

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 17

Thursday, November 21, 2024

PRESENT:

Chair	Mark Parker
Directors	Shane Brienen – left at 12:45 p.m. Martin Elphee Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert Linda McGuire – arrived at 10:35 a.m. Shirley Moon Kevin Moutray – via Zoom – left at 2:21 p.m. Chris Newell – left at 10:41 a.m., returned at 10:50 a.m. Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg Sarrah Storey – via Zoom – arrived at 10:03 p.m., left at 2:02 p.m., returned at 2:07 p.m. Henry Wiebe
Directors Absent	Gladys Atrill, Town of Smithers Leroy Dekens, Village of Telkwa
Alternate Director	Frank Wray, Town of Smithers
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 11:40 a.m., left at 12:06 p.m. John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Daryn Larson, Building Inspector – arrived at 11:44 a.m., left at 12:13 p.m. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Others	Heather Desarmia, Community Relations Advisor, TC Energy – via Zoom – left at 10:41 a.m. Scott Larson, CEO, CO ₂ Lock Corp. – via Zoom – arrived at 10:05 a.m., left at 11:24 p.m. David Molinski, Director & VP Regulatory and External Relations, CO ₂ Lock Corp. – via Zoom – arrived at 10:13 a.m., left at 11:24 p.m. Nader Mosavat, Chief Technology Officer, CO ₂ Lock Corp. – via Zoom – arrived at 10:11 a.m., left at 11:24 a.m. Tanner Moulton, Community Relations Project Advisor, External Relations, British Columbia, TC Energy – left at 10:41 a.m. Nicole Stuckert, Manager, Land, TC Energy – left at 10:41 a.m.

Others (Cont'd) Sian Weaver, Manager, Socio-Economics, TC Energy – left at 10:41 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Chairperson

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2024/2025.

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-1

“That Director Parker be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for 2024/2025.

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Chairperson a second time.

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Chairperson a third time.

There being no further nominations, CAO Helgesen declared Director Parker Chairperson for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2024/2025 by acclamation.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Vice – Chairperson

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the year 2024/2025.

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Alternate Director Wray

2027-17-2

“That Director Brien be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for 2024/2025.”

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson a second time.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON (CONT'D)

Moved by Director Elphee
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-3

"That Director Moutray be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for 2024/2025."

CAO Helgesen called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson a third time.

There being no further nominations CAO Helgesen called for an election.

Directors voted and ballots were collected and counted by Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services and Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services. As a result of counting the ballots for the Election of Vice-Chairperson, Director Brienen was elected Vice-Chairperson for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the 2024/2025 year.

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-17-4

"That the ballots for the election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson be destroyed."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairperson Parker assumed the Chair.

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**AGENDA &
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Lambert

2024-17-5

"That the Board Meeting Agenda of November 21, 2024 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
-October 24, 2024

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Brienen

2024-17-6

"That the Board Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2024 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Meeting Minutes
-November 7, 2024

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Moon

2024-17-7

"That the following Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

-Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- November 7, 2024

-Connectivity Committee Meeting Minutes
- November 7, 2024 as amended

-Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
- November 7, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

COASTAL GASLINK – TC ENERGY – Tanner Moulton, Community Relations Project Advisor, External Relations, British Columbia, Sian Weaver, Manager, Socio-Economics, Nicole Stuckert, Manager, Land Re: Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP)

Chair Parker welcomed Tanner Moulton, Community Relations Project Advisor, External Relations, British Columbia, Sian Weaver, Manager, Socio-Economics, Nicole Stuckert, Manager, Coastal GasLink, TC Energy.

A PowerPoint Presentation was provided.

Coastal GasLink SEEMP

- Project Overview
- 2024 Post-Construction Update
- 2024 Operations Update
- In-Kind Material Donations
- Public Awareness Brochures
- Socio-economic Effects Management Plan
 - o Implementation 2024 Highlights
 - o Engagement Meetings within the RDBN
- Phase 2 Update
 - o Potential Additional Compressor Stations
 - o Proposed Compressor Station Locations – RDBN
- Creating a legacy of safety and respect.

DELEGATIONS

COASTAL GASLINK – TC ENERGY – Tanner Moulton, Community Relations Project Advisor, External Relations, British Columbia, Sian Weaver, Manager, Socio-Economics, Nicole Stuckert, Manager, Land Re: Socio-economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP) (CONT'D)

The following was discussed:

- TC Energy announced its recent partnership with the Northwest Invasive Plant Council
- Road maintenance and management post-pipeline construction of the Morice, Owen and Parrott Forest Service Roads
 - o Continue discussions with Canfor in Houston
 - o Road maintenance to move toward pickup standard
 - o Adjustment of maintenance needs
 - o Ministry of Forests is the jurisdiction holder of the forest service roads
- Access points to address wildfire events and wildfire fighting abilities
 - o CGL working with the BC Wildfire Service regarding minimum requirements for access
 - o Continue working together in collaboration for 2025 seasonal preparedness with key agencies and organizations
- Public consultation for future compressor station locations
 - o Focus for 2024 is the Clear Creek location.

Chair Parker thanked Mr. Moulton and Mses. Weaver and Stuckert for attending the meeting.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

CO₂ LOCK CORP. – Scott Larson, CEO, Nader Mosavat, Chief Technology Officer, David Molinski, Director & VP Regulatory and External Relations Re: CO₂ Storage & Pilot Program

Chair Parker welcomed Scott Larson, CEO, Nader Mosavat, Chief Technology Officer, David Molinski, Director & VP Regulatory and External Relations, CO₂ Lock Corp.

Mr. Larson provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

Using the Earth's Minerals to Store Carbon, Permanently

- Mission
- CO₂ Lock Team
- Who is CO₂Lock
- How does CO₂ Lock store CO₂
- CO₂ Lock's In-Situ Process
- Sam Project Location – 50 kms southwest of PG southeast of Vanderhoof
- Sam Project Objective
- Sam Project Status

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

CO₂ LOCK CORP. – Scott Larson, CEO, Nader Mosavat, Chief Technology Officer, David Molinski, Director & VP Regulatory and External Relations Re: CO₂ Storage & Pilot Program (Cont'd)

- 2025 Pilot Program Goals
- Carbon Capture and Storage Permitting.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Future steps moving forward
 - o Discussions with First Nations as part of the application process through the BC Energy Regulator and Environmental Assessment process
 - o Requesting support from local governments
- Geology and geography make the project a success
 - o Will look to acquire CO₂ from various towns and cities
- Infrastructure required for the project
 - o Roads – use of existing roads
 - o Future pipelines to deliver CO₂ to the site as the project expands
 - o Storage containers
 - o Compressors
 - o Drills
- Environmentally friendly
- No other contaminants are created
- Climate technology is a massively growing industry
 - o Internationally and federal and provincial government funding
- One of the only companies in B.C. currently
- Job creation still being determined
- B.C.'s output of CO₂
- Nominal amount of water used for the process of CO₂ sequestering
- CO₂ sequestering process and use of water as a neutral catalyst to move the CO₂ to react with the brucite is an acceleration of a natural process
- Ph levels of the water throughout the process
- Cost per tonne in comparison to other methods such as using empty oil wells
- Business plan/funding
 - o Carbon credits
- Consultation with land users such as ranchers and recreational users as the project moves forward
- Storing CO₂ and uses for CO₂
- CO₂ to be stored 400-500 metres below the ground surface with zero seismic activity expected.

Chair Parkers thanked Messrs. Larson, Mosavat and Molinski for attending the meeting.

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING

Bylaws for 3rd Reading

OCP Amendment & Rezoning Application RDBN-01-24 Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
- 3rd Reading Report - Bylaws 2040 and 2043-2048 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-8

1. That the Report of the Public Hearing for Bylaws No. 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048 and 2040 be received.

2. That the following bylaws be given third reading this 21st day of November, 2024.

- a. Smithers Telkwa Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2043, 2024;
- b. Burns Lake Rural and Francois Lake (North Shore) Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2044, 2024;
- c. Fort St. James Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2045, 2024;
- d. Endako, Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2046, 2024;
- e. Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2047, 2024;
- f. Houston, Topley, Granisle Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2048, 2024; and
- g. Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 2040, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for 3rd Reading and Adoption

Fort St. James Rural OCP 3rd Reading and Adoption Report Bylaw 2054 Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Elphee

2024-17-9

1. "That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing held on October 15, 2024 for Fort St. James Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2054, 2024.

2. That Fort St. James Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 2054, 2024 be given third reading and adoption this 21st day of November, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for Adoption

Rezoning Application A-02-24 Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Adoption Report Bylaw No. Seconded by Alternate Director Wray
2061 – Electoral Area A
(Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2024-17-10 “That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 2061, 2024 be adopted this 21st day of November, 2024.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Development Variance Permit

Land Referral

Crown Land Application Moved by Director Lambert
Referral No. 6402665 Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson
-Electoral Area E (Francois/
Ootsa Lake Rural)

2024-17-11 “That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments on Crown Land Application Referral No. 6402665.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mine Referral

Notice of Work Referral Moved by Director Lambert
No. 1650735 – Electoral Area Seconded by Director Stoltenberg
E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

2024-17-12 “That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District’s comments for Notice of Work Referral No. 1650735.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Pipeline Referral

Coastal GasLink Integrated Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Vegetation Management Plan Seconded by Director McGuire
(IVMP) Letter

2024-17-13 “That the Board direct staff to send a letter to Coastal GasLink requesting that their Integrated Vegetation Management Plan include a long-term commitment to provide funding to the Northwest Invasive Plant Council.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

Village of Burns Lake
Boundary Redefinition

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-14

"That the Board direct staff to provide a letter to the Village of Burns Lake supporting their boundary redefinition to include the property at 1675 Gowan Road."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Illegal Dumping Mitigation
Strategy

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Moon

2024-17-15

"That the Board direct staff to implement actions 1, 2, and 3 as outlined in the November 21, 2024 staff report on illegal dumping."

(All/Directors/Majority)

DEFEATED

The following was discussed:

- Implementing action 4 outlined in the staff report if the RD can procure funding from the Province
- Province conducting clean-up of illegal sites
- Illegal dumping in relation to the future implementation of a user pay system at RDBN Solid Waste Facilities
- Lack of enforcement and clean-up regarding illegal dumping and the Provincial responsibility to enforce littering offences
- BC Conservation Officers Service role
- Liability of community clean-up events
- Importance of the Province funding the clean-up of illegal dump sites
- Tracking/cataloging illegal dump sites in the region
- Action 1, 2 and 3 outlined in the staff report
- Inviting the B.C. Conservation Officers Service to a future meeting
- Public education regarding acceptable products at RDBN Solid Waste Facilities that have no fees
 - Funding education programs
 - RDBN Communications staff developing an education video
- Adjustment of hours of operations incited illegal dumping

Other (Cont'd)

Illegal Dumping Mitigation Strategy

Moved by Alternate Director Wray
Seconded by Director Lambert

2024-17-16

"That the Board direct staff to implement actions 1 and 2 as outlined in the November 21, 2024 Illegal Dumping Mitigation Strategy staff report and further, that staff provide an update to the Board when the BC Conservation Officers Service has had an opportunity to provide information at a future Board meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUILDING INSPECTION

Section 57 Notice on Title 14599 Stella Road. – Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)

No comments from the gallery.

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-17

"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 3 District Lot 1174 Range 5 Coast District Plan PRP41901 (14599 Stella Road)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

First Nations Building Inspection Service Agreements

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-18

"That the Board direct staff to provide local First Nations with the draft Building Inspection Services Agreement template and inform the First Nations that the Regional District may be available to provide Building Inspection Services for residential building projects."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Committee Meeting
Recommendations
-November 7, 2024

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Alternate Director Wray

2024-17-19

"That the Board approve recommendations 1 through 5 as written:

Committee of the Whole Meeting – November 7, 2024

Recommendation 1:

Re: Northern Development Initiative Trust – Business Façade Improvement Program Application

"That the Board supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) for a grant of up to \$10,000 for the Business Façade Improvement Program from the Prince George and Northwest Regional Accounts.

That the Board agrees to enter into a contract with NDIT, should the funding be approved, and provide overall grant management for the project."

Rural/Agriculture Committee – November 7, 2024

Recommendation 2:

Re: 2023 Electoral Area Grant in Aid

"That the Board approve moving Electoral Area Grant in Aid balances remaining at the end of 2024 to the corresponding 2025 Electoral Area Economic Development Service or other electoral area services that are solely taxed by that electoral area director."

Recommendation 3:

Re: Regional Grant in Aid from Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

"That the Board approve the following applications for Regional Grant in Aid from Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural):

- Eagle Creek Recreation Commission – Mechanical Groomer for Arena - \$3,495
- Lakes District Fair Association – Super Dogs Performance in 2025 - \$14,825
- Burns Lake Basketball Association – Jr. NBA Program (bursaries) - \$3,000."

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Recommendation 4:

Re: Electoral Area D Economic Development Service Grant

"That the Board approve an Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) Economic Development Services Grant of up to \$10,000 to the Village of Fraser Lake for a White Swan Development Potential Study."

Recommendation 5:

Re: Electoral Area D Economic Development Service Grant – Eco Co-op

"That the Board approve an Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) Economic Development Services Grant of up to \$1,000 to the Fraser Lake Eco Cooperative for the Eco Co-op Roundtable Conference."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RBA Funding Agreement

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-20

"That the Board receive the Chief Administrative Officer's RBA Funding Agreement memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Staff will bring forward recommendations and options to allocate the 2024 payment at the December 12th Board meeting
- Funds allocated to reserves for consideration in the 2025 budget
- Clarity regarding definitions
- Staff oversight of reporting requirements
- Funding eligibility
 - Staff to bring forward to Province
 - Parks and recreation eligibility
 - First Nations Liaison Position
 - Other staffing considerations
 - Staff will bring forward options for Board Consideration and an outline of funding eligibility options
- Staff will bring forward a reserve fund bylaw at the December 12th Board meeting
- RBA Agreement and Peace River Fair Share Agreement
- Each local government's responsibility to comply with funding requirements.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

RDBN 2025 Meeting Schedule Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Alternate Director Wray

2024-17-21 "That the Board approve the 2025 RDBN meeting schedule."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cluculz Lake Rural Fire Protection Bylaw No. 2056 Moved by Director Moon
Seconded by Director Moutray

2024-17-22 "That Cluculz Lake Rural Fire Protection Service Local Amendment Bylaw No. 2056, 2024 be given first, second and third reading this 21st day of November, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cluculz Lake – Somerset Estates Sewer Bylaw 2057 Moved by Director Moon
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-23 "That Cluculz Lake – Somerset Estates Sewer Local Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 2057, 2024 be given first, second and third reading this 21st day of November, 2024."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reserve Balances as of September 30, 2024 Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-24 "That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's Reserve Balances as of September 30, 2024 memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid for Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Tchesinkut Lake Watershed Society Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-25 "That the Board approve allocating \$2,723 in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) Grant in Aid monies to the Tchesinkut Lake Watershed Society for a water sampling project and membership drive."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for Lunch at 12:45 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

Mail Ballot Voting

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2024-17-26

"That the Board receive the Director of Corporate Services Mail Ballot Voting memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Electronic voting tabulators
 - Cost and storage
 - Staff will research electronic voting machines
- Residents of Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) have indicated their desire to have mail ballot voting
- Legislative requirements
 - local government mail ballot voting process vs. the Province's mail ballot voting process
 - Election process and restrictive timelines
 - Information required on the ballots
- Mail ballot voting for the elderly, shut-ins and those unable to attend polling stations
- Impacts of mail strikes
- Advance Polling and special voting opportunities
- Responsibility of the electorate
- Potential for voting by telephone in the future
- Mail ballots have to be received by the Election Officer by 8 p.m. on the general election day
- Contracting election services
- Application for elector and non-resident electors and delivery process
- The Board allowing mail ballot voting for assent voting within the boundaries of the Cluculz Lake Fire Protection area in 2011
- Implementing mail ballot voting in specific areas and/or region-wide
- Additional staff required if the decision is made to move forward with mail ballot voting for general elections
- Outside of Area F minimal request for mail ballot voting
- Cost allocations for general elections and referendums
- Staff will provide additional information at a future meeting
 - Electronic voting machines
 - Special voting options
 - Draft bylaw for consideration.

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Fraser Valley Regional
District – Letter to Trish
Mandewo, President, UBCM
-Requesting UBCM Initiate a
Comprehensive Governance
Review

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director McGuire

2024-17-27

“That the Board receive the Fraser Valley Regional District Letter to Trish Mandewo, President, UBCM requesting UBCM Initiate a Comprehensive Governance Review.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Post-Secondary
Education and Future Skills
-2024 UBCM Meeting
Follow-Up

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Alternate Director Wray

2024-17-28

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills regarding the 2024 UBCM Meeting Follow-up.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Post-Secondary
Education and Future Skills
-2024 UBCM Joint Meeting
Follow-Up

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2024-17-29

“That the Board receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills regarding the 2024 UBCM Joint Meeting Follow-up.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Michael Riis-Christianson, Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Seconded by Director Lambert
Rural) – Canada’s Rural and
Remote Broadband Conference
(West)

2024-17-30

“That the Board receive Director Riis-Christianson’s Canada’s Rural and Remote Broadband Conference (West) memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

District of Fort St. James
-Update

Director Elphee, RDBN Economic Development Staff and Dave Christie, Regional Manager, Regional Economic Operations Branch, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation participated in a Community Business Walk in rural Fort St. James. The businesses identified the challenges impacting their business from Covid and recent business downturn.

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

Director Lambert spoke of the following

- attending the renewal of the MOU to rehabilitate the Nechako River on November 18, 2024 in Vanderhoof. He recognized the inclusion of Cheslatta Carrier Nation in the renewed MOU
- attending the Southside Health and Wellness Centre AGM
 - Staff are hired independently of Northern Health
 - Discussed the development of a helipad.

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

Director Greenaway provided the following update:

- Attended the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium on November 13 -14, 2024 in Prince George
 - 303 registrants
 - Guest Speaker Corey Hirsch
- Attended a UBCM Working Group to work towards updating the *Local Government Act*
 - Working with Don Lidstone, Lidstone and Company
 - Next meeting February 2025.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Village of Burns Lake – Update Director Wiebe noted the following:

- Attended the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium
 - Presentation by Dr. Barb Kane who is heading a petition for a northern BC psychiatric hospital
- Food Cycler Pilot Project nearing completion
- Attended Grand Openings for the Heritage Church and Burns Lake Fire Department Hall.

Electoral Area G (Houston Rural) – Update

Director Newell provided the following update:

- Attended the C2C Forum on Wildfire Risk Reduction on October 23-25, 2024 in Burns Lake
- Resource road maintenance with the completion of the CGL Pipeline and mill closure is a concern
- Seeing the results of the industry downturn.

District of Vanderhoof -Update

Director Moutray spoke of the following:

- Upcoming meeting with the Minister of Forests in Vanderhoof today
- Attended the renewal of the MOU to rehabilitate the Nechako River
 - Thanked RDBN staff for coordinating the event
- Participated in a Rural Voices session regarding healthcare.

Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) – Update

Director Stoltenberg announced that the Hudson Bay Mountain will be opening December 7, 2024.

Village of Granisle – Update

Director McGuire provided an update regarding:

- Northern Health visit
 - Discussed food sustainability and vulnerable people
- Seniors Housing contractor has provided the community an opportunity to utilize waste wood
- Village of Granisle budget process moving forward
 - RBA funding considerations
 - Requested permission from the province to utilize the funding to remediate the old mall in the community.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

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

Chair Parker provided the following update:

- Attended UBCM presentation regarding Emergency Preparedness Funding on November 20, 2024
- Agriculture sector shavings
 - Met with the Regional Cattlemen’s Association, Directors Lambert, Moon and Moutray
 - Discussed eliminating sawmill reliance for shavings
 - Researching acquiring a license to cut coniferous stands
 - Lobby the province to be able to cut aspen
- - Attended the renewal of MOU to rehabilitate the Nechako River
 - It was a great event and provided an opportunity to work with the Chiefs, elected officials and staff
 - Thank you to the RDBN Communications Team for the videography of the event.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Wiebe

2024-17-31

“That the Board receive the various Directors verbal reports.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Wray

2024-17-32

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

- Labour Relations
- First Nations MOU
- A matter under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Wiebe

2024-17-33

"That the meeting be adjourned at 2:29 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate
Services