



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

**CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Thursday, June 16, 2022**

<u>PAGE NO.</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>AGENDA- June 16, 2022</u>	Approve
	<u>Supplementary Agenda</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
2-4	Connectivity Committee In-Camera Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2022	Approve

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

IN-CAMERA MOTION

In accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, it is the opinion of the Committee that matters pertaining to Section 90(2)(b) – 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 (Connectivity), must be closed to the public, therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, April 14, 2022**

PRESENT:	Chair	Michael Riis-Christianson
	Directors	Clint Lambert Chris Newell Mark Parker Gerry Thiessen
	Director Absent	Tom Greenaway, Electoral Area "C" (Fort St. James Rural)
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer – via Zoom Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development Justin Greer, Economic Development Assistant John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Rowan Nagel, GIS Technician – via Zoom Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Others	Mark Fisher, Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural) Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa – arrived at 9:50 a.m. Bob Motion, District of Fort St. James Jerry Petersen, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural) – arrived at 9:55 a.m.
	Media	Eddie Huband, LD News

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Parker**BBC.2022-2-1**

"That the Connectivity Committee Agenda for April 14, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES****Connectivity Committee
Meeting Minutes
–February 10, 2022**Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Lambert**BBC.2022-2-2**

"That the Broadband Committee Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Understanding Internet Speed Discrepancies

Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Lambert

BBC.2022-2-3

“That the Connectivity Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development’s Understanding Internet Speed Discrepancies memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Internet speed discrepancy information is fragmented
- Updated data will hopefully assist with new grant programs
- Provide more specific information about service
- Mapping served/unserved areas
 - o inadequate data to determine service
 - o inaccurate mapping still a challenge.

Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development and Rowan Nagel, GIS Technician provided a presentation with the following mapping layers: the federal speed test, provincial pseudo housing and RDBN addressing.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Providing the mapping information to the province
- Advocacy regarding the federal government mapping
- Northshore of Francois Lake and Fort St. James area mapping information
- Province’s mapping indicates there are homes in locations that no dwellings exist
- No mechanism to request mapping adjustments to reflect actual on the ground information
- Strategy moving forward regarding wireless and fibre applications when future projects are unknown
- Meeting with CityWest
 - o direction moving forward
 - o fibre first
 - o future proof technology
- Province has indicated that projects that do not receive support from local government will not move forward within the provincial/federal funding partnership announced in March 2022
 - o Projects currently approved or conditionally approved retroactive to 2020
 - o May change representation of houses served on the mapping
- Accurate mapping is crucial to obtain funding.

Connecting Remote Communities and First Nation Reserves to High-speed Internet

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Parker

BBC.2022-2-4

“That the Connectivity Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development’s Connecting Remote Communities and First Nation Reserves to High-speed Internet memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORT

Chair Riis-Christianson – Update

- Attended meetings with BC Broadband Association, Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network and the Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services
- Announcement of provincial/federal funding partnership more cohesive approach
- Concerns regarding mapping
- Information is needed regarding projects in the works in order to plan for current and future projects
- Province of BC – Request to Participate (RTP) – Connecting Remote Communities and First Nation Reserves to High-speed Internet a positive step
- Projects will require local government support.

Verbal Report

Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Newell

BBC.2022-2-5

“That the Connectivity Committee receive the verbal report as presented.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
 Seconded by Director Parker

BBC.2022-2-6

“That the meeting be adjourned at 10:13 a.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services