

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**MEETING NO. 4**

**Thursday, April 20, 2023**

**PRESENT:**

Chair	Mark Parker
Directors	Gladys Atrill – arrived at 10:05 a.m. Shane Brien Leroy Dekens Martin Elphee Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert Linda McGuire Shirley Moon Kevin Moutray Chris Newell Michael Riis-Christianson Stoney Stoltenberg Henry Wiebe
Director Absent	Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake
Alternate Director	Audrey Fennema, Village of Fraser Lake
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor – left at 12:06 p.m. Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – via Zoom – arrived at 10:06 a.m., left at 12:06 p.m. Justin Greer, First Nations Liaison – left at 10:27 a.m. John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – left at 12:06 p.m., returned at 1:13 p.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services Will Roberts, Safety and Training Supervisor – left at 10:27 a.m.
Others	Quinten Beach, Nechako Operations Coordinator, Rio Tinto – left at 10:27 a.m. Aman Parhar, Advisor, Communities and Social Performance, Watershed Region, Rio Tinto – left at 10:27 a.m.
Media	Frank Peebles, LD News – via Zoom – arrived at 10:22 a.m., left at 1:05 p.m.

**FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**AGENDA**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-4-1

"That the Board Meeting Agenda of April 20, 2023 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Elphee

2023-4-2

"That the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINUTES**

Board Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Moon

2023-4-3

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee of the Whole  
Meeting Minutes-April 6, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-4-4

"That the Board receive the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rural/Agriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes-April 6, 2023

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Moon

2023-4-5

"That the Board receive the Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**STAFF INTRODUCTION**

Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor introduced Will Roberts, Safety and Training Supervisor.

## **DELEGATION**

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

Chair Parker welcomed Aman Parhar, Advisor, Communities and Social Performance, Watershed Region and Quinten Beach, Nechako Operations Coordinator, Rio Tinto.

Ms. Parhar and Mr. Beach provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

#### **Rio Tinto Business Update**

- BC Works Update
- Making Water Management Clearer
- Flow Facts
- Our Communication Tools
- Community investment: Cash contributions 2022.

The following was discussed:

- Power generation
  - o Ms. Parhar will follow-up
- Construction of the T2 (Tunnel) Project
  - o Both tunnels are currently active
- Turbine upgrades
- Tours of the Kemano Project
  - o Working with Kemano Team to determine best time to conduct tour
  - o Ms. Parhar will follow-up once a tour date is determine
- Website and Flow Facts page
  - o Including the entire 14 feet of storage on the graph
  - o Website currently under review and being updated
- Lands along the reservoir with high recreational values and Rio Tinto's possible interest in funding development of recreational sites
  - o Rio Tinto Aluminum Canada Fund provides funding to groups
    - National fund
    - Organizations/societies can apply
    - Health and well being and environmental stewardship
    - Board meets twice a year
  - o Support for recreation
  - o Ms. Parhar will follow-up.

Chair Parker thanked Ms. Parhar and Mr. Beach for attending the meeting.

**ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING**

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

Rezoning Application  
RZ RDBN 04-21, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Reading for Rezoning Bylaws  
No. 1996, 2023, 1997, 2023,  
1998, 2023 and 1999, 2023

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-4-6

1. "That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1996, 2023, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1997, 2023, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1998, 2023 and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1999, 2023 be given first and second reading this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Bylaw for Adoption**

Building Bylaw Amendment  
for Energy Conservation Step  
Code Prescriptive Option  
for Adoption Report Building  
Bylaw Amendment No. 1995, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2023-4-7

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Building Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1995, 2023 be adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Other Items**

Advisory Planning  
Commission Minutes  
Electoral Area A (Smithers  
Rural)

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2023-4-8

"That the Board receive the following Advisory Planning  
Commission Minutes

- Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)
- Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)
- Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)
- Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**Land Referral**

Crown Land Referral  
No. 6409430 – Electoral Area  
E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-4-9

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Other Items**

Agricultural Land Reserve  
Applications Brochure

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Dekens

2023-4-10

"That the Board receive the Agricultural Land Reserve  
Applications Brochure."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- The previous 2 zone ALR system and the current system where the ALC's consideration of non-agricultural issues is limited by legislation.
- Soil and Fill Notice of Intent (NOI) Applications and Non-Farm Use applications for soil removal or deposit.
- The RDBN application process and staff time involved.
- ALR Exclusion Applications may be made only by a local government or First Nations government

### Other Items (Cont'd)

- Past Board lobbying concerning the Provinces removal of the 2 zone ALR system
- Outlining the ALC decision making processes to applicants
- Home Occupation within the ALR e.g. logging operations
- Invitation to the Minister of Agriculture and Food, ministry staff and ALC Chair to visit the region
- Bring forward ALR concerns to the 2023 NCLGA Conference and with other local governments in the region.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

#### Update: Metal Salvage

#### -Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station

Moved by Director Moutray

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-4-11

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

DEFEATED

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- June 2022 commitment to proceed with the pilot program for the Burns Lake Transfer Station
  - Pilot program was to assist in identifying issues that may arise
  - Determining a balance between small-scale salvage, revenue and risk management
- Outsourcing metal recycling vs. options to transport/recycle metal utilizing in house operations
  - Bid process for non-salvaged and salvaged proposed rates from metal recycling contractors
  - Commodity pricing and potential impacts
  - High value and low value metals
  - Prince George – collection and bailing location only
- Finding options to allow individuals to utilize metal recycling for small scale salvage such as: bicycles, lawnmowers, etc.
- Possibly charge for steal that is salvaged

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (CONT'D)**

- The potential need for resources to provide service and staff capacity
  - Determining the necessary resources to ensure the pilot program can be functional and safe for staff
- Prioritizing salvage vs. revenue – responsibility to all taxpayers.
- Solid Waste Management Plan
  - Implemented sorting bays for small scale salvaging – windows/doors/bicycles/lawn mowers, etc.
  - Recently included additional items
- Future implementation User Pay System
- Education of the public
- Extending the pilot program and potential additional staffing and infrastructure.

Metal Salvage -Pilot Program for Burns Lake Transfer Station

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Newell

2023-4-12

“That the Board direct staff to proceed with the metal salvage pilot program at the Burns Lake Transfer Station as originally outlined; and further, that the program be implemented prior to the end of the 2023 fiscal year .”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Staff will bring forward a reevaluated and updated plan to provide for resource allocation for a one-year pilot program in the 2024 budget.

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

**Reconvened at 12:50 p.m.**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Committee Meeting  
Recommendations  
-April 6, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-4-13

"That the Board approve the April 6, 2023 Committee Meeting Recommendations 1 through 3 as written:

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

**Recommendation 1:**  
**Re: Code of Conduct**

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

**Recommendation 2:**  
**Re: Accessibility Act Timeline**

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

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

**Recommendation 3:**  
**Re: Rural Bursary Policy Discussion**

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Updating Chinook Community Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Forest Partnership Agreement Seconded by Director Lambert

2023-4-14

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Pool Filter Replacement  
-BV Regional Pool &  
Recreation Centre

Moved by Director Atrill  
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-4-15

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid for Areas B  
(Burns Lake Rural) and E  
(Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)  
-Burns Lake Youth Soccer  
Association

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-4-16

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Canada Community-Building  
Fund BC – Area C (Fort St.  
James Rural) Charge North  
Level 2 Charging Network  
Project

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Elphee

2023-4-17

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

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Community Futures Nadina  
-Letter of Support Request

Moved by Director Atrill  
Seconded by Director Brienen

2023-4-18

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Lakes Resiliency Project

Moved by Director Dekens  
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

2023-4-19

"That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's Lakes Resiliency Project memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Departmental Quarterly  
Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2023-4-20

"That the Board receive the Director of Corporate Services Departmental Quarterly Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

BC Cattlemen's Association  
-Economic Impact Assessment  
of Veterinary Medicine in BC

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-4-21

"That the Board receive the following correspondence:

- BC Cattlemen's Association – Economic Impact Assessment of Veterinary Medicine in BC
- Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills – Permanently Subsidized Seats for BC Students at the Western Collage of Veterinary Medicine

**Supplementary Agenda:**

- News Release *Diversification of BC Economy Requires More Veterinarians to be Trained in BC.*"

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)**

BC Cattlemen's Association Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
-Economic Impact Assessment Seconded by Director Stoltenberg  
of Veterinary Medicine in BC  
and News Release

2023-4-22

"That the *Economic Impact Assessment of Veterinary Medicine in BC* and News Release - *Diversification of BC Economy Requires More Veterinarians to be Trained in BC* be forwarded to the Union of B.C. Municipalities membership."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Town of Smithers – Update Director Atrill indicated the homelessness and housing issues continue to be a priority for the Town of Smithers.

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

Director Lambert provided the following update:

- Meeting with Skin Tye First Nation, Nee Tahi Buhn Band and Cheslatta Carrier Nation on April 18<sup>th</sup>
- Continuing to work on helicopter pads for air ambulance service on the Southside of Francois Lake.

District of Fort St. James  
- Update

Director Elphee noted the construction progress of the new RCMP building, new Seniors Complex and new Hospital.

Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof  
Rural) - Update

Director Moon commented that the Vanderhoof Livestock Auction sales continue to be high. She also noted the employee shortage in Vanderhoof. The Artemis Gold Blackwater Project construction is moving forward.

Director Moon brought forward constituent engagement. Staff will include the topic in a future Rural/Agriculture Committee Agenda for discussion.

Village of Telkwa – Update

Director Dekens mentioned that a meeting was held regarding the need for a new Telkwa bridge.

Electoral Area B (Burns Lake  
Rural) – Update

Director Riis-Christianson provided the following update:

- Teleconference with Carley Zenner, Strategy Manager, Telus Government Relations and Rural Connectivity, Western Canada
  - o Provided an update regarding connectivity in the RDBN
  - o Requested staff forward the RDBN connectivity priorities
  - o Discussed forging a relationship.

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

### Village of Fraser Lake - Update

Alternate Director Fennema reported the Village of Fraser Lake received the following:

- New Village of Fraser Lake Fire Truck
- Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure (REDIP) Funding for Phase 2 of the Arena and Community Hall Project.

### Village of Granisle - Update

Director McGuire spoke of the following:

- Budget process
- Babine Community Forest Funding
  - o Granisle is utilizing some of the funding to install a Columbarium
- Real estate price increases in Granisle
- RCMP have furnished one of the houses in the community and two Members were in the community last week
- Received REDIP funding for \$1 million for Granisle Marina Project.

### Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural) - Update

Director Stoltenberg commented that he is working with three community halls to continue to have them as viable community gathering locations.

### District of Vanderhoof -Update

Director Moutray provided the following update:

- Budge process is complete
- Over 250 jobs openings are listed in Vanderhoof
- Housing availability is a challenge.

### Electoral Area G (Houston/ Granisle Rural) -Update

Director Newell spoke of the following:

- Job Fair in Houston on April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Town Hall Meeting regarding the Canfor sawmill closure followed the Job Fair
  - o Expressed appreciation to Director Brien
  - o Canfor and other representatives were at the meeting.

### Village of Burns Lake - Update

Director Wiebe noted that the Village of Burns Lake also received REDIP funding to renovate a building into a new fire hall and to construct an intersection at Highway 16 and Richmond loop.

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

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

Director Greenaway mentioned the following:

- Attendance at the following meetings:
  - o Northern Health's Joint Spring Meeting – will provide additional information at a future Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting
  - o UBCM Old Growth Review for Local Governments Session
  - o Harm Reduction Committee
- Fort St. James Forest Products owned by Hampton Lumber shipped the first load of lumber on April 10<sup>th</sup> from its newly built sawmill
- Three families from the Ukraine have settled in the community.

District of Houston – Update

Director Brienien provided the following update:

- Attended the COFI Convention April 12-14, 2023 in Prince George
- Job Fair in Houston April 15<sup>th</sup> was good
  - o Approximately 360 people from the Canfor sawmill closure will be unemployed
- Town Hall Meeting following the Job Fair to address the Canfor sawmill closure.

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

Chair Parker spoke of the following:

- Took part in a Ministry of Forests flyover, along with Director Moutray of the fire damage from the 2018 Shovel Lake and Binta wildfires
  - o Saw the scope and depth of the fire and burnt timber
  - o Good take away was the health of the 20-30 year plantations
    - Risk management of healthy timber stands
- Met with the new Fraser Lake RCMP Staff Sergeant.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Newell

2023-4-23

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Dekens

2023-4-24

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

- Labour relations
- Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance
- Strategic Planning."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Brien  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2023-4-25

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:31 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services