

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 3, 2019

PRESENT: Chair Rob Newell

Directors Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Newell called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-1-1

“That the Rural Directors Committee Agenda for January 3, 2019 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes -June 7 2018

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-1-2

“That the minutes of the Rural Directors Committee meeting of June 7, 2018 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Bulkley Valley Christian School Society – Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural)

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-1-3

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that Bulkley Valley Christian School Society be given \$900 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) for the purchase of emergency kits.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council – Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) Moved by Director Fisher
 Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-1-4 “That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the Bulkley Valley Community Arts Council be given \$500 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) for costs associated with the Arts Council Gala Bursary Fundraiser.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The KEY Community Resource Centre Society- Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) Moved by Director Greenaway
 Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-1-5 “That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors that the KEY Community Resource Centre Society be given \$1,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for costs associated with the winter weather shelter.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Fisher, Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) -Area A Public Engagement Plan – 2019 Moved by Director Petersen
 Seconded by Director Parker

RDC.2019-1-6 “That the Rural Directors Committee receive Director Fisher’s, Electoral Area “A” (Smithers Rural) – Area A Public Engagement Plan – 2019.”

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STRATEGY SESSION

Topics of concern for Rural Directors

| | Topic of Discussion | Electoral Area(s) |
|----------|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | Communication Protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Media requests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RDBN Chair is go to for Regional questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redirect to RD Committee Chairs ○ Local issues – Chair’s discretion ○ Operational and decisions made by the Regional Board – Staff respond ➤ Clarity – media requests ➤ Create a media communication protocol/policy ➤ Bring forward to Regional Board for discussion | “A” |
| 2 | Public Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Constituent education ➤ Awareness of services ➤ Voting ➤ RDBN website | “A”, “B”, “D”, “E” |

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Education in schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create an RDBN presentation that can be elaborated if needed ➤ Develop a mail out to postal boxes in electoral areas providing an opportunity for residents to provide e-mail contact information for future information sharing | |
| 3 | <p>Rural/Municipal Relationships/Joint Models</p> <p>Gas Tax/Grant in Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Idea Sharing – what’s working ➤ Rural participation at municipal council meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural Directors have the opportunity to request municipal agendas ➤ Gas Tax and Grant in Aid assisted in developing good relationships with municipalities – provide support and assistance to develop community assets and resources | “A”, “B” “G” |
| 4 | Who represents the RD (Where and When) | “A” |
| 5 | <p>Stop the circle</p> <p>(inter-jurisdictional responsibility)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Clarity on jurisdictional responsibility for residents - Eg. Flooding – redirecting calls to different agencies | “A” |
| 6 | <p>Recreation/Tourism/Regional Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rural Signage and Rest Areas ➤ Economic Diversification | “A”/“G”/“B”, “F” “G” “B” |
| 7 | <p>Collaboration between Rural Areas/First Nations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Opportunity to work together/learn from one another ➤ May be opportunity for shared services ➤ Budget – rural perspective | “A”, “D” |
| 8 | <p>Conference/Workshop Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Determine at start of each year where and when all conventions/conferences are and determine who will be attending focusing on strengths | “A”, “D” |
| 9 | <p>Connectivity (yes or no)/Cell Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Significant decision due to potential expense to move forward | “D”/“E” |
| 10 | <p>Wildfire preparedness/inventory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) residents have formed the Chinook Emergency Response Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding/training to fight fires (area residents) ○ Intending to contact BC Wildfire Management Branch to be a resource during wildfires | “A”, “E”, “G” |
| 11 | <p>Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three Phase Power on the Southside of Francois Lake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently higher costs for hydro to residents on the south side of Francois Lake vs. residents on the north side of the lake ➤ Industrial development requires three phase power | “E” |
| 12 | <p>Public Roads/Interface Roads/Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What is the standard level of maintenance? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ownership of roadways - Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development/Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure | “F”, “G”, “C” |
| 13 | <p>Services – Water/Sewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Policy in regard to water and sewer services for development | “F” |
| 14 | <p>Resource Extraction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Visual Quality Objectives (VQO) ➤ Water Supply ➤ Interface roads | “G” |
| 15 | <p>Rural Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highway 16 Transportation linkages to connect to rural communities | “G”, “C” |
| 16 | <p>Pipelines (connected to roads/cell phone/connectivity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Legacy funding for infrastructure ➤ Work camps ➤ Impact to forestry inventory ➤ Interface roads | “G” |

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|-----------|--|-----|
| 17 | RBA – Rural Directors ➤ Ensure consensus in regard to input and distribution model | “G” |
| 18 | Rural Community Forest | “G” |
| 19 | Vehicle Rural Insurance ➤ Paying higher rates (Prince George area vs. Smithers area class) | “G” |
| 20 | Health ➤ BC Ambulances – need 4 wheel drives ➤ Access to medical services ○ Home care ○ Beds need to be in small rural communities not just larger centres ○ Require cell service to assist in accessing efficient levels of service | “G” |

Director Fisher spoke of identifying priorities: now, next and board advocacy. He also noted that consideration needs to be given to staff capacity, the mandate of the Regional District and the political role of the Regional Board.

Chair Newell spoke of providing a Doodle Poll to prioritize the identified strategic priorities and bringing the information forward at the Regional Board Strategic Priority Session February, 7, 2019. He suggested the Rural Directors Committee identify and work on key priorities on a monthly basis in 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional District of Bulkley
-Nechako Logo

Director Fisher requested the use of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Logo for a RDBN Area A Public Engagement Calendar for 2019 that he is intending to distribute within his region. Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Vice-Chair Mark Parker provided permission for use of the RDBN Logo for Director Fisher’s monthly calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Greenaway
 Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-1-7

“That the meeting be adjourned 2:34 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

 Rob Newell, Chair

 Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant