the Board approve allocating \$4,500 in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Grant in Aid monies (\$2,250 each) to the Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association for equipment for the 2023 season.

---

**BACKGROUND**

Please see the attached application for further detail.

The Grant in Aid Balance for Area B is \$23,528

The Grant in Aid Balance for Area E is \$15,990

Directors Michael Riis-Christianson and Clint Lambert are supportive of the application.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1) Grant in Aid Application Form
- 2) Supporting Quote

**From:** [website@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:website@rdbn.bc.ca)  
**To:** [Nellie Davis](#); [andy@abcweblink.ca](mailto:andy@abcweblink.ca)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: [POSSIBLE SPAM] Website Form Submission – Online Grant in Aid Application Form  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 2:18:58 PM  
**Importance:** Low

---

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.

There has been a submission of the form Online Grant in Aid Application Form through your concrete5 website.

Organization Legal Name:

Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association

Organization Mailing Address:

23524 Ager rd, Burns Lake BC, V0J1E2

Contact Name:

Naomi Hanson

Contact Email Address:

[naomileehan@gmail.com](mailto:naomileehan@gmail.com)

Contact Phone Number:

2506956909

Contact Name:

Johanna Hayes

Contact Phone Number:

Contact Email Address:

president.blysa@gmail.com

Project or purpose for which you require assistance:

Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association is looking to purchase 2 more large nets for the LDSS Soccer field. Purchasing these nets is necessary, since our club has been selected to hosting the 2023 Divisional tournament for U12-U15 players from Burns Lake, Fraser Lake, Fort St James and Vanderhoof. It is important to be able to conduct 2 games at once to make the tournament run smoothly and enjoyably for everyone.

Amount of Grant Requested:

4500

To the best of my knowledge, all of the information that is provided in this application is true and correct. Furthermore, I hereby certify that this application for assistance is NOT being made on behalf of an individual, industry, commercial or business:

Yes

Please describe the services/benefits that your organization provides to the community. Are these services/benefits available to the community from another organization or agency?:

Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association, provides an 8 to 9 week soccer program to players from ages 3 to 18. BLYSA has been operating since 2007. We are the only community soccer association in Burns Lake.

Which RDBN electoral area(s) receive services or benefits from your organization?:

Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)

Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)

Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)

Is your organization voluntary and non-profit?:

Yes

Please detail any remuneration paid, or funds otherwise made available to members, officers, etc. of your organization.:

Please comment on the number of members/volunteers in your organization and how long your organization has been in operation.:

BLYSA has been in operation since 2007. We currently have 3 executive members and 3 directors.

Assistance is being requested for::

Capital project and/or equipment

Other Purpose:

Please describe the project/event for which you are requesting assistance. If you are applying for an exemption from fees and/or charges or other consideration, please provide details of your request here. Attach additional information if required.:

We are requesting monetary support for the purchasing of nets, that will allow us to host divisional tournaments. In previous years only Fraser lake and Vanderhoof have had the field space and equipment to host such tournaments. However after a meeting that was held March 9th 2023 via zoom, neither towns were available to host the tournament due to grad weekends, and so the decision was made that no tournament would happen this season. Our Association was not happy with this decision and so we made the choice to host the tournament ourselves and get the gear required to do so. Please see the attached invoice for said nets from Forza

Describe how this proposal will benefit the community.:

This project will benefit the community in lots of different ways. Hosting tournaments brings an influx of 400 players and family members to our little town, which usually means some additional spending in our local businesses. As well our nets are set up on the CNC and LDSS field, year round for everyone to enjoy. I have seen our nets used by the special olympics this last winter, as well as fire fighters, and local kids enjoy playing at the field even when our soccer season is not running. LDSS the highschool uses our nets for in class PE time, as well as for the highschool boys/girls soccer teams use our nets.

Attach supporting financial information, ie: budget/financial report. Ensure all information is clearly itemized, including: total cost of project, grants/funding from other sources, funding contributed by applicant, total expenses for the fiscal year.:

6858

Have you applied for a grant/funding from other source(s)?:

Yes - please provide information below

Name of Grant or Funding Agency:

Babine forest products

Amount applied for:

1000

Status of application:

Approved

Name of Grant or Funding Agency:

Four River Co-op

Amount applied for:

1000



Status of application:

Approved

Name of Grant or Funding Agency:

LDM, garbage pickup, our club has signed on to do

Amount applied for:

880

Status of application:

Approved

Has the organization received assistance (grant in aid/waiving of fees, etc.), from the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako in previous years?:

Unknown

If yes, please provide the year, the amount, and the purpose for the assistance.:

Does your Organization: (Please check all that apply):

Offer direct financial assistance to individuals or families?

To view all of this form's submissions, visit <https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms/view/2315>

**NET WORLD SPORTS** **Sales Quote****Bill-to Address**

Naomi Hanson  
635 Hwy 16 w  
Burns Lake, British Columbia V0J1E0  
Canada

**Ship-to Address**

Naomi Hanson  
635 Hwy 16 w  
Burns Lake, British Columbia V0J1E0  
Canada

Net World Sports  
Bryn Lane  
Wrexham Industrial Estate  
Wrexham, LL13 9UT

Bill-to Customer No. C01834186  
Quote No. Q00040942  
Document Date 17. March 2023  
Shipment Date 17/03/23  
Payment Terms Net 0 days  
Payment Discount

Phone No. 01691 683807  
Website [www.networldsports.co.uk](http://www.networldsports.co.uk)  
E-Mail [sales@networldsports.com](mailto:sales@networldsports.com)  
VAT Registration No.  
Bank HSBC Canada  
Bank Sort Code HKBCCATT  
Account No. 002-818116-001  
Salesperson Mathew Jones

Shipment Method  
Prices Including VAT No

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Discount %</b>	<b>Amount</b>
SC45160	24x8 Alu110 F/S w/360 Wheels - PAIR	1	Piece	5,279.99		5,279.99
SC45356	FORZA Pod Goal 4 x 2.5 with Carry Bag	4	Piece	219.99		879.96
SHIPPING	Shipping Charges	1	Piece	1,350.00		1,350.00
<b>Total CAD</b>						<b>7,509.95</b>



## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** **Canada Community-Building Fund BC - Area C (Fort St. James Rural) Charge North Level 2 Charging Network Project**

---

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

- 1) That the Board authorize contributing up to \$5,000 of Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) Canada Community-Building Fund BC allocation monies to a Community Energy Systems project, and further,

**(participants/weighted/majority)**

- 2) That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$5,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.

---

### BACKGROUND

As outlined in the Charge North Budget Update received by the Board at the March 23, 2023, meeting, Director Judy Greenaway wishes to submit her interest for one (1) EV charging site in Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) and commit the required \$5,000 through Canada Community Building Funds. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure is listed as an eligible expense in the Community Energy Systems category.

Installation is conditional to confirming access to a suitable location and adequate power supply.

Total uncommitted Canada Community-Building Fund BC funds remaining in the Electoral Area C allocation is \$264,637.

Director Judy Greenaway is supportive of this project and of accessing Canada Community-Building BC funds in the amount of up to \$5,000 from Area C for this Community Energy Systems project.

A Board resolution is required to contribute Canada Community-Building BC Funds to this project.



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## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Shari Janzen, Economic Development Assistant  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** **Community Futures Nadina – Letter of Support Request**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**(all/directors/majority)**

That the Board provide a Letter of Support to Community Futures Nadina to be used for its funding application to the Rural Business and Community Recovery Regional Business Liaison program through Northern Development.

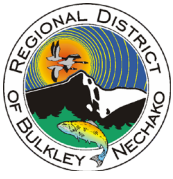
---

### **BACKGROUND**

Community Futures Nadina is applying to the Rural Business and Community Recovery Regional Business Liaison program administered by Northern Development. This program provides funding for a Regional Business Liaison to support economic re-development for rural businesses and communities impacted by forest policy changes and other impacts to the forest sector.

The Community Futures Nadina Regional Business Liaison position will support individuals, businesses, Indigenous-owned businesses, non-profits, and municipalities in the Bulkley Valley and Lakes District regions who require business start-up/expansion, mitigation, recovery, transitioning and general support.

Community Futures Nadina serviced the area with a similar Regional Business Liaison position during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



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## Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board Meeting

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Lakes Resiliency Project

---

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

Receipt

---

### BACKGROUND

#### Discussion

The province has completed a draft of the Current Condition Report for the Lakes Resiliency Project. The report outlines the current condition of the forested ecosystem in the Lakes Timber Supply Area that includes the Village of Burns Lake, Electoral Area "B" and Electoral Area "E".

The province is seeking public feedback on this updated inventory and condition report. Once the condition report is complete, the information the report contains will drive the creation of a forest landscape plan. It is the Forest Landscape Plan that will impact natural resource management in the Lakes Timber Supply Area.

Public feedback on the draft report will be collected by the province until May 22, 2023. Staff will bring back this report at the May committee meeting for discussion in order to collect information from the Directors to provide the Board's feedback to the province before the May 22, 2023 deadline.

#### Attachments:

[Draft Current Condition Assessment for the Lakes Resiliency Project \*via link\*](#)



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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Board of Directors

**To:** Chair and Board  
**From:** Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
**Date:** April 20, 2023  
**Subject:** Departmental Quarterly Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

---

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

Receive.

---

**BACKGROUND**

Departmental Quarterly Reports for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2023 have been prepared to keep the Board apprised of the status of strategic priorities, departmental work plans, and normal operations.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Administration Quarterly Report
2. Finance Quarterly Report
3. Protective Services Quarterly Report
4. Planning Quarterly Report
5. Environmental Services Quarterly Report



# Administration

January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023



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## Staffing

Fulltime permanent:

Curtis Helgesen, CAO

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Administration Clerk – Danielle Sapach

Justin Greer, First Nations Liaison

Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development

Shari Janzen, Economic Development Assistant

Cameron Hart, Economic Development Assistant

## Strategic Priorities

The following were identified as the Board's top priorities at its Strategic Planning Session in 2019.

2019 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES CHART	
NOW	
<b>Wildfires/Emergency Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Public Safety               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2019 preparation</li> <li>○ Plan/proposal to address resource requirements</li> <li>○ After action report</li> <li>○ Policy changes</li> <li>○ Advocacy for change</li> <li>○ Process for information exchange</li> <li>○ Strategy for public communication</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Revenue Sharing (Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA))</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Keep revenue from resource extraction in the region to create livable and sustainable communities               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Livability/sustainability plan for the Province</li> <li>○ Negotiate and ink a deal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Resident Attraction/Retention (Workforce, skilled, professionals) (Board requested this heading be changed to Housing Strategy at the July 8, 2021 Strategic Planning Session)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improve quality of life for residents               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Economic Development Plan</li> <li>○ Healthcare advocacy</li> <li>○ Parks and Recreation</li> <li>○ Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>○ Education Advocacy</li> <li>○ Bulkley-Nechako Workforce Opportunity Table (BNWOT)</li> <li>○ Connectivity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Work Camp Strategy</b>	
<b>Public Engagement – Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Timely</li> <li>➤ Concise</li> <li>➤ Internal/external</li> </ul>
<b>First Nations Partnerships/Relationships</b>	

Administration

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

<b>NEXT</b>		
	<b>Infrastructure</b>	Ongoing operating costs
	<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	(see Cariboo for example)
	<b>Economic Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Define</li> <li>- Project based</li> <li>- Bring opportunities</li> <li>- Promote further processing</li> </ul>
<b>BOARD ADVOCACY</b>		
1.	<b>Healthcare</b>	
2.	<b>Forestry</b>	
3.	<b>Connectivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Broadband "big data"</li> <li>- Cell</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Species At Risk</b>	
5.	<b>Water Management</b>	<b>Environmental Impacts</b> <b>Climate Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cumulative impacts</li> </ul>
6.	<b>Rail Safety</b>	
7.	<b>Three Phase Power</b>	
<b>OPERATIONAL/Committee of the Whole</b>		
	<b>Waste Management</b>	
	<b>Agriculture</b>	
	<b>Transit</b>	

## Revenue Sharing (RBA)

The RBA continues to work towards a signed agreement with the Province.

## First Nations Partnerships/Relationships

During the first quarter of 2023, the First Nations Liaison attended and provided administrative support for regular monthly meeting with the Electoral Area E Director, Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Nee-Tahi-Buhn, and Skin Tyee.

Meetings took place with staff from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation regarding funding options for a First Nations Cultural Visibility Project as well as the Lake Babine Land Transfer Agreement.

The First Nations Liaison attended a Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness Workshop in Kamloops on new legislation regarding First Nations engagement requirements.

## Water Engagement Initiative (WEI)

Staff continue to participate in the WEI Main Table Meetings and Skeena Roundtable Meetings.

Administration

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

## Local Government Elections

Board orientation continued inclusive of the Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA) Elected Officials Series that was held in Prince George, BC.

## Policy Updates

Staff continue to work on policy updates for the Board's consideration. The Employee Handbook is being developed.

## Economic Development

### Connectivity

Staff continue to advocate and work on developing projects that ensure all residents receive access to affordable, highspeed internet.

### Funding Requests

Grant Writing support has seen almost \$131,000 in grant funding requests submitted in 2023 for projects totaling \$411,360.

### 2023 Business Forum/Start-Up Business Contest

The 2023 Regional Business Forum in Telkwa was a wonderful success with over 100 attendees each day. There were 27 different presenters over the two days, including three keynote addresses, all of which provided valuable information to the attendees.

The RDBN Start-Up Business Contest was also a great endeavour with six finalists selected to present pitches at the Business Forum. The finalists were Arcade Party Rentals, Mixers Bar and Lounge, FreeSpace Solutions, Crossroads Cannabis, Klassen Cabin, and Palisades Café. The Palisades Café won the final Grand Prize which was awarded at the Forum Gala Dinner.

### Agriculture

The Agriculture Coordinator facilitated an Afternoon of Agriculture session at the Regional Business Forum that focused on exploring ideas for increasing complexity in our regional food system as well as the progress and challenges regarding food hubs in the region.



# Finance

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

## Staffing

Fulltime permanent:

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer

Sashka Macievich, Controller

Kim Fields, Accounting Clerk II (Payroll)

Crystal Miller, Accounting Clerk II (Finance)

Chelsey Fields, Accounting Clerk I Accounts Payable and Receivable

## Budget 2023

The Finance Department is busy entering the approved budget into the financial system in order to prepare financial reports

## Statistic Highlight for the 1st Quarter 2023

Accounts payable paid 234 different vendors for a total of \$2,605,332 in invoices in the first quarter of 2023.

Accounts Receivable has 67 customers (90 customers last quarter), and as of March 31<sup>st</sup> the total outstanding was \$307,421 with \$33,661 over 60 days (\$303,333 with \$30,170 over 60 days last quarter).

## Asset Management Planning

The Finance Department continues to work on a comprehensive AMP (asset management plan) that will meet the future requirements of funding agencies including the Community Works Fund (Gas Tax) and help plan reserve contributions and asset replacement in the Regional District's long term financial plan.

## Procurement

The department has migrated purchasing to the new BC Bid portal created by the province and is now managing all large procurements for the Regional District. The department is working on a standardized contract template.

## Accounting

The Finance Department is working with the auditor to do final audit completion work and finalizing the financial statements.



# Protective Services Department

January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023



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## General

The Protective Services Department is responsible for the following services: 911, Rural Fire Protection, Emergency Preparedness and Administration projects. The following information provides a brief update on the status of the 2023 Protective Services Workplan and the ongoing operations of the services provided to residents.

## Staffing

### Fulltime permanent:

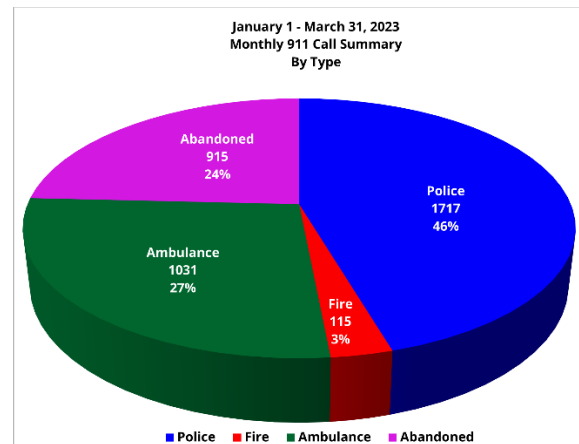
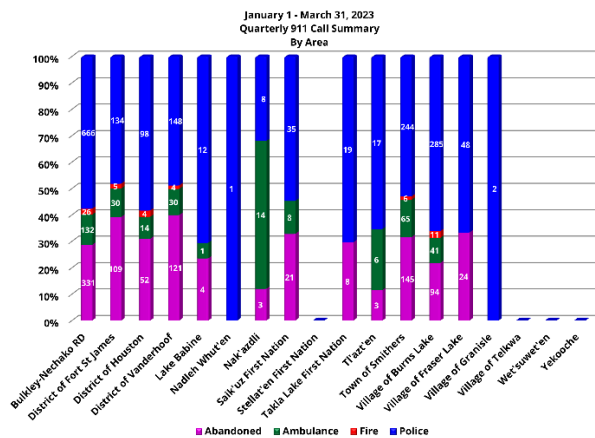
- Director of Protective Services – Deborah Jones-Middleton
- Regional Fire Chief – Jason Blackwell
- Emergency Program Coordinator – Christopher Walker
- Protective Services Assistant – Trina Bysouth

### Fulltime temporary:

- FireSmart Educator – Ryann VanTine

## 911 Service

E-COMM received **3778** 911 calls for the months of January, February, and March 2023 from within the geographic boundaries of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. The charts below show the 911 calls received by area and call type.



## Transition to NG911

Staff continue to work with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George to coordinate the upgraded dispatch consoles that will be installed in all the Fire Halls to support the increased functionality of NG911.

### Protective Services

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

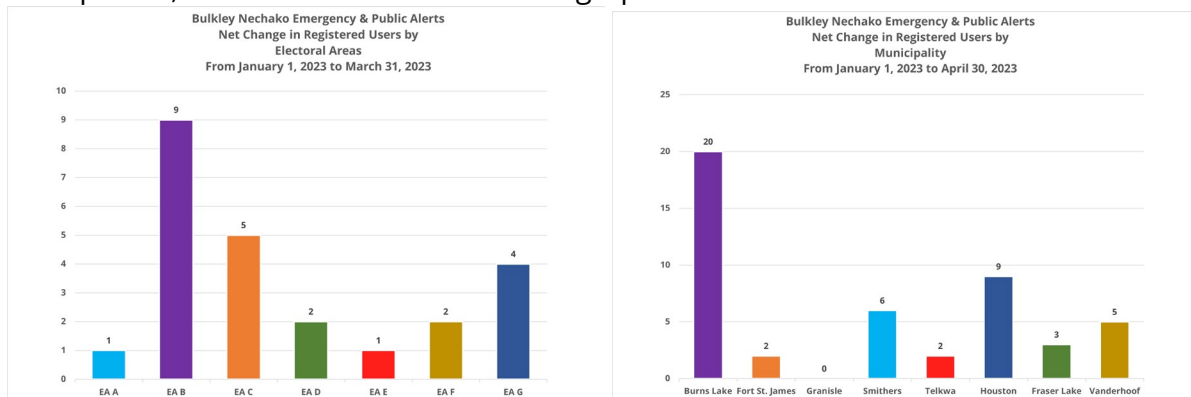


## 911 Dispatch Backup Communications

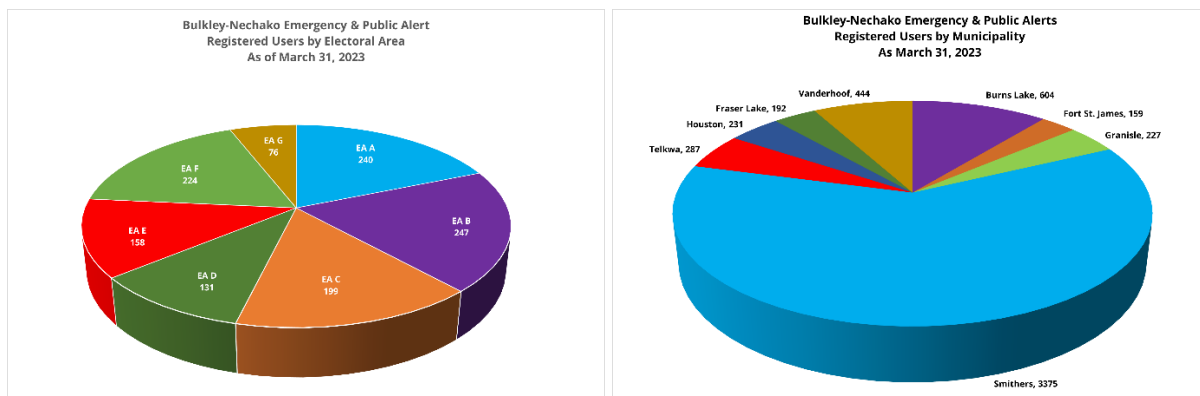
Tower Communications has now completed the installation of the backup system project. All 12 firehalls have the Xplore satellite system installed and are fully operational. Testing was completed with the Regional District of Fraser Fort George and no issues were noted. In the event of another major TELUS outage, the Fire Operations Communications Center will now be able to contact each fire department within the RDBN. The Rogers sim cards that were previously used have been cancelled.

## Bulkley Nechako Emergency & Public Alerts (BNE&PA)

The RDBN continues to promote the use of the BNE&PA across the region. There have been **24** new users for the Electoral Areas and **71** new users for the municipalities in the first quarter, which is reflected in the two graphs below.



There are a total of **1275** users signed up for the Electoral Areas and **6794** participants signed up for the municipalities as reflected in the two graphs below.



Monthly refresher training sessions for system users are held once a month.

## Rural Fire Protection

### Administration of Rural Fire Protection Agreements

The Luck Bay Fire Service Agreement renewal has been signed by the RDBN, and the agreement has been sent to the District of Fort St James for final signature.

Protective Services  
January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023



Staff are currently drafting the new Fire Service Agreements for the three First Nations (Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Skin Tyee First Nation, and Nee Tahi Buhn Band) located within the Southside Rural Fire Protection Service area.

### **Administration, Training, and support with funding and large acquisitions for the four Rural Fire Departments**

The underground water tank for fire suppression activities on Laidlaw Road in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) has now been completed. Smithers Fire Department will fill the tank with water so it can be put in service once snow free conditions permit. Staff are working on a Request for Proposal to install two more of the underground water tanks in the region, one near Round Lake in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) and one at the Topley Volunteer Fire Department Hall in Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural) .

Staff have coordinated the purchase and installation of a backup generator for the Southside firehall. Once the ground has thawed, site prep will commence, followed by the installation. An order for additional cordless extrication equipment and lifting bags was also placed for the Southside Fire Department. These additional items will supplement their current extrication equipment. The generator and extrication equipment was purchased with Northern Capital and Planning funds from Director Lambert Electoral Area E (François/Ootsa Lake Rural).

The new water tender for Fort Fraser Volunteer Fire Department is still on schedule with a projected delivery of July 2023.

The RDBN was successful in the grant application to UBCM under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Volunteer and Composite Departments. Staff completed the application on behalf of our four rural fire departments, the grant was approved for \$99,000 towards training and equipment. All the equipment that was identified by each of the departments has been ordered and most has now been delivered. Online and in-person training courses approved through the grant will be offered throughout the year.

Cluculz Lake Volunteer Fire Department (CLVFD) received a grant from Integris Credit Union, staff coordinated the purchase of first responder equipment and additional communications devices. The CLVFD is currently in the process of training Firefighters on first aid courses so they can be prepared to provide a First Responder Service to the residents within the Cluculz Lake Rural Fire Protection Service area. They currently have an in-house instructor for this training which reduces the cost significantly.

The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) has released the new updated “Structural Firefighter Minimum Training Standard” for the province of British Columbia. Staff are reviewing this document and identifying areas that the RDBN rural departments have not previously trained to and will be focusing on updating the training curriculum and operating guidelines in 2023. Mandatory implementation of the new standards is March 2024.

Protective Services

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023

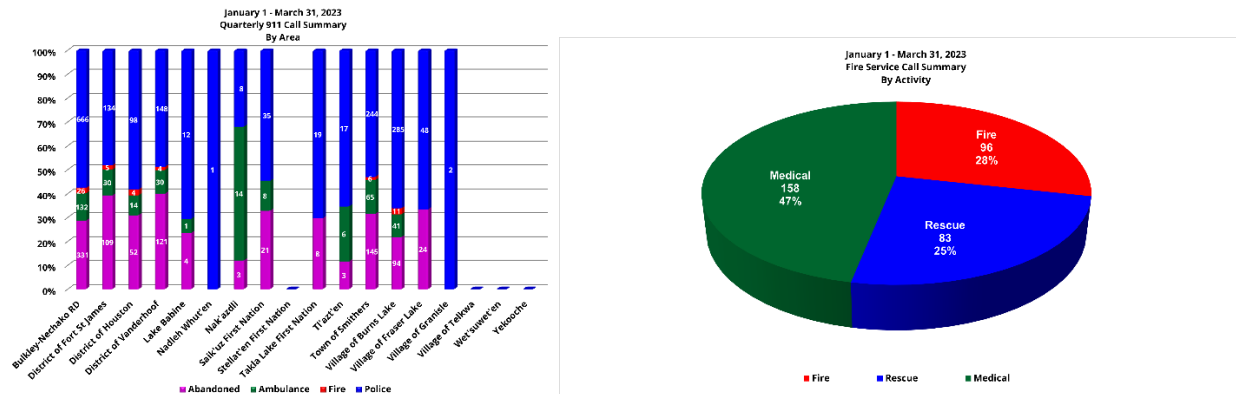


Staff is planning a spring rural fire chiefs meeting at the end of April and will be going over the new changes in the training standard and conducting the incident commander module for the attendees.

## Fire Department Response

Fire department responses vary in type and frequency across our region.

Of the **3,778** 911 calls received from January-March, **337** were forwarded to the Fire Operation Communication Centre, either from E-Comm, BC Ambulance, RCMP, or Mutual Aid Departments, for Fire Department response. The charts below shows the 911 calls received by call type and by each Fire Department.



## Emergency Preparedness Planning Service

- Program to Enhance Rail Safety Engagement application to Transport Canada.

## Responding to emergencies affecting rural residents

- Flooding/drainage issue in Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural), on Hudson Bay Mountain Road.

## Training staff and volunteers

- Starting the EOC Exercise and Training Plan with consultants.
- Attended Fort St James ESS Training session.
- Planning training of Amateur Radio for staff and volunteers in fall 2023.

## Administration of the Bulkley-Nechako Emergency Support Services Program

- 2022 UBCM ESS Grant purchasing.
- Submission of the 2023 UBCM ESS grant, in partnership with District of Houston and Village of Granisle.

## Public Education

Protective Services

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023



- Provided education resources for seniors to the The Link in Burns Lake.

## Engagement with Partners of Emergency Management

- Organizing the 2023 Partners of Emergency Management Meeting for April 13.
- Met with Skin Tyee First Nation's Emergency Management Coordinator.
- Met with Lake Babine First Nation in Tachet and Village of Granisle Emergency Program Coordinator, to discuss supports during evacuation and Emergency Support Services.

## Hazard Risk & Vulnerability Analysis (HRVA)

The HRVA program completed a series of virtual workshops to review the likelihood and consequence scoring outcomes. Each Electoral Area HRVA Committee reviewed the existing risk reduction strategies in place for the area and provided potential Risk Reduction Strategies. The status of each Electoral Area HRVA Committee is outlined in the table below:

HRVA Project Status December 31, 2022							
HRVA Advisory Committee Steps	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
HRVA Committee Orientation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hazard Identification	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Understanding Community Resiliency	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hazard Likelihood and Consequence Scoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Priority Hazards and Risk Reduction Initiatives	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Committee Review of Draft HRVA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Presentation of the RDBN HRVA to the Board	!						
Conduct Public Education Campaign							
<span style="color: green;">✓</span> Complete <span style="color: red;">!</span> In Progress							

## FireSmart Program

### 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund (Stream 3)

- Final report submission and approval.
- Grant funding received in the amount of \$314,001.54.

### 2021 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports (Stream 1)

- Final report approval.
- Remaining 25% received in the amount of \$30,036.74.

Protective Services

January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023



### **2023 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports (Stream 1)**

- Application submission – pending approval from UBCM.

### **2023 Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Development**

- Initial research and planning.
- Development of project charter.
- Development of project committee.
- Prepping RFP documentation.

### **Network of Emergency Support Services Teams Conference (NESST)**

The 2023 NESST conference is being hosted at the Prince George Civic Centre April 21 – 23. We have secured \$15,600, by the end of March, from corporate sponsors, four session trainers and supplies provided by Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and 13 sessions provided by ESS Volunteers with years of experience. We have also secured three keynote speakers and a comedian to provide entertainment on Saturday evening.

To date we have 122 people attending in person and 58 people attending virtually.

The 2024 NESST conference will be hosted in Kamloops April 12 – 14.



# Planning Department

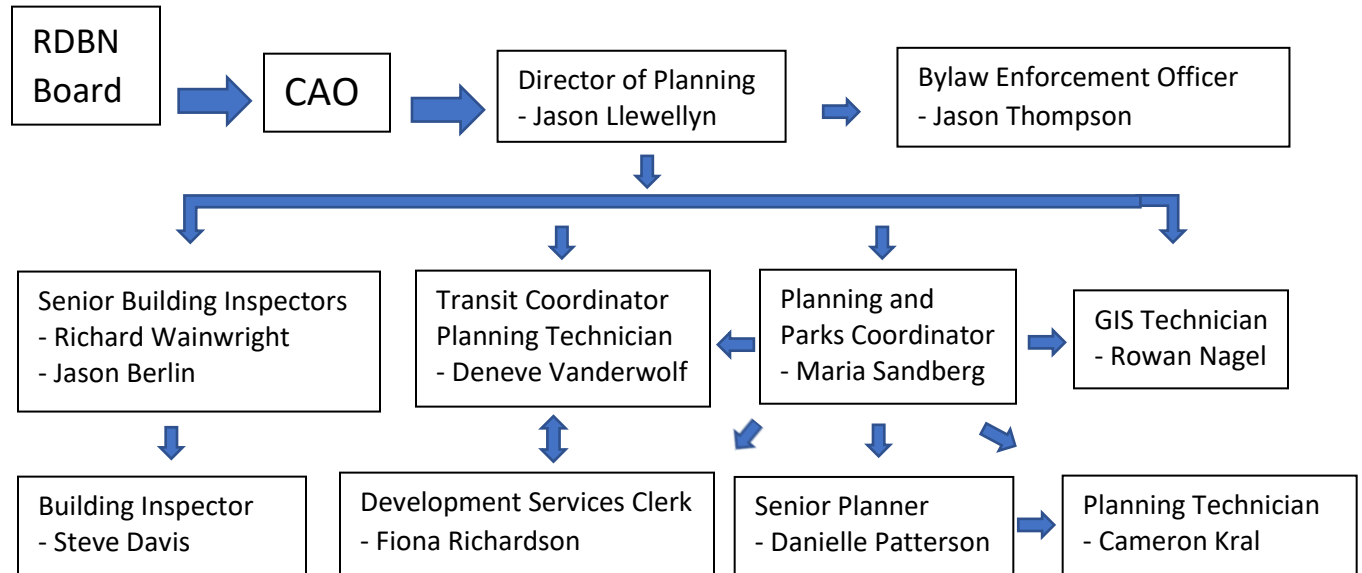
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## Staffing



The Planning Department includes eleven full-time positions providing Land Use Planning, Building Inspection, Parks and Trails, Transit, GIS and Bylaw Enforcement Services. Building Inspection, Bylaw Enforcement and Planning Services are also provided to municipalities on a contract basis.

## Land Use Applications and Referrals

### Agricultural Land Reserve Applications

The Planning Department has received nine new ALR applications in the first quarter of 2023. Five of these applications are applications to allow the continued operation of gravel pits.

### Official Community Plan Amendments and Rezoning Applications

The Planning Department has received three rezoning and OCP amendment applications in the first quarter of 2023.

### Temporary Use Permits

The Planning Department received two temporary use permit (TUP) applications in the first quarter of 2023. Both of these applications are for asphalt plants in Electoral Area C.

### Development Variance Permits

The Planning Department received no new development variance permit (DVP) applications in the first quarter of 2023.

## Subdivision Referrals

The Planning Department received four subdivision referrals in the first quarter of 2023. The Planning Department processed three of the referrals and provided comments to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. One referral remains in process.

## Land Use Reviews

The Planning Department completed 7 land use reviews for building projects in the first quarter of 2023.

## Other Referrals

A total of 14 miscellaneous referrals were received in the first quarter of 2023. Eleven referrals were processed in the first quarter. Three referrals remains in process.

## Long Range Planning

The Rural Fort St James OCP and District of Fort St James OCP reviews are in progress. In the first quarter of 2023 staff held a coordination meeting with District Staff and the consultant for the Fort St James Housing Study and focused on creating a preliminary draft of the new plans. Public consultation on the drafts plans is anticipated to occur in mid-summer.



## Building Inspection

The RDBN received a total of 36 building permit applications in the first quarter of 2023, with a total construction value of **\$7,803,000**. This is slightly less than the 41 building permit applications with a total construction value of \$10,207,346 received in the first quarter of 2022. There are six new dwellings being built in the rural areas and one in the municipalities receiving building inspection services.

It is noted that the RDBN is providing building inspection services to the District of Vanderhoof under agreement until their new building inspector is in place.

**First Quarter Building Permit Data for 2023**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Total Permits</b>	<b>Total Construction Value (\$)</b>
A	10	\$2,370,000
B	6	\$1,030,000
C	1	\$85,000
D	1	\$248,000
E	0	\$0
F	1	\$650,000
G	1	\$600,000
Burns Lake	6	\$1,000,000
Fort St. James	1	\$1,200,000
Fraser Lake	2	\$310,000
Granisle	0	\$0
Houston	3	\$128,000
Telkwa	1	\$90,000
Vanderhoof	3	\$92,000
<b>First Quarter RDBN Totals</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>\$7,803,000</b>
Smithers	12	\$1,264,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>\$9,067,000</b>

## Parks and Trails

### Cycle 16 Trail

Completion of construction of Phase 1 of the Cycle 16 Trail was on hold over winter. Completion of the project will commence in spring and is anticipated to be completed in June. Opening ceremonies for Phase 1 of the trail will be scheduled once the construction completion date is confirmed. Planning for Phase 2 of the Trail is ongoing. Staff are having discussions with the construction contractor regarding their maintenance of the trail for 2023.

### Round Lake Park and Boat Launch

Staff continue to work with the Round Lake Community Association (RLCA) on their Waterfront Upgrade Project. Two proposals were received in response to the request for proposals (RFP) for the "Round Lake Park Waterfront Upgrade Survey and Design Project". After review and a meeting with the RLCA, the contract was awarded to WSP Canada Inc.

### Imeson's Beach

The Imeson's Beach Parking Lot and Pedestrian Railway Crossing Project is underway. The consultant has completed their survey work and has developed pedestrian crossing design drawings. However, the project has been on hold for a number of months waiting for CN to provide feedback on the crossing design.

### Hospital Point

The construction of the outhouse was completed in October 2022 and the facility will be ready for public use in the spring. Staff are working with a contractor to finalize the details of park maintenance for the 2023 season.

### Parks and Trails Master Plans

The contract for the Electoral Areas B and E Parks and Trails Master Plan was awarded in January. This process is occurring in coordination and collaboration with the Village of Burns Lake and their development of the municipal parks and trails master plan, using the same consultant, E. Lees and Associates. The consultant, with the support of staff, is currently scheduling consultation and public outreach.

### Recreation Contribution Service Bylaws

In the first quarter of 2023 staff obtained Board approval for a "Recreation Contribution Service Advisory Committees Terms of Reference" and "Recreation Contribution Grant

Program Policy”. Staff also worked with the members of the four Advisory Committees to establish the 2023 budgets for the service.

### Highway 35 Multi-use Trail

In November 2022 staff posted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of a conceptual design study for an accessible multi-use trail along Highway 35. Four proposals were received and reviewed in the first quarter of 2023, and WSP Canada Inc. was identified as the preferred proponent. The project is anticipated to be completed by October.

## Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

### Mapping and Inquiries

In the first quarter, the GIS Technician completed 169 tasks for RDBN staff. These requests included 84 for the Planning Department, 26 for Protective Services, 9 for Administration & Finance, and 3 for Environmental Services. In addition, 25 public and 6 municipal mapping related requests were completed.

### House Numbering

A total of 10 new addresses were issued in the rural area and 4 new addresses were issued for municipalities and First Nations in the first quarter of 2023. Six addresses were corrected.

### Design

The GIS Technician has completed 7 graphic design requests in the first quarter of 2023. A total of 42% of the GIS Technician’s tasks were generated by the Planning Department, 43% were from other RDBN departments, and 15% were from the public.

## Transit

Results of the 2022 Transit Service Review will be presented at a June Regional Transit Committee meeting.

First quarter ridership numbers are as follows. Overall ridership has increased from the first quarter in 2022.

Route	Year	January	February	March	Total
161 Prince George	2023	415	384	390	<b>1,189</b>
	2022	318	306	427	<b>1,051</b>
162 Smithers	2023	217	157	217	<b>591</b>
	2022	130	186	204	<b>520</b>



# Environmental Services

January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023

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## Priorities

All efforts made by Environmental Services staff are working towards improving “the 5 C’s”:

- Continuity – Minimize the impact of disruptive events/circumstances
- Capacity – Ensure that there is manpower and resources to maintain the services we provide
- Compliance – Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and WorkSafe BC
- Consistency – Establish equal and consistent region-wide access to diversion services
- Competency – Ensure a high level of competency of RDBN staff with a reliable training program

## Services Provided

Solid Waste Management:

- Operation of two (2) sub-regional landfills located near Houston (Knockholt) and Vanderhoof (Clearview) and one (1) local landfill in Manson Creek.
- Operation of eight (8) transfer stations located in Smithers/Telkwa, Houston, Granisle, Burns Lake, Southside, Fraser Lake, Ft. St. James and Vanderhoof,
- Operation of six (6) recycling depots located in Smithers/Telkwa, Granisle, Burns Lake, Southside, Ft. St James and Vanderhoof.
- Waste hauling operations transport waste from Transfer Stations to Landfills
- Environmental monitoring and reporting to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy as per RDBN Operational Certificates.

Liquid Waste Management:

- Operation of septage receiving facilities at Smithers/Telkwa, Houston, Burns Lake and Fort Fraser.

Fort Fraser Water and Wastewater Systems:

- Operation of a small water supply and distribution system
- Operation of small wastewater collection and treatment system

## Staffing

Full-time Permanent:

- Director of Environmental Services
- Waste Diversion Supervisor
- Operations Supervisor – vacant
- Environmental Technician – vacant
- Environmental Services Office Assistant - vacant
- Field Assistant West
- Field Assistant East
- 14 x Transfer Station & Recycling Depot Attendants
- 2 x Landfill Operators
- 3 x Landfill Attendants
- 2 x Waste Haul Drivers

Part-time Permanent

- 1 x Landfill Attendant
- 6 x Transfer Station & Recycling Depot Attendants

Environmental Services

Q1 Quarterly Report – 2023



- 2 x Waste Haul Drivers

Casual (holiday and sick coverage):

- 6 Transfer Station and Recycling Depot Attendants

Summer Students:

- none

## Notable Department Activity

- Management Staff focus on continuing operations during recruitment process
- Recruitment for Operations Supervisor and Environmental Technician/Coordinator
- Department restructuring to utilize vacancies as opportunity to make capacity where it is most needed – develop the Training and Safety Supervisor Position
- Waste characterization study sampling event #3 conducted Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Quarterly ground water sampling of active landfills
- Planning the expansion of recycling programs
- Recruitment and Training of casual attendants and Cross-training of current Transfer Station and Recycling Depot Attendants
- 2023 Capital Projects – Budget, Planning and Procurement
- Fort Fraser Capital Plan – Sewage Treatment and Sewer Repairs

## 2023 Capital Projects Update

The first quarter of 2023 has been used for planning projects and procuring labour and equipment.

ES Capital Q1 - January 1 to March 31, 2023					
Site	Project	Budget	Status	Cost	Variance
FIELD	2 Skidsteers - 2022 Project Paid in 2023	\$100,000	Complete	\$91,000	\$9,000
CLF	Sub-Cell 5 expansion	\$150,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$150,000
KLF	Recycle depot	\$125,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$125,000
KLF	Skidsteer	\$110,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$110,000
KLF	Perimeter Fence	\$100,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$100,000
KLF	Lagoon Hydro	\$100,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$100,000
KLF	Lagoon Aeration system	\$175,000	Design/Planning	\$25,000	\$150,000
BLTS	Skidsteer	\$110,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$110,000
FLTS	Recycle depot	\$120,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$120,000
OTHER	Various Projects Under \$100,000	\$60,000	Complete	\$41,000	\$19,000
OTHER	Various Projects Under \$100,000	\$65,000	In-Progress	\$8,000	\$57,000
OTHER	Various Projects Under \$100,000	\$524,000	Design/Planning	\$0	\$524,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,739,000</b>		<b>\$165,000</b>	<b>\$1,574,000</b>

Environmental Services

Q1 Quarterly Report – 2023



# Economic Impact Assessment of Veterinary Medicine in BC

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Prepared for the BC Cattlemen's Association

Final Report

March 2023

**MNP LLP**

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## Acknowledgements

MNP would like to thank the individuals and organizations who generously shared their time and materials for this study.

Funding partners:



Other funding partners for this study:

- Fort Fraser Livestock Association
- Mud River/Beaverly Farmers' Institute
- Sinkut Mountain Livestock Association

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# Executive Summary

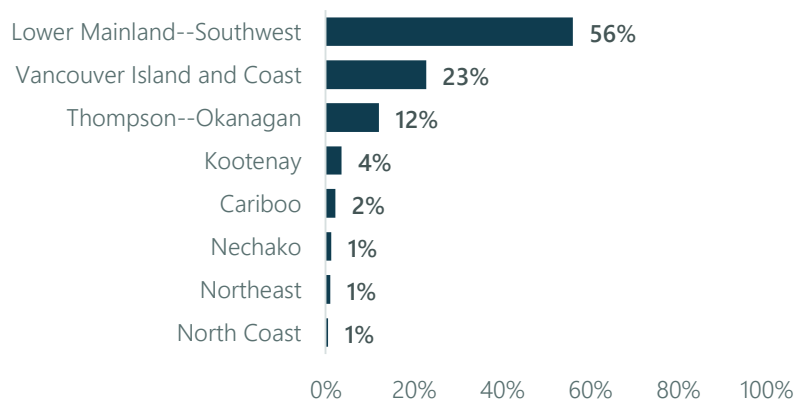
## Introduction

The BC Cattlemen’s Association (“BCCA”) and partners engaged MNP LLP (“MNP”) to undertake a study of the economic impact of veterinary medicine in BC to demonstrate how the absence of veterinary services affects the economy of BC. The study included developing estimates of the economic contributions of the veterinary sector and the livestock sector, as well as developing a case study to illustrate the impacts of access to veterinary care on the livestock sector in rural communities.

## Key Findings

- The majority of veterinary practices are located in the Lower Mainland – Southwest and Vancouver Island and Coast regions.

### Distribution of Veterinary Practices by Region



Source: Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation of Business Register Data, Number of Businesses by Census Divisions- 2019

- A 2019 labour market study found that there is a shortage of veterinarians in BC. The shortage is most significant for large animal veterinarians and in rural areas.
- In 2022 there were 629 accredited veterinary practice facilities in BC and approximately 1,800 veterinarians working in private practice. Of these, between 250 and 300 veterinarians provide care for large animals.
- In 2021, the ratio of large animals to veterinarians working in large or mixed animal practices in BC was between 3,000 and 3,500 animals per veterinarian. In parts of the interior and northern BC that ratio is between 7,700 and 8,900 animals per veterinarian.
- Services for small animals are a key factor in maintaining the financial viability of a veterinary practice. As a result, most practices providing services to large animals, also provide services to small animals.
- Increases in the number of companion animals during COVID have increased the workload of veterinarians.

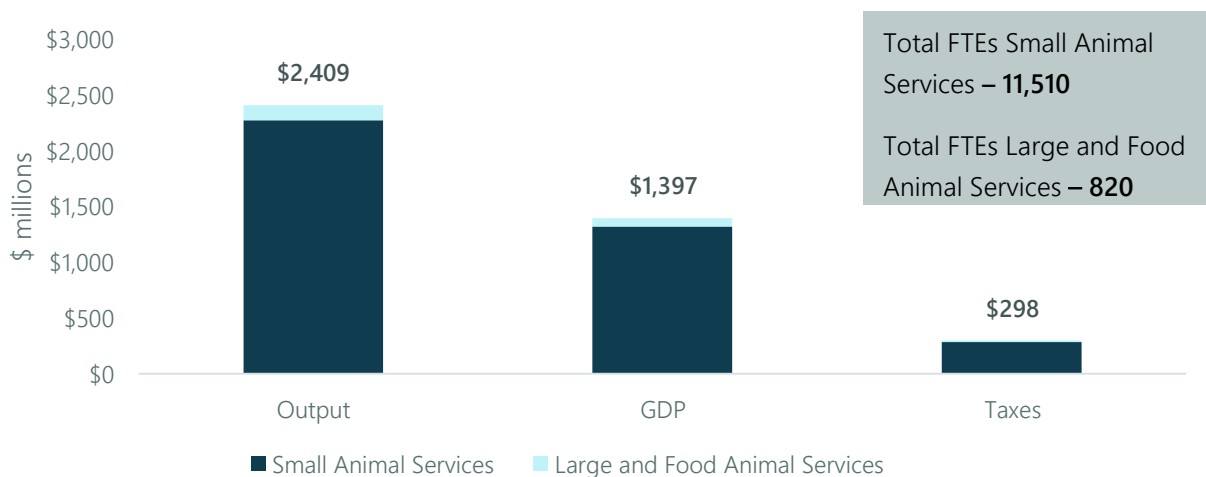
## Economic Impacts of the Veterinary Sector

The economic impacts generated by veterinarians in BC are shown in Figure A. In 2021, veterinary practices in BC generated the following economic impacts:

- \$2.4 billion in total output, including direct output of \$1.5 billion and indirect and induced output of \$0.9 billion.
- \$1.4 billion in GDP, including direct GDP of \$0.9 billion and indirect and induced GDP of \$0.5 billion.
- 12,330 total full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in BC, including direct employment of 8,650 FTEs and indirect and induced employment of 3,680 FTEs.
- Approximately \$298 million in total government tax revenues, including \$142 million in direct tax revenues and \$156 million in indirect and induced tax revenues.

More than 90 percent of the impacts were estimated to be generated by small animal services.

**Figure A: Economic Impacts of Veterinary Practices in BC - 2021**



## Linkages to the Livestock Sector

BC's livestock sector contributes approximately \$1.5 billion of GDP to BC's economy annually and supports over 20,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Veterinarians play a critical role in ensuring the sustainability and viability of the sector. They provide medical and surgical services to livestock as well as consultation on disease prevention and treatment. They also support food security and safety through veterinary oversight of agricultural operations.

### Financial Impact of Lack of Access to Veterinary Services

Lack of access to veterinary services results in increased loss of animals and hinders the ability of livestock producers to expand operations, both of which can impact the viability of operations. For example, when a beef cow is lost the rancher is out-of-pocket the production expenses of raising the cow. The sale of between three and five cows was estimated to be required to recoup those costs. This also means that there is less revenue to cover fixed costs which impacts the viability of the operation.

## Potential Impact of Increased Veterinary Care

Increases in the number of mixed animal veterinarians would create incremental economic impacts through the associated practice expenses. In addition, increased access to veterinary care could allow livestock producers to increase their production.

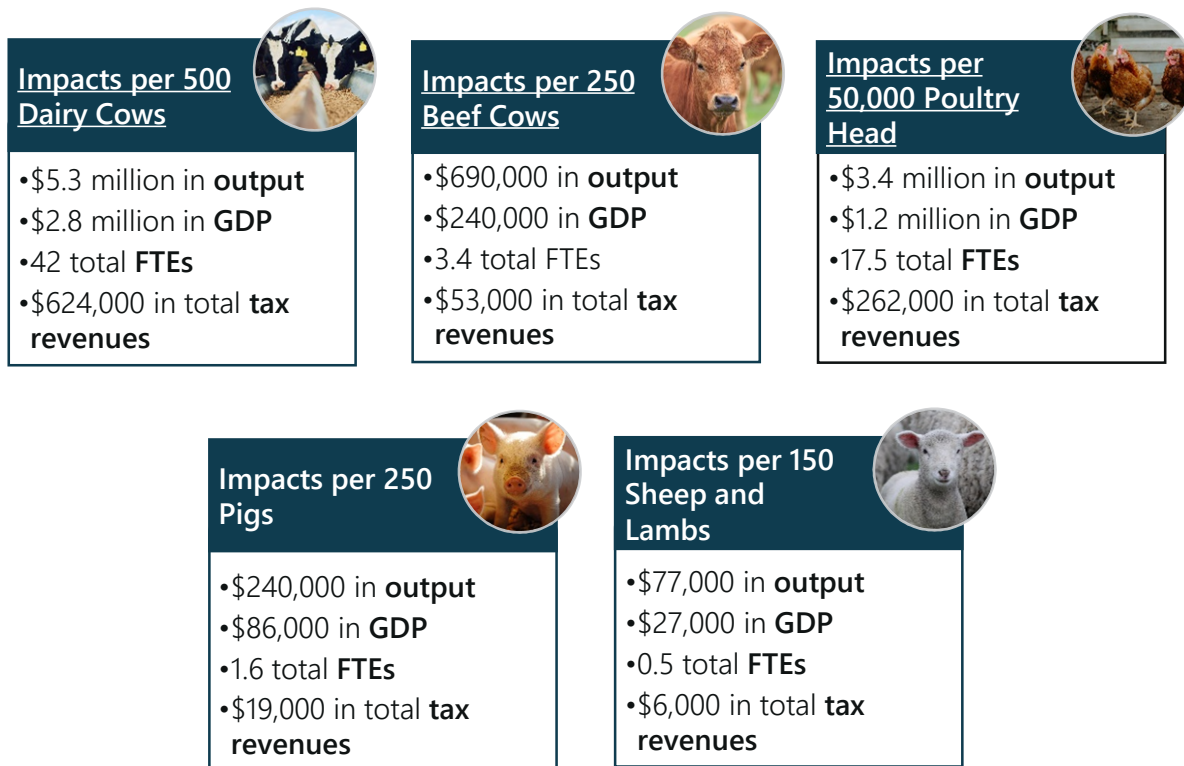
Table A shows the estimated impact per full-time veterinarian in a mixed animal practice.

**Table A: Economic Impacts per Full-Time Veterinarian in a Mixed Animal Practice**

	Output (\$)	GDP (\$)	Employment (FTEs)	Federal Taxes (\$)	Provincial Taxes (\$)	Municipal Taxes (\$)
<b>Direct</b>	\$599,900	\$325,700	4.2	\$33,700	\$20,700	
<b>Indirect and Induced</b>	\$316,400	\$184,300	1.3	\$22,200	\$24,100	\$6,100
<b>Total</b>	\$916,300	\$510,000	5.5	\$55,900	\$44,800	\$6,100

Figure B illustrates the potential magnitudes of the impact to the economy of producers growing their operations by livestock type.

**Figure B: Total Direct, Indirect and Induced Economic Impacts by Animal**





# 1. Introduction

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## Background

Livestock production is an important component of the BC economy. Access to adequate veterinary services is crucial for ranchers and livestock producers and the viability of their operations. Veterinarians provide medical care to livestock animals. BC currently faces a shortage of veterinarians across most regions and types of practices. The shortage however is more acute for those providing services to large animals.

The BC Cattlemen's Association ("BCCA") and its funding partners engaged MNP LLP ("MNP") to undertake a study of the economic impacts of veterinary medicine in BC to demonstrate how the absence of veterinary services affects the economy of BC and individual communities. The scope of the study included:

- Estimating economic impacts of veterinary practices in BC.
- Developing a profile of the livestock sector in BC and its economic footprint.
- Estimating economic impacts by type of animal.
- Developing a case study to illustrate the direct and indirect impacts to the livestock sector related to access to veterinary care.

## Approach

In preparing this report, MNP carried out the following activities:

- Gathered and analyzed data from BCCA, the Society of BC Veterinarians (SBCV) and publicly available data sources such as Statistics Canada.
- Developed a high-level profile of veterinary sector in BC.
- Developed a high-level profile of the livestock sector in BC.
- Estimated the economic impacts of veterinary practices in BC following an input-output methodology using provincial multipliers published by Statistics Canada.
- Estimated the economic impacts of livestock operations by type of livestock operation in BC following an input-output methodology using provincial multipliers published by Statistics Canada.
- Conducted interviews with representatives of the livestock sectors to inform the case study and fill gaps in available information.
- Administered a survey to select livestock producers and veterinary service providers to collect information related to access to veterinary care in regions across BC.
- Developed a case study on costs to the livestock sector and economic impacts forgone as a result of not being able to access veterinary care.
- Developed a report of the findings of our analysis.



## Report Structure

The remaining sections of this report are organized as follows:

- Section 2 provides an overview of the economic impacts methodology and data sources used in the study.
- Section 3 provides an overview of the veterinary sector and presents a summary of the economic impacts created by the veterinary sector in BC
- Section 4 provides an overview of the livestock sector and presents a summary of the economic impacts created by the livestock sector in BC, as well as impacts of access to veterinary care.
- Section 5 presents a case study illustrating the impacts to the livestock sector related to access to veterinary care
- The appendices provide additional detail on the economic impact methodology and relevant assumptions and background information about MNP.

## Report Limitations

This report is not intended for general circulation, nor is it to be published in whole or in part without the prior written consent of MNP. The report is provided for information purposes and is intended for general guidance only. It should not be regarded as comprehensive or a substitute for personalized, investment or business advice.

We have relied upon the completeness, accuracy and fair presentation of all information and data obtained from BCCA, SBCV, interviews with key informants and public sources, believed to be reliable. The accuracy and reliability of the findings and opinions expressed in the presentation are conditional upon the completeness, accuracy and fair presentation of the information underlying them. As a result, we caution readers not to rely upon any findings or opinions for business or investment purposes and disclaim any liability to any party who relies upon them as such.

The findings and opinions expressed in the presentation constitute judgments as of the date of the presentation and are subject to change without notice. MNP is under no obligation to advise of any change brought to its attention which would alter those findings or opinions.

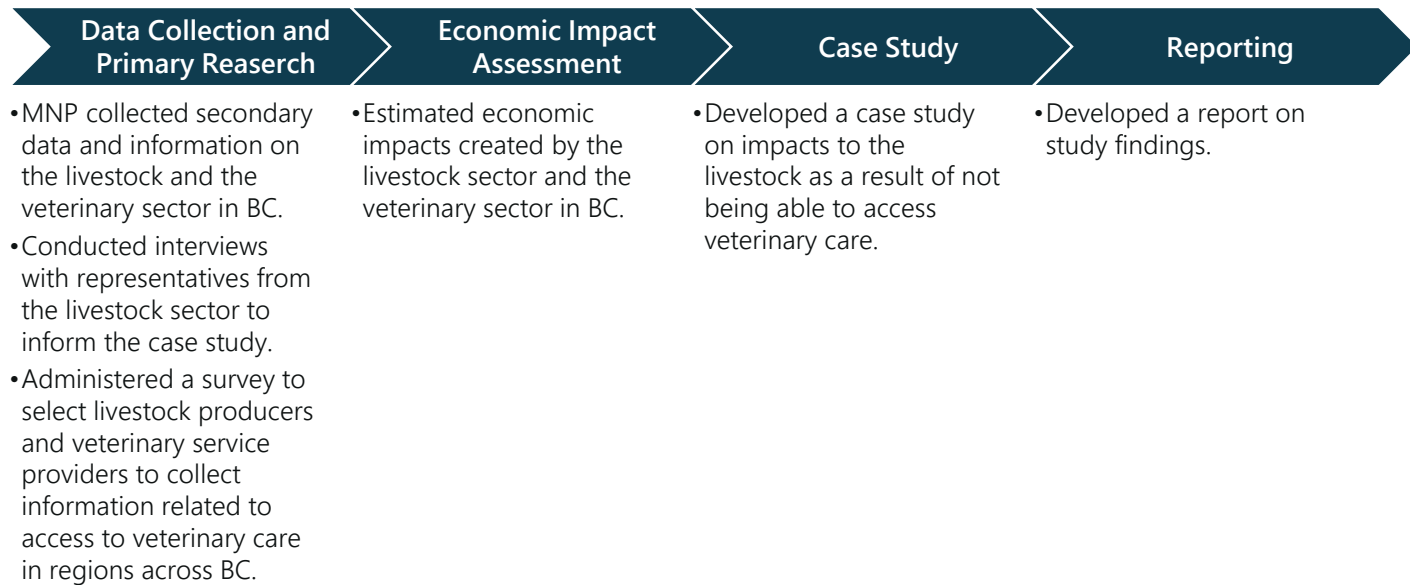
The analysis contained in this report is based upon projections, founded on past events giving an expectation of certain future events. Future events are not guaranteed to follow past patterns and results may vary, even significantly. Accordingly, we express no assurance as to whether projections underlying the economic and financial analysis will be achieved.

## 2. Study Approach

### Study Approach

MNP's overall study approach is outlined in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Study Approach



### Economic Impact Methodology

In general, economic impacts are viewed as being restricted to quantitative, well-established measures of economic activity. The most commonly used of these measures are output, GDP, employment and government revenue:

- **Output** is the total gross value of goods and services produced by a given company or industry measured by the price paid to the producer. This is the broadest measure of economic activity.
- **Gross Domestic Product ("GDP")**, or value added, refers to the additional value of a good or service over the cost of inputs used to produce it from the previous stage of production. Thus, GDP is equal to the unduplicated value of the goods and services produced.
- **Employment** is the number of additional jobs created. Employment is measured in terms of full-time equivalents ("FTEs"). One FTE is equivalent to one person working full-time for one year or one person-year of employment.
- **Government Revenues** are the total amount of revenues generated for different levels of government. Revenues arise from personal income taxes, indirect taxes less subsidies, corporate income taxes, taxes on products and royalties. Please note that because tax revenues can frequently change due to modifications in tax policy, the government revenues in this report are estimates only and subject to change. They should be viewed as approximate in nature.

Economic impacts may be estimated at the direct, indirect and induced levels:

- **Direct impacts** are due to changes that occur in “front-end” businesses that would initially receive expenditures and operating revenue as a direct consequence of the operations and activities of an industry, organization or project.
- **Indirect impacts** arise from changes in activity for suppliers of the “front-end” businesses.
- **Induced impacts** arise from shifts in spending on goods and services as a consequence of changes to the payroll of the directly and indirectly affected businesses.

To estimate the economic impacts, MNP employed an input-output methodology using provincial economic multipliers for BC published by Statistics Canada. Input-output modeling is a widely-used and widely-accepted approach, making it recognizable by many different stakeholders and audiences. The structure of the approach also facilitates easy comparisons between reported results for different industries and organizations.

A detailed description of our economic impact methodology and assumptions are provided in Appendix A.

## Data Sources

Data for the estimating the economic impacts of veterinary practices were obtained from:

- Canadian Veterinary Medical Association’s (CVMA) economic survey of veterinary practices
- College of Veterinarians of BC (CVBC) 2021/22 annual report.
- CVMA’s Labour Market Study, Society of BC Veterinarians (SBCV) Chapter.

Data for estimating the economic impacts of the livestock sector were obtained from:

- Statistics Canada’s Farm Cash Receipts data.
- Output by industry from Statistics Canada’s Input-Output tables for 2019.



## 3. Economic Impact of Veterinary Services in BC

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### Overview of the Veterinary Sector

Veterinarians provide medical and surgical services to companion animals, food animals and exotic animals and are also involved in research, education and inspection activities related to animal and human welfare. The types of services provided by veterinarians are summarized below.

### Types of Veterinary Services

#### Companion or Small Animals



Small animal practices treat dogs and cats and, in some cases, exotic species such as birds, aquarium fish, reptiles and small mammals. They provide medical services as well as vaccination services to prevent the spread of diseases and may also carry out dental and surgical procedures. Other services that may be provided are nutrition and behaviour counselling and reproduction management.

#### Food Animal



Food animal practitioners provide health care services for agricultural livestock including sheep, cattle, goats, swine, poultry and fish. Medical services can include diagnosis and treatment of individual animals, and diagnosis, treatment, and preventive measures for livestock. Other services may also provide consultation on disease prevention, biosecurity, nutrition, and reproduction.

#### Equine



Equine veterinarians provide health care to individual horses and herd health management. Equine veterinarians support exhibitions, cultural and competitive events such as horse racing, rodeos, show jumping and horse shows. Veterinarians are also essential in certification of the health of horses for export.

#### Specialized Disciplines



These are veterinarians with advanced training and provide specialized services in many clinical disciplines including surgery, internal medicine, medical imaging, anesthesiology, ophthalmology, veterinary pathology, dentistry, wildlife medicine and oncology. Specialty practices may also focus on particular species such as swine specialists, avian, zoo or exotics.

#### Industry



Veterinarians take part in the research and commercial development of new feed products, drugs and technologies with animal health companies.



### Research and Academia

These veterinarians are involved in teaching and studying animal health at veterinary colleges, universities, research institutions and labs. They also contribute towards advancement in human medicine and collaborate with researchers around the world.

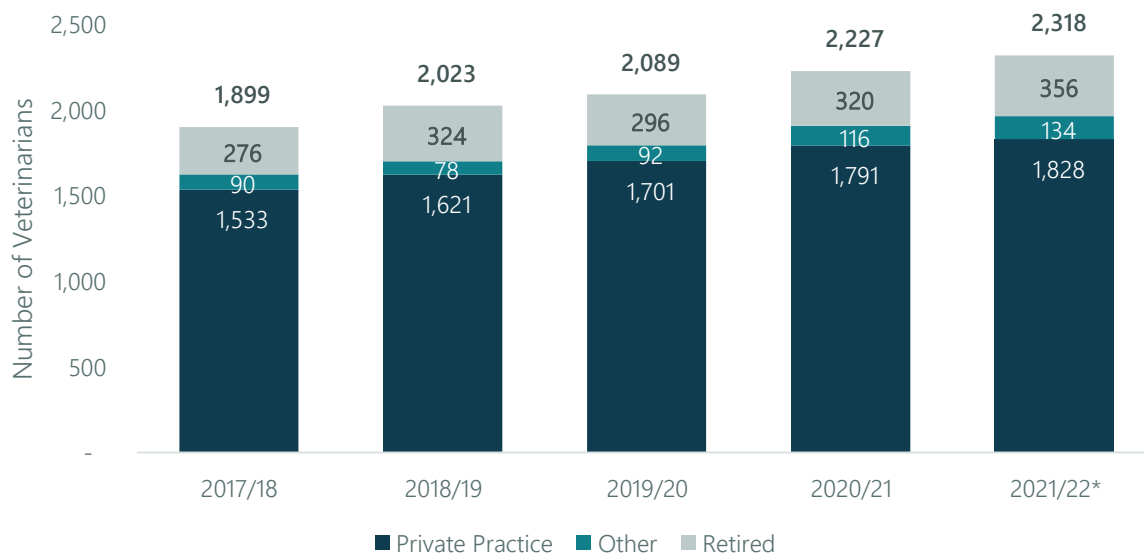


### Government and Public Services

Provincial and federal veterinarians help to develop public policy and legislation related to animal and human health. They regulate the import and export of livestock and food products and are responsible for the control of infectious diseases among livestock and wildlife. They also provide diagnostic/inspection services and ensure the health and safety of commercial food products

According to the College of Veterinarians of BC (“CVBC”), there were approximately 2,300 registered veterinarians in BC in 2021/22 out of which 1,800 were actively practicing in private practices, 130 were in public sector and specialty practices and about 350 were retired. As shown in Figure C, between 2017/18 and 2021/22 the number of actively practicing veterinarians in private practices in BC grew by about 295 veterinarians (approximately 4 percent annually).

**Figure C: Number of Actively Practicing Veterinarians and Total CVBC Registrants – 2017 to 2022**

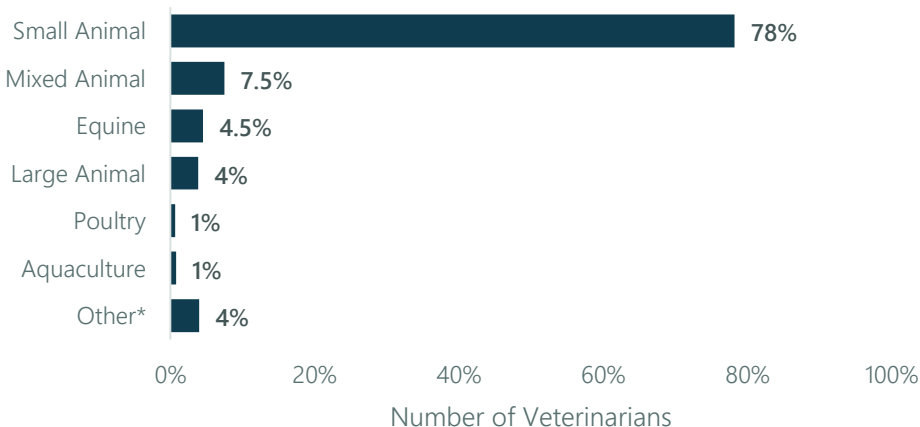


Source: CVBC, Annual Report – 2017 to 2022

\*Private Practice includes Provisional Supervised Active (PSA) Registrations. In September 2021, the CVBC introduced Provisional Supervised registration as a subcategory of the Private Practice class. It is available to veterinarians who do not yet have a Certificate of Qualification. PSA registration enables these veterinarians to work under supervision of a CVBC veterinarian while they prepare for and complete the Pre-Surgical Assessment and Clinical Proficiency Exam.

The majority of veterinarians (more than 75 percent) work in small animal practices, approximately 16 percent work in mixed, equine and large animal practices, 2 percent in poultry and aquaculture practices and the remainder (about 3 percent to 4 percent) work in other settings. Figure D shows the distribution of veterinarians by type of practice.

**Figure D: Number of Veterinarians by Type of Practice**



*Note: Other includes veterinarians working in educational/research, government, exotic/wildlife, laboratories, and regulatory fields.*

Source: CVBC, 2021/22 Annual Report; CVMA – SBCV, Labour Market Study Final Report – 2019

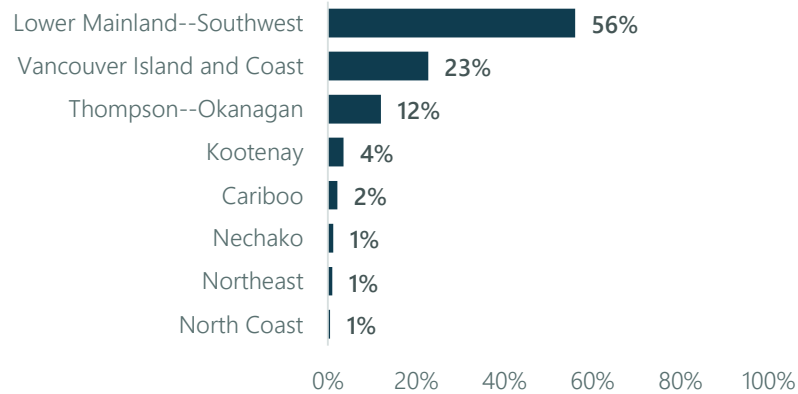
### **Small Animal Services Account for the Majority of the Revenues Generated by Veterinary Practices**

Veterinary practices were estimated to have generated approximately \$1.5 billion in revenues in BC in 2021. Small animal practices accounted for 85 percent (\$1.3 billion) of the revenues and mixed and large animal practices accounted for 15 percent (\$200 million). It was further estimated that within mixed and large animal practices, revenues from small animal services accounted for 60 percent whereas food animal and equine services accounted for 40 percent of the revenues.

In 2022 there were 629 accredited practice facilities in BC.<sup>1</sup> As shown in Figure E, the majority of practices are in the Lower Mainland–Southwest region (56 percent), followed by the Vancouver Island–Coast region (23 percent) and Thompson Okanagan region (12 percent). All other regions accounted for the remaining nine percent of practices.

<sup>1</sup> CVBC Annual Report 2022.

Figure E: Distribution of Veterinary Practices by Region



Source: Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation of Business Register Data, Number of Businesses by Census Divisions- 2019

## Economic Impacts of Veterinary Practices in BC

The day-to-day operations of veterinary practices generate economic impacts in BC through expenditures on goods and services, the employment of staff, and the generation of tax revenues for different levels of government.

To estimate the economic impacts of veterinary practices we used the estimated revenues per full-time veterinarian from the 2021 CVMA economic survey.<sup>2</sup> In 2021, veterinary practices in BC were estimated to have revenues of approximately \$1.5 billion.

As shown in Table 1, veterinary practices in BC in 2021 generated the following economic impacts:

- \$2.4 billion in total output, including direct output of \$1.5 billion and indirect and induced output of \$0.9 billion.
- \$1.4 billion in GDP, including direct GDP of \$0.9 billion and indirect and induced GDP of \$0.5 billion.
- 12,330 total full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in BC, including direct employment of 8,650 FTEs and indirect and induced employment of 3,680 FTEs.
- Approximately \$298 million in total government tax revenues, including \$142 million in direct tax revenues and \$156 million in indirect and induced tax revenues.

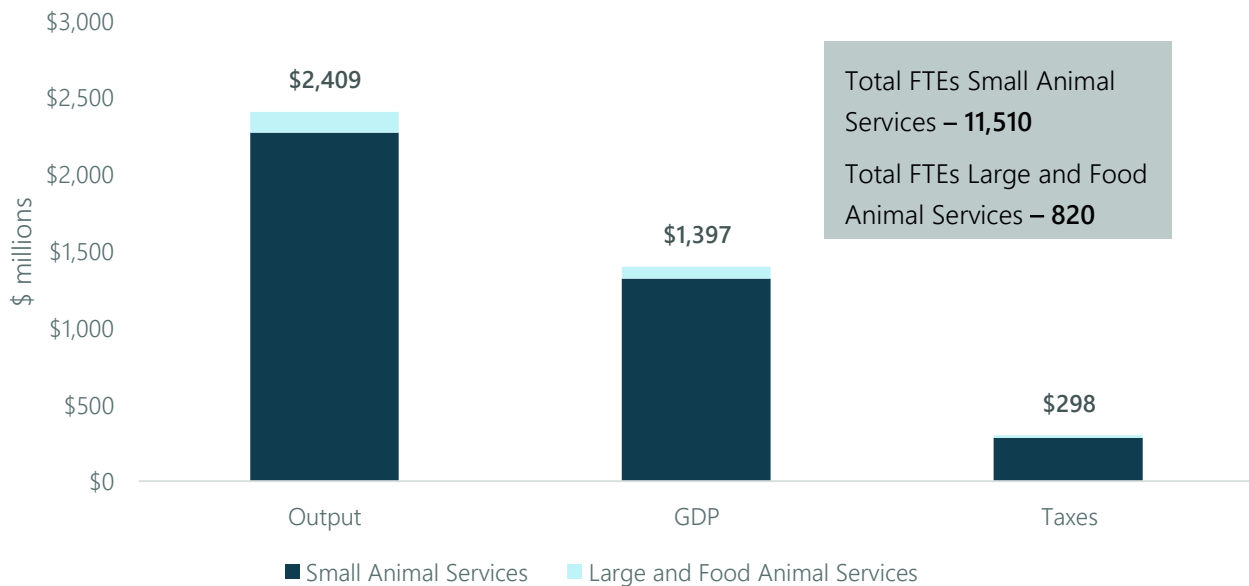
<sup>2</sup> Veterinary practices were estimated to generate between \$530,000 to \$670,000 in revenues per full-time equivalent (FTE) veterinarian and had expenditures (including compensation of associate veterinarians) between \$400,000 to \$580,000 per FTE veterinarian in 2021 depending on the type of practice. CVMA's economic surveys define a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) veterinarian as a veterinarian working 1,750 hours annually. Practice wide estimates of revenues and expenditures were developed using total number of veterinarians and average annual hours worked.

Table 1: Economic Impacts of Veterinary Practices in BC - 2021

	Output (\$ million)	GDP (\$ million)	Employment (FTEs)	Federal Taxes (\$ million)	Provincial Taxes (\$ millions)	Municipal Taxes (\$ millions)
Direct	\$1,510	\$861	8,650 <sup>3</sup>	\$89	\$53	\$0
Indirect and Induced	\$899	\$536	3,680	\$64	\$72	\$20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,409</b>	<b>\$1,397</b>	<b>12,330</b>	<b>\$153</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>\$20</b>

Figure F provides a breakdown of the impacts by type of service. More than 90 percent of the impacts were estimated to be generated by small animal services. According to livestock producers and veterinarians interviewed for this study, the provision of services to livestock tends to be seasonal. As a result, most veterinarians providing livestock services, also provide small animal services.

Figure F: Share of Economic Impacts Generated by type of Service



### Comparison with Other Industries

To provide perspective on the size of the economic impacts of veterinary medicine in BC, it is useful to compare the impacts with those created by other industries and sectors. One such comparison is new home construction. The direct and indirect employment supported by veterinary practices (10,480 FTEs)

<sup>3</sup> Direct employment includes veterinarians and other practice staff. The number of veterinarians are based on registration data from CVBC's Annual reports. The number of other practice staff were estimated based on a full-time veterinarian working 1,750 hours per year and the ratio of hours of support staff for each hour of a veterinarians time from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Economic Report for BC for 2021. The total hours of support staff time were converted to FTEs based on annual hours per FTE of 1,950.



is equivalent to the employment supported by construction of approximately 4,580 new homes.<sup>4</sup> This is equivalent to roughly 10 percent of new homes constructed in BC in 2021.<sup>5</sup>

### Mental Health Among Veterinarians

Overwork due to increasing demand is leading to burnout among veterinarians. The recent increase of pets due to COVID-19 along with the shortage of veterinarians is leading to an unsustainable amount of work hours for clinics. "The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association estimates that 30 per cent of Canadian veterinarians and 50 per cent of vet technicians are in the advanced stages of burnout." (Canada's veterinarians are not OK — overwork, pet owners, debt load leading to burnout, Lindsay Duncombe, 2022).

Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canadian-veterinarians-burnout-1.6405125>

Increased workload is contributing to serious effects on the mental health and well-being of veterinarians. A 2020 study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), found that one in five Canadian vets and technologists reported thinking about taking their own life. The study found "26.2 per cent of Canadian veterinarians have had thoughts of suicide in the last 12 months, significantly higher than the 12.2 per cent of Canadians reported to have seriously considered suicide in their lifetime."

Source: Perret, J. L., ET AL (2020) Prevalence of mental health outcomes among Canadian veterinarians. *Javma*, 256. (3). <https://doi.org/10.2460/javma.256.3.365>



<sup>4</sup> Canadian Home Builders' Association, Economic Impacts of New Home Construction. Available here: <https://www.chba.ca/impacts>

<sup>5</sup> In 2021 there were approximately 47,600 new homes constructed in BC that supported approximately 109,000 on-site and off-site jobs Source: Canadian Home Builders' Association, Economic Impacts of New Home Construction. Available here: <https://www.chba.ca/impacts>

## 4. The Role of Veterinarians in BC's Livestock Sector

Veterinarians are an integral part of livestock operations. They provide medical and surgical services to livestock as well as consultation on disease prevention and treatment, biosecurity, nutrition, and reproduction. Veterinarians play a critical role in ensuring sustainability and viability of the sector by maintaining animal health and welfare. They also support food security and safety through veterinary oversight of agricultural operations.

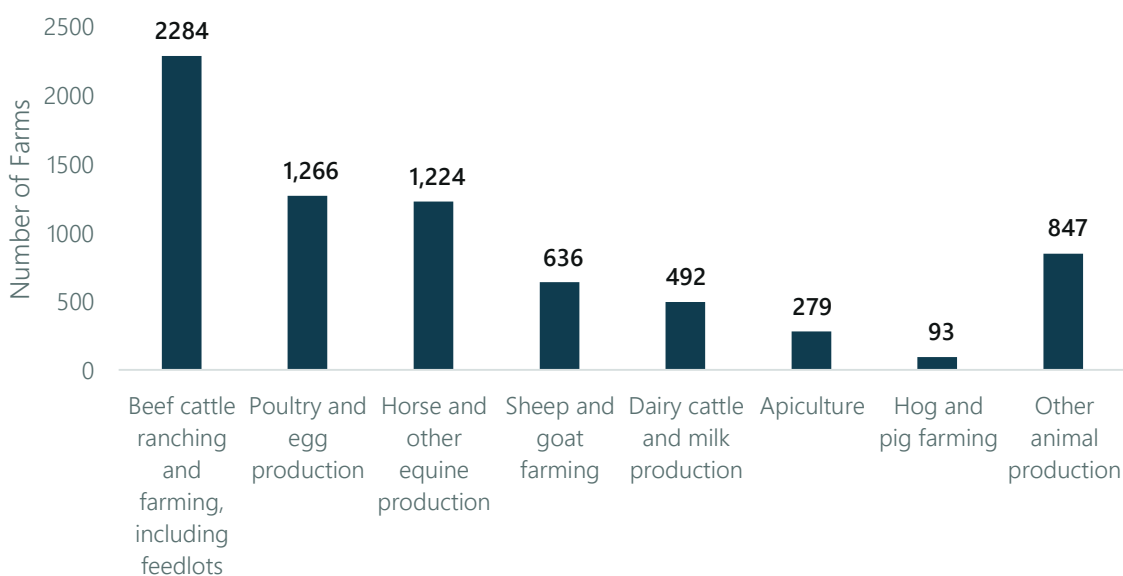


### Overview of the Livestock Sector in BC

#### Number of Farms by Type

BC has a diverse livestock sector that includes beef, dairy, poultry, goat, hog and equine production. According to the 2021 Census of Agriculture, there are approximately 7,100 livestock farms in BC. Figure G shows the number of livestock farms in BC by type of farm. The sector is dominated by beef cattle operations which account for 32 percent of the farms. Poultry farms account for approximately 18 percent of the farms, followed by equine farms (17 percent), sheep and goat farms (9 percent), dairy cattle farms (7 percent), apiculture (4 percent), and hog and pig farms (1 percent). All other types of farms as well as combination farms account for approximately 12 percent of the livestock farms in BC.

Figure G: Number of Farms by Type

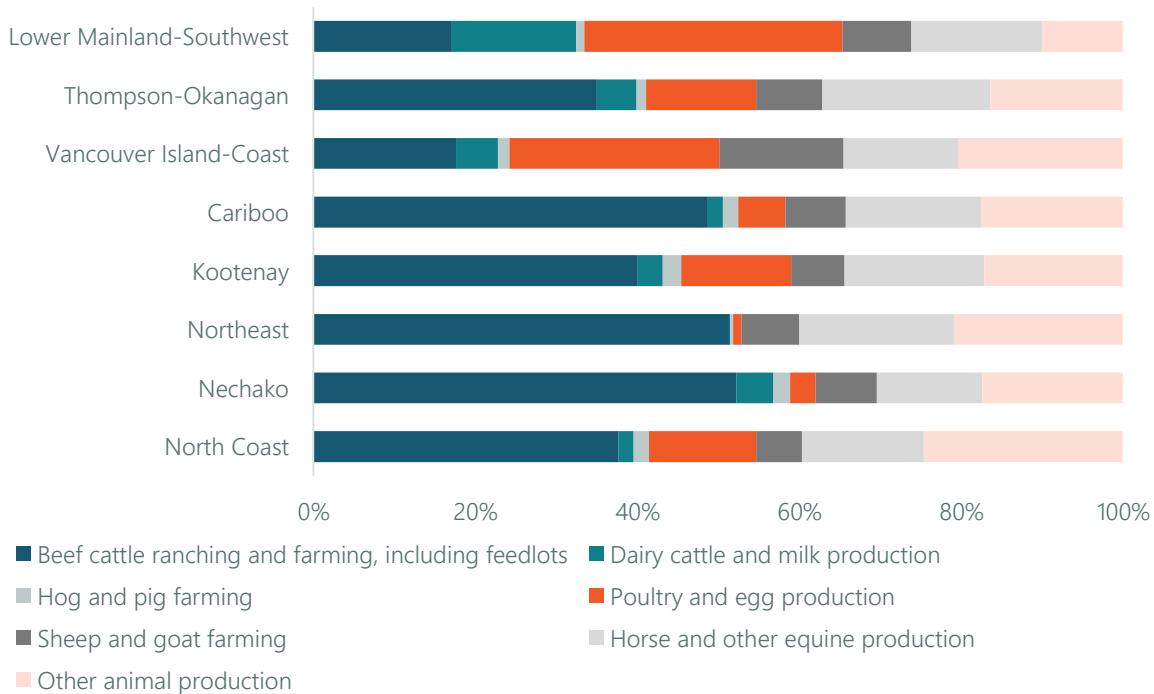


Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture 2021.



Figure H shows the distribution of livestock farms by region. As shown in the figure, livestock farming in the Lower Mainland-Southwest, Thompson Okanagan and Vancouver Island-Coast is relatively diverse and includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, poultry, sheep, pigs and equine farms. Livestock operations in the Cariboo, Kootenay and the Northern regions are predominately beef cattle but other types of farming are carried out as well.

**Figure H: Distribution of Livestock Farms in BC by Type and Region – 2021**



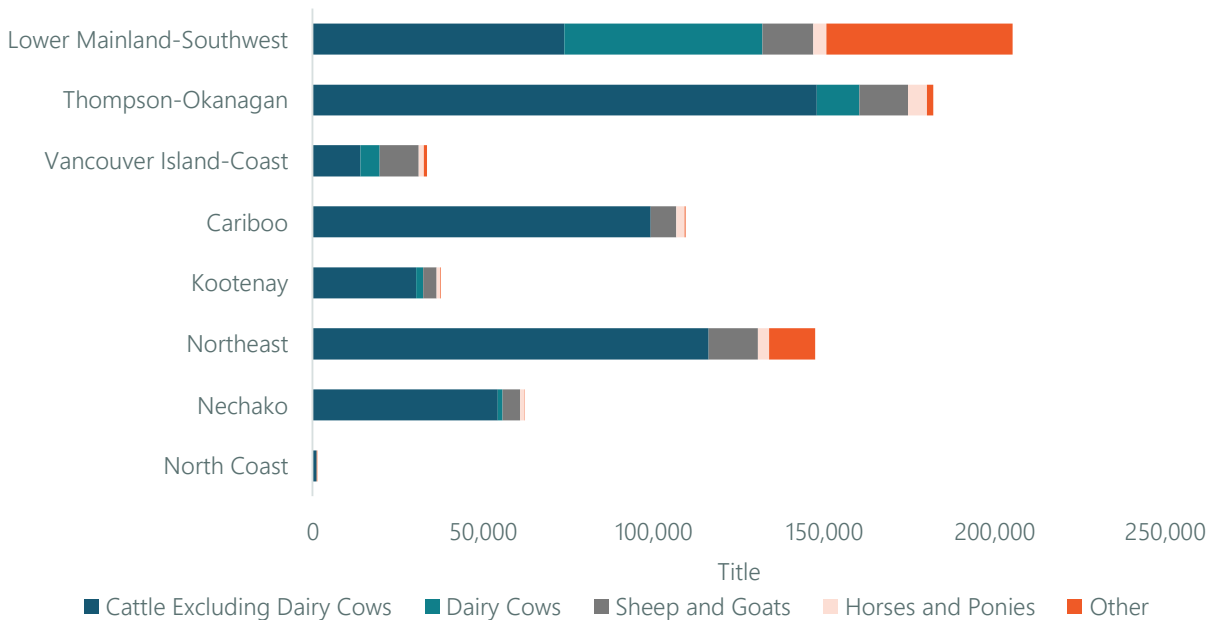
Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0231-01 Farms classified by farm type, Census of Agriculture, 2021

**Number of Animals by Region**

As shown in Figure I, the Northeast, Nechako and North Coast regions together account for the highest

share of large animals (i.e. cattle, horses, sheep and goats) at 27 percent, followed closely by the Lower Mainland-Southwest at 26 percent and the Thompson-Okanagan at 23 percent. The Cariboo region accounts for 14 percent of large animals, Kootenay accounts for 5 percent and the Vancouver Island-Coast region accounts for 4 percent. There is relatively more diversity in the types of large animals in the Lower Mainland-Southwest and Vancouver Island-Coast regions, while the majority of large animals in the other regions are beef cattle.

**Figure I: Number of Large Animals by Region - 2021<sup>6</sup>**



### Veterinarians Support Aquaculture Operations

Aquaculture contributes significantly to B.C.'s economy. In 2021, BC produced over 80,000 tonnes of farmed salmon valued at \$710 million.\* Salmon farming supports approximately 7,000 full-time equivalent jobs in BC's coastal communities.\*\*

Veterinarians working in aquaculture provide fish health management services including consultation, on-farm support, and fish health management planning and protocol development for fish producers. They also offer fish health screening and diagnostic services. These services enable aquaculture farmers to maintain healthy stocks which is essential for sustainable and profitable farming.

\* B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food, November 2022

\*\* BC Salmon Farmers Association. *Economic Impact*

<sup>6</sup> Please note that data on pigs and poultry was not available for the Interior and Northern regions and has been excluded from this presentation.

Source: Statistics Canada, Inventory on Farms by type of Animal, Census of Agriculture, 2021

## Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector in BC

BC's livestock sector is a significant contributor to BC's economy. The revenue of the sector is measured by farm cash receipts. Farm cash receipts represent the cash income received from the sale of agricultural commodities outside the sector as well as farm-to-farm sales across provinces; but exclude inter-farm sales within a province.<sup>7</sup>

In 2021, total farm cash receipts from livestock products in BC were estimated at \$1.8 billion. Milk, poultry and egg production accounted for approximately 80 percent of farm cash receipts, cattle and calves production accounted for 14 percent and all other livestock production accounted for 6 percent.

In 2021, the total direct output for the sector was estimated to be approximately \$1.9 billion. As shown in Table 2 the estimated economic impacts generated in 2021 by the livestock sector were approximately:

- \$4.1 billion in total output, including direct output of \$1.9 billion and indirect and induced output of \$2.2 billion.
- \$1.5 billion in GDP, including direct GDP of \$389 million and indirect and induced GDP of \$1.1 billion.
- 20,300 total full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in BC, including direct employment of 10,700 FTEs and indirect and induced employment of 9,600 FTEs.
- Approximately \$321 million in total government tax revenues, including \$59 million in direct tax revenues and \$262 million in indirect and induced tax revenues.

**Table 2: Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector in BC – 2021<sup>8</sup>**

	Output (\$ million)	GDP (\$ million)	Employment (FTEs)	Federal Taxes (\$ million)	Provincial Taxes (\$ millions)	Municipal Taxes (\$ millions)
<b>Direct</b>	\$1,891.6	\$387.8	10,700	\$28.3	\$24.6	\$5.6
<b>Indirect and Induced</b>	\$2,251.0	\$1,068.7	9,600	\$116.0	\$115.2	\$30.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,142.5</b>	<b>\$1,456.5</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>\$144.4</b>	<b>\$139.8</b>	<b>\$36.4</b>

Dairy cattle and milk production and poultry and egg production each account for approximately 40 percent of the impacts generated by the livestock sector in BC. Beef cattle ranching and farming accounts for 14 percent whereas all other animal production accounts for approximately 6 percent of the impacts. Figure J shows the estimated economic impacts generated by the livestock sector in 2021

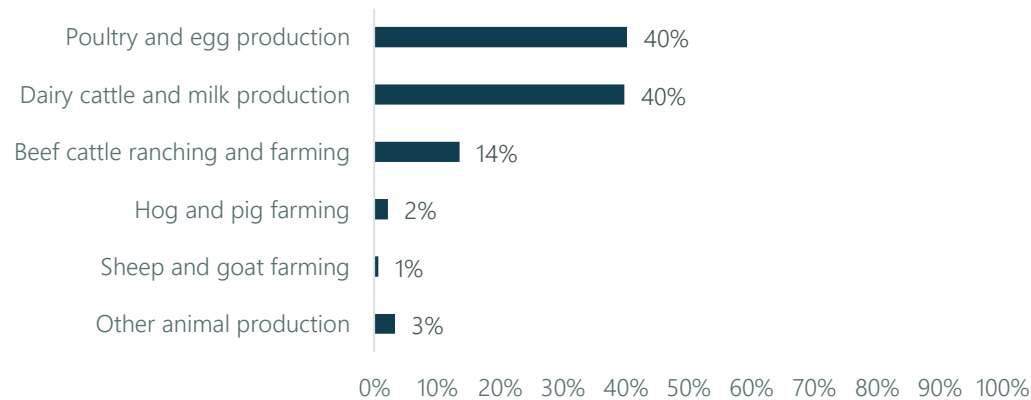
<sup>7</sup> Statistics Canada. Farm Cash Receipts. Available here:

<https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3437>

<sup>8</sup> Since farm-cash receipts exclude inter-farm sales and do not capture the total revenues, direct output estimates were derived using output data from the Statistics Canada supply and use tables and farm cash receipts.

by subsector.

**Figure J: Share of Economic Impacts by Subsector – 2021**



## Access to Veterinary Services in BC

According to the findings of a labour market study conducted by CVMA in 2019, there is a shortage of veterinarians across all regions and most types of practices in BC. The shortage is more significant for large animal practices as well as specialized practices (e.g. oncologists, cardiologists etc.) and in regions that are outside the main urban centres. The study also noted that recruitment and salary competition from corporations and small animal practices in urban areas puts further strain on recruitment efforts of rural and large animal practices.

There were estimated to be between 250 and 300 veterinarians in BC who work in large or mixed animal practices.<sup>9</sup> This suggests that provincially the ratio of animal farms to large animal veterinarians is between 24 and 29 per veterinarian, and the ratio of large animals and to large animal veterinarians is between 3,000 and 3,500 per veterinarian. However, practices and animals are not evenly distributed across the province.

Figure K compares the number of practices and number of large animals by census division. Despite high concentrations of large animals in the interior and northern regions, the number of veterinary practices is relatively low and not all practices provide services to large animals. In the Nechako region

### Access in the Nechako Region

Interviews with producers and veterinarians in the Nechako region highlight the challenges faced by livestock producers in accessing veterinary services. Numerous livestock operations reported being without veterinary services for almost a year.

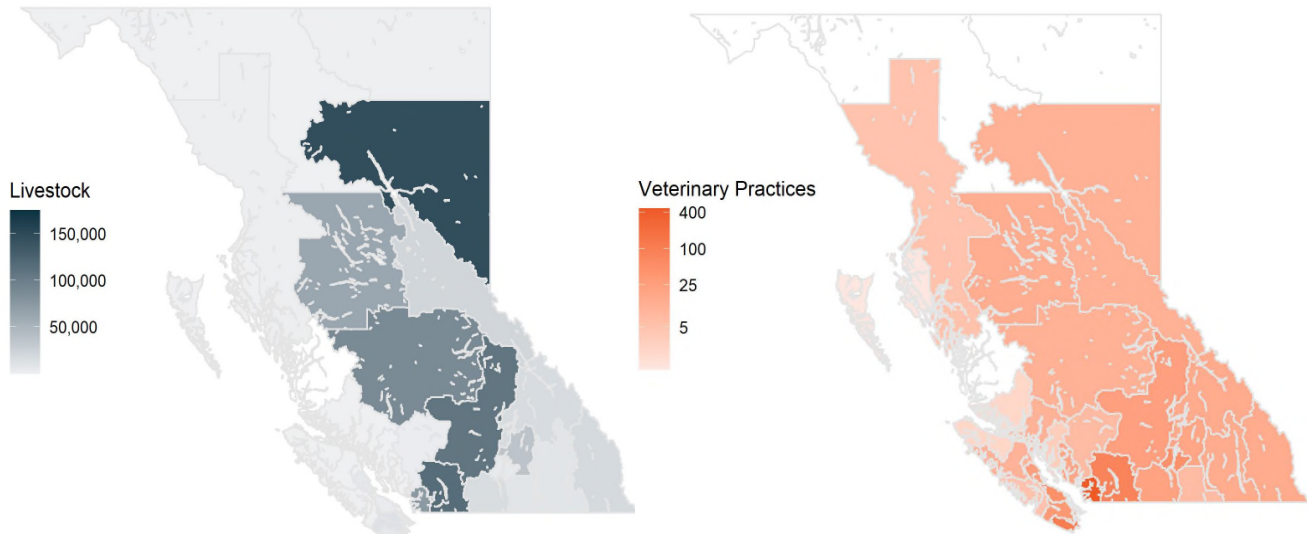
In the Vanderhoof area there is currently only one veterinary clinic able to provide services to livestock producers. The clinic is already operating at maximum capacity leaving many producers in the area without a veterinarian at this time.

<sup>9</sup> This estimate is based on 16 percent of veterinarians in private practice working in mixed animal and large animal practices.



there were five accredited veterinary clinics identified, three of which are mixed animal practices providing services to small animals and livestock and one which provides services to small animals and horses.<sup>10</sup> A total of seven veterinarians work in the practices providing livestock and equine services. The ratio of large animals to veterinarians in the region is approximately 8,900 per veterinarian, almost triple the provincial average. In the Northeast there were three clinics employing 19 veterinarians identified that provide services to large animals.<sup>11</sup> The ratio of large animals to veterinarians in the region is approximately 7,700 per veterinarian, roughly double the provincial average.

**Figure K: Number of Veterinary Practices<sup>12</sup> and Livestock Head<sup>13</sup> by Census Divisions**



Sources: Statistics Canada, Inventory on Farms by type of Animal, Census of Agriculture, 2021 and Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation of Business Register Data, Number of Businesses by Census Divisions- 2019

### Financial Impact of Lack of Access to Veterinary Care

To illustrate the financial impact on livestock producers of the loss of an animal due to lack of veterinary care we estimated the cost to a rancher of losing a beef cow. Our estimates are based on the following assumptions:

- Average revenue from the sale of a beef cow is between \$1,200 and \$1,300.
- Production expenses for a beef cow are between \$900 and \$1,100.<sup>14</sup> Of this, between 50 percent and 60 percent is feed cost and the remainder is other operating costs.

<sup>10</sup> Estimated based on accredited facilities in CVBC's online registry and services advertised by each veterinary clinic.

<sup>11</sup> Estimated based on accredited facilities in CVBC's online registry and services advertised by each veterinary clinic.

<sup>12</sup> Includes establishments with and without employees.

<sup>13</sup> Livestock include cattle, horses, sheep and goats. Please note that data on pigs and poultry for most regions were not available.

<sup>14</sup> Based on review of cost of production estimates published by Government of Manitoba, Government of Alberta and MNP's internal benchmarking.

Based on these assumptions, for every beef cow that is sold the rancher earns between \$200 and \$300 over their operating costs. This is used to cover fixed costs (e.g., buildings, land) and anything remaining after fixed costs is profit. When a cow is lost the rancher is out-of-pocket the production expenses and the sale of between three and five cows would be required to recoup those. This also means that there is less revenue to cover fixed costs which impacts the viability of the operation.



In addition, to the loss of the cow the rancher loses future calves that would have been born to the cow. Some of these calves would typically be used for herd replacement and some would be sold. Cows have on average eight calves over their productive life.<sup>15</sup>

## Economic Impact of Increased Access to Veterinary Care

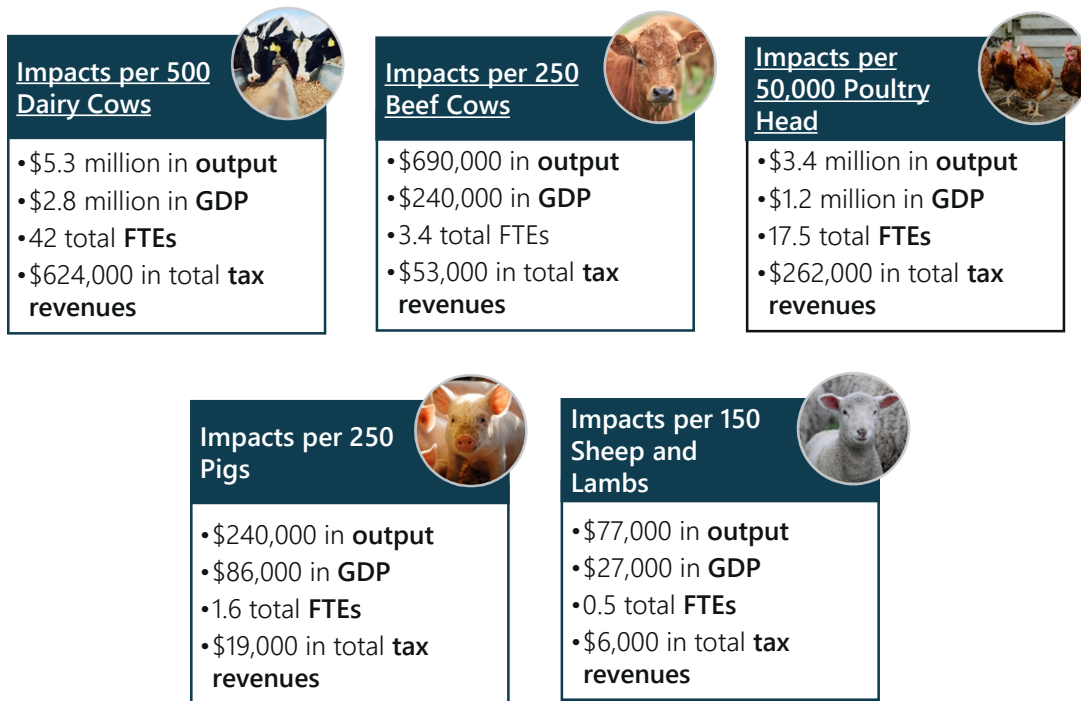
In addition to the financial impact to producers of increased mortality, the lack of access to veterinary care affects the ability of producers to grow their operations. To illustrate the potential magnitude of the impact to the economy of producers growing their operations we estimated the economic impact for an average sized herd/flock by type of animal. As shown in Figure L:

- An additional 500 dairy cows contribute \$5.3 million in total output, \$2.8 million in total GDP and \$0.6 million in total tax revenues annually.
- An additional 250 beef cows contribute \$0.69 million in total output, \$0.24 million in total GDP and \$0.05 million in total tax revenues annually.
- An additional 50,000 head of poultry contribute \$3.4 million in total output, \$1.2 million in total GDP and \$0.26 million in total tax revenues annually.
- An additional 250 pigs contribute \$0.24 million in total output, \$0.086 million in total GDP and \$0.02 million in total tax revenues annually.
- An additional 150 sheep and lambs contribute \$0.077 million in total output, \$0.027 million in total GDP and \$0.006 million in total tax revenues annually.

<sup>15</sup> Beef Cattle Research Council, *Economics of Raising or Buying heifers for Beef Cow Replacement*. Available here: <https://www.beefresearch.ca/blog/economics-of-raising-or-buying-heifers-for-beef-cow-replacement/>



Figure L: Total Direct, Indirect and Induced Economic Impacts by Animal



In addition to the impacts associated with additional livestock production, the operations of an additional veterinary practice would also create economic impacts. Table 3 shows the annual economic impacts generated per full-time veterinarian working in a mixed animal practice. These impacts primarily occur in the community in which the clinic is located.

Table 3: Economic Impacts per Full-time Veterinarian in a Mixed Animal Practice

	Output (\$)	GDP (\$)	Employment (FTEs)	Federal Taxes (\$)	Provincial Taxes (\$)	Municipal Taxes (\$)
Direct	\$599,900	\$325,700	4.2	\$33,700	\$20,700	
Indirect and Induced	\$316,400	\$184,300	1.3	\$22,200	\$24,100	\$6,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$916,300</b>	<b>\$510,000</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>\$55,900</b>	<b>\$44,800</b>	<b>\$6,100</b>

## 5. Case Study

Veterinary medicine contributes to the economy in BC in various ways, including through support of the livestock sector. Throughout the province, veterinarians and their animal care teams play a critical role in supporting livestock producers in the health and welfare of their animals. This support is a necessity for the viability of all sizes and types of livestock operations. The following case study explores the current state of access to veterinary care according to those both providing and accessing it in a rural region of central BC. **The case study highlights how access to care impacts the local livestock industry as well as residents requiring care for pets and other small animals.** While many farmers and ranchers are largely self-sufficient with respect to caring for their animals, veterinary services are required for urgent and emergent care, breeding soundness evaluations, disease outbreak investigations as well as the purchasing of medically important antibiotics and other supplies.

Information used to prepare the case study was obtained through secondary research and interviews with local veterinarians and cattle producers located in the community of Vanderhoof in the Nechako region.

### Accessing Veterinary Services in the Nechako Region

#### *Region Backdrop*

Livestock production is a key economic driver in the Nechako Region. Communities throughout the region, including Burns Lake, Fort St. James, Fraser Lake, Granisle, Houston, Smithers, Telkwa, and Vanderhoof<sup>16</sup> are supported and surrounded by a variety of agricultural operations, including livestock. In 2022, 437 total livestock operations were found in the region, with 249 of them being dedicated primarily to cattle ranching and farming. These operations consist of approximately 62,000 total animals, including nearly 56,000 cattle.<sup>17</sup> In 2021, livestock production generated \$130.9 million in direct, indirect and induced output in the Nechako region.



The Nechako region is serviced by a total of five veterinary practices.<sup>18</sup> Of these practices three practices offer services for livestock: Nechako Valley Animal Health Services; Burns Lake Veterinary Clinic; and Babine Animal Hospital and one provides equine services. Mobile veterinary practices may also offer services in the region.

<sup>16</sup> Regional District of Bulkley Nechako. Available here : <https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/economic-development/regional-information/area-profiles/municipality-profiles>

<sup>17</sup> Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0370-01 Cattle inventory on farms, Census of Agriculture, 2021

<sup>18</sup> College of Veterinarians of British Columbia. <https://www.cvbc.ca/online-registry/>

This case study focuses on the community of Vanderhoof, a district municipality of 4,346 residents.<sup>19</sup> The economy of Vanderhoof is heavily dependent on natural resources, including forestry and agriculture. Lack of fibre supply has led to curtailment at lumber mills in the region and reductions in harvesting activity. As forestry has declined agriculture and tourism have become increasingly important drivers of the local economy. Forage crops and cattle production are the main agriculture products produced in the region.<sup>20</sup> In 2021, 30,262 cattle and calves, valued at \$42.2 million, were sold at the Vanderhoof livestock auction.<sup>21</sup>

In Vanderhoof, Nechako Valley Animal Health Services (NVAHS) is currently the only veterinary practice in operation. NVAHS, owned by Dr. Cori Stephen, is supported by a team including Dr. Amanda Janzen, two registered veterinary technicians and administrative support.<sup>22</sup> Providing care for nearly 4,500 animals per year, NVAHS is a mixed animal practice where Dr. Stephen and Dr. Janzen and their team divide their time between caring for small animals (70 per cent), equine (20 per cent), and food animals such as cattle, goats and sheep (10 percent). NVAHS's primary focus on small animal and equine care is due to high demand and ensuring the financial sustainability of the practice. As a significant portion of the care for cattle and other livestock is seasonal, the current demand would not sustain a full-time practice dedicated to large animals. Small animal and equine care is provided on an individual patient basis at the NVAHS clinic, whereas care for food animals is herd-based and requires on-farm visits or care at a more centrally located facility.



## Demand for Veterinary Services in Vanderhoof

There are currently not enough veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians or qualified support and administrative staff to meet demand for veterinary services in the region. The pressure for veterinarians to be available at all times has serious implications on the ability to ensure a work life balance for the

<sup>19</sup> Statistics Canada. 2022. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released December 15, 2022.

<sup>20</sup> Regional District of Bulkley Nechako. District of Vanderhoof. Available here: <https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/economic-development/regional-information/area-profiles/municipality-profiles/vanderhoof-profile>

<sup>21</sup> Vanderhoof Livestock Auction statistics provided by the BC Livestock Co-op.

<sup>22</sup> Nechako Valley Animal Health Services website. [https://www.nvahs.com/nvahs-team/?\\_sm\\_pdc=1&\\_sm\\_rid=5QPn7tZjwDt7rZ0Zswtt2sJSRPn4Mn7tZRn3Ptr](https://www.nvahs.com/nvahs-team/?_sm_pdc=1&_sm_rid=5QPn7tZjwDt7rZ0Zswtt2sJSRPn4Mn7tZRn3Ptr)

animal health team. The demand for veterinary services in Vanderhoof is currently at an all-time high.<sup>23</sup> The region is estimated to have experienced a 30 percent increase in its pet population in recent years, in line with a national surge in pet ownership during the COVID-19 pandemic that has resulted in a significant demand for small animal care and products.<sup>24</sup> The closure of another veterinary clinic in the area due to retirement has also increased the demand on the veterinarians and staff at NVAHS. Many of the clients of the closed practice, including livestock producers, have now turned to NVAHS veterinarians for animal care. To accommodate the demand, Dr. Stephen and Dr. Janzen are typically scheduling between 21 to 26 appointments per day, four days per week and staff are working upwards of 48 hours in those four days alone. The nearest small animal emergency clinic is upwards of 10 hours away, leaving the NVAHS team as the only option to provide after-hours emergency care. The veterinarians are also doing their best to accommodate livestock producers who contact the clinic with a specific problem and extending their hours to help accommodate producer requests.

Another important change impacting demand on veterinary services at NVAHS is increased regulation around accessing medically important antimicrobials (MIA's) for use in animals.<sup>25</sup> The changes to MIA's in 2018 were made in response to the global issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in bacteria in both animals and humans. The implementation of these changes aimed to help slow and reduce the development of AMR in animal pathogens. The

regulations align with "One Health" which is a unifying approach set out by the World Health Organization to balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems.<sup>26</sup> As a result of the regulations introduced in 2018, livestock producers are no longer able to purchase certain MIA's over-the-counter, including penicillins and

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*"Our biggest challenge is staffing – without more veterinarians in the area, we are limited in the amount of care that we can provide these animals."*

*- Dr. Amanda Janzen*

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oxytetracyclines (Terramycin Scour tablets). These MIA's, which are administered for both preventative care and as treatment, are now required to be purchased through a veterinarian. Other medications commonly used in livestock care such as Resflor and Draxxin have always been available exclusively through a veterinarian; however, a Veterinarian Client Patient Relationship (VCPR)<sup>27</sup> is now required to acquire them.<sup>28</sup> NVAHS, as well as the Canadian Cattle Association, industry reps and other stakeholders

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<sup>23</sup> MNP Interview Findings

<sup>24</sup> "Vets swamped by surge in 'pandemic pets'. Joseph Tunney. CBC. January 30, 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/delay-pet-care-national-shortage-1.5894161>

<sup>25</sup> Health Canada, Responsible use of Medically Important Antimicrobials in Animals. September 3, 2021. Available here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/antibiotic-antimicrobial-resistance/animals/actions/responsible-use-antimicrobials.html>

<sup>26</sup> World Health Organization [https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health#tab=tab_1)

<sup>27</sup> Guide to the Professional Practice Standard: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) <https://www.cvbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Guide-to-the-VCPR-Standard.pdf>

<sup>28</sup> College of Veterinarians of British Columbia. Changes to Health Canada Regulations: Medically Important Antimicrobials. <https://www.cvbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Changes-to-Health-Canada-Regulations-Mar.-2018.pdf>

have been communicating the changes related to VCPR requirements and access to MIA's since 2017 in efforts to ensure the transition is manageable for both producers and the veterinary medical industry.

In a region already under-served in terms of number of veterinarians and support staff, Dr. Stephen and Dr. Janzen are currently working as quickly as possible to accommodate and manage their client wait lists for both livestock producers seeking to establish a VCPR as well their small animal/equine wait list of over 100 clients seeking veterinary care.

Attempts to alleviate the demand pressures by recruiting more veterinarians to the area have proven difficult. In addition to the limited number of annual veterinary graduates in Canada, attracting veterinarian graduates to any rural community and also into a large or mixed animal practice can be a challenge.

### Access to Care for Livestock Producers

Access to veterinary services is an ongoing and growing concern for many livestock producers in the Vanderhoof region. While many producers provide most of the care that their animals require, veterinary services are also a necessity for emergent care, breeding soundness evaluations, disease outbreak investigations as well as the purchasing of MIA's and other supplies. Many livestock operations also require care for other animals on the farm or ranch, including horses, herding dogs and pets. In many cases the services required by producers involve unscheduled or after-hours care, resulting in higher demand on the over-capacity workload of the local veterinarians. The limited access to veterinary care within close proximity has led many producers to seek alternate solutions, creating uncertainty for the sustainability and growth of their operations.<sup>29</sup>



Several livestock producers who either had an established VCPR with the veterinarian in Vanderhoof who retired, or who did not have one at all, are seeking to establish a VCPR with the NVAHS to secure specific medications. With the limited capacity of NVAHS to accommodate all livestock producers who are seeking care, some producers were added to a waiting list and others have sought veterinary service elsewhere in the region.

Donna Gould and her husband run a local cow-calf operation 20 kilometres east of Vanderhoof. Until the retirement of their local veterinarian, the Gould's 200 head of cattle were regularly visited by their veterinarian two to three times a year. Currently on a waiting list for veterinary care, the Goulds have not been able to secure antibiotics for the upcoming calving season and have real concerns about the future of their operation. The Goulds have sought veterinary care in surrounding communities, from Burns Lake to Quesnel, but have not been successful as of January 2023.

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<sup>29</sup> MNP Interview Findings

Similar to the Goulds, producer Jay McKee and his wife run a cow-calf operation near Vanderhoof. The difficulty in obtaining antibiotics to treat illnesses like pneumonia in his herd, for example, has raised concern over their ability to maintain and grow their operation. The McKees current operation involves 150 head of cattle, and they would like to grow the operation to 400 head of cattle in the next five to ten years. However, without adequate access to veterinary services due to the shortage of veterinarians in the region, this growth will not be feasible. The McKees are one of a group of producers who have had to look to other communities for veterinary services, and are optimistic about establishing a VCPR in the near future. After enquiring with 15 veterinary practices in a 200 kilometer radius from their operations, a veterinarian in Prince George (100 kilometres away) may be able to provide the services they require prior to calving season.

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*"We do need more veterinary graduates – but that is a long-term fix. Vanderhoof needs a solution now in order to mitigate losses to our operations."*

*- Jay McKee, livestock producer*

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For producers who currently do have access to veterinary services, many are required to travel to receive them. Lyle Wiens runs a 330-head cow-calf operation located 15 kilometers outside of Vanderhoof; however, his veterinarian is located over an hour away. In instances of animals requiring emergency care, Mr. Wiens generally has three options: transport the animal for care when the veterinarian has availability; provide emergency care himself to the best of his ability and with the resources available; or euthanize the animal. In the past year, there were two instances where veterinary service wasn't available in an emergency situation, leaving euthanizing the animal as the only option for

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*"If the question is do all producers have access to adequate veterinarian care in the region, I'd say that we absolutely do not."*

*- Lyle Wiens, livestock producer*

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Mr. Wiens. If veterinary services were available in closer proximity or with the ability to provide on-farm emergency care, the welfare of his animals would be improved and both animal and financial loss reduced.

To be as financially prudent as possible, producers are mindful of when they need to access care. Livestock producers strive to keep preventative treatment and emergency treatment costs as low as possible. Medications are only administered as needed to optimize the health of their animals and emergency care is requested only when necessary. The average annual costs paid by producers for veterinary care varies by the size of the herd and the care required. Estimates from interviewed producers average between \$15 - \$30 per head, per year.

The situations of these producers emphasize the shortage of veterinarians in the Vanderhoof region and the distances they need to travel to receive the proper and sufficient care needed to run their operations. The sentiment among producers in the area is that of concern for the wellbeing of their herd and future growth of the operation. Overall, a lack of access to adequate veterinary services puts livestock producers in a position of uncertainty on whether they will continue to invest in their operations and seek expansion. Producers recognize the efforts of their local veterinarians and that they must balance the needs of all clients and take into account safety, client relationships and other



important factors such as work life balance and mental health. Local producers and veterinarians have a shared understanding of the need to find a long-term solution to graduate additional veterinarians and recruit more to the area; however, they also identify a need for immediate relief in Vanderhoof and other rural regions.

### **Potential Economic Impact of Growth for Livestock Producers**

The three livestock producers interviewed for this case study identified a desire to grow their operations in the coming years; however, growth is dependent upon several factors. With the uncertainty of access to veterinary care a primary concern, availability of land and market conditions also factor into decision making.

To illustrate the economic impact to the region associated with the growth of these operations we assumed that each operation would add 100 head of cattle. Based on the economic impacts estimated earlier in this report, an increase of 300 beef cows produced would result in the following economic impacts on **an annual basis**:

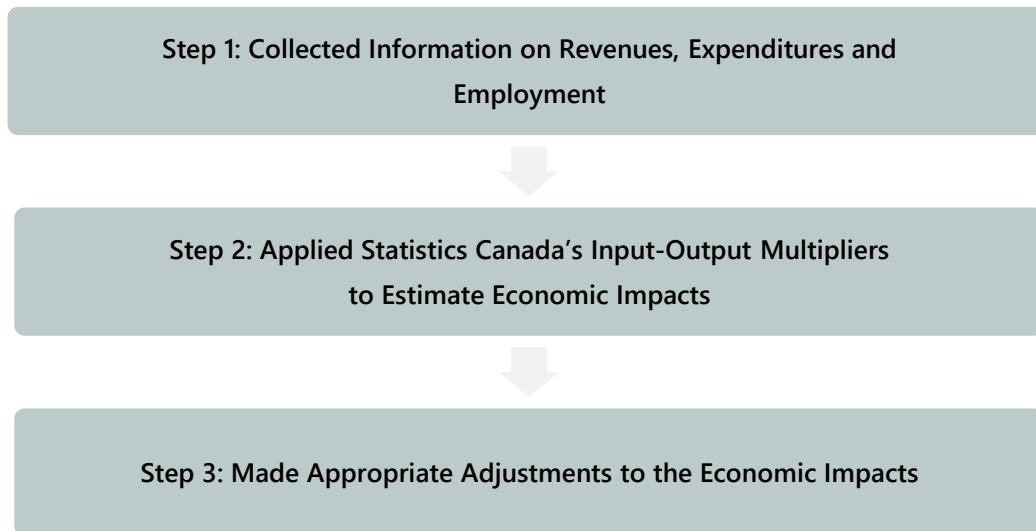
- \$830,000 in total output
- \$292,000 in total GDP
- 4 FTEs
- \$32,000 in total taxes

An additional 300 head of cattle between these three operations represents an approximate 44 percent growth from current size of operations.

# Appendices

## Appendix A – Economic Impact Methodology

MNP's approach to economic impact modelling is based on published Statistics Canada multipliers and input-output modelling. A step-by-step overview of our approach to estimating the economic impacts is as follows:



### Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector

#### 1) Collected Data and Estimated Direct Output of the Sector

To estimate direct output of the Sector, MNP collected data on output and farm cash receipts from Statistics Canada. To ensure inter-farm sales were captured, MNP used 2019 output data from Statistics Canada's Supply and Use tables<sup>30</sup> and growth in farm cash receipts from 2019 to 2021 to estimate output in 2021. MNP also collected information on employment generated by the livestock sector from Statistics Canada's Labour productivity and related measures data set (Table 36-10-0480-01)

#### 2) Applied Statistics Canada's Input-Output Multipliers to Estimate Economic Impacts

Statistics Canada's 2019 input-output multipliers for BC were then applied to the direct output to estimate the economic impacts generated in BC by the livestock sector. Statistics Canada's input-output multipliers produced estimates of direct, indirect and induced output, GDP, and employment.

<sup>30</sup> The Supply and Use Tables shows the total output/supply by industry. It also shows the goods and services used by each industry in the production of their goods and services along with the costs of primary inputs used in production.



### 3) Made Appropriate Adjustments to the Economic Impacts

- The direct employment estimates produced by the multipliers were then compared with the employment numbers from Statistics Canada's Labour productivity tables and adjusted accordingly.

## Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector

### 1) Collected Information on Revenue, Expenditures and Employment of Veterinary Practices

- MNP collected information on revenues, expenditures and employment from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's (CVMA) economic survey of veterinary practices. The survey provides estimates per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) veterinarian working 1,750 hours annually. Estimates are provided for small animal practices and mixed and large animal practices. Practice wide estimates were developed using total number of active veterinarians by type of practice and average annual hours worked. According to the survey of veterinarians that was done as a part of CVMA's Labor Market Study, veterinarians in BC work an average of 38 hours a week. This translates into approximately 1,970 average annual hours worked per veterinarian.

### 2) Applied Statistics Canada's Input-Output Multipliers to Estimate Economic Impacts

- Statistics Canada's 2019 input-output multipliers for BC were then applied on revenues to estimate the economic impacts of operations of veterinary practices. The expenditure profiles collected in Step 1 were compared with Statistics Canada's Supply and Use tables to identify the relevant industry multipliers to be applied.

### 3) Made Appropriate Adjustments to the Economic Impacts

- The information collected in Step 1 was then compared with the estimates generated by the multipliers such as wages and salaries, and employment. Based on the comparisons, adjustments were then made to the economic impacts produced by the multipliers.

## Appendix B – Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector by Subsector

Table 4 presents the estimated economic impacts generated by the livestock sector in 2021 by subsector. Dairy cattle and milk production and poultry and egg production each account for approximately 40 percent of the impacts generated by the livestock sector in BC. Beef cattle ranching and farming accounts for 14 percent whereas all other animal production accounts for approximately 6 percent of the impacts.

**Table 4: Economic Impacts of the Livestock Sector by Subsector in BC**

	Output (\$ million)	GDP (\$ million)	Employment (FTEs)	Federal Taxes (\$ million)	Provincial Taxes (\$ millions)	Municipal Taxes (\$ millions)
<b>Dairy Cattle and Milk Production</b>						
Direct	\$754.5	\$154.7	4,250	\$11.3	\$9.8	\$2.2
Indirect and Induced	\$897.9	\$426.3	3,800	\$46.3	\$46.0	\$12.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,652.4</b>	<b>\$581.0</b>	<b>8,050</b>	<b>\$57.6</b>	<b>\$55.8</b>	<b>\$14.5</b>
<b>Beef Cattle Ranching and Farming</b>						
Direct	\$257.6	\$52.8	1,450	\$3.9	\$3.3	\$0.8
Indirect and Induced	\$306.5	\$145.5	1,300	\$15.8	\$15.7	\$4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$564.1</b>	<b>\$198.3</b>	<b>2,750</b>	<b>\$19.7</b>	<b>\$19.0</b>	<b>\$4.9</b>
<b>Poultry and Egg Production</b>						
Direct	\$762.7	\$156.4	4,300	\$11.4	\$9.9	\$2.3
Indirect and Induced	\$907.7	\$430.9	3,900	\$46.8	\$46.5	\$12.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,670.4</b>	<b>\$587.3</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>\$58.2</b>	<b>\$56.4</b>	<b>\$14.7</b>
<b>Hog and Pig Production</b>						
Direct	\$41.5	\$8.5	200	\$0.6	\$0.5	\$0.1
Indirect and Induced	\$49.4	\$23.5	200	\$2.6	\$2.5	\$0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90.9</b>	<b>\$32.0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>\$3.2</b>	<b>\$3.1</b>	<b>\$0.8</b>
<b>Sheep Farming</b>						
Direct	\$13.4	\$2.7	100	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.0
Indirect and Induced	\$15.9	\$7.6	100	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29.3</b>	<b>\$10.3</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$1.0</b>	<b>\$0.3</b>
<b>Other Animal Production</b>						
Direct	\$61.9	\$12.7	400	\$0.9	\$0.8	\$0.2
Indirect and Induced	\$73.6	\$35.0	300	\$3.8	\$3.8	\$1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$135.5</b>	<b>\$47.6</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>\$4.7</b>	<b>\$4.6</b>	<b>\$1.2</b>

## Appendix C – About MNP

For over 60 years, MNP has proudly served and responded to the needs of clients in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Today, MNP is the fifth largest Chartered Professional Accountancy and business consulting firm in Canada and is the only major accounting and business consulting firm with its head office located in Western Canada. MNP has more than 117 locations and over 7,100 team members across the country.

### MNP Consulting Services

MNP Consulting provides a broad range of business and advisory services to clients including:

- Strategy Development and Planning
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Performance Measurement
- Economic Analysis
- Research
- Data and Analytics
- Business Plans and Feasibility Studies
- Performance Improvement
- Financial Analysis



### About MNP's Economics and Research Practice

Economic and industry studies are carried out by MNP's Economics and Research practice. Based in Vancouver, the Economics and Research practice consists of a team of professionals that has a successful track record of assisting clients with a wide variety of financial and economic impact studies. Our work has encompassed a wide range of programs, industries, company operations and policy initiatives, and has helped clients with decision-making, communication of economic and financial contributions, documentation of the value of initiatives and activities, and development of public policy.

# MADE <sup>IN</sup> CANADA

## And proud of it!

At MNP we're proud to be the national accounting, tax and business consulting firm that is 100% Made in Canada.

Why is this important? Because it defines who we are and our approach to business. It has helped shape our values, our collaborative approach and the way we work with our clients, engaging them every step of the way.

Our history gives us a unique perspective. We know Canada because we are a part of Canada. All of our decisions are made here – decisions that drive Canadian business and help us all further achieve success.

And the sense of strong Canadian commitment, being a part of every community, we live and work in, and always being there through prosperous and challenging times.

Being 100% Canadian is something we wear proudly because we know the great opportunities that exist here. The opportunities that have been afforded to our firm, the same opportunities that we deliver to our clients.



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**From:** Minister, PSFS PSFS:EX <[PSFS.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSFS.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2023 11:34 AM

**To:** Nellie Davis <[nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: Our Ref. 128501 - Re: Permanently subsidized seats for BC students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.**

March 31, 2023

Our Ref. 128501

Nellie Davis

Manager of Regional Economic Development

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Email Address: [nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca)

Dear Nellie Davis:

Thank you for your email of March 1, 2023, regarding permanently subsidized seats for BC students at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM).

Our government knows that veterinarians play a critical role in supporting the agricultural sector, people, and the health and welfare of animals and pets across BC.

As you know, last spring, the Province of British Columbia doubled the intake of funded BC students starting their veterinary studies at the WCVM—the first increase in over a decade. We also provided funding that enabled the WCVM to waive the differential tuition fees for previously admitted BC students who were not in a provincially subsidized seat. As recently [announced](#), I am pleased to inform you that this significant increase of subsidized seats for BC students attending the WCVM has been made permanent and is part of our *Future Ready: Skills for the Jobs of Tomorrow* Plan which dedicates \$480 million over three years to support talent and skill development in our province.

Expanding training is one way that BC is working to address the need for more vets. Other ways include recruiting more veterinarians and veterinary technicians through initiatives such as the [Provincial Nominee Program](#). My Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food are committed to continuing to work with partners, including municipalities and regional districts, to help attract veterinary professionals to high demand areas and support veterinary care services in the province.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Honourable Selina Robinson

Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

-----Original Message-----

From: Nellie Davis <[nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca)>

Sent: March 1, 2023 9:56 AM

To: White, Christine PSFS:EX <[Christine.White@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Christine.White@gov.bc.ca)>

Subject: Budget Announcement

Good Morning Christine,

Chair Parker asked me to reach out and inquire about the inclusion of permanently subsidized seats for BC students at Western College of Veterinary Medicine. We have been anticipating an announcement in the budget, but can't find it mentioned.

Thank you very much,

Nellie Davis

Manager of Regional Economic Development

250-692-3195