

# The Regional News

## NEWLY ELECTED RDBN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2018 Meeting Dates:

- Board Meeting:**
- December 13th
- Committee Meeting:**
- December 13th

### Questions & Comments:

37 3rd Avenue  
Burns Lake, B.C.

Mail: P.O. Box 820  
Burns Lake, B.C.  
VOJ 1E0

Phone: 250-692-3195

Toll Free: 1-800-320-3339

Fax: 250-692-3305

Email: [inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca)

Websites: [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

[opportunities.rdbn.bc.ca](http://opportunities.rdbn.bc.ca)

[www.visitbulkleynechako.com](http://www.visitbulkleynechako.com)



From left to right: Dolores Funk, Mark Parker, Gerry Thiessen, Brad Layton, Michael Riis-Christianson, Clint Lambert, Mark Fisher, Judge Doulis, RCMP Corporal Willcocks, Taylor Bachrach, Shane Brienen, Sarrah Storey, Tom Greenaway, Linda McGuire, Jerry Petersen and Beverley Playfair. Missing: Rob Newell.

**The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Office will be closed Tuesday, December 25th to Monday, December 31st, 2018 and Tuesday, January 1st, 2019**

## New Hospital for Fort St. James

**It's the news people in the Fort St. James area have been waiting for**

The provincial government announced the Stuart Lake Hospital replacement project has been given the green light, with government approval of the concept plan.

Discussions regarding the replacement have been ongoing for the past decade. In 2015, Northern Health submitted a concept plan to the Ministry of Health. Northern Health then

(Cont'd on Page 2)

## 2018 FORT FRASER LOCAL COMMISSION



(left) Director Mark Parker, Electoral Area "D" (Fraser Lake Rural) and the "2018 Fort Fraser Local Commissioners" (from Left to right) Steve Cochran, Colleen DeLong, Linda Cochran and Don Webster

### During a Winter Storm

During winter storm and blizzard conditions, the following tips will help keep your family safe:

- Stay Indoors if possible.
- Select a location where heat can best be conserved, such as the side of the house that receives the most sunlight and is away from cold winds.
- Avoid heat loss by closing off unneeded rooms and stuffing towels or rags in cracks underneath doors to conserve heat.
- Cover the windows at night.
- Keep your water running at a trickle to prevent your pipes from freezing.
- Keep kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors open to allow warmer air to circulate around plumbing.
- Wear layers of loose-fitting, light weight and warm clothing.
- Eat and drink to prevent dehydration.
- If caught in a blizzard, seek shelter and wait out the storm.
- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow.



## GAS TAX FUNDS



Director Petersen, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) has committed \$100,000 in Area 'F' Gas Tax Funds for this Vanderhoof Recreation Field project.

### New Hospital for Fort St. James

(cont'd from page 1)

submitted a revised concept plan to the government last summer, which was approved October, 2018. The project now moves to the business plan phase.



The current hospital opened in 1972 and according to the Province, is outdated in terms of space, functionality and technology. The hospital has 12 beds and offers emergency, acute and complex care, residential care, lab and X-ray services and mental health and addictions counselling.

The business plan phase finalizes the scope and budget of the project and is expected to take 12-18 months.

Once the business plan is approved, the project will proceed to the procurement and construction phase.





# How can the agricultural sector Adapt to climate change?

variable weather and changing shoulder seasons · insect, weed and pest pressure  
· extreme weather events · drier conditions and drought · wildfires and flooding

## Workshop

Agricultural producers are invited to join us in Part 2 of a workshop series to develop the **Bulkley-Nechako and Fraser Fort George Regional Adaptation Strategies:**

- \* develop an action strategy for addressing climate impacts
- \* share your knowledge and experience
- \* build on the results of workshop #1 (held in November)

Up to \$300,000 in seed funding will support collaborative local agricultural adaptation projects following completion of the Strategies

*photo by Flickr member Jasperdo*

## Choose one workshop

Sign-in begins at 9:00am (pre-registration required).  
Morning coffee, baked goods and lunch provided.

### Regional District FFG Prince George

Tuesday, February 5, 2019  
9:30am - 2:30pm

### Round Lake Hall Telkwa

Thursday, February 7, 2019  
9:30am - 2:30pm

PLEASE RSVP or contact us with any questions: [Samantha@BCAgClimateAction.ca](mailto:Samantha@BCAgClimateAction.ca) or call (778) 676-7657



# RDBN Emergency Preparedness Livestock Emergency Planning

**2019 Workshops  
January – March  
Throughout the RDBN!**



**2.5 Hour Workshop for  
Large and Small Farms**

## **Goals:**

**Firesmart Your Farm  
Plan for Emergency  
Shelter – In Place or Relocation  
How to be PREPARED!**



Testimonial from 2018 Attendee:

I found the Emergency Planning for Small Farms workshop extremely helpful in preparing for the wildfire season. After taking the workshop we fireproofed around our property, completed an emergency plan, and when we decided to evacuate, we were ready and out the door with animals in 15 minutes. The information Debbie shared was very useful to me in supporting local farmers and producers needing to relocate animals and prepare to evacuate. This workshop is well worth a couple of hours of your time - information you will use over and over again!



**Emergency  
Commercial Livestock  
Relocation Guide**

**How to get a workshop to your  
community?**

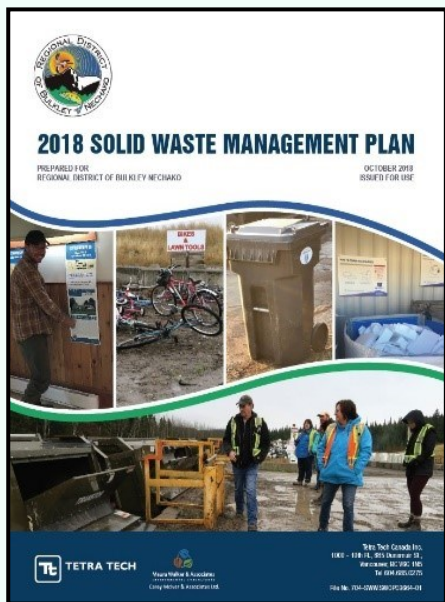
**Contact Debbie Evans, P. Ag.  
RDBN Agriculture Coordinator**

**250-692-3195**

**[debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca)**

## Solid Waste Management Plan

The RDBN, together with the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee and our team of consultants, has completed the review and update on the Solid Waste Management Plan



(SWMP). The plan includes strategies for managing and reducing waste in our region over the next 10 years, such as a “Love Food, Hate Waste” style campaign that has been done already in other parts of the country. Another strategy would be to expand access to recycling for residents. We would also like to see more organics diverted from the waste stream. Education and promotion of ways to divert waste are a high priority as well. Currently, the average resident generates about 600 kg of waste per year. Ideally, we’d like to bring that down to about 500 kg per year, closer to the 472 kg/year target that the province has set. The SWMP was approved by the board of directors on September 6, 2018 and is supported by our member municipalities and local first nations as well. We are now waiting on approval from the Ministry of Environment and Climate



## WASTE WATCHERS

Change Strategy. The Environmental Services Department will be moving forward with year one plans through the budget process for 2019. If you would be interested in seeing the plan, it can be found on our website

[http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/images/pdf/EnvServices/RDBN\\_SWMP\\_Update\\_IFU2\\_002.pdf](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/images/pdf/EnvServices/RDBN_SWMP_Update_IFU2_002.pdf).

## Recycling Centres

The recycling depots at the Vanderhoof Transfer Station and the Smithers/Telkwa Transfer Station have been in operation through the summer and into the fall. Phase 2 at both sites has begun construction, providing an office for staff and a pole shed to store materials under. Along with installing lighting that will be much needed during the darker winter months.

Both depots continue to accept all materials in Recycle BC's

residential packaging and printed paper recycling program, including non-deposit glass bottles and jars, plastic bags and plastic foam packaging, along with curbside recycling materials such as newsprint, cardboard, metal containers, plastic containers, spiral wound cans and paper packaging that held liquid when sold, such as coffee cups and soup cartons.



# RECYCLEBC™



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Recycle BC is a non-profit organization responsible for residential packaging and printed paper recycling throughout British Columbia. Recycle BC ensures packaging and printed paper is collected from households and recycling depots, sorted and recycled responsibly. The Recycle BC program is funded by over 1,200 businesses, like retailers, manufacturers and restaurants, that supply packaging and printed paper to BC residents, to shift recycling costs away from homeowners. Please see our website for a link to Recycle BC and their list of accepted materials. <http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/environmentalservices>



### Fort Fraser's Community Water Project

It was a busy construction season for Fort Fraser this year. Construction began on the

community water distribution project at the end of May and will be done by the end of November. Final restoration and clean up work will be finished in early summer of 2019. Without the support of the Clean Water/Wastewater Fund, this project would not have been possible.



6th Ave at Corporation Street

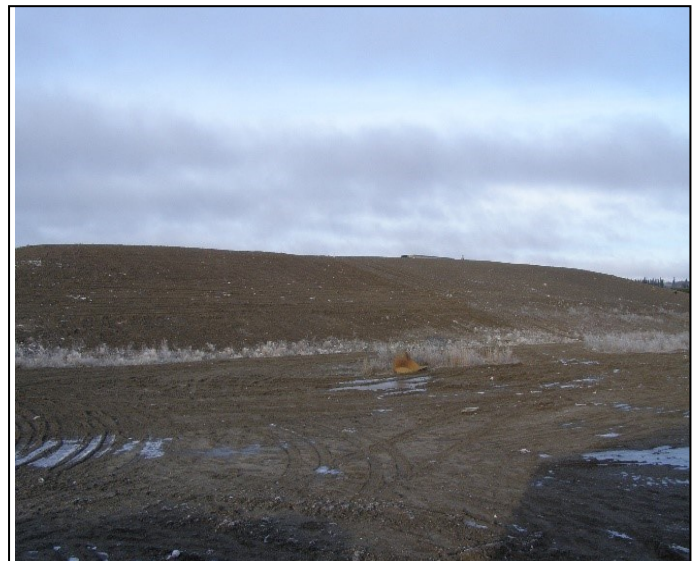
### Clearview Landfill

Closure works were completed on subcells 1 & 2 at this landfill, located between Vanderhoof and Fort St. James on Highway 27. This closure project helps to mitigate leachate breakouts. The mitigation project included a clay cap, covering with a layer of top soil and seeding to control erosion for subcells 1 & 2 of phase 1. In the past, with contracted services, the landfill was not managed to prevent breakouts. The

Regional District has been operating the landfill since late 2016 and has been working together with landfill consultants to establish a mitigation plan.

An infographic with a green and white color scheme. It features a leaf icon in the top right corner. The text is arranged in two columns. The left column is in English and the right column is in French. At the bottom, there are logos for Canada and British Columbia, along with a small illustration of a town and a boat on a lake.

<b>Clean, reliable drinking water</b>	<b>Eau potable propre et fiable</b>
Fort Fraser Infrastructure Improvements	Amélioration d'infrastructures à Fort Fraser
<b>\$3.73M</b>	<b>3,73 M\$</b>
Spring 2018 - Spring 2019	Printemps 2018 - Printemps 2019



## New Haul Trucks

The Environmental Services Department was pleased to purchase new haul trucks for our western garbage



and wood waste hauling. These two Western Stars were purchased through PG Truck and will be serviced by Nadina Truck in Houston. They are out on the highway, servicing the western portion of our region, which includes the Smithers/Telkwa, Granisle, Burns Lake Transfer Stations and the Knockholt Landfill.



## Fort St. James Recycling Systems Review



**Nak'azdli Bottle Depot**

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako engaged Carey McIver and Associates Ltd. in the summer/fall of 2018, to assist in the

review and provide restructuring options for recycling services in and around Fort St. James. Currently, the Nak'azdli Development Corporation is

responsible for the curbside pick up of recyclables and the recycling depot on Necoslie Road. The bottle depot is privately owned and the District of Fort St. James deals with Institutional, Commercial and Industrial (I.C.I.)



**Integris Building.**



**Fort St. James Bottle Depot**

mixed paper and cardboard at the Integris Building. With this study, all parties are working towards an operation plan that can improve the amount of recycling that is collected and streamline the process.

**Fort Fraser Water System groundbreaking (Left to right) The Fort Fraser Commissioners, Don Webster, Steve Cochran, Linda Cochran Colleen DeLong, MLA John Rustad's Constituency Assistant, Nadine Frenkel and Electoral Area "D" Director, (Fraser Lake Rural) Mark Parker.**



**162 Smithers To Smithers**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	6:46 am	—
Wet'suwet'en: Tom Dr at Hwy 16	7:00	—
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	7:14	—
Burns Lake: 3rd Ave at Kerr	7:24	—
Burns Lake: Centre St at 10th Ave	7:30	—
Decker Lake: Trading Post	7:38	—
Broman/Duncan: Hwy 16 at Duncan Lk Rd	7:58	—
Topley: Rest Area	8:10	—
Houston: Leisure Facility	8:33 <b>Ar</b>	—
Houston: Leisure Facility	8:48 <b>Lv</b>	1:00 pm
Telkwa: Post Office	9:33	1:45
Smithers: 8th Ave at Columbia Dr	9:49	—
Smithers: Roi Theatre	9:53 am	2:00 pm

**162 Burns Lake To Burns Lake**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

Smithers: Roi Theatre	11:30 am	3:00 pm
Smithers: 8th Ave at Columbia Dr	—	3:04
Telkwa: Post Office	11:45	3:20
Houston: Leisure Facility	12:30 pm	4:05 <b>Ar</b>
Houston: Leisure Facility	—	4:15 <b>Lv</b>
Topley: Rest Area	—	4:38
Broman/Duncan: Hwy 16 at Duncan Lk Rd	—	4:50
Wet'suwet'en: Tom Drive at Hwy 16	—	5:07
Decker Lake: Trading Post	—	5:12
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	—	5:20 <b>Ar</b>
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	—	5:25 <b>Lv</b>
Burns Lake: 3rd Ave at Kerr	—	5:35
Burns Lake: Centre St at 10th Ave	—	5:41
Decker Lake: Trading Post	—	5:49
Wet'suwet'en: Tom Dr at Hwy 16	—	5:54
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	—	6:08 pm



*(Transit schedules cont'd on Page 9)*

**Suggestions or Comments?**

*If you have comments about service in general or suggestions for improvements, contact:*



*Deneve Vanderwolf,  
Regional Transit Coordinator  
Toll Free 1-800-320-3339 or  
[deneve.vanderwolf@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:deneve.vanderwolf@rdbn.bc.ca)*

**Newsletter**

*If you wish to be included in the distribution list to receive the "Regional News" please send an email to:*

*[inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:inquiries@rdbn.bc.ca) and ask to be added to the email or mail list. You can read past issues [here](#).*



# SAVE THE DATE



## 2019 REGIONAL BUSINESS FORUM

OCTOBER 23 & 24, 2019  
VANDERHOOF, BC



Hosted by:  
District of Vanderhoof  
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako



### #VISITBULKLEYNECHAKO

GoPro Giveaway Contest



Whoop? Whoop?  
Who will win the final  
GoPro Hero 5?

Find contest information at  
[visitbulkleynechako.ca](http://visitbulkleynechako.ca)

#### Does Your Non-Profit Organization Need Assistance?

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako provides **free** grant writing assistance to non-profit organizations located within the region. Non-profit organizations are required to fill out a "Request for Assistance" form to access the service. The form is located on the RDBN website - [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

Once approved of, the RDBN will:

- Identify funding source(s)
- Write funding proposal(s)
- Submit the proposal to the non-profit group to review and approve
- Submit the proposal to the funding organization

For more information contact the Economic Development Department of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako.

([here](#))

**161 Prince George/To Prince George**

**Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday**

Wet'suwet'en: Tom Dr at Hwy 16	7:00 am
Decker Lake: Trading Post	7:05
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	7:13
Burns Lake: 3rd Ave at Kerr	7:23
Burns Lake: Centre St at 10th Ave	7:29
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	7:33
Tintagel: Rest Area Hwy 16 at Tintagel	7:44
Endako: Endako Pub	8:14
Stellaquo: Slenyah Store	8:21
Fraser Lake: Fraser Lake Mall	8:27 Ar
Fraser Lake: Fraser Lake Mall	8:37 Lv
Nautley: Nadleh Whut'en Store	8:54
Fort Fraser: Community Hall	9:01
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	9:31 Ar
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	9:41 Lv
Hospital Rd at Health Care Ave	9:46
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	9:50
Beverly: Petro Canada	10:48
Prince George: Westgate Mall	10:58
Prince George: Pine Centre	11:06
Prince George: Edmonton at 13th Ave (Hospital)	11:15
Prince George: Downtown 7th at Dominion	11:22 am

**161 Burns Lake To Burns Lake**

**Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday**

Prince George: Downtown 7th at Dominion	3:00 pm
Prince George: Edmonton at 13th Ave (Hospital)	3:04
Prince George: Pine Centre	3:16
Prince George: Westgate Mall	3:26
Beverly: Petro Canada	3:36
Beverly: Petro Canada	3:41
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	4:39 Ar
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	4:49 Lv
Hospital Rd at Health Care Ave	4:54
Vanderhoof: Co-Op	4:58
Fort Fraser: Community Hall	5:28
Nautley: Nadleh Whut'en Store	5:35
Fraser Lake: Fraser Lake Mall	5:52 Ar
Fraser Lake: Fraser Lake Mall	6:02 Lv
Stellaquo: Slenyah Store	6:08
Endako: Endako Pub	6:15
Tintagel: Rest Area Hwy 16 at Tintagel	6:45
Burns Lake: Government at Gilgan	6:56
Burns Lake: 3rd Ave at Kerr	7:06
Burns Lake: Centre St at 10th Ave	7:12
Decker Lake: Trading Post	7:20
Wet'suwet'en: Tom Dr at Hwy 16	7:25 pm

**Riding The Bus:**

Arrive at the bus stop a few minutes early; seats are for customers, hold your bag on your lap or on the floor where it will not obstruct aisles or other customers. Please allow others to make use of the seats; have correct fare; take a seat as soon as possible; hold on while the bus is in motion; keep head, hands and arms inside bus at all times; assist your chil-

dren on and off the bus; never allow your children to stand or kneel on the seat while riding the bus; be considerate of others e.g. loud music, offensive language; remind your driver if you have to get your bike off the bike rack; never enter the street in front of or directly behind a stopped bus. Make sure traffic can see you; take your garbage with you when you leave. Rural residents requir-

ing information in regard to flagging the bus please contact the Regional District at 1-800-320-3339 or 250-692-3195.



Notice is hereby given that the following persons have been duly elected and appointed as directors and commissioners for the **Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako**.

Directors, elected to the regional board for a four-year term:

Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural), Mark Fisher  
Electoral Area "B" (Burns Lake Rural), Michael Riis-Christianson (acclaimed)  
Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural), Tom Greenaway (acclaimed)  
Electoral Area "D" (Fraser Lake Rural), Mark Parker (acclaimed)  
Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural), Clint Lambert (acclaimed)  
Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural), Jerry Petersen (acclaimed)  
Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural), Rob Newell (acclaimed)

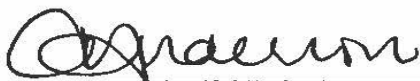
Directors, appointed to the regional board for a one-year term:

Town of Smithers, Taylor Bachrach  
District of Houston, Shane Brien  
Village of Burns Lake, Dolores Funk  
Village of Fraser Lake, Sarrah Storey  
District of Fort St. James, Bev Playfair  
Village of Telkwa, Brad Layton  
Village of Granisle, Linda McGuire  
District of Vanderhoof, Gerry Thiessen

Commissioners, elected to the Fort Fraser Local Community Commission for a four-year term:

Linda Cochran (acclaimed)  
Steve Cochran (acclaimed)  
Colleen DeLong (acclaimed)  
Donald Webster (acclaimed)

Dated at Burns Lake, B.C., this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018



Cheryl Anderson  
Chief Election Officer

## Winter Driving Survival Kit

- ⇒ Having essential supplies in your vehicle can provide some comfort and safety in the event you become stranded on the highway. Items to include in a winter driving kit are:
- ⇒ Ice scraper / snowbrush
- ⇒ shovel;
- ⇒ sand or traction aid;
- ⇒ tow rope or chain;
- ⇒ booster cables;
- ⇒ road flares or warning lights;
- ⇒ gas line antifreeze;
- ⇒ flashlight and batteries;
- ⇒ first aid kit;
- ⇒ fire extinguisher;
- ⇒ small tool kit;
- ⇒ extra clothing and footwear;
- ⇒ blankets;
- ⇒ non-perishable energy foods and bottled water;
- ⇒ candle and a small tin can;
- ⇒ matches or lighter.

Did you know? A candle and small tin can help with lighting, as well as generate heat while waiting for help.

## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO Lakes District Arts and Culture Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1831, 2018

On October 20, 2018 assent voting was held in Electoral Areas “B” (Burns Lake Rural) and “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) on the following question:

*“Are you in favour of the “Lakes District Arts and Culture Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1831, 2018” which would establish a service within the boundaries of Electoral Areas “B” and “E” and the Village of Burns Lake to provide financial support for the Burns Lake and District Public Library, the Burns Lake and Area Museum and other arts and culture organizations in the Lakes District; and would authorize a maximum annual taxation of 55 cents per \$1,000 of net taxable value of land and improvements?”*

The primary purposes of the new bylaw were to consolidate and replace the two existing bylaws for the Burns Lake Museum and the Burns Lake Library into one new bylaw and to allow other arts and culture organizations in the Lakes District to benefit from funding.

The referendum passed and the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors adopted the bylaw at its November 15, 2018 Board meeting. The official results of the referendum were as follows:

### Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural)

	Yes	No
Advance Voting Opportunity: October 10, 2018 Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	24	3
General Voting: October 20, 2018 Rose Lake Hall	14	4
General Voting: October 20, 2018 Lakeside Multiplex	37	29
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES CAST</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>36</b>

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

	Yes	No
Southside Firehall/Grassy Plains School October 10, 2018 and October 20, 2018 (combined)	48	41
Lakeside Multiplex October 10, 2018 and October 20, 2018 (combined)	25	4
Trout Creek Hall: October 20, 2018	20	10
Francois Lake School: October 20, 2018	59	19
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES CAST</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>74</b>

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) plays a notable role in the response to disasters and emergencies in the region. The following is an overview of the RDBN's activities in response to both flooding and wildfires in 2018.

## 2018 Freshet

The Provincial River Forecast Centre issued multiple High Stream Advisories, Flood Watches and Flood Warnings throughout the RDBN in 2018 due to the abnormally large snowpack. Many areas within the RDBN experienced flooding, and the RDBN distributed over 13,000 sandbags and 500 square yards of sand to residents to protect their primary dwellings.



## 2018 Wildfire Season

### Response

The RDBN responded to 15 separate interface wildfires between late July and mid-September. These fires resulted in a total of 64 Evacuation Alerts and /or Evacuation Orders. A total of 1550 known dwellings were put under Evacuation Order. Over 1200 residents registered at the Emergency Support Services Reception Centres established in Smithers, Burns Lake, and Fraser Lake. Emergency Support Service volunteers provided over 2000 volunteer hours working in Reception Centres to offer services to evacuees from their own and neighboring communities.



Over 1800 cows, 1200 sheep or goats, and 140 horses were relocated with assistance from the RDBN with financial and organizational support from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource

Operations and Rural Development.

**Over 53 structures were lost due to wildfires, including 8 dwellings.**

### Recovery

A number of areas in the RDBN were under Evacuation Order for extended periods. Residents on the Southside of Francois Lake suffered increased loss given the length of the Evacuation order and extended power outages. Also, the vast majority of structural loss and other direct impact on residents was on the Southside.

The RDBN's focus has been on procuring funding from the Province, and other sources, as well as coordinating efforts to assist with the provision of firewood, food, property clean-up and repair. The RDBN established a Recovery Centre on the Southside in September to facilitate resident's access to support services, and recovery resources. Also, a Recovery Committee has been established to advise on recovery efforts. The RDBN continues to work with the Province, the community, and non-profit groups on recovery efforts.



### A Big Thank You to Volunteer and Community Organizations

The RDBN would like to thank, and bring recognition to, the volunteer organizations engaged in the recovery efforts. These volunteer organizations include Mennonite Disaster Services, Christian Disaster Relief, Team Rubicon, Ootsa Lake Bible Camp, Lakes District Family Enhancement Society, Northside Community Men's Breakfast Club, and the Southside Relief team. Over 70 volunteers have traveled to areas impacted by wildfire to provide over 1222 hours of assistance and machinery time in October. The Chinook Community Forest, with the support of a number of logging contractors, provided approximately 300 cords of firewood to residents of the region.



**Regional District of  
Bulkley-Nechako Board  
of Directors  
Municipalities**

**Town of Smithers**

- Mayor Taylor Bachrach

**Village of Telkwa**

- Mayor Brad Layton

**District of Houston**

- Mayor Shane Brienen

**Village of Granisle**

- Mayor Linda McGuire

**Village of Burns Lake**

- Mayor Dolores Funk

**Village of Fraser Lake**

- Mayor Sarrah Storey

**District of Fort St. James**

**James**

- Mayor Bev Playfair

**District of Vanderhoof**

- Mayor Gerry Thiessen

**Electoral Areas**

**A - Smithers Rural**

- Director Mark Fisher

**B - Burns Lake Rural**

- Director Michael Riis-Christianson

**C - Fort St. James Rural**

- Director Tom Greenaway

**D - Fraser Lake Rural**

- Director Mark Parker

**E - Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural**

- Director Clint Lambert

**F - Vanderhoof Rural**

- Director Jerry Petersen

**G - Houston Rural**

- Director Rob Newell

## BCWS Claims

Residents who suffered property damage from wildfire and/or wildfire suppression activity are directed to send an e-mail to [BCWSClaims2018@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCWSClaims2018@gov.bc.ca) to initiate the claims process. Residents must submit a letter to the above e-mail address, or regular mail documenting the damage to their property. The BC Wildfire Service is working with residents who have damaged septic systems or other critical property repair needing to be fast tracked.

The BC Wildfire service has claims assessors available to the Southside communities to begin their evaluation process. They intend to perform a site assessment at each property for which they have received a claim and plan to stay in the area until the weather is prohibitive, and return next spring if required.

## Agriculture Recovery

Just over 1.4 million dollars was approved to livestock relocation, restoration of the fairgrounds, range rider program and the emergency hay program.

Residents who have farm status may be eligible for Agriculture Support through the Ministry of Agriculture.

Residents can contact the Ministry of Agriculture Business Risk Management Branch at 1-888-332-3352.



## Emergency Support Services (ESS)

The RDBN continues to work with municipalities in the RDBN to implement a Regional ESS Strategy. This strategy aims to increase volunteer capacity in the region through collaboration with municipalities and the establishment of joint RDBN and municipal ESS teams. It is expected that this strategy will be implemented in early 2019.

If you would like to know more about ESS, and learn how you can become a volunteer, call the Protective Services Department at 250-692-3195 or email [Rebecca.rodriquez@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.rodriquez@rdbn.bc.ca).

## Local Departments Assist with Wildfires

Numerous fire departments assisted with this year's wildfire response. This response included two rural fire departments: the Southside volunteer fire department responded to the Verdun fire, and the Topley volunteer fire department



assisted with the Gilmore Lake fire. Both of these rural fire departments, as well as the municipal fire departments, put in many long days. Our communities should be proud of the efforts they put forth.



## Find us On Facebook

\* [Bulkley Nechako Opportunities](#)

\* [Connecting Consumers & Producers](#)

\* [Visit Bulkley Nechako](#)

\* [Sustainable RDBN](#)

\* [Bulkley-Nechako Emergency Information.](#)

## FIRE SAFETY

We all know how important it is to have working smoke/carbon monoxide alarms, fire escape plans, and a designated meeting place. But did you know that closing doors in your home can help ensure your safety in case of a fire. Because of synthetic materials, and modern furniture construction, fires spread faster than ever before. You and your family may have only minutes to get to safety, and closed doors can provide you with extra time. Some of the benefits of a closed door are;

- Temperature reduction - a closed door can mean greatly reduced temperatures between rooms.
- Carbon monoxide, smoke and toxic gas levels can be reduced.

Fire spread is slowed by reducing the available oxygen.

As you can see in the picture below, the door on the right was closed during the fire, and minimal damage occurred.



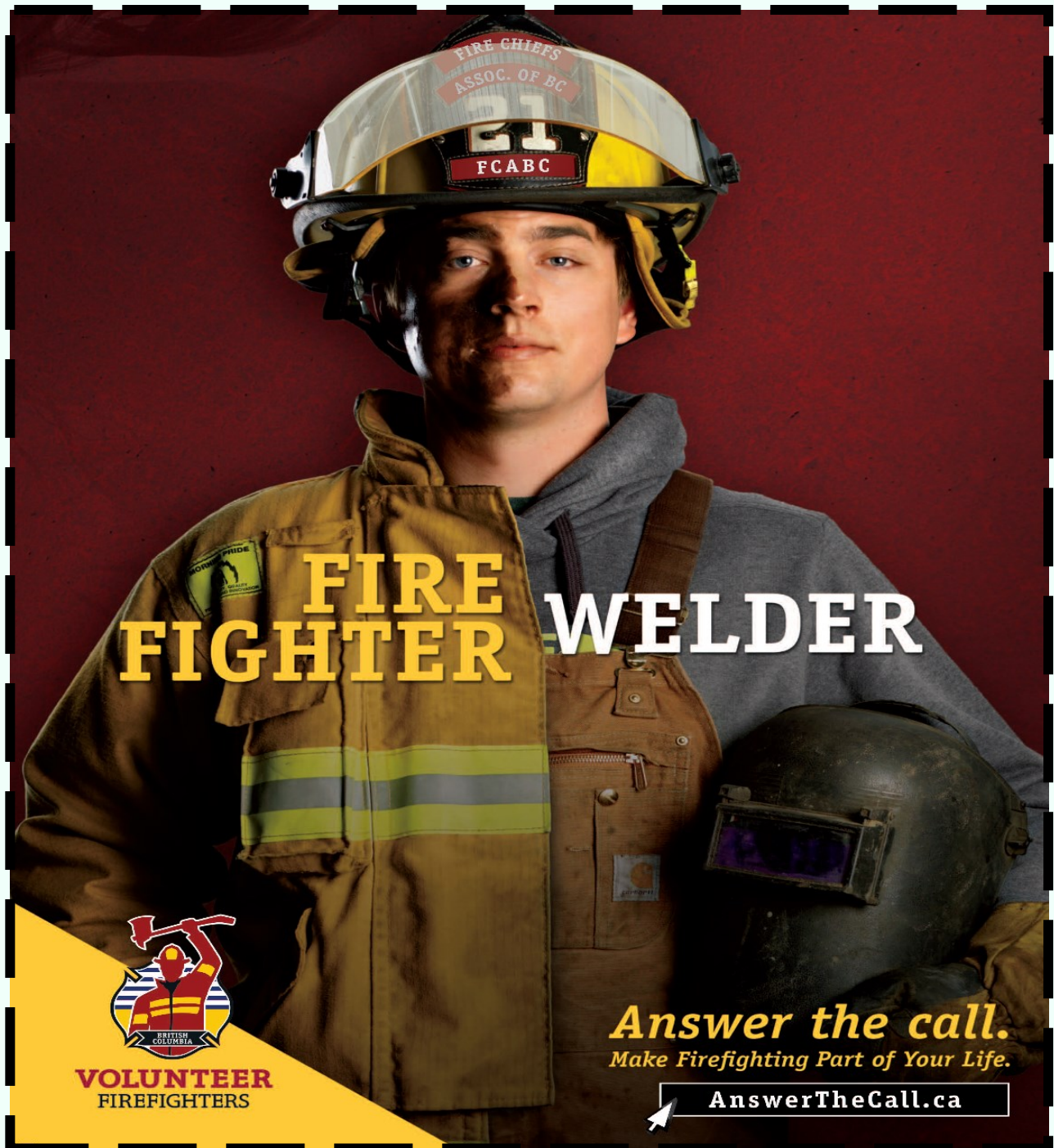
# WHAT IF

## No one answered the call?

What if you called to report a fire or medical emergency, and no one answered the call?

Did you know that over 80% of the country's fire service is volunteer based?  
Are you looking to give back to your community?

**Join a local department today for an experience of a lifetime!**



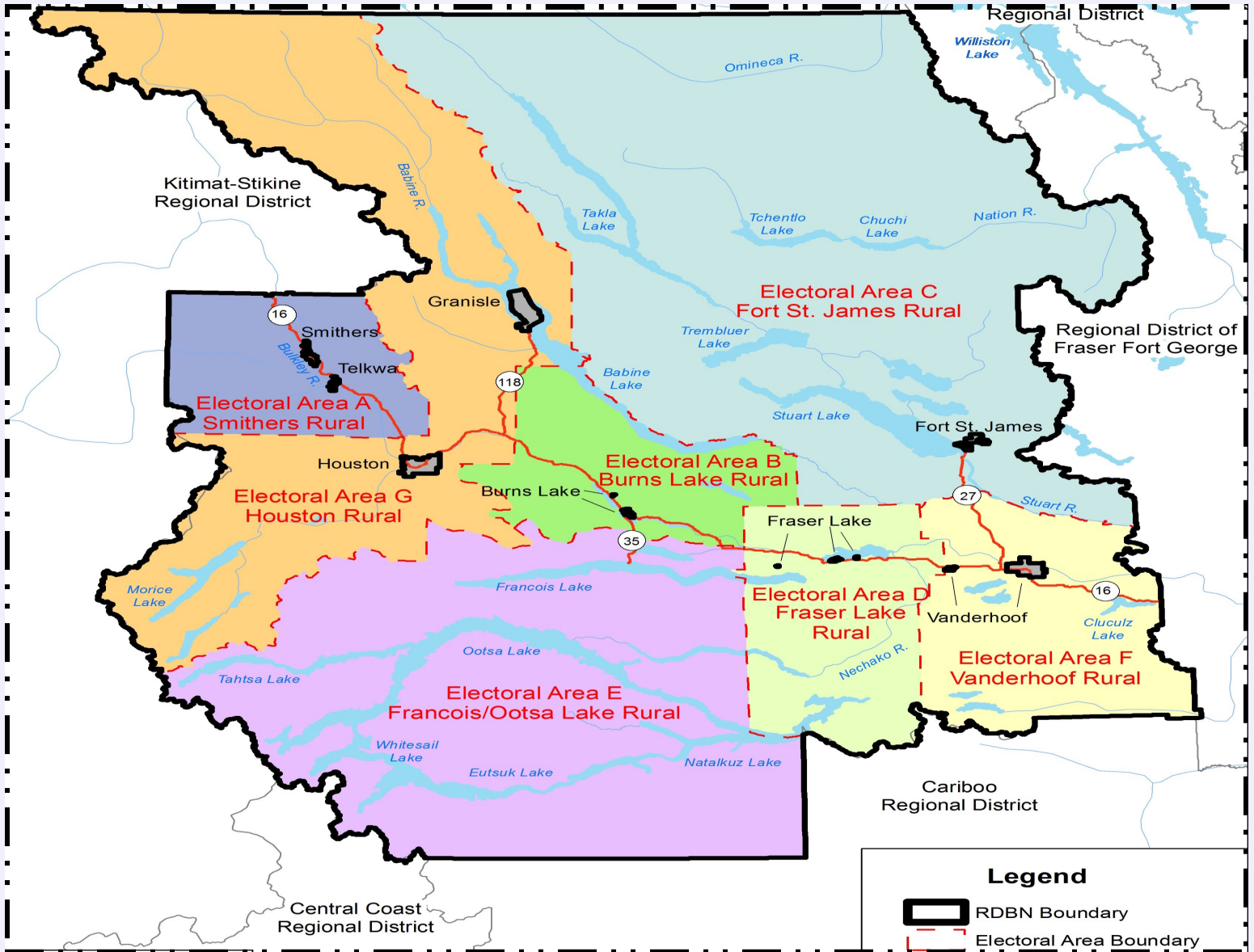
**FIRE FIGHTER WELDER**

**VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

*Answer the call.  
Make Firefighting Part of Your Life.*

[AnswerTheCall.ca](http://AnswerTheCall.ca)





- Municipalities**
- Town of Smithers
- Village of Telkwa
- District of Houston
- Village of Granisle
- Village of Burns Lake
- Village of Fraser Lake
- District of Fort St. James
- District of Vanderhoof

- Electoral Areas**
- Electoral Area "A" Smithers Rural
- Electoral Area "B" Burns Lake Rural
- Electoral Area "C" Fort St. James Rural
- Electoral Area "D" Fraser Lake Rural
- Electoral Area "E" Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural
- Electoral Area "F" Vanderhoof Rural
- Electoral Area "G" Houston Rural