



1
**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
AGENDA**

Thursday, May 3, 2018

PAGE NO.

ACTION

CALL TO ORDER

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Receive

AGENDA – May 3, 2018

Approve

MINUTES

3-12

Committee of the Whole Meeting
Minutes – April 5, 2018

Receive

DELEGATIONS

**Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development**

Eamon O'Donoghue, Regional Executive Director
Heather Wiebe, Caribou Project Lead
RE: Caribou Recovery Program

**Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development**

Len Vanderstar, Ecosystems Biologist
RE: Mountain Goat Ungulate Winter Range Orders
(Documents provided under separate cover)

REPORTS

13-15

Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative
Services – Canadian Bioenergy Conference &
Exhibition – June 6-8, 2018 – Prince George, B.C.

Direction
(2 Directors)

16-28

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
- Directors' Remuneration Draft Bylaw for Discussion

Discussion

29

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
- Bylaw 1266/1434 Bond Issue #103

Receive

30

Nellie Davis, Proposal Writer
- Building BC: Community Housing Fund

Receive

31

Kristi Rensby, Finance/Administration Coordinator
- 2019 Changes to BC Medical Service Plan Premiums

Receive

32

Kristi Rensby, Finance/Administration Coordinator
- 2019 Changes to Canada Pension Plan

Receive

33-40

Haley Jeffrey, Emergency Services Manager
- April 1, 2018 Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin

Receive

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
41-48	Columbia Shuswap Regional District - Class E Licences	Receive
49-51	Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Climate Change Staff Grants	Receive

INVITATIONS

52-53	Building Partnerships for Community Sustainability - June 6, 2018 – Prince George, B.C.	Receive
54-56	BC Natural Resources Forum – Resources for Future Generations – June 16-21, 2018 - Vancouver, B.C.	Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING****Thursday, April 5, 2018**

PRESENT: Acting Chair Mark Parker

Directors Shane Brienen
Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Rob MacDougall
Rob Newell
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen

Directors Taylor Bachrach, Town of Smithers
Absent Chris Beach, Village of Burns Lake
Eileen Benedict, Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)
Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Fraser Lake
Thomas Liversidge, Village of Granisle
Bill Miller, Electoral Area "B" (Burns Lake Rural)
Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof

Alternate Directors Gladys Atrill, Town of Smithers
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle
Tom Shelford, Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Staff Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Nellie Davis, Proposal Writer – arrived at 10:52 a.m., left at 11:40 a.m.
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Haley Jeffrey, Emergency Services Manager – left at 11:40 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – arrived at 10:49 a.m.
Kristi Rensby, Finance/Administration Coordinator – arrived at 11:17 a.m., left at 12:15 p.m.
Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development - left at 1:04 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Chris Mushumanski, BC Search and Rescue Association – left at 11:40 a.m.
Andy Muma, BC Search and Rescue Association – left at 11:40 a.m.

Media David Koch, Lakes District News – left at 1:01 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 10:43 a.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Newell
Seconded by Alternate Director Atrill**C.W.2018-3-1**

"That the Agenda of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole meeting of April 5, 2018 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Minutes –March 8, 2018

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Petersen

C.W.2018-3-2

"That the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of March 8, 2018 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nechako Watershed Service Meeting Minutes -March 8, 2018

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2018-3-3

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the Nechako Watershed Service Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2018 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

BC Search and Rescue Association – Chris Mushumanski and Andy Muma RE: Evacuation Issues

Acting Chair Parker welcomed Chris Mushumanski, Nechako Valley Search and Rescue and BC Search and Rescue Association and Andy Muma, Houston Search and Rescue and BC Search and Rescue Association.

Messrs. Mushumanski and Muma provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

Search and Rescue

Mr. Mushumanski spoke of the statistics and trends for Search and Rescue incidents from 1991/1992 to 2016/2017.

SAR Groups Recognized by EMBC (Emergency Management BC) in northern British Columbia

- 24 SAR groups from 100 Mile House north
- 5 SAR groups within the RDBN
 - o Bulkley Valley
 - o Houston
 - o Burns Lake
 - o Nechako Valley
 - o Fort St. James

Requesting Agencies

- The RCMP, BC Ambulance Service, IIO (Independent Investigations Office of BC), Coroner Service, Regional Districts and municipalities can activate SAR groups through the Emergency Co-ordination Centre (ECC)
- SAR cannot be self-deployed
- Search and Rescue is a volunteer organization with no paid individuals providing services

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

BC Search and Rescue Association – Chris Mushumanski and Andy Muma RE: Evacuation Issues (Cont'D)

All groups can...

- Complete a variety of ground search techniques
- Complete basic rescues
- Recover deceased subjects
- Deliver evacuation alerts or notices
 - o Increase in services in past ten years
 - o E.g. forest fire and flooding events
 - o Fire Events in 2017 – Central Interior (Cariboo region/Williams Lake)
 - SAR was activated for 41 days consecutively
 - 4000 volunteer hours on one task

Meeting/Training

- Coordinating efforts on such events as the 2015 Bobtail Fire near Cluculz Lake has led to further training events and coordination with SAR groups in the north
- Now meeting annually
- Meeting/training planned for April 7, 2018 in Prince George
- SAR groups often have to travel some distances to attend training events at a substantial cost to each group

Capabilities

- Each group has its own recognition of capabilities
- E.g. swift water, avalanche, etc.
- Emergency Management BC provides guidelines in terms of training required, equipment needed, how current training needs to be, how many members with that training and equipment required to respond, etc.

Avalanche

- Important for local governments to be aware of which SAR group has certain capabilities
 - o Bulkley Valley SAR has Avalanche capabilities within the RDBN
- Assistance can be requested from different SAR groups with different capabilities

Swift Water

- Includes log jams/boat capsizing etc.
- Bulkley Valley and Houston SAR Partner
- Nechako Valley SAR

Flat Ice

- Bulkley Valley SAR
- Nechako Valley SAR

High Angle Rope Rescue

- Bulkley Valley SAR

CDFL/HETS (Class D fixed line/Helicopter long line rescue systems)

- Prince George SAR
- Terrace SAR
- Fort St. John SAR
- Reduces risk to SAR members
- Specific pilot/specific SAR member

SAR Training

- Training is provided in house, by the Justice Institute and by third party providers
- Volunteers are first trained in the 90 hour Ground SAR course
- From there they can train in a wide variety of areas including advanced first aid, team leading, search management, and more

6

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

BC Search and Rescue Association – Chris Mushumanski and Andy Muma RE: Evacuation Issues (Cont'D)

Regional Issues

- Search vs. rescue
 - o Eg. North Shore SAR – high level of rescues vs. northern teams experience more searches
 - o majority of searches take place in specific areas
 - o Northern BC teams typically smaller vs. southern teams
- Initial response vs. full response teams
- Unique locations vs. repeat offenders
 - o Searches/rescues in the north are in unique locations each time vs. North Shore SAR experiences the majority of its searches/rescues in specific locations
- Training frequency and cost
- Working with First Nations
- Use of convergents – not registered SAR volunteer
 - o Northern teams find it necessary to utilize convergents to assist in conducting searches due to the large areas needing to be searched
- Challenges of multi-day and remote callouts

Funding and the SAR Support Model

- Funding is a critical issue for all 5 groups, currently for SAR hall buildings
- BCSARA is currently working with the provincial gov't to secure long term, stable and predictable funding for the 80 recognized GSAR groups in BC
- This will benefit all groups in the north that have limited access to grant writers, large publicity
- This will benefit all groups in the north that have limited access to grant writers, large publicity campaigns and variety of corporate sponsors

Successes in the North

- Financial support from the different levels of local government, either in cash or in kind donations
 - o Village of Burns Lake
 - o District of Fort St. James
 - o District of Vanderhoof
 - o District of Houston
 - o Village of Fraser Lake
 - o Town of Smithers
 - o Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- iPad mapping
 - o SAR groups rely heavily on map technology
 - o Mapping technology required a skilled knowledge base
 - o The volunteer groups do not always have skilled personnel
 - o Mr. Muma spearheaded the initiative in the north and it is starting to be utilized in the south
 - o Revolutionary technology to better assist SAR groups

Mr. Mushumanski mentioned that SAR dedicates a lot of its volunteer time fundraising and securing funding. The past provincial government recognized the funding challenges and provided \$5 million for three years with the funding being divided among SAR groups according to a funding formula based on certain criteria such as capabilities and qualifications, etc. BC SARA is in its last year of the three year funding term. Gaming grants have been a main source of funding and in 2017, they introduced a capital gaming grant application to assist in funding capital projects. Until 2017, gaming grant funding could not be used for capital expenditures. With the provincial funding of \$5 million nearing the end of its three-year term BC SARA is continuing to pursue provincial government for an alternative funding model.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

BC Search and Rescue Association – Chris Mushumanski and Andy Muma RE: Evacuation Issues (Cont'D)

Director Brienen asked if the three-year recertification process was sufficient. Mr. Muma noted that the three-year training recertification process is sufficient and assists in helping volunteers to have vital skills that keeps both themselves and others safe. The challenges associated with the recertification process is the cost and travel required to maintain certification.

Director Brienen asked about the top challenges experienced by SAR currently. Mr. Mushumanski noted the following:

1. Volunteer retention
 - a. 90 hour ground SAR course to start
 - b. 200 hours a year training; and,
 - c. Responses over and above the training time
2. Unpredictably of responses
3. Management of volunteers (unpaid position)
 - a. Tracking recurrence training, etc.

Director Petersen questioned the ability for SAR to utilize its iphone/ipad technology for mapping purposes outside connectivity areas. Mr. Muma mentioned that the mapping can be cached on the device for use when connectivity is unavailable and to be uploaded once the device is in wifi range. Bluetooth technology is also utilized to share information between devices.

Director Newell noted that mining companies often list SAR as first responders in their emergency plans but do not provide funding to the group. Director Newell asked if work has been completed to determine the effectiveness of mobile air to ground satellite technology for communication outside areas of connectivity. Mr. Muma noted that research has been done but there is yet to be technology that consistently works and is reliable for the cost in the northern B.C. He mentioned that 24 volunteers within the SAR community has formed a provincial technology committee to research communication options for SAR groups across the province.

Director Repen spoke of supporting SAR through a letter of support to the Province and/or a resolution brought forward at the Union of B.C. Municipalities 2018 convention. He also brought forward the potential for a search and rescue taxation mechanism to provide cost recovery funding for SAR groups. Mr. Mushumanski commented that they have researched a number of SAR models around the world and investigated the best possible method for cost recovery. He spoke of the challenges associated with a potential taxation of backcountry user groups/outdoor equipment purchases and mentioned that SAR does not support charging for rescues. Mr. Mushumanski noted that funding to SAR is being provided through gaming grants but it is an unpredictable process along with time consuming for volunteers to complete the grant process. He noted that BC SARA has communicated to the provincial government that the funding is being provided through grants it just needs to be a more reliable efficient method of funding.

Mr. Mushumanski stated that BC SARA recently implemented a new data management system to accumulate better data in regard to search and rescue tasks.

Discussion took place in regard to the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General overseeing Emergency Management BC and BC SARA. Alternate Director McGuire spoke of bringing forward long term funding for BC SARA to Minister Farnworth. The Regional Board provided direction to staff to bring forward a draft resolution in regard to long term funding model for BC SARA to submit to the Union of B.C. Municipalities for consideration at its 2018 convention.

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

**BC Search and Rescue Association – Chris Mushumanski and Andy Muma RE:
Evacuation Issues (Cont'D)**

SAR groups within the RDBN have utilized the RDBN Proposal Writer for grant funding applications and has been successful in receiving gaming grants. Houston SAR was successful in receiving the newly formed capital gaming grant. One of two successful SARA groups that received the capital gaming grant funding out of numerous groups that applied for the grant. Messrs. Mushumanski and Muma thanked staff for all their work in regard to grant applications.

Discussion took place in regard to the number of callouts for search and rescue increasing since 1991/1992 to 2016/2017. Mr. Mushumanski noted that the increase in call volumes is attributed to a number of factors: "Instagram effect" – individuals taking great photos of accessing locations that require knowledge and skill and posting them on social media and others not realizing the skill required to visit that location but wanting to follow. The profile of SAR has also been raised in recent years and tasking agencies are realizing the value of accessing SAR groups and their resources. The callout numbers in 2017 did decrease and it was suggested that it could relate to the closure of the bush and forests due to wildfires and wildfire risk. Mr. Mushumanski commented that BC SARA has reduced its groups from 126 to 80 groups currently and EMBC has a moratorium on new groups in the province as it reviews the needs required for SARA in the province.

Mr. Mushumanski spoke of the benefits and need for education. He mentioned that the funding for the "Adventure Smart" program has assisted in providing education to outdoor users. There was also a train the trainer event that took place in Vanderhoof to assist in promoting the program.

Acting Chair Parker thanked Messrs. Mushumanski and Muma for attending the meeting.

REPORTS

Director Remuneration

Moved by Alternate Director McGuire
Seconded by Director MacDougall

C.W.2018-3-4

1. "That the Committee of the Whole receive the Chief Financial Officer's March 22, 2018 memo titled "Director Remuneration;" and further,
2. That the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct the Chief Financial Officer to present a new draft remuneration bylaw for further discussion at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer provided an overview of the memo titled "Director Remuneration." He spoke of the Canadian Revenue Agency's *Income Tax Act* change that removes the municipal officers' allowance beginning the 2019 calendar year. He noted that an increase of the remuneration by 10.4% (plus the cost of living allowance for BC) for the 2019 calendar year will result in most directors receiving the same after tax benefit. Discussion took place regarding the percentage increase required for annual income from all sources less than \$40,000, \$40,000 to \$80,000 and near \$100,000 to cover the additional taxation that Directors would be required to pay when their entire remuneration becomes taxable.

REPORTS (CONT'D)

This information was provided for Directors to have a reference point in determining the amount of increase they personally would need to receive the same amount after taxes. For the purposes of the bylaw; however, each Director must receive the same increase. Directors will not need to disclose their income.

Mr. Illes also noted the following:

Part Two – Per Diem amounts for meetings

- o Consideration of per diem amounts for meetings
- o Consideration of travel allowances
 - Discussed the Cariboo Regional District rate of \$20 per 100 km driven to compensate Directors for their time while travelling
 - Would compensate those also wishing to carpool
- o Consideration of per diem amount for Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Directors similar to the Northwest Regional Hospital District Bylaw
 - Discussed not making changes

Part Three – Directors' Monthly Remuneration

- o Consider additional pay by Rural Director
 - Discussed not making changes
- o Consider the financial discrepancy between municipalities

Part Four- Extra Allowances

- o Consider allowance for the Chair and Vice Chair

Discussion took place in regard to considering the non-taxable benefits to directors outlined in Mr. Illes' March 26, 2018 memo rather than increasing remuneration. Director Repen brought forward consideration for the use of video conferencing technology to hold one of the two meetings in a month. Discussion took place regarding the challenges of consistent reliable video conferencing technology. Director Fisher asked if there would be flexibility in regard to funding for an electronic device for use for electronic agendas, rather than buying a new device, upgrading devices that Directors own. Mr. Illes noted security consideration in regard to the device.

Pension Plans for Directors was discussed. Staff will investigate further and provide the information to the Regional Board.

Director Newell brought forward the cost for internet/cell service in his area and the additional cost for ICBC insurance between commercial and pleasure-use-only for vehicles when using multiple vehicles for use for RDBN business.

Break for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:44 p.m.

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Cannabis Legalization

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director Brienen

C.W.2018-3-5

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the Director of Planning's March 26, 2018 memo titled "Cannabis Legalization."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning noted that the current RDBN zoning bylaws could be interpreted to the sale of cannabis in any zone where retail is allowed. However, the provincial government has indicated that local governments will be sent referrals regarding the issuance of retail sales licenses and will be given the ability to veto a location. Staff will do more research as the implementation of cannabis legalization moves forward and make recommendations regarding any changes necessary to the zoning bylaw. formalized.

It was noted that the Province has indicated that cannabis will not be sold in conjunction with liquor in urban areas; however, in rural areas cannabis may be allowed to be sold from rural liquor agency stores.

Director Repen noted the importance of having a cohesiveness between communities and that regulations be similar between jurisdictional boundaries. Mr. Llewellyn commented that municipalities might evaluate and potentially amend their zoning bylaws to address the uses related to cannabis. Jason said that he expects the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch regulations to be thorough.

Director MacDougall mentioned that the District of Fort St. James hosted a public forum in regard to cannabis legalization. At this time, the District of Fort St. James Council has determined they will not approve the sale of cannabis until further regulations are in place and will reevaluate as regulations and legislation is formalized.

Director Llewellyn noted that staff will complete their research and report back to the Board with further recommendations.

CORRESPONDENCE

**Northern Health - Northern
Healthy Communities Forum
-Response to Request for
Time Change**

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Brienen

C.W.2018-3-6

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the correspondence from Northern Health – Northern Healthy Communities Forum – Response to Request for Time Change."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services mentioned that Directors wishing to attend the Northern Healthy Communities Forum at NCLGA in Fort Nelson on May 7, 2018 may inform staff that they wish to take the charter flight leaving from Prince George on the morning of May 7, 2018 in order to arrive in time for the Forum.

Correspondence

Moved by Alternate Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Repen

C.W.2018-3-7

"That the Committee of the Whole receive the following correspondence:
-Northern Health – Northern Healthy Communities Forum – Response to Request for Time Change;
--Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Apply to the Low Carbon Economy Challenge."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Ministry of Forests, Lands,
Natural Resource Operations
And Rural Development
– Rural Dividend Program
– Approval of Funding
– 2018/19 Rural Tourism Initiatives

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Brienens

I.C.2018-3-8

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development re: Rural Dividend Program – Approval of Funding – 2018/19 Rural Tourism Initiatives."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Scholarship/Bursary Funding
For Medical Professionals
RE: Retention in the North

Director Newell mentioned that the Northwest Regional Hospital District Board of Directors is funding scholarships for medical professionals to assist with medical professional physician recruitment. He spoke of the need to investigate changing the Federal Gas Tax criteria to use the funding for retention and recruitment of local residents into healthcare, forestry and mining sectors. Director Newell will contact the Union of B.C. Municipalities in regard to Federal Gas Tax criteria changes.

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Greenaway

C.W.2018-3-9

"In accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90 (1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for the purpose (Home Occupation at Gala Bay Road) and 90 (2)(b) matters pertaining to the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the Federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party (Information Technology Services) must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Alternate Director McGuire

C.W.2018-3-10

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:13 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Acting Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****MEMORANDUM**

TO: Chair Miller and Committee of the Whole

**FROM: Cheryl Anderson
Manager of Administrative Services**

DATE: April 24, 2018

**SUBJECT: Canadian Bioeconomy Conference & Exhibition – June 6-8,
2018 – Prince George, B.C.**

At the October 26, 2017 Board meeting, the Board of Directors passed a motion to send 2 Directors to the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference & Exhibition from June 6-8, 2018 in Prince George, B.C.

At this time, staff is seeking direction as to which Directors will be attending so that registration can be completed.

RECOMMENDATION: (All/Directors/Majority)

DIRECTION

14

Registration Options

For information regarding meal options for spouse/travel companions please contact info@bioeconomy.com (mailto:info@bioeconomy).

Full Conference (June 6 - 8, 2018)

Admission to all conference events, including all plenary sessions, trade show, meals and social events. Valid student identification must be presented to be eligible for the Student rate. Participation in the International Partnerships Forum and Business to Business meetings is also complimentary to registered conference delegates. However, delegates must register separately to participate. Industry tours are not included in this registration price.

\$495.00

Full Conference - Student (June 6 - 8, 2018)

Note: Valid student identification must be presented on-site to be eligible for the Student rate.

\$250.00

One Day Conference (Thursday, June 7, 2018)

Admission to all conference events on Thursday, June 7, including plenary sessions, trade show, meals and evening networking session. Industry tours are not included in this registration price.

\$375.00

One Day Conference (Friday, June 8, 2018)

Admission to all conference events on Friday, June 8, including plenary sessions, trade show and meals. Industry tours are not included in this registration price.

\$275.00

Workshops

Wood Products Safety Workshop (Wednesday, June 6, 2018)

\$100.00

Community Energy Workshop (Wednesday, June 6, 2018)

\$100.00

Post-Conference Tour

Post-Conference Tour (Date TBC)

\$50.00

If you were provided a Discount Code for registration, please enter the code in the box below:

Discount Code

Apply

INVITATIONS (CONT'D)

- Resource Breakfast Series – September 11-13, 2018
 – Whistler, B.C.
- Council of Forest Industries Conventions - April 4-6, 2018
 – Prince George, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Invitations

Moved by Director Fisher
 Seconded by Director Parker

2017-14-28

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize the following invitations:

- Director Newell's attendance at the BC Broadband Association Conference, May 1-2, 2018 in Richmond, B.C.;
- Two Director's attendance at the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference & Exhibition, June 6-8, 2018 in Prince George, B.C.;
- RDBN Chair's attendance at the Council of Forest Industries Conventions April 4-6, 2018 in Prince George, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL

Operating Accounts -September, 2017

Moved by Director MacDougall
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2017-14-29

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors ratify the Operating Accounts – Paid September, 2017.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION LISTS

Action Lists

Moved by Director Beach
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

2017-14-30

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following Action Lists:

- May, 2017;
- June, 2017;
- July, 2017;
- August, 2017.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo Committee of the Whole May 3, 2018

Prepared For: Chair Miller and the Board of Directors
From: John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Date: April 20, 2018
Issue: Directors' Remuneration Draft Bylaw for Discussion
Tracking: Bylaw 1717/1796

Background:

At the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 5, 2018 the directors requested that a draft bylaw on Directors' Remuneration be brought back to the next committee meeting to facilitate discussion.

This bylaw is based on an amalgamation of other Regional Districts' remuneration bylaws mixed with the RDBN's current bylaw. Changes to the substance of the RDBN's current bylaw are highlighted in yellow or are in "strike-through" font depending on the content.

The highlights of this draft bylaw are a general increase in remuneration by 10.4% to balance the loss of the Municipal Officers' Allowance. In addition remuneration is also included for travel time and described in schedule "C". Other changes discussed and considered in the April 5, 2018 committee meeting are also included.

These changes include clarification and reimbursement for vehicle insurance, the provision or reimbursement of communication expenses and added flexibility for the directors with regard to conventions and event attendance.

At the meeting, the Chief Financial Officer will present each change in detail at the discretion of the directors.

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Recommendation:

(All/Directors/Majority)

"That the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako receive the Chief Financial Officer's memo dated April 24, 2018 titled 'Directors' Remuneration Draft Bylaw for Discussion' and

Discussion and Direction

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
BYLAW XXXX**

A Bylaw for Directors' Remuneration

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Government Act*, a Board may adopt procedures, conditions and amounts for Directors' remuneration and expenses;

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

1. TITLE:

This bylaw shall be cited as the "Regional District of Bulkley Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. XXXX, 2018".

2. PRINCIPLES

Directors' remuneration and reimbursement for expenses shall be guided by the following principles:

- (A) Directors' remuneration should be structured to recognize the importance of this publicly elected office and provide a reasonable incentive to attract and retain quality individuals to these positions.
- (B) Directors are expected to conduct their business in such a way as to optimize the value to the taxpayer.
- (C) Directors should be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses in carrying out their responsibilities.
- (D) Directors should not use expenses charged for Regional District business to subsidize their personal or business activities.

3. DEFINITIONS:

In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

Board Day means the day of the regular meeting of the Board for the purposes of conducting regional board business and includes both the public and, when necessary, in-camera portions of the meeting.

Committee means a Committee to which a Director has been appointed by either the Board or the Chair of the Regional District.

Committee of the Whole Meeting means the days on which the entire Board membership meets in a Committee format to discuss and make recommendations to the RDBN Board on broad regional topics such as policy issues, etc.

Meals means food and non-alcoholic beverages consumed by individual Directors while attending a sanctioned meeting within the Region on such occasions when the meal service is not already provided by the Regional District (receipts required).

Miscellaneous Expenses means reimbursable travel-related expenses not expressly dealt with elsewhere in this bylaw, such as: parking fees; hotel internet costs, fares for taxis, airport shuttle services, ferries, buses, toll booth fees, etc.

Per Diem Rates means the daily rate a Director may charge for meals and incidentals while on Regional District business outside of the region as per Section 8(E) (no receipt required).

4. INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

- (A) The Regional District Finance Chair (or the Vice Chair if a Finance Chair is not appointed) shall be responsible for reviewing and approving Directors' Remuneration and Expense Reports.
- (B) The Regional District Board Chair shall be responsible for reviewing and approving the Finance Chair's Remuneration and Expense Reports.
- (C) Disputes regarding Directors' Remuneration and Expense Reports shall be forwarded to the Regional District Executive Committee for resolution. If the dispute is not resolved at the Executive Committee, the matter shall be forwarded to the Regional District Board.

5. REMUNERATION

- (A) Remuneration shall be paid to Directors for the discharge of the duties of office unless pay is suspended in accordance with the Regional District Code of Conduct and Ethics. Remuneration shall be comprised of the following:
- (i) **Directors, Chair and Vice Chair, Standing Committee Chair Remuneration** - to be determined and paid pursuant to Schedule A, attached to and forming part of this bylaw; and,
 - (ii) **Remuneration for attendance at meetings** -- to be determined in accordance with Schedule B, attached to and forming part of this bylaw.
- (B) A Director shall not receive remuneration for wages lost through absence from work or income deemed lost due to attendance at any meeting or as a delegate representing the Regional Board.

6. OTHER REMUNERATION

Travel time remuneration -- to be determined and paid pursuant to Schedule C, attached to and forming part of this bylaw.

7. ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

- (A) When replacing a Director, an Alternate Director is eligible to receive business meeting remuneration in accordance with Schedule B, travel time remuneration in accordance with Schedule C and reimbursement of expenses in accordance with Section 8.
- (B) As an exception to the above, Alternate Directors are not authorized to attend conventions/seminars or other non-business sessions on behalf of the Director.

8. EXPENSES

Directors shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while discharging the duties of office in accordance with the following:

(A) Transportation Costs

- (i) Whenever practical, every Director is encouraged to travel by the most direct route and use the most economical means of transportation, taking into consideration the travel time involved as well as associated ground transportation costs.
- (ii) A Director shall be paid a "personal vehicle allowance" per kilometre for the use of their personal vehicle as transportation for Regional District business conducted:
 - a) within the Director's electoral area;

- b) for sanctioned meetings; and
- c) other meetings/events authorized by the Board or by the Chair where time constraints preclude Board consideration.

The personal vehicle allowance rate for the above-approved travel shall be the rate published by Canada Revenue Agency's automobile allowance rate per kilometre.

The District shall not reimburse the Director for stand-by charges of his personal vehicle while he is attending a meeting. Stand-by refers to the privately owned vehicle being situated at the point of departure or at the place of the meeting.

For the purpose of calculating distances travelled, the Director's normal place of residence, within the Regional District, shall be considered the starting point and point of return of any trip.

For trips exceeding 600 kilometres, Directors shall be entitled to reasonable accommodation en route.

No additional allowances are payable for carrying passengers.

- (iii) Directors who choose to use commercial transportation shall be reimbursed the actual cost of such transportation based on economy class fares.

(B) Accommodation Costs

- (i) In general, Directors shall be reimbursed for the actual cost of commercial accommodation. For conventions, Board meetings, and Committee of the Whole meetings, commercial accommodation will typically be booked and paid for by the corporation. A Director may choose to stay at accommodation other than the designated accommodation provided by the corporation; however, they will be responsible for making their own arrangements and will be reimbursed a maximum of the amount charged for the corporate accommodation.
- (ii) A Director who utilizes non-commercial facilities for overnight accommodation shall be paid a private accommodation allowance, provided the period of accommodation would not exceed that required for the purpose of attending to Regional District business. The private accommodation rate shall be the rate paid \$30.
- (iii) Where specific provisions are required to address disability or health issues that are not available in the designated accommodation, a Director may choose to stay at an alternative, comparable accommodation and in such a case, the Director may request that the Chair authorize additional reimbursement.

(C) Meal Expenses Within the RDBN

When attending sanctioned meetings within the region, Directors are entitled to reimbursement for the actual cost of meals not to exceed \$65.00 per day. If only one meal is to be claimed, the maximum is \$15.00 for breakfast, \$20.00 for lunch, and \$30.00 for dinner. A claim for two meals is the maximum of the sum of the two individual meal maximum claims listed previously. A claim for meals can only be made if it has not been provided by the region or as part of a convention or other event. Receipts must be provided. Where meals are provided, there is no reimbursement if the Director chooses to eat elsewhere. Exceptions would include where there are special dietary needs or the inability to take advantage of paid meals because of a timing conflict with other Regional District business.

(D) Miscellaneous Expenses

- (i) While away from his/her residence on regional district business, Directors are entitled to reasonable reimbursement of other expenses necessarily incurred such as parking fees, taxis, hotel internet services, ferries, toll booths, etc. Receipts must be provided.
- (ii) Miscellaneous expenses as defined in section 3 shall be reimbursed at actual cost.

(E) Per Diem in Lieu of Actual Costs of Meals and Incidentals

In lieu of reimbursement of actual expenses for meals and incidentals while on authorized regional district business outside of the district, Directors may elect to utilize a per diem rate of \$80.00 per day. The per diem rate shall only apply when the out-of-district travel requires an overnight stay.

\$80.00 per diem rate is calculated as follows:	\$20	Breakfast
	\$25	Lunch
	\$35	Dinner

If the period of travel includes partial days, the per diem shall be prorated.

(F) Authorization for Out-of-District Travel

- (i) In general, out of district travel will be authorized by the Board.
- (ii) In the absence of Board authorization, the Chair, or in his absence, the Vice-Chair, may authorize out-of-district travel where such travel is necessary to carry out the business of the Regional District.
- (iii) No travel expenses or accommodation expenses for out-of-district travel shall be paid to any member of the Regional District Board unless the travel was first authorized by Board Resolution, or by the Chair/Vice-Chair.

(G) Extraordinary Expenses

Extraordinary expenses which are in excess of the amounts available under this bylaw shall be accounted for on the Director's claim, accompanied by receipts and details of the circumstances. Such a claim will be paid following review and approval by both the Chair of the Board and the Finance/Audit Committee Chair.

(H) Attendance at Commission Meetings

Directors attending meetings of Commissions to which they are appointed by the Board of the Regional District will be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with Schedule B.

(I) Newly Appointed Alternate Directors

Reimbursement for travel expenses and remuneration is authorized for newly appointed Alternate Directors to attend their first Board meeting accompanied by the Director of the electoral area.

(J) Registration Fees

Registration at conventions, conferences and workshops will be booked and paid directly by staff on behalf of Directors in time to take advantage of reduced "early-bird" rates. Where increased registration costs are incurred as a result of a late request for registration by a Director, the Director shall be responsible for the additional cost. A Director who does not attend a convention, conference or workshop at which they have asked to be registered, shall be responsible for the cost of the unused registration, accommodation, and airfare. The Board Chair may waive these requirements where there are extenuating circumstances.

9. INSURANCE - USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLE

- (A) Directors shall be reimbursed for the cost of the deductible for one comprehensive claim per calendar year to a maximum of \$300 for damage to the vehicle or \$300 for windshield replacement, provided the damage to the vehicle was incurred while on regional district business and a receipt is provided.
- (B) Directors are required to ensure that the vehicle(s) they use for regional district business are insured for business class purposes. Upon submitting proof of coverage, the Director will be reimbursed for the difference in cost between insuring one of his/her vehicles for pleasure and business class purposes.
- (C) The Regional District does not accept any liability under any circumstances for claims arising from the use of privately owned vehicles, but will carry additional liability insurance over and above that which Directors carry on their personal vehicles, for claims arising from use of the vehicle while on RDBN business.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- (A) All directors will be provided with a cell phone by the RDBN and with a RDBN email address. The RDBN email address will be used for all communication with the RDBN. Where a municipal director is provided a cell phone and a municipal email address (meeting RDBN security requirement) by their municipality, the RDBN will reimburse the municipality 50% of the cost associated with this service to the municipality or 50% of the cost of the service if provided by the RDBN whichever is less. The RDBN will not reimburse directors for corporate use of their personal devices or cell phones.
- (B) Electoral Area directors will be reimbursed up to \$75 per month for home internet service upon the provision of receipts.
- (C) Electoral Area directors will be reimbursed up to \$2000 per term for a tablet or portable lap top computer upon receipt. Municipalities will be provided 50% of the costs associated with providing their municipal director with a tablet or portable lap top computer to a maximum of \$1000.

11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTIONS

- (A) Electoral Area Directors will be allocated \$2000 to attend conventions and meetings related to their work as an Electoral Area Director. This amount does not include costs associated with attendance at UBCM and NCLGA. This amount may be used for convention costs and travel. Costs will be reimbursed at the regular expense rate described in this bylaw. Electoral Area Directors that choose not to attend UBCM or NCLGA conventions may increase this amount by the amount staff estimate attendance at these conventions would cost.
- (B) The Board of the Regional District may send any director to any convention or meeting with its associated cost paid from "General Government – Legislative" at its discretion.
- (C) This section does not apply to the Chair in performing the duties of the Chair.

12. REPEAL

Regional District Directors' Remuneration of Directors and Alternate Directors Bylaw No. 1717 (and Bylaw 1796), 2014 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SCHEDULE A

Chair and Directors' Remuneration

1) Directors' Remuneration

Effective upon adoption of this bylaw, each Director of the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako shall be paid a "Basic" remuneration of \$775 (was \$702 this is 10.4% increase) per month, thereafter to be increased annually on January 1st, based on the previous year's consumer price index (yearly average for the Province of B. C. as published by Statistics Canada), for completion of his or her duties of office. In the event that there is no increase to the consumer price index, or if it were to decline, the basic remuneration rate would remain the same as in the previous year.

2) Rural Directors' Local Governance Remuneration

Effective upon adoption of this bylaw, each Electoral Area Director of the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako shall be paid an additional \$618 (was \$560 or was \$435 + population/12) per month for Electoral Areas with a population of less than 3000 people and an additional \$922 (was \$835) for Electoral Areas with a population of 3000 and greater people, thereafter to be increased annually on January 1st, based on the previous year's consumer price index, as local governance remuneration, for completion of his or her duties of office. In the event that there is no increase to the consumer price index, or if it were to decline, the basic remuneration rate would remain the same as in the previous year.

~~Rural Directors will be paid an additional \$1 per year for each resident in their respective electoral area.~~

3) Chair, Vice-Chair Remuneration and Committee Chair

- A) The Chair of the Regional District Board shall receive the basic remuneration as a Director plus an amount equal to 1.6 times (was 1.52 times) the basic remuneration. ~~In addition the Chair will receive \$100 per day for attendance at the Regional District Office when necessary.~~
- B) The Vice-Chair of the Regional District Board shall receive the basic remuneration as a Director plus an amount equal to 0.50 times (was .38 times) the basic remuneration.
- C) A Committee Chair of the Regional District Board shall receive the basic remuneration as a Director plus an amount equal to 0.50 times (was .51 times) the basic remuneration.
- D) Where more than one Chair or Vice-Chair or Committee Chair position is held by the same Director, only the highest of any Chair remuneration applies.

4) Acting Chair

In addition to his/her remuneration for attendance at a Board meeting as specified in this schedule, any Board member who serves as Acting-Chair on Board Day due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, shall be compensated \$200 (was \$0 this amount is not subject to CPI) for his/her services in chairing the Board meeting.

5) Emergency Situations

- Directors required to attend office at the Regional District to support emergency operations will receive \$200 per day for any day in attendance of over two hours. The board must approve or ratify the Director's attendance for this allowance to be received.

6) Cheque Signer

A director that is appointed as a cheque signer for the RDBN (but is not Chair of the Finance Committee or the Board Chair) shall receive an additional \$125 per month. (was \$112 this amount would no longer subject to CPI)

6) Partner's Program Expense

Once a year, the Regional District will pay the registration fees for the partner's program and any additional accommodation costs for the spouse of a Director to stay in the Director's hotel room when attending either a convention or conference.

SCHEDULE B

Meeting Remuneration

It must be noted that the following table is intended to provide examples of categories of meetings and the remuneration applicable to that category. It must be recognized that the Board may eliminate or establish committees from time to time, which may or may not be eligible for remuneration in accordance with the applicable category.

- (A) For attendance at meetings, Directors will be remunerated and expenses will be paid in accordance with the attached table.
- (B) Those meetings which receive remuneration as indicated in the attached table are deemed to be "Sanctioned Meetings".
- (C) Where more than one meeting is held on the same day, the meetings shall be deemed to be one meeting. As an exception, when one of the meetings is a regular Board meeting and the other meeting begins after 6:00 pm on the same day, the other meeting will be remunerated as a separate meeting.
- (D) Directors are only eligible for remuneration where an agenda for the meeting is prepared and distributed in advance and minutes are recorded and submitted to the Board for consideration or for meetings called because of an emergency.
- (E) Where a Director attends a meeting by means of electronic communications, remuneration shall be at the normal rate for that meeting.
- (F) Remuneration for meetings not listed on the attached table must be approved by the Board. It is noted that Directors may choose to accept appointments to a wide variety of bodies; however, except as specifically provided for herein, those appointments shall be without remuneration.

Meeting Type	Allowance	Notes
Board and Committee Meetings	\$235 (was \$214)	
Other Approved Meetings	\$235 for greater than three hours	Does not include travel time/days*
Other Approved Meetings	\$117 for less than 3 ½ hours	Does not include travel time/days*
Attendance at Conventions	\$235 full day/ \$117 for half day	Does not include travel time/days*
	Schedule C*	

Schedule C
Travel Time Remuneration

1. Travel time remuneration shall apply to:
 - A) All travel by Board Chair or Vice-Chair when representing the RDBN;
 - B) Travel by Directors to sanctioned meetings; and
 - C) Travel by Directors to meetings/events outside a Director's area authorized by the Board or by the Chair where time constraints preclude Board consideration.
2. Travel time remuneration is \$25 per 100 kilometres driven.
3. For commercial travel (i.e. air flights), remuneration is \$25 per hour.
4. A maximum of \$150 per day may be claimed for travel.



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo Committee of the Whole May 3, 2018

Prepared For: Chair Miller and the Board of Directors
From: John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Date: April 20, 2018
Issue: Environmental Services Debenture Retired
Tracking: Bylaw 1266/1434 Bond Issue #103

Background:

In 2003 the Regional District passed a bylaw to borrow funds to implement its Solid Waste Management Plan. The amount borrowed in 2008 was \$677,000 to be paid back over a ten year term.

This loan is now paid off.

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Recommendation:

(All/Directors/Majority)

"That the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako receive the Chief Financial Officer's memo dated April 20, 2018 titled 'Environmental Services Debenture Retired',



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole May 3, 2018

To: Chair Miller and the Board of Directors
 From: Nellie Davis, Proposal Writer
 Date: April 19, 2018
 Regarding: Building BC: Community Housing Fund

On Wednesday, April 18, the Provincial Government announced the Building BC: Community Housing Fund Program, and BC Housing issued a Request for Proposals for New Rental Housing Units under the Building BC: Community Housing Fund. The submission deadline for this RFP (#1070-1819/016) is September 17, 2018 @ 2:00 pm.

This RFP is an invitation by BC Housing to non-profit housing providers or for-profit firms that partner with non-profit housing societies interested in developing and operating new rental housing units for independent seniors and families. Non-profit providers are encouraged to partner with other organizations, community groups or local municipalities to strengthen their proposed project.

Projects must reflect the following mix of rents and incomes within a single building:

30% of Units	Moderate Income – Affordable Market Rents
50% of Units	Housing Income Limits – Rent Geared to Income (RGI)
20% of Units	Low Income – Deep Subsidy Units

Funding – BC Housing can provide:

- Capital Grant: \$100,00 per housing unit (secured by 35 year forgivable mortgage)
- Interim Construction/Take-out Financing: up to 100% of construction cost, subject to BC Housing lending criteria
- Operating Subsidy: Limited amounts of operating subsidy are available, where required. Proposals should demonstrate viability, with priority given to proposals demonstrating limited need for operating subsidy.

Proponents to provide:

- Equity contributions – Contributions in the form of land or other equity that would increase the viability of undertaking their development. All contributions must be firmly committed and evidenced in proponent's submission.

BC Housing will hold a Webinar Information Session on May 29, 2018. Login details will be made available closer to the date. Login details will be posted on the BC Housing website, and as an addendum in MERX. The Request for Proposals is available as a PDF on the BC Non-Profit Housing Association's website here: www.bcnpha.ca/news/expression-of-interest-for-building-bc-community-housing-fund/

RECOMMENDATION:

(All/Directors/Majority)

Receive.



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Committee of the Whole Memorandum
May 3, 2018**

To: Chair Miller and the Committee of the Whole
 From: Kristi Rensby, Finance/Administration Coordinator
 Date: April 18, 2018
 Regarding: 2019 Changes to BC Medical Service Plan Premiums

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako currently pays for premiums for provincial medical coverage for full time employees through the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

The Provincial Government recently announced changes to the MSP.

- On January 1, 2018 MSP premiums were reduced by 50%
- On January 1, 2019 a new Employer Health Tax will be rolled out, charging a 1.95% payroll tax on the total payroll for organizations with an annual payroll over \$1.5 million
- On January 1, 2020, the MSP premiums will be deleted completely.

Based on the RDBN's 2017 payroll of \$3.4 million, the estimated costs are as follows:

2017 MSP Premiums at 100% rate	\$ 52,919
2018 MSP Premiums at 50% rate	\$ 28,463
2019 MSP Premiums (at 50%) plus Payroll Tax	\$103,992
2020 Employer Health Tax only	\$ 77,040

Please note that in 2018 and earlier, MSP for Directors was not paid for by the RDBN. In 2019 and later, it would appear that the Employer Health Tax will be applied to the entire payroll, including the Directors' remuneration (which may be increased in 2019 to offset the removal of the Municipal Officer's Allowance).

This has an added cost to the RDBN, and therefore, to the taxpayer.

RECOMMENDATION:

(All/Directors/Majority)

That the Committee of the Whole receive the Finance/Administration Coordinator's April 18th memorandum titled, "2019 Changes to BC Medical Services Plan Premiums".



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Committee of the Whole Memorandum
May 3, 2018**

To: Chair Miller and the Committee of the Whole
 From: Kristi Rensby, Finance/Administration Coordinator
 Date: April 18, 2018
 Regarding: 2019 Changes to Canada Pension Plan

The federal government has made changes to the Canada Pension Plan (CPP). Higher contributions will be phased in over five years, starting January 1, 2019.

The following table outlines the phase-in schedule for enhanced CPP contributions.

Proposed Changes to CPP Pensionable Earnings and Contributions

Year	Projected* YMPE	Projected* upper earnings	Contribution rate**	
			On YMPE	On enhanced earnings
2018	\$58,000	\$58,000	4.95%	-
2019	\$59,700	\$59,700	5.10%	-
2020	\$61,500	\$61,500	5.25%	-
2021	\$63,500	\$63,500	5.45%	-
2022	\$65,600	\$65,600	5.70%	-
2023	\$67,800	\$67,800	5.95%	-
2024	\$70,100	\$74,900	5.95%	4%
2025	\$72,500	\$82,700	5.95%	4%

*Projected earnings are estimates and are subject to change

**Contributions on YMPE and Enhanced Earnings will be matched by the employer

More information on this change can be viewed at
https://www.fin.gc.ca/n16/data/16-113_3-eng.asp

In 2017, the RDBN cost for CPP contributions was \$120,970, based on 4.95% of the \$2.4 million in pensionable earnings of Directors and staff.

RECOMMENDATION:

(All/Directors/Majority)

That the Committee of the Whole receive the Finance/Administration Coordinator's April 18th memorandum titled, "2019 Changes to Canada Pension Plan".



Memorandum

To: Chair Miller and the Board of Directors
From: Haley Jeffrey, Emergency Services Manager
Date: April 24, 2018
Regarding: April 1, 2018 Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin

Please see the attached *April 1, 2018 Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin* for your review.

The snow pack report is as follows:

- Nechako Basin is 103% of normal;
- Skeena-Nass is 89% of normal;
- Upper Fraser West 145% of normal.

<u>Recommendation</u>	All /DIRECTORS/MAJORITY
Receipt	

Written By:

Reviewed By:



Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1st, 2018

The April 1st, 2018 snow survey is now complete. Data from 132 snow courses and 74 automated snow weather stations around the province (collected by the Ministry of Environment Snow Survey Program, BC Hydro and partners), and climate data from Environment and Climate Change Canada forms the basis of the following report¹.

Weather

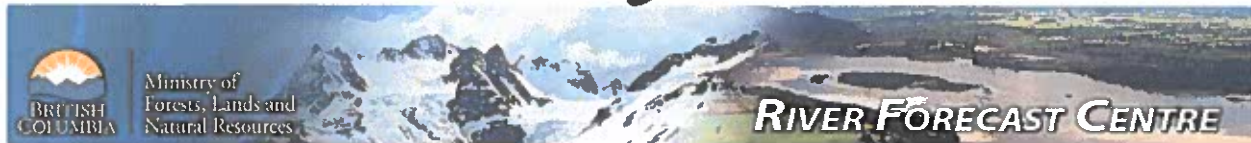
The weather in March was relatively cool and remained dry for most of the month until several storm systems moved through the province at the end of the month. Temperatures across the British Columbia were near normal to slightly below normal (-2 to 0°C relative to normal). Precipitation was well above normal for most locations in the Interior, and significantly below normal for Vancouver Island and the South Coast.

Snowpack

Snow basin indices for April 1st 2018 range from a low of 65% of normal in the Stikine to a high of 152% in the Similkameen and Okanagan regions (Table 1 and Figure 1). Overall, the province has an above normal snow pack for April 1st. The average of all snow measurements across the province is 127% of normal, increasing significantly from 119% of normal on March 1st.

Well-above normal snow packs (>130%) are present in the Upper Fraser West, Okanagan, Similkameen, Boundary, and Skagit. The April 1st snow index for the Okanagan is 152% of normal, which is tied with April 1999 for the highest snow pack dating back to 1980. Above normal snow packs (110-130%) are present in the Middle Fraser, Upper Fraser East, Lower Fraser, Upper Columbia, West Kootenay, East Kootenay, South Coast, and Central Coast. Although the Middle Fraser snow index is 110%, there are areas within the Middle Fraser that are much higher. For example, the Nicola basin has an index of 132%, and snow surveys within the Chilcotin plateau are significantly above normal (>150%). Near normal snow packs (80-110%) have accumulated in the Skeena-Nass, Nechako, Liard, Peace, Vancouver Island, the North Thompson, and the South Thompson. Although the Nechako snow index is considered near normal, two snow surveys within the Nechako basin (1A23 Bird Creek & 1B05 Skins Lake) currently measure all-time record highs. It is thus likely that the Nechako snow index (103%) under-represents certain areas within the entire basin. A well-below normal snow pack is present in the Stikine (65%) and Northwest (72%). Finally, the Fraser River snow index as an entire watershed is 108% of normal.

¹ Every effort is made to ensure that data reported on these pages are accurate. However, in order to update the graphs and indices as quickly as possible, some data may have been estimated. Please note that data provided on these pages are preliminary and subject to revision upon review.



Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1st, 2018

Table 1 - BC Snow Basin Indices – April 1, 2018

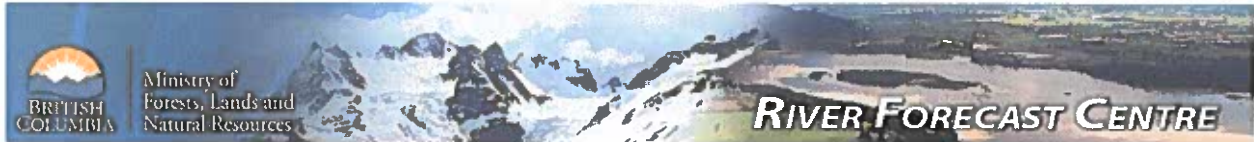
Basin	% of Normal	Basin	% of Normal
Upper Fraser West	145	Boundary	149
Upper Fraser East	114	Similkameen	152
Nechako	103	South Coast	120
Middle Fraser	110	Vancouver Island	106
Lower Fraser	113	Central Coast	116
North Thompson	109	Skagit	150
South Thompson	109	Peace	95
Upper Columbia	111	Skeena-Nass	89
West Kootenay	127	Stikine	65
East Kootenay	119	Liard	83
Okanagan	152	Northwest	72

Outlook

The easing trend in La Niña conditions in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, which began in February, is continuing. The Climate Prediction Centre (CPC) at the U.S. National Weather Service/NOAA is forecasting the high likelihood that conditions will continue to transition to ENSO-neutral through the spring, with neutral conditions to develop into the summer. While La Niña is waning, it is not uncommon for the effects of La Niña to persist several months beyond the period of the defined La Niña event. For example, snow packs in previous La Niña events in British Columbia tended to grow more rapidly than normal through April. Province-wide snow basin indices during La Niña years tend to increase by 2-5% over the April 1st to May 1st period. While there is still uncertainty over how weather patterns will play out over the next few months, continued increases in snow basin indices into May are likely to occur, given this year's La Niña context.

Seasonal forecasts (April to June) from Environment and Climate Change Canada indicate an increased likelihood of below normal temperatures for the eastern border of British Columbia and above normal temperatures for the Northwest. Short to medium-term forecasts suggest continued light to moderate precipitation for Vancouver Island and the South Coast for the following week. Precipitation from these events is expected to spill over the Coast Mountains and into the southern interior, likely increasing the mountain snowpack. Temperatures are forecast to be near normal over this period.

By April 1st, nearly 95% of the annual BC snow pack has typically accumulated. For most areas, the transition from snow accumulation to snow melt generally occurs in the middle of April, and therefore the April 1st snow survey is considered to be the key survey of the year for assessing the impact of snow pack on seasonal water supply and flood risk.



Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1st, 2018

Very high snow packs (>145%) in the South Interior (including the Skagit, Similkameen, Okanagan, Boundary and Upper Fraser West), and high snow packs in the Kootenay (>120%) indicate an increased seasonal risk of flooding. Given this year's La Niña conditions, it is unlikely that the risk will ease much prior to the melt season. While the snow pack in the overall Fraser River basin is only slightly above normal (108%), under specific weather conditions it is possible for snow to melt rapidly throughout the entire basin. Increased seasonal runoff in spring can contribute to higher local inflows to the lower reaches of the Fraser River, where there is still a flood risk for the the Lillooet River and tributaries depending upon weather conditions. Given the potential for increasing snow packs in the coming weeks, there is the possibility of increasing seasonal flood risk in other areas of the province.

Seasonal volume runoff forecasts (see below) are near-normal (100-110%) for the Upper Fraser, Middle Fraser, Thompson and Skeena/Bulkley basins, and well above-normal (>130%) for areas of the South Interior, including the Okanagan, Similkameen and Nicola. The snowmelt component of seasonal runoff on Vancouver Island, South Coast, Lower Fraser and Skagit is expected to be near to slightly above normal given the snow pack in those regions. Below normal snow packs in the Northwest and Stikine are an early indication of the potential for below normal seasonal runoff.

Hydrological Effects of BC Wildfires in 2017

Forest fires burned the largest area in BC's history during the summer of 2017. These fires affected many watersheds, including large areas in the Cariboo Chilcotin, Thompson Okanagan, West Coast, and Kootenay Boundary regions. Disturbances such as fire affect the hydrologic response of streams, rivers and lakes relevant to potential flooding. Specifically, flows from snowmelt dominated watersheds impacted by fires tend to be greater and peak earlier as compared to undisturbed areas, even under normal weather conditions. Many of the regions affected by burns last summer have above normal snow packs this year.

Areas that will be more susceptible to earlier and higher flows due to potential fire impacts and a high snowpack include: Bonaparte River (Cache), Baezaeko River, Nazko River, Chilcotin River, Deadman River, and West Road River; including minor tributaries/creeks.

Upcoming Freshet

Snow pack is one element of seasonal flood risk during BC's freshet season. Weather patterns during the snow melt season play a critical role in whether or not flooding occurs. Intense or prolonged rainfall and extreme temperatures are important factors that can lead to flooding, even for areas with a near normal snow pack.

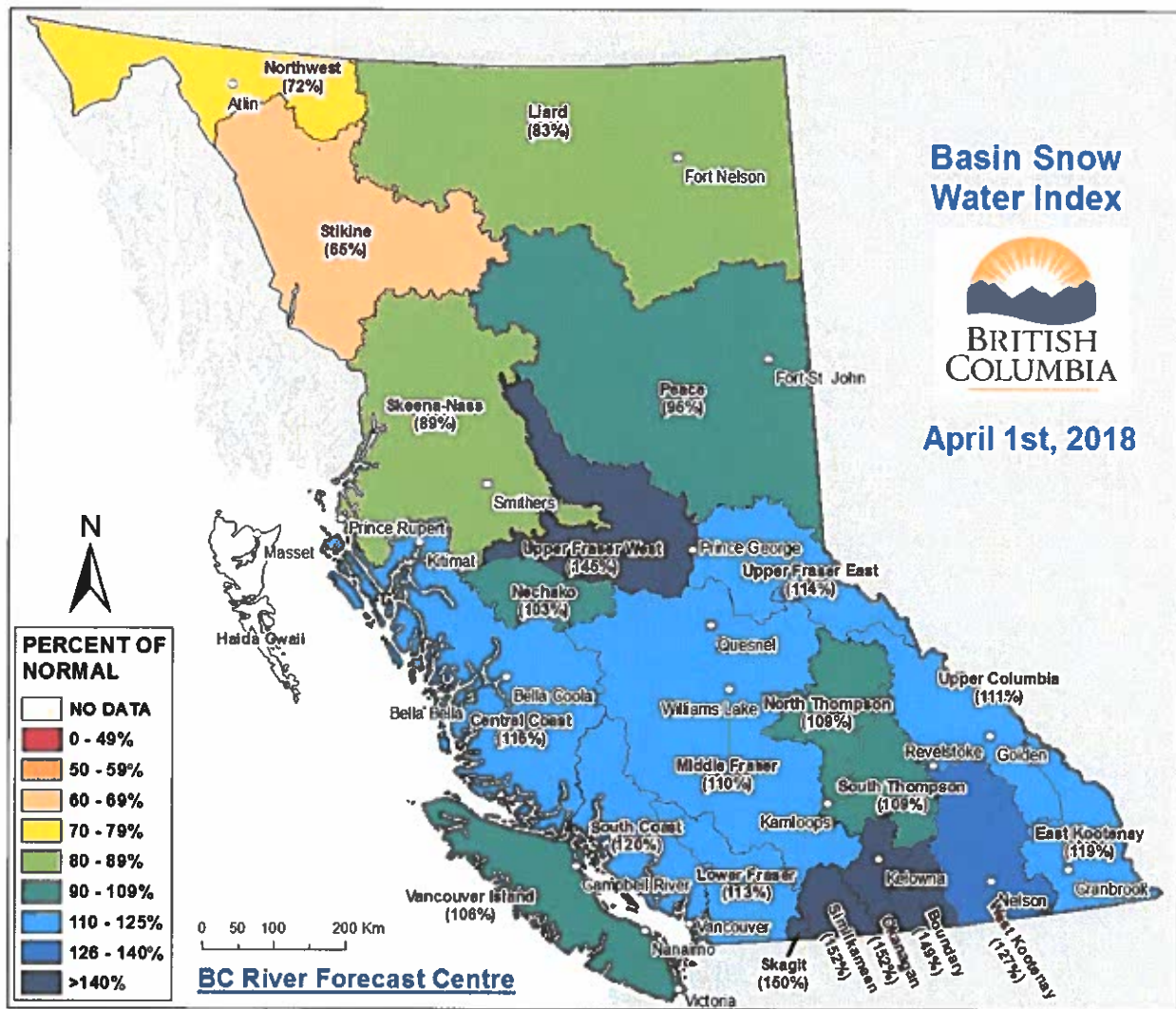


Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1st, 2018

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor snow pack conditions and will provide an updated seasonal flood risk forecast in the May 1st 2018 bulletin, which is scheduled for release on May 7th.

BC River Forecast Centre
 April 9, 2018

Figure 1: Basin Snow Water Index – April 1st, 2018



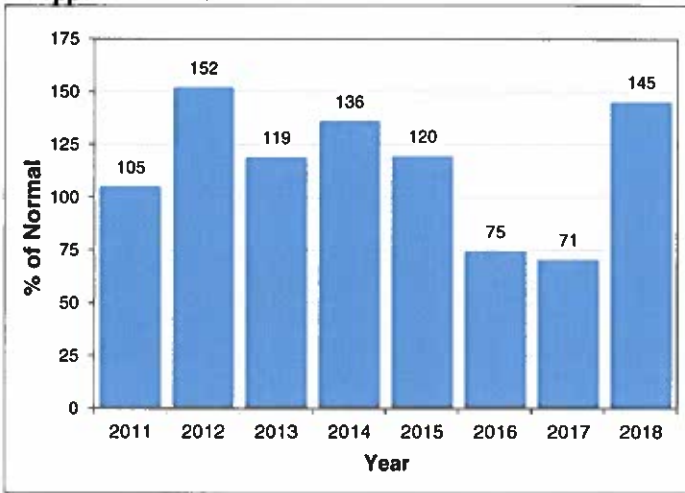
2018 Automated Snow Weather Station/Manual Snow Survey Data				April					Historic Snow Water Equivalent (mm)					
Station ID	Name	Basin	Elevation (masl)	Survey Date YYYY-MM-DD	SD (cm)	SWE (mm)	Code	1981-2010 Normal	2017 (mm)	2016 (mm)	Minimum (mm)	Maximum (mm)	1981-2010 Normal (mm)	Years of Record
1A12	KAZA LAKE	Upper Fraser West	1247	2018-03-29	126	346		101%	251	270	132	476	341	55
1A12P	Kaza Lake	Upper Fraser West	1248	2018-04-01	133	323			269	290	269	290		2
1A16	BURNS LAKE	Upper Fraser West	820	2018-04-04	77	204		171%	60	26	0	264	119	48
1A23	BIRD CREEK	Upper Fraser West	1196	2018-04-01	124	320		229%	104	146	84	270	140	28
1B01	MOUNT WELLS	Nechako	1489	2018-04-01	202	660		135%	525	381	273	690	490	63
1B01P	Mount Wells	Nechako	1489	2018-04-01		674		121%	563	427	227	869	557	26
1B02	TAHTSA LAKE	Nechako	1319	2018-04-01	279	1006		84%	1239	1026	775	1972	1202	65
1B02P	Tahtsa Lake	Nechako	1319	2018-04-01		1231		96%	1335	1166	464	2227	1278	26
1B05	SKINS LAKE	Nechako	877	2018-04-01	77	233		259%	68	42	0	203	90	54
1B06	MOUNT SWANNELL	Nechako	1596	2018-04-01	142	413		146%	261	249	148	490	282	29
1B07	NUTLI LAKE	Nechako	1502	2018-04-01	169	549		106%	556	414	301	834	518	27
1B08P	Mount Pondosy	Nechako	1413	2018-04-01		819		104%	886	732	363	1152	790	26
4B01	KIDPRICE LAKE	Skeena-Nass	1415	2018-04-01	263	845		91%	999	685	622	1781	931	64
4B02	JOHANSON LAKE	Skeena-Nass	1480	2018-03-29	105	279		93%	226	270	108	417	301	55
4B03A	HUDSON BAY MTN.	Skeena-Nass	1452	2018-03-28	174	530		106%	408	392	168	846	499	46
4B04	CHAPMAN LAKE	Skeena-Nass	1485	2018-03-28	184	586		128%	422	375	315	762	457	53
4B06	TACHEK CREEK	Skeena-Nass	1133	2018-04-01	116	244		109%	178	208	112	362	223	50
4B07	MCKENDRICK CREEK	Skeena-Nass	1048	2018-03-28	158	421		155%	199	222	183	427	271	50
4B08	MOUNT CRONIN	Skeena-Nass	1491	2018-03-28	230	714		125%	549	460	433	1097	570	49
4B12P	Granduc Mine	Skeena-Nass	790	2018-04-01	320				82		82	82		1
4B13A	TERRACE A	Skeena-Nass	219	2018-04-04	62	182		217%	60	0	0	333	84	38
4B14	EQUITY MINE	Skeena-Nass	1434	2018-03-28	167	546		142%	406	364	258	640	385	41
4B15	LU LAKE	Skeena-Nass	1296	2018-03-28	137	420		144%	252	250	162	504	291	41
4B15P	Lu Lake	Skeena-Nass	1308	2018-04-01	147	469		178%	285	259	119	478	264	20
4B16P	Shedin Creek	Skeena-Nass	1320	2018-04-01	195	563		63%	532	469	195	1096	896	22
4B17P	Tsai Creek	Skeena-Nass	1360	2018-04-01	270	1025		88%	934	808	302	1825	1165	20
4B18P	Cedar-Kiteen	Skeena-Nass	912	2018-04-01	NA	NA	NA		472	365	178	1126	712	17

Code	Description
A	Sampling problems were encountered
B	Early or late sampling
C	Early or late sampling w/problems encountered
E	Estimate
N	Scheduled, but not sampled
NA	Not available
NS	Not scheduled
SD	Snow Depth
SWE	Snow Water Equivalent
T	Trace Amount

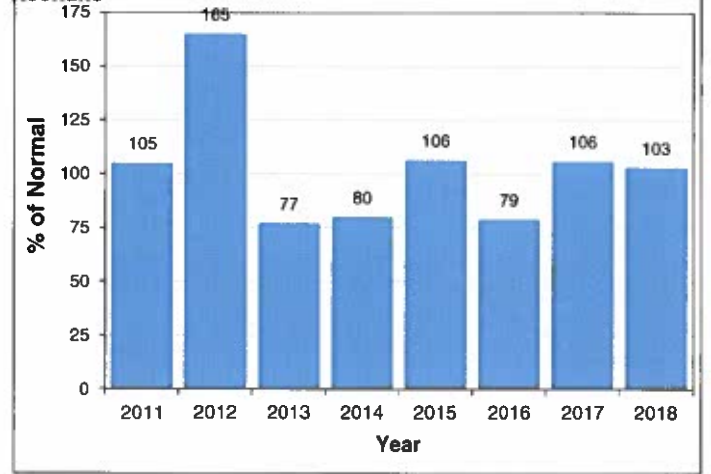
38

Snow Basin Index Graphs - April 1, 2018

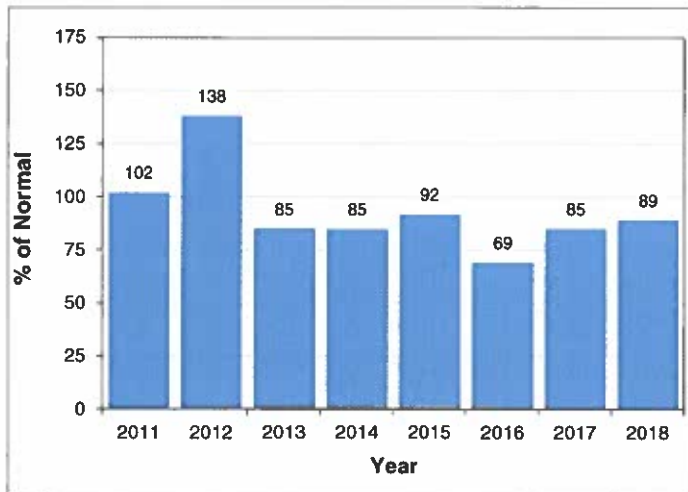
Upper Fraser West



Nechako



Skeena-Nass



Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
River Forecast Centre
Volume Runoff Forecast April 2018

Location	Apr - Jun Runoff				Apr - Jul Runoff				Apr - Sep Runoff				
	Forecast (kdam ³)	Normal (1981-2010) (kdam ³)	% of Normal	Std. Error (kdam ³)	Forecast (kdam ³)	Normal (1981-2010) (kdam ³)	% of Normal	Std. Error (kdam ³)	Forecast (kdam ³)	Normal (1981-2010) (kdam ³)	% of Normal	Std. Error (kdam ³)	
Upper Fraser Basin	Fraser at McBride				3714	3699	100%	307	5234	5166	101%	381	
	McGregor at Lower Canyon				4105	3964	104%	428	5205	5010	104%	564	
	Fraser at Shelley				15320	15670	98%	1179	19474	19730	99%	1562	
Middle Fraser Basin	Quesnel River at Quesnel				4616	4541	102%	418	6006	5872	102%	568	
Thompson Basin	N. Thompson at McLure				9230	8916	104%	481	11595	11085	105%	753	
	S. Thompson at Chase				5969	5792	103%	448	7635	7359	104%	686	
	Thompson at Spences Bridge				16355	15114	108%	973	20972	19094	110%	1560	
Bulkley and Skeena	Bulkley at Quick				2825	2625	108%	236	3449	3222	107%	272	
	Skeena at Usk				19625	18673	105%	1173	24054	23017	105%	1698	
Nicola Lake	Inflows	194	121	161%	30	218	138	159%	35				
Nicola River	at Spences Bridge	731	486	150%	82	856	554	155%	101				
Okanagan and Kalamalka-Wood Lake	Okanagan Lake Inflow	677	440	154%	88	735	465	158%	108				
	Kalamalka-Wood Lake Inflow	42	28	152%	11	49	29	168%	13				
Similkameen River	Similkameen at Nighthawk	1750	1273	137%	128					2229	1583	141%	156
	Similkameen at Hedley	1400	989	142%	96					1718	1177	146%	96
Cowichan River	Cowichan Lake Inflows	283	248	114%	65					322	290	111%	84

1 kdam³=1,000,000 m³

Note that missing values reflect that forecasts were not made for that time interval

Disclaimer: Seasonal forecasts were developed using a Principle Component Analysis of snow pack, climate and streamflow data.

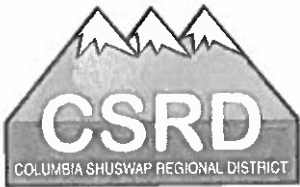
Cowichan Lake Inflows are based on a multi-variate regression analysis and reflects a normal scenario for summer weather conditions

The Standard Error in the Cowichan forecast reflects model error, and does not capture uncertainty over seasonal weather

There is inherent uncertainty in runoff forecasts including potential errors in data and the unpredictable nature of seasonal weather

Use at your own risk

COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT



PO Box 978, 555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P1
 T: 250.832.8194 | F: 250.832.3375 | TF: 1.888.248.2773 | www.csrd.bc.ca

File: 0410-20-06

AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

April 13, 2018

The Honourable Lana Popham
 Minister of Agriculture
 PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
 Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Popham:

At the Regular meeting of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) Board held on March 29, 2018, the Board received correspondence from G & K Persson Farms, Golden, BC. A copy of the correspondence, including the letter that was sent directly to your office by G & K Persson Farms, is attached for your reference. As you know, currently rural farmers that live within 2 hours of an abattoir must take their livestock to a facility to be slaughtered. The enclosed letters express that the costs associated with this is unattainable, the facilities do not have the required capacity, can only slaughter 4 pigs a day, and the stress put on the animals is impacting the quality of the meat. These letters also outline the issues associated with these actions:

1. Animals suffered undo stress as indicated in the articles cited in the letters – stress can lead to a reduction in quality of meat;
2. Abattoirs do not have the capacity, (human resources), to meet the demand. Some farmers only option is to look after their own and of course this is illegal. Farmers don't want to do this;
3. The pricing structure is 150% higher than on small farms.

The Electoral Area Director for Area A (Rural Golden), Karen Cathcart, asked for Board support to address the need for changes to the regulations for Class E Licences. Of note, the Director mentioned that she has spoken to many farmers regarding this issue which is not isolated to the area of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, this is a provincial issue.

Upon discussing this matter, the Board adopted a resolution to ask that the Ministry of Agriculture make a change to the licensing requirements for Class E licences to support rural farmers so that they can slaughter their livestock on their farm premises. If the Ministry changed the regulations to allow small rural farmers to have a Class E License for slaughtering their animals, this would make a huge difference for local farmers to operate their farms as they had done for years before. This change would also promote gate sales, enhance food security, and promote consumers to buy local.

1...2

ELECTORAL AREAS

A GOLDEN-COLUMBIA
 B REVELSTOKE-COLUMBIA

C SOUTH SHUSWAP
 D FALKLAND-SALMON VALLEY

E SICAMOUS-MALAKWA
 F NORTH SHUSWAP-SEYMOUR ARM

MUNICIPALITIES

GOLDEN
 REVELSTOKE

SALMON ARM
 SICAMOUS

Letter to Minister of Agriculture
April 13, 2018
Page Two

We hope that the Ministry of Agriculture is open to considering changes to the Class E licensing requirements, for the benefit of producers and consumers, and in the promotion of a prosperous agricultural industry.

For your reference and information, we have also included a letter of support from the newly formed Golden Agricultural Society in regards to the request of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District.

Yours truly,
COLUMBIA SHUSWAP REGIONAL DISTRICT
Per:



Rhona Martin
Chair

cc Director K. Cathcart, Electoral Area A
G & K Persson Farms, Golden, BC
Golden Agricultural Society
BC Regional Districts

Enclosures

Gary & Karen Persson
G & K Persson Farms
Box 1990
Golden BC V0A 1H0
250-348-2094
native@uniserve.com

Feb 16, 2018

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Popham,

Gary and I live on a small acreage just south of Golden BC. We raise 10 or so pigs each year to sell to our local friends and families via Farm Gate Sales. The current Class "E" Regulations are limiting our ability to raise our pigs on our property and slaughter them on our property.

In discussion with David Charchuk, a meat industry specialist based out of Kamloops BC, he advised us to contact you in order to discuss and explore the possibilities of making some minor changes to the regulatory requirements regarding the Class "E" meat processing facilities in the Province. David was instrumental in the design and licensing approval process for our Class "E" Slaughter and Licensed Cut & Wrap facility, at that time he headed up the meat inspection team for the Interior Health Authority.

The Class "E" License gives a farmer the ability to slaughter their animals on their property, take their product to a cut and wrap facility of their choice and then sell the product via farm gate sales.

The steps in attaining a Class "E" License are as follows:

1st) farmers have to find out if they are in designated or nondesignated areas within BC

----designated areas within BC mean that a farmer can apply for a Class “E” License and will be approved.

----nondesignated areas within BC mean that a farmer must complete a Feasibility Study first to see if they even qualify for a Class “E” License.

This is where the issue lays.

2nd) If a farmer falls within the nondesignated area, they then have to do the Feasibility Study. The opening sentence within this study says,

“This Class E Feasibility Study has been designed to help you to assess the slaughter services that are available at provincially licensed Class A, B and C facilities in your area, and to determine whether they meet your needs. If the slaughter services that you need are already available through an existing provincially licensed facility in your area (i.e., within a 2 hour travel time from your farm/property), you are unlikely to be issued a Class E licence. If a facility is not available, you will be Considered for a Class E licence”.

This opening paragraph is enough to scare most people from even reading on.

Most of the profit in raising a few animals is the way of life; knowing that we are eating animals that are healthy, breathing fresh air, eating good food (no antibiotics or hormones), and not STRESSED before slaughter.

3rd) If a farmer falls within the 2 hour restriction (from an abattoir), then, NO CLASS “E” LICENSE.

If the farmer is outside the 2 hour restriction, then the can apply for the Class “E” License and will be considered for approval.

We the people of British Columbia are asking to change the wording in this document and exclude the 2 hour distance within an abattoir. We agree that a Class “E” License is necessary, but should not have the time restriction.

These are our supporting reasons:

1) The stress of loading, hauling, unloading, and not to mention being in a strange environment until slaughtered. What affect does this have on our meat? The

adrenalin in our meat prior to slaughter would be huge. Not to mention the cost of transportation, once to deliver the carcass to the facility and once to go pick it up.

2) Many of the abattoirs within the province are overloaded and cannot accommodate the number of animals that need to be slaughtered in their areas. If Class "E" Licenses were given to local farmers, allowing a farmer to slaughter his own animals, this would take some of the pressure off of the larger scale, licensed abattoirs.

3) The expense that incurs by having pork inspected, (by a gov'n't inspector, at a licensed abattoir for farm gate sales is a complete waste of gov'n't (tax payers) money as farm gate sales is much different then gov'n't inspected meats at an abattoir.

4) Carbon Footprint: localized foods, better quality, more nutritious, higher animal survival rates. By allowing farmers to have farm gate sales we are preserving a way of life, keeping small agricultural lands productive; therefore, protected and having a healthier, vigorous enthusiastic rural community that will grow more produce and build economic development in the Agricultural Sector.

5) Because of todays impersonal high-volume meat producers and exports we need inspected product; but our society also deserves the right to raise and buy meat not subjected to the industrial short falls of nutrition and quality.

6) The small farmer would have to build a facility for easy loading and hauling, with stress of the animal the main concern. The effort of his animal husbandry to raise a highly nutritious, tasty product will not only be degraded, but may be lost altogether. In our case, G & K Persson Farms; we raise 10 pigs per year, we can only cut 2 pigs per day in our licensed cut and wrap facility. It would take us 8 trips to Invermere to deliver and then to pick up our carcasses.

The differences between farm gate and inspected meats.

Farm gate sales: a farmer raises his animal on his own property, slaughters the animal (stress free) and takes it to a legal cut and wrap, he then brings the product

home to sell from his farm. Usually this is to family and friends, and within their own regional district.

Inspected meats: these animals are raised on a farmer's property, then shipped to a Licensed Abattoir. The animals are then slaughtered (a gov'n't paid inspector inspects all animals) and are ready for cut and wrap. These meat products are now ready to sell retail (health food stores, grocery, restaurants).

There is a need for both types of facilities and Licensing programs within our province.

In closing, please find attached links for supporting documents.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/why-scared-animals-taste-worse>

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/x6909e/x6909e04.htm>

<http://www.sapork.biz/stress-can-affect-meat-quality/>

http://animalstudiesrepository.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1019&context=acw_p_faafp (pages 324,5,6 are of most concern)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/agriculture-and-seafood/food-safety/meat-inspection/classfeasibilitystudy.pdf>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/food-safety/meat-inspection-licensing/designated-areas>

<http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/federal-documents-reveal-repeated-cases-of-pigs-dying-en-route-to-langley-slaughterhouse>

<http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/b-c-slaughterhouse-documents-reveal-inhumane-treatment-risk-of-contamination>

We have added a brief summary of the attached supporting documents for a quick reference for yourself.

*stress through transportation, rough handling, fear, fighting and/or botched stunning reduces the amount of Glycogen in the animal which turns into Lactic Acid after the animal has bleed out. Low levels of Lactic Acid in pigs "Pale Soft Exudative" (PSE) meat is usually unsellable, and the pork industry loses \$275 million/year on meat that has to be discarded. In cattle and sheep "Dark Firm Dry" (DFD) meat is tough, dry, acidic and dark, and like PSE meat, it has a shorter shelf life. Enough of the PSE meat is disguised as ground, thus reducing the losses enough that it is still not a financial benefit for the use of more humane slaughter arrangements.

Thank you very much for reviewing our letter and documentation. We are looking forward to a timely response regarding the Class "E" Licensing.

Gary and Karen Persson

48



Letter of Support

January 30 2018

To: Whom it may concern.

Regarding: Letter of support request.

From: Golden Agricultural Society.

The Golden Agricultural Society is a new society that operates in the Golden area and within Columbia Shuswap Regional District Area A. We are a group of farmers that are working together to try and increase local food production in our region, as well as economic opportunities for local agriculturalists by, engaging in activities that are helping promote agriculture.

Please be advised that; the Golden Agricultural Society supports our local Columbia Shuswap Regional District area A agricultural community, In their effort to make the class E licensing more easily accessible to our local producers.

The Golden Agricultural Society believes, that local producers big or small should be able to obtain a class E license regardless of their property's relative distance to a class A abattoir. The Golden Agricultural Society would support these above mentioned efforts in regards to class E licensing if; our local producers are willing to invest and operate their facility within all legislative obligations to class E licensing.

The Golden Agricultural Society believes in, preserving our producers right in order to produce their own products on their own farms, regardless of their properties relative distance to a class A abattoir. This may be a more feasible option for certain producers management skills and styles that may not work in conjunction with their local class A abattoir.

The Golden Agricultural Society is in strong support of class A abattoirs as there is a need for these facilities. The Golden Agricultural Society respects the financial commitment made by the operators but also; believes that a producer should have a fair chance at the option of being a successful applicant for class E licensing if they so wish to do so, in order to have a better chance at their economic well being for them and their families.

Jesse Courteau
President
Golden Agricultural Society.

Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program

Climate change staff grants

New grants to help pay salaries of staff working on climate action

Call for applications now open to municipalities

FCM's climate change staff grants provide up to \$125,000 to supplement the salary of a new or existing municipal employee who will work on initiatives to improve adaptation to local climate change impacts or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Lack of staff resources is one of the biggest barriers for communities looking to take action on climate change. These grants, disbursed over two years, help municipalities address staffing gaps and produce lasting improvements in their operations related to climate change.

Communities can use the funding to dedicate staff to activities such as developing or refreshing GHG emissions reduction or climate change adaptation plans, creating GHG emission inventories or adding climate change practices into daily municipal processes.

On this page, find information about initiative requirements, available funding and how to apply.

Eligibility requirements

An individual funded through a climate change staff grant must move the following three municipal initiatives from planning to implementation over the course of the grant period:

- Develop or refresh a GHG emissions reduction or climate adaptation plan, which:
 - Aligns with the municipality's sustainability and environmental goals, such as the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP), Official Community Plan or other related policy documents
 - Integrates asset management priorities
- Implement operational or institutional changes to produce long-term climate change impacts within the municipality beyond the end of the grant period, such as the creation of a climate change advisory committee or integration of climate considerations into infrastructure decision-making processes
- Undertake preparatory work leading to the implementation of municipal GHG emissions reduction or climate change adaptation initiatives, such as creating GHG inventories, conducting stakeholder consultations or doing policy research

Activities must include these three areas:

- Planning related to mitigation or adaptation
- Institutional and operational changes
- Implementation of climate mitigation or adaptation projects

Examples of municipal initiatives

Here are some examples of the types of municipal initiatives grant-funded staff can work on:

- Developing a climate mitigation or adaptation vision
- Preparing and holding public consultation
- Implementing feasibility study or capital project
- Setting up a steering committee

Who can apply

FCM strongly encourages applications from small and medium-sized communities, particularly those in the early stages of maturity on our [self-assessment scales](#).

- Municipalities with a population of 150,000 or less
- Two or more municipalities that will share the services of one grant-funded staff person
- Indigenous communities that have a shared service agreement with a municipal government related to infrastructure, GHG emissions reduction or climate change adaptation

Note: Preference will be given to first-time applicants to the MCIP program.

Funding available

- Grants of up to \$125,000 to cover the salary of one staff person
 - Eligible applicants can receive a maximum of one climate change staff grant
- Funding for up to 80 per cent of [eligible costs](#) over a two-year period

Application deadline

Applications are accepted until **June 29, 2018**. Limited funding is available.

How to apply

1. **Review eligible and ineligible costs**
Learn about the [eligible and ineligible costs](#) that can be included in the budget of your application.

Note: Costs associated with preparing an application for this grant are not eligible for reimbursement.
2. **Review the project scorecard and evaluation criteria for self-assessment**
We recommend that you download the [climate change staff grants scorecard](#) to review the evaluation criteria and refer to it as you fill out your application. This will help strengthen your responses to each question.
3. **Complete the budget and workplan template**
Review and complete the [budget and workplan template](#) to include in your application.
4. **Review the sample job description**
Read our [sample job description](#) to help you determine how a new or existing staff member could support the required activities under this grant.
5. **Complete the application form**
Download and complete the [climate change staff grants application form](#).

Review the [system requirements and instructions](#) for using FCM's application forms, including details on how to submit your application.

Application review timeline and approval process

Learn more about the [application review process](#), including timelines for approvals and funding decisions.

Quebec municipalities

FCM has an agreement with Quebec's [Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Occupation du territoire \(MAMOT\)](#) that allows the ministry to review applications to MCIP before they are submitted to FCM. Quebec municipalities applying for funding from MCIP must follow the process below to submit their application to MAMOT.

Once you have completed all the steps in the *How to apply* section, submit your application by following the steps below.

Note that the content of the links is available in French only.

1. **Save your application form using the appropriate file name**
Save the application form to your local device with the following filename: MIC_ "your municipality's name" _ "date" (YYMMDD). For example: MIC_TownofABC_180228.pdf
2. **Login to the [Portail gouvernemental des affaires municipales et régionales](#)** using your username and password. Select the program, "MAMOT - Programme Municipalités pour l'innovation climatique"

1. **Upload and submit the application form** through the portal. Note this is an external site.
2. **Receive confirmation from MAMOT**
MAMOT assesses the applications to ensure that the projects submitted do not conflict with Quebec's government policies and directives. Once the assessment has been completed, MAMOT informs the applicant of their decision and sends compliant applications to MCIP for review.

MAMOT requires up to 20 working days to review the application and forward it to MCIP.
3. **Receive approval from MCIP**
MCIP will inform the applicant once they receive the application from MAMOT and review the submission. If the application is approved for funding, an agreement between FCM and the applicant is prepared.

Other application resources

Use these resources to help you throughout the application process:


- [Maturity Scale for GHG Emissions Reduction](#)
- [Climate Adaptation Maturity Scale](#)

For more information

Contact us by email or call:

- Toll-free: 1-877-997-9926
- In the Ottawa-Gatineau region: 613-907-6208

The Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program is five-year, \$75-million program designed to encourage Canadian municipalities to better prepare for and adapt to the new realities of climate change as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program is delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and funded by the Government of Canada.

 Page Updated: 10/04/2018
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
24 Clarence Street

Ottawa, Ontario
K1N 5P3
T: 613-241-5221
F: 613-241-7440
Email: info@fcm.ca

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52

Board- Receive

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Cheryl Anderson

From: Oliver Ray <oray@nclga.ca>
Sent: April 24, 2018 10:59 AM
To: NCLGA ADMIN
Cc: Cam McAlpine
Subject: Invitation to Pre-Conference Community Energy Workshop
Attachments: Bioenergy Workshop.pdf

Good Morning NCLGA Members and Stakeholders-

Please see the attached invitation from the Chair of the Canadian Bioenergy Conference for an event in Prince George on June 6th. The event is open to any community that is interested in sustainability and community energy issues, and there is no need to register for the Bioeconomy Conference.

Please direct any questions/requests to Cam McAlpine using the contact info on the invitation itself (this is not an NCLGA event).

Kaila Nielsen
Communications Coordinator

"The Elected Voice of Central & Northern BC"
North Central Local Government Association
206 - 155 George Street
Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
Office: (250) 564-6585

Twitter: @NCLGA
Website: <http://www.nclga.ca>





Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference, I would like to invite you to participate in a special pre-conference workshop June 6, 2018 in Prince George, BC.

Co-hosted with the City of Prince George the Building Partnerships for Community Sustainability community energy workshop takes place June 6 from 11:00-4:30 at the Wood Innovation and Design Centre in downtown Prince George,

This is Northern BC's premier community energy workshop. It's a must-attend for local, regional and First Nations governments, the clean tech sector, and energy managers considering local solutions.

Learn from Växjö, Sweden, a leader in bioenergy and the first city in the world to pledge to go with 100% renewable energy.

- Learn about actual projects being implemented by communities and entrepreneurs.
- Learn how to partner with colleges and universities for education and research.
- Learn about building code changes, building with wood, and energy efficiency.
- Learn about plans to building infrastructure for electric vehicles.

The program will include plenaries, break-out sessions, and opportunities for networking. Lunch will be provided.

Cost: \$100

Space is limited. Register today.

Workshop participants do not have to be registered for the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference. But why not take advantage of early bird pricing and register now for the the best program and and trade show in today's Canadian bioeconomy. Included in your conference registration are all plenary sessions, including trade show admission and all networking events.

For more information, contact event manager Cam McAlpine at cam@bioeconomyconference.com or 250-961-6611.

Sincerely,

Jim Martin

Chair, International Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition Society
Organizers of the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference and Exhibition
p. 250.960.4410
e. jmartin@rdffg.bc.ca

[View this email in your browser](#)



From Prince George in January, to Vancouver in June, anyone interested in addressing natural resources in British Columbia will not want to miss the **Resources for Future Generations (RFG2018)** conference!

Please peruse the comprehensive Preliminary Program for RFG2018 - the upcoming international conference on Energy, Minerals, Water, Earth, Communities and Education, and their interdependence.

An IUGS Event

IUGS

RFG 2018
RESOURCES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

PREMIER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
ENERGY · MINERALS · WATER · THE EARTH

June 16-21, 2018
Vancouver Convention Centre, BC, Canada

RFG2018.ORG

PRELIMINARY
PROGRAM



[Download the detailed Preliminary Program \(PDF, 4MB\)](#)

The conference will feature a range of innovative and provocative special sessions and events including panels, debates, thematic keynotes, public lectures and events for Early Career professionals. These sessions are specially designed to engage participants, provoke new ideas and conversations and further our understanding of the nexus between minerals, energy, water and how human society can sustain itself on Earth well into the future.

[View the Online Schedule of Plenaries and Keynotes](#)

Let's Get Technical!

The four-day technical program has 1,500+ authors committed to RFG2018. Here are some of the thought-provoking sessions:



- Geo-engineering and Earth Sciences
- Mapping the Oceanic Realm



- Indigenous Knowledge and Perspectives in Education and Career Development



- Geothermal Solutions
- Energy Futures



- New Developments in Canadian Diamond Exploration
- Mining for Clean Energy



- The Role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Natural Resources Projects
- The Changing Role of Geological Surveys



- Groundwater and Surface Water Sustainability
- Leadership in Water Sustainability
- Innovations in Water Treatment and Water Quality



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