

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 2

Thursday, February 25, 2016

PRESENT: Chair Bill Miller

Directors Taylor Bachrach
Eileen Benedict
Shane Brienens
Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Dwayne Lindstrom
Thomas Liversidge
Rob MacDougall
Rob Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Darcy Repen
Luke Strimbold

Director Absent Gerry Thiessen, District of Vanderhoof

Alternate Director Steve Little, District of Vanderhoof

Staff Gail Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator
Janine Dougall, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 11:48 a.m., left at 12:03 p.m., returned at 1:13 p.m., left at 1:17 p.m.
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Protective Services Manager – arrived at 11:44 a.m., left at 11:55 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – arrived at 11:45 a.m., left at 1:17 p.m.
Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development – arrived at 10:44 a.m., left at 12:03 p.m., returned at 1:35 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Others Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist- left at 11:15 a.m.
Tony Harris, Smithers – left at 11:42 a.m.
John Illes, Resource Manager, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – left at 11:15 a.m.
Brenda Read, Burns Lake – arrived at 1:10 p.m., left at 1:28 p.m.
Calvin Read, Burns Lake – arrived at 1:10 p.m., left at 1:28 p.m.
Jeremy Shriber, Smithers – left at 11:42 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

**AGENDA &
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Bachrach

2016-2-1

“That the agenda of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board meeting of February 25, 2016 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be received and dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting
Minutes

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Repen

2016-2-2

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2016 be adopted as amended”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee
Meeting Minutes

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Petersen

2016-2-3

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following Committee Meeting Minutes:

- Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
 - February 11, 2016 (Unapproved)
- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
 - February 11, 2016 (Unapproved);
- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
 - January 14, 2016;
- Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes
 - February 11, 2016 (Unapproved);
- Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes
 - January 14, 2016;
- Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes
 - February 11, 2016 (Unapproved);
- Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes
 - January 21, 2016.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Discussion took place in regard to the recording of a defeated motion.

DELEGATIONS

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist - RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment

Chair Miller welcomed Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist.

Mr. Doyle provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist – RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment (Cont'd)

Northern Goshawks Tipping Point Reached?

- Changing Ecosystem: Harvest and Climate;
- Lessons learned;
- Stewardship challenge;
- Umbrella Species for Forest – Ecosystem Integrity.

Research-Management History

- 1990's nests located in mature forest and licensee – government led initiatives were initiated to manage for the birds requirements;
- Umbrella species for healthy forest – ecosystem stewardship;
- 2000 First BMP's (Best Management Practices) for breeding areas – suggesting 24 ha required around known nests – to ensure birds don't abandon breeding areas:
 - Licensees in large part followed these guidelines;
- 2000-2009 continued monitoring: declining breeding population observed – thought to be associated with MPB (Beetle >2000) and declining hare populations. (hare peak 2002-2004).

Genetics

- Not Migrant;
- Genetics shows that the birds here are from here!
- (Telemetry supports DNA):
 - Transition Area: CWHds1, CWHds2;
 - CWHms1, CWHms2, CWHws1;
 - CWHws2.

Goshawk Ecology

- Select mature forest for nesting and foraging;
- Wide-ranging;
- Long-lived (~10 years);
- Year-round residents;
- Very strong territory fidelity;
- Few competitors or predators;
- Readily travel across less preferred habitats.

Habitat and Prey Requirements

- Where do they nest?
- What do they eat?
- Where do they forage?
- How large a home range?

Nesting Habitat Requirements

- **Nests** in Mature Forest;
- >20 m tall; 50% closed Canopy;
- Open Understory;
- Conifer dominated forests;
- Pairs regularly spaced across the forest landscape, typically at lower elevations.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist– RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment (Cont'd)

Foraging Habitat Requirements

- **Forage** in forested habitats. (Effective hunter up to 30 m from edge);
- Eats mid – sized forest prey: dependent for breeding on hares and grouse.

Hierarchical arrangement of a goshawk territory (past)

- Foraging Area – 2,400-3,000 ha
- Breeding Area ~ 24 ha
- One pair every 4-5 km. Territory Analysis

Research-Management History

- 2012 - New long-term occupancy analysis of all known breeding areas in BC (188 breeding areas monitored for >3 years). Primary data from northwestern BC and from a similar monitoring-research in east Kootenay.
- BMP Guidelines: (Stuart-Smith et al. 2012):
 - >100 ha of mature forest required to ensure continued use of Breeding Areas:
 - <25 ha and areas are abandoned;
 - 200m buffer distance around known nests;
 - Stands at least 120 years of age;
 - >30 -50% percentage of a territory in older forest (~2400 ha centered on breeding area);
 - Avoid disturbance Feb 15 – 15 August.

Hierarchical arrangement of a goshawk territory (current)

- Foraging Area – 2,400-3,000 ha;
- Breeding Area ~ 100 ha;
- One pair every 4-5 km. Territory Analysis.

Research-Management History

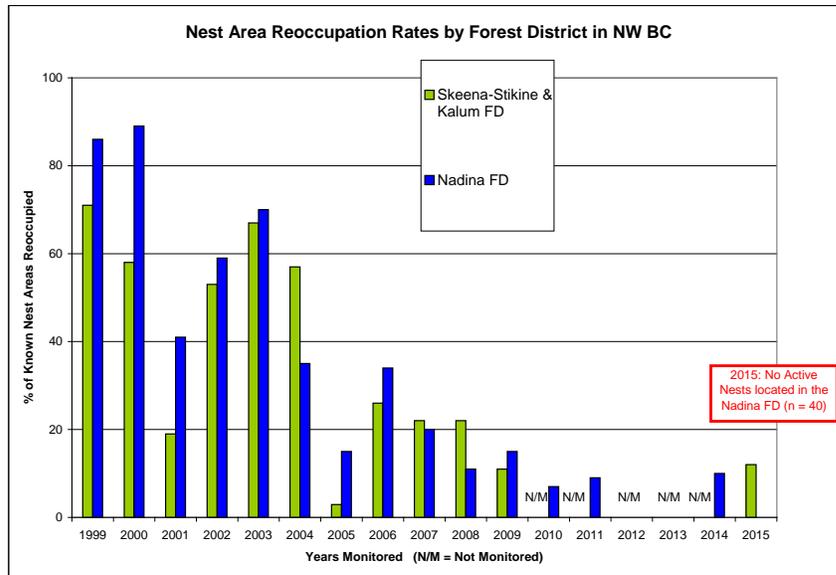
- 2014-2015: CANFOR, BCTS (BC Timber Sales), and BC Government looking to implement the new goshawk BMP landscape approach to breeding and foraging areas, which known breeding areas still being used? **MPB killed Stands.**
- Ideal timing to survey for goshawk breeding area occupancy as prey is abundant, as we are in the midst of a peak in the hare and grouse cycle.

Goshawk Breeding Area Occupancy 2015

	Total Number Monitored	Number Fledging young
Nadina	45	0
Skeena-Stikine	22	2
Kalum	5	0
	72	2 (3%)

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist– RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment (Cont'd)



Monitoring Results from a Forest Management – BMP perspective

	Total	Number Fledging young	Number Harvested	Harvest <200m of nests, recommended to be avoided in BMP (Stuart-Smith et al. 2012)	Less than the recommended >100ha of suitable Nesting Habitat (centred on the known breeding area) as per the BMP (Stuart-Smith et al. 2012)
Nadina	45	0	16 (35.6%)	36 (77%)	42 (89%)
Skeena-Stikine	22	2	2 (9%)	9 (39%)	16 (70%)
Kalum	5	0	1 (14%)	6 (86%)	6 (86%)
Total	72	0		51 (66%)	64 (83%)

Global Warming Birds eat Insects

- Insect hatch and abundance driven by Temperature;
- Breeding and Migration in Birds driven by Light;
- Breeding success in birds tied to peak in insects to feed young.

Birds eat Insects – Insects eat Birds!!

Black flies – Surprising linkage from long-term goshawk monitoring reveals that climate change may be driving goshawk population decline through attacks on the young by black-flies.

Nestling Hawks and Great Horned Owls killed by black-flies (published reports): Hatch in flies linked to temperature. Northwest BC: Warmer and wetter spring – predictably higher numbers of black-flies earlier in the year with the subsequent loss of raptor and owl nestlings.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist – RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment (Cont'd)

Black-flies kill nestling through:

- Blood loss;
- Falling out of nest during attacks;
- Blood parasite carried by black-flies;
- **Would support (as observed) wide range breeding failure and population decline if climate and not just habitat driven.**

Goshawk Stewardship Challenge

Issue:

- Prevent the loss of goshawks and other birds and to allow the birds to adapt to a changing climate – and thereby support a robust ecosystem.

Approach:

- Manage for a healthy population across the landscape – where we can manage **well** for the birds' **requirements**.
- **Species Listing as Identified Wildlife for Management.**

Management Direction?

To prevent the complete loss of goshawks and other raptors, we need to manage for robust healthy populations that have the possibility of adapting (through natural selection) to the changing climate.

1. Follow science based practices for all known Breeding Areas **and Territory**.
2. Identify areas where black flies are not impacting the birds.
3. Identify and focus landscape management in intact areas.
4. If no suitable nesting and associated foraging habitat exists support landscape seral and patch management that will support goshawks in the future.

Most Goshawk Breeding Areas are never located (est. only 10-15% located in the Nadina RD):

- Goshawks need a 100 ha breeding area (>120 years) and at the territory scale 30 – 50% mature old growth.
 - Changing Ecosystem:
 - Seral Stage;
 - Patch distribution;
 - Species Composition;
 - **Climate Change: black flies;**
- = Cumulative Impacts.

Ecosystem Implications

- If Goshawks impacted then so are Great-Horned Owls, Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Kestrels, Boreal Owls, and other birds;
- 30% of all adult hares killed by Great-horned Owls and Goshawks;
- Increased abundance of hares and small mammals. (Cycle impacts?);
- Increased loss and damage to seedling trees – impacts on timber supply and species composition;
- Unknown ecological impacts:
 - E.g. If black flies are now impacting birds why not caribou and moose?

Rapid changes to the climate has had a huge impact to the birds and they are not adapting as quickly as the insects. Insects are sensitive to temperature and moisture changes and insects such as blackflies are hatching earlier and attacking the nestlings when they have yet to develop adequate defense systems. Discussion took place regarding the LNG pipeline companies being aware of the concerns in regard to the goshawks. Mr. Doyle noted that they are fully aware of the concerns and have reported sightings of the birds immediately.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Frank Doyle, Ecosystem Specialist – RE: Wildlife (Goshawk Report) – Managing for Species in an Unpredictable Environment (Cont'd)

Discussion took place regarding the ecosystem implications and the hope that the birds will adapt. The information garnered in the Nadina Forest District will assist in the Kispiox and Calum areas in the preservation of the goshawk bird. The Nadina Forest District has also been heavily impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle which has impacted the birds along with the harvesting of the Mountain Pine Beetle affected wood. The ability to relocate the birds was discussed. Mr. Doyle mentioned that relocation is not an option as the birds are not migrant. The study of the goshawk bird is the only such study occurring in regard to the bird so there are no comparisons and it is a unique circumstance. It is important to manage the landscape as much as possible to provide the needed forest that the birds require.

Harvesting and the changing climate are two key factors that have a large impact to the goshawk bird. There is an opportunity to change the harvesting where it can be done and done well to manage those areas. Mr. Doyle noted that the goshawk will adapt to climate change if given time and habitat to do so and the hope is that they will eventually repopulate.

Chair Miller thanked Mr. Doyle for attending the meeting.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Jeremy Shriber and Tony Harris, Ad Hoc Bike Trail Committee – RE: Trail Infrastructure Linking Telkwa and Smithers

Chair Miller welcomed Jeremy Shriber and Tony Harris, Ad Hoc Bike Trail Committee.

Mr. Harris mentioned that the original idea for a bike trail between Telkwa and Smithers began in 2002 and has recently been resurrected. The committee has met with stakeholders and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) in regard to the bike trail being located on the MoTI right of way between the two communities. The Village of Telkwa and Town of Smithers have indicated their support for the project. MoTI requested that the Bike Trail Committee request support from the RDBN along with the request as to possible ownership of the trail and insurance for the trail.

Director Fisher noted the importance of providing awareness of the project and bringing the project forward to the RDBN Board of Directors. Discussion took place in regard to the ownership of the trail as proposed, located on MoTI right of way.

Director Bachrach mentioned that the trail would be a benefit for the highly active communities and would provide safety for those commuting by bike between Telkwa and Smithers.

The width of the trail would follow standards outlined by the MoTI and would be approximately 1.8-2 metres in width. The intent is that the trail would be used for non-motorized methods of transportation.

Concerns were discussed in regard to the liability associated with the right of way. Discussion took place regarding the potential for creating a service area and options to develop the trail along with the possible staff time required if the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors supports the project.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Jeremy Shriber and Tony Harris, Ad Hoc Bike Trail Committee – RE: Trail Infrastructure Linking Telkwa and Smithers (Cont'd)

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Repen

2016-2-4

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors:
1. Write a letter of support for the concept of a Smithers-Telkwa trail;
2. Direct staff to explore a role for the Regional District in terms of ownership and insurance of the trail; and
3. Direct staff to participate in meetings and provide information to the trail group as appropriate.

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Repen

2016-2-5

“That item 2 of Motion 2016-2-4 be amended as follows:

2. Direct staff to explore a role for the Regional District in terms of the trail project;

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

“That the question be called on Motion 2016-2-3 as amended.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Miller thanked Messrs. Shriber and Harris for attending the meeting.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Sponsorship Request for
Community Futures Stuart-
Nechako – Community
Crowdfunding Summit

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Bachrach

2016-2-6

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the sponsorship request for Community Futures Stuart-Nechako – Community Crowdfunding Summit in Prince George, B.C. on March 16, 2016.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Committee Meeting
Recommendations
-February 11, 2016

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Strimbold

2016-2-7

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve Recommendations 1 through 8 as written:

Committee of the Whole – February 11, 2016

Recommendation 1:

Re: Construction/Demolition and Land Clearing Waste Tipping Fee Review - Budget

1. "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors increase tipping fees for construction/demolition and land clearing waste from \$60/metric tonne to \$90/metric tonne, and direct staff to draft the required bylaw.
2. Further, that a methodology for adjusting the tipping fees for construction/demolition and land clearing waste be developed as part of the update to the RDBN Solid Waste Management Plan."

Recommendation 2:

Re: Northwest Resource Benefits Alliance

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors allocate \$50,000 to the Northwest Resource Benefit Alliance 2016 Budget line item."

Recommendation 3:

Re: NCLGA Resolutions – RE: Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Impacts to Waste Reduction Initiatives

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako direct staff to draft a resolution to the North Central Local Government Association for Regional Board review in regard to the cost implications of the Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste guidelines impacting waste reduction initiatives."

Recommendation 4:

Re: NCLGA Resolutions – RE: Emergency Response

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako direct staff to draft a resolution to the North Central Local Government Association for Regional Board review in regard to the Provincial Government needing to be responsible for providing Emergency Response Teams in regard to emergency response events with consultation and communication from the local government; and further, that the Provincial Government also be responsible for the administration and implementation, including the funding, of regulations and training for rural fire departments."

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Rural Directors Committee Meeting – February 11, 2016

Recommendation 5:

Re: Allocation of Costs

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve Schedule 3 “Rural Fire Protection Services Taxation Capacity Estimated Cost Allocation based on Staff Workload – Telkwa and Round Lake Shared Equally” as amended that Telkwa be the full contributor in the amount of \$1,091 and Round Lake be removed from the allocation of costs.”

Recommendation 6:

Re: Fort St. James Sled Dog Association -Request for Grant in Aid –Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural)

“That the Fort St. James Sled Dog Association be given \$2,000 from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for costs associated with the Caledonia Classic Dog Sled Races.”

Recommendation 7:

Re: Fort St. James Secondary School -Request for Grant in Aid –Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural)

“That the Fort St. James Secondary School be given \$1,000 from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for a Grade 12 Scholarship.”

Recommendation 8:

Re: BC Broadband Conference – May 3-4, 2016 - Vancouver, B.C.

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize Director Newell’s attendance at the BC Broadband Conference on May 3-4, 2016 in Vancouver, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Withdrawal from Election Reserve

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Repen

2016-2-8

1. “That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Financial Administrator’s February 2, 2016 memo titled “Withdrawal from Election Reserve.”
2. That a withdrawal of \$1,439 from the Rural Election Reserve be authorized.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Short Term Investment
Account with Hollis Wealth

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-9

1. "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Financial Administrator's February 17, 2016 memo titled "Short Term Investment Account with Hollis Wealth."
2. Further, that the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako approve the Account Agreement with Hollis Wealth and authorizes it for signature."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chinook Comfor Limited
Shareholder Agreement
and Chinook Comfor Limited
Partnership Agreement

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Brienen

2016-2-10

1. "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Financial Administrator's February 16, 2016 memo titled "Chinook Comfor Limited Shareholder Agreement and Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership Agreement."
2. Whereas the Regional District intends to be a shareholder in a community forest corporation and has sought and obtained approval from the Inspector of Municipalities for the incorporation of the proposed Chinook Comfor Limited;

And Whereas the Chinook Comfor Limited is proposed to be the General Partner in the proposed Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership and the Regional District intends to be a Limited Partner in the Chinook Comfor Limited partnership;

Therefore be it resolved that the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako approve for execution by its authorized signatories the Chinook Comfor Limited Partnership Agreement.

3. Whereas the Regional District intends to be a shareholder in a community forest corporation and has sought and obtained approval from the Inspector of Municipalities for the incorporation of the proposed Chinook Comfor Limited.

Therefore be it resolved that the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako approve for execution by its authorized signatories the Chinook Comfor Limited Shareholders' Agreement."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Topley Rural Fire Protection,
Topley Road Rescue and
Medical First Responder
Service Agreement

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Brienen

2016-2-11

1. "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Protective Services Manager's February 15, 2016 memo titled "Topley Rural Fire Protection, Topley Road Rescue and Medical First Responder Service Agreement."
2. That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize staff to enter into the Topley Rural Fire Protection, Topley Road Rescue and Medical First Responder Service Agreement with the Topley Fire Protection Society which will expire on December 31, 2020."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Round Lake Rural Fire
Protection Agreement with the
Village of Telkwa

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Director Fisher

2016-2-12

1. "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Protective Services Manager's January 11, 2016 memo titled "Round Lake Rural Fire Protection Agreement with the Village of Telkwa."
2. That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize staff to enter into the Round Lake Rural Fire Protection Agreement with the Village of Telkwa which will expire on December 31, 2020."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NCLGA Resolutions

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Parker

2016-2-13

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors ratify the following NCLGA Resolutions:

- BC Fire Service Minimum Training Standards – Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook;
- Emergency Program Act*;
- Landfill Guidelines."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Miller suggested providing the BC Fire Service Minimum Training Standards – Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook and *Emergency Program Act* resolutions to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for consideration.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Administration Reports

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Brienen

2016-2-14

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following Administration Reports:

- Financial Administrator's February 16, 2016 memos titled "Quarterly Financial Report – December 31, 2015";
- Manager of Regional Economic Development's February 16, 2016 memos titled:
 - "2015 Connecting Consumers and Producers Project;
 - "Performance Measurement in Economic Development";
- Finance/Administration Coordinator's February 16, 2016 memo titled "Report on Federal Gas Tax Projects Approved in 2015";
- Director Rob Newell
 - Minerals Roundup 2016;
 - LGLA;
 - Electoral Area Directors Forum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for lunch at 12:03 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:52 p.m.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION
OF SERVICE AWARDS**

Chair Miller provided employee recognition certificates to Janine Dougall for 15 years' service and Kristi Rensby for 5 years' of service to the RDBN.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

MEMO

Referral Update: Coastal
Gaslink Pipeline Project

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-15

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Planner 1's February 16, 2016 memo titled "Pipeline Referral Update."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)

DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Chair Miller called for comments from the gallery.

Development Variance Permit Moved by Director Fisher
A-01-16 Glen and Katie Seconded by Director Bachrach
Lubbers (Wade Lubbers)
Lowland Road, Smithers
Electoral Area "A"

2016-2-16

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve Development Variance Permit Application A-01-16 for Lot B, Section 28, Township 4, Range 5, Coast District, Plan PRP46520, to vary section 4.04 of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 700 by allowing the construction of an accessory building which has more than 45 m² (484 ft²) of floor space without the existence of a principal building, provided that the dwelling is constructed within 2 years of the date of the issuance of the permit."

(Participants/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Miller called for comments from the gallery.

Development Variance Permit Moved by Director Strimbold
B-01-16 Jason and Elizabeth Seconded by Director Greenaway
Berlin 599 Nourse Sub 2 Road,
Burns Lake, Electoral Area "B"

2016-2-17

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve Development Variance Permit Application B-01-16 for the property located at 599 Nourse Subdivision Road 2 to vary section 9.06 (1)(b) of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 700, 1993 to reduce the eastern side parcel line setback from 1.5 metres (5 ft.) to 0.6 metres (1.97 ft.) for an attached garage developed in general compliance with Schedule A of the permit."

(Participants/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW FOR ADOPTION

Rezoning File No.G-02-15 Moved by Director Newell
Bylaw 1756 Topley Fire Seconded by Director Bachrach
Department, Electoral Area "G"

2016-2-18

"That "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1756, 2015" be adopted this 25th day of February, 2016."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW FOR ADOPTION (CONT'D)

Rezoning & OCP Amendment Moved by Director Newell
File No.G-03-15 Bylaw 1757 Seconded by Director Strimbold
& 1758 Pauline Watson (HBH)
Electoral Area "G"

2016-2-19 "That "Houston, Topley, Granisle Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 2015" and "Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1758, 2015" be adopted this 25th day of February, 2016."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER (All Directors)

Planning Department Reports Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Brien

2016-2-20 "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following Planning Department Reports:

-Planning Department Enquiries Report – January, 2016;
-Action List – January, 2016;
-Minutes: Advisory Planning Commission Areas "B/E" RE: February 2, 2016;
-Building Inspector's Report – January, 2016."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Coastal Gaslink Pipeline Moved by Director Brien
Project RE: Response to Seconded by Director Newell
RDBN Correspondence
-October 26, 2015

2016-2-21 "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the correspondence from Coastal Gaslink Pipeline Project in regard to Response to RDBN Correspondence – October 26, 2015."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS

Meeting with the Town of
Smithers and Village of
Telkwa

Director Fisher mentioned that he met with the Town of Smithers and Village of Telkwa Council's along with Chair Miller and RDBN staff on Monday, February 22, 2016. Discussions took place regarding joint source provision. There was good feedback from the meetings. Directors Bachrach, Repen and Fisher thanked Chair Miller, and RDBN staff for attending the meetings.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

<u>Smithers Airport Receives Grant</u>	Director Bachrach announced that the Town of Smithers received a \$4 million grant from the Gas Tax Strategic Priorities program for the expansion and modernization of the Smithers Regional Airport.
<u>2016 – Sustainable Communities Conference</u>	Director Bachrach reported that he attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2016 Sustainable Communities Conference in Ottawa, Ontario February 9-11, 2016.
<u>New Physician in Houston</u>	Director Newell mentioned that the new physician for Houston has arrived in the community.
<u>Emergency Social Services Meeting in Telkwa</u>	Director Repen commented that Deborah Jones-Middleton, Emergency Protective Services Manager attended a meeting held by the Village of Telkwa and Town of Smithers regarding Emergency Social Services (ESS). He noted that good progress was made in strengthening relationships and the use of all resources.
<u>Burns Lake Airport Referendum</u>	Director Benedict mentioned that she had attended the public meetings in regard to the Burns Lake Airport Referendum. Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) resident comments have been positive and the referendum will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2016. Director Strimbold noted that the process has been very engaging.
<u>Local Service Area Budgets</u>	Director Benedict noted that she has been meeting with Director Miller, Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural) and Mayor Strimbold, Village of Burns Lake in regard to reviewing Local Service area budgets.
<u>Colleymount Road</u>	Director Benedict met with Carl Lutz, District Manager, Bulkley-Stikine District, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in regard to Colleymount Road. Some areas of Colleymount Road will receive attention in the summer of 2016 and planning is being undertaken for further projects.
<u>Village of Fraser Lake Met with Stellat'en First Nations</u>	Director Lindstrom mentioned that the Village of Fraser Lake Council met with Stellat'en First Nation and the meeting went very well.
<u>Nadleh Whut'en Band Sign Project Agreement with TransCanada</u>	Director Lindstrom attended the signing of a project agreement between the Nadleh Whut'en Band and TransCanada for its natural gas pipeline project on February 17, 2016.
<u>Agriculture Network</u>	Director Parker spoke of working towards expanding the agriculture network throughout the region.

VERBAL REPORTS (CONT'D)

Chair Miller – Update

Town of Smithers/Village of Telkwa Council Meetings

Chair Miller noted his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the Town of Smithers and Village of Telkwa Mayors and Councils on February 22, 2016.

Chair Miller mentioned that he has also been involved with the following:

- o Burns Lake Airport Referendum public consultation process;
- o Highway 16 transportation discussions with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure;
- o Hiring Panel for District Manager, Nadina, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations;
- o Local Government Leadership Academy Electoral Area Directors Forum:
 - Provided a presentation in regard to Wildfire mitigation.

Receipt of Verbal Reports

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Brien

2016-2-22

“That the verbal reports of the various Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Minerals North Smithers & Telkwa 2016 - Sponsorship Package

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2016-2-23

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize sponsorship of an event regarding the Minerals North Smithers & Telkwa 2016 in the amount of \$5,000.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Train Whistling at Rowland/Planner Road Crossing

Chair Miller requested permission for Calvin and Brenda Read to comment in regard to train whistling at Rowland/Planner Road. Ms. Read noted that due to the increase and predicted increase of rail traffic the noise level from the increased whistle use is excessive and unbearable and has severely impacted their indoor/outdoor activities and everyday living.

Discussion took place in regard to the steps necessary to move forward with the request from the residents in regard to train whistling cessation at Rowland/Planner Road in regard to Transport Canada’s Rail Safety Oversight and Expertise Train Whistling at Public Grade Crossings document.

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

Director Repen indicated that similar issues are experienced in Telkwa. Director Strimbold noted that the Village of Burns Lake has investigated the option for train whistle cessation at its crossing in 2014 but an independent engineer was required to review the crossing and any improvements would be the responsibility of the municipality along with the cost to hire an independent engineer.

Discussion took place in regard to the length of time the whistle is deployed.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is the agency responsible for roads within the RDBN.

Petition for Train Whistle Cessation at the Grade Crossing on Rowland/Planer Road

Moved by Director Repen
Seconded by Alternate Director Little

2016-2-24

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors consult with CN Rail operators of the line of railway to assess the feasibility of the whistling cessation at the grade crossing on Rowland/Planer Road."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Administration Correspondence

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Brien

2016-2-25

"That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following correspondence:

- Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
 - Approval of Management Plan for Community Forest Agreement to be held by Chinook Limited Partnership;
- Canadian Forest Products Ltd. – Canfor's Plans in the Fort St. James Forest District;
- National Energy Board – Notice of Intent to Order Pipeline Companies to Publish Emergency Procedures Manual;
- Kitimat LNG – Kitimat LNG Work on the Pacific Trail Pipeline in your region;
- Union of B.C. Municipalities – Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund Application;
- Vincent Hewgill – Ice Jams – Ebenezer Flats;
- BC News – Fiscal Discipline and New Investments Support B.C. Families, Jobs and Communities;
- City of Port Coquitlam – 2016 FCM Resolution - Build Canada Grant Funding;
- City of North Vancouver – Letter to Honourable Rich Coleman
 - BC Building Act Implementation;
- Emergency Program Act Consultation Extension;
- Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour – Syrian Refugees;
- City of Abbotsford – Downloading of DNA Analysis Costs;
- BC Community Forest Association – January, 2016 Newsletter;
- North Central Local Government Association - Momentum Building for Upcoming Convention;

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)

- Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
 - Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – February 1st, 2016;
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure - Province Commits \$10 Million for B.C. Ground Search and Rescue;
- Northern Health – New Nurse Practitioners Increase Access to Primary Care in Northern B.C.;
- Omineca Beetle Action Coalition Newsletter – January, 2016;
- Notification of Updates to the Species at Risk Registry;
- Union of B.C. Municipalities
 - Funding & Resources Update
 - Province Launches Next Round of Consultation on the Climate Leadership Plan
 - Federal Consultation on Telecommunications Continues
 - Throne Speech Emphasizes Economic Diversification
 - UBCM, Anton Discuss Approach to Inquiry
 - Minister Morris Responds to UBCM Regarding DNA Costs
 - Tsunami Debris Funding Available
 - Highlights of the January 21-22 Executive Meeting
 - UBCM Concerns Heard on Fire Services
 - Child & Youth Mental Health and Substance Use.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INVITATIONS

Regional District Chair & CAO
Forum – March 29-30, 2016
-Victoria, B.C.

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2016-2-26

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize the attendance of Chair Miller and the Chief Administrative Officer to the Regional District Chair & CAO Forum on March 29-30, 2016 in Victoria, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Invitations & Action Lists

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Alternate Director Little

2016-2-27

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

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Annual Conference 2016;
- International BioEnergy Conference & Exhibition - 2016 Sponsorship Opportunities;

INVITATIONS (CONT'D)

ACTION LISTS

Action Lists:

- December, 2015
- January, 2016
- Action Items in Progress Updated
 - o February 17, 2016.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL

Operating Accounts
-January, 2016

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-28

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors ratify the Operating Accounts – Paid January, 2016.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW FOR ADOPTION

No. 1759– Topley Emergency
Response Contribution Local
Service Area Establishment
Repeal Bylaw

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Strimbold

2016-2-29

“That “Topley Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Area Establishment Repeal Bylaw No. 1759, 2015” be adopted this 25th day of February, 2016.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

READING FILE

Reading File

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Strimbold

2016-2-30

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the following Reading File:

CORRESPONDENCE:

- BC Chamber of Commerce – Public Affairs Update
 - February 15, 2016 – Throne Speech; Public Service Shakeup; Affordable Housing;
 - February 9, 2016 – Clark, Chambers in Ottawa; Great Bear Rainforest;
 - February 1, 2016 – Parties Sharpen Election Messages; Alberta Royalty Review; New Skilled Immigration System; Funding for Young Entrepreneurs;
 - January 25, 2016 – BC Rolls out Tech Strategy at Inaugural #BCTECH Summit; Health Ministers Discuss Drug Prices;
- BC Chamber of Commerce – BC Chamber Insight Newsletter January Edition;
- BC Healthy Communities – February e-News;

READING FILE (CONT'D)

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D):

- BC Natural Resources Forum – Thank You For Your Contributions to Another Successful Forum;
- Clean Energy Canada – Clean Energy Review:
 - February 15, 2016 – Clean XL?
 - February 8, 2016 – Regulations for the Win!
 - January 25, 2016 – Making Bank;
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities - FCM News Week of:
 - February 12, 2016
 - February 1, 2016
 - January 25, 2016
 - January 22, 2016;
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities – President’s Corner Update;
- Infrastructure News – Infrastructure Minister says Money is Coming “Soon.” Spending Smarter February, 2016;
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Bulkley-Stikine District Service Area – Bulkley Nass 25 – Road Restrictions;
- Nechako Reservoir Update - Flow Facts:
 - February 18, 2016
 - February 11, 2016
 - February 3, 2016
 - January 27, 2016;
- Northern Health – Healthier Northern Communities ebrief;
- Northern Health Media Bulletin – February 11, 2016 Sexual and Reproductive Health Day;
- Northern Health News Release – Imagine Community Grant Funding Now Available to Community Groups, Schools, and Organizations;
- Northern Health News Release January 18, 2016 – Public Meeting on Transfer of Health Services to Northern Health;
- Resource Works Newsletter:
 - February 4, 2016 – Great Bear Gift
 - January 28, 2016 – On the Go for BC
 - January 21, 2016;
- Seniors BC – e-Newsletter January, 2016;
- Union of British Columbia Municipalities – BC Communities Tackle Radon Issue;
- VI & Coast Conservation Society – Island’s Rural Communities Celebrated with Heritage Project Launch.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

RDBN Strategic Priority
No. 2 – Legacy

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-31

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve the “draft” Memorandum of Understanding and direct staff to schedule meetings with industry with the intent of RDBN and industry executing a Memorandum of Understanding.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Lakes District Fall Fair
Association – Northern
Development Application
-North West RAC

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Benedict

2016-2-32

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors support the Lakes District Fall Fair Association application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust – Fabulous Festivals and Events in the amount of \$2,500.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RDBN Northern Development
Application – Marketing
Initiatives Program

Moved by Director Benedict
Seconded by Director Parker

2016-2-33

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors support:

1. the Investment Readiness Action Plan Implementation application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust – Marketing Initiatives Program in the amount of \$18,595.
2. the Regional Tourism Marketing application to the Northern Development Initiatives Trust – Marketing Initiatives Program in the amount of \$16,824.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Withdrawal from Insurance
Reserve

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Brien

2016-2-34

1. “That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Financial Administrator’s February 23, 2016 memo titled “Withdrawal from Insurance Reserve.”
2. Authorize the withdrawal from the Insurance Reserve of costs incurred for the Funk claim up to a maximum of \$50,000.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fort St. James TV
Rebroadcasting Proposed
Tax Limit Increase

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-35

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the Financial Administrator’s February 23 2016 memo titled “Fort St. James TV Rebroadcasting Proposed Tax Limit Increase.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INVITATIONS

CI Energy Group's Cumulative Effects and the Future of Natural Resource Management Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director MacDougall
-March 2-3, 2016 – Vancouver, B.C.

2016-2-36 "That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors receive the invitation titled "CI Energy Group's Cumulative Effects and the Future of Natural Resource Management – March 2-3, 2016 in Vancouver, B.C."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW FOR FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READING

No. 1765 Fort St. James and Area Television Rebroadcasting Local Service Establishment Amendment Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-37 "That "Fort St. James and Area Television Rebroadcasting Local Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1765, 2016" be given first, second and third reading this 25th day of February, 2016."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

Strategic Workforce Opportunities Team Funding Update

Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development provided an outline of the expression of interest submitted to Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) in November, 2015 regarding funding for the Strategic Workforce Opportunities Team Coordinator. In January, 2016, NDIT requested that a full application be submitted which was determined to not be required. On February 18, 2016, NDIT provided notification that the application was not accepted. The SWOT now has a shortfall in funding to hire a coordinator. Ms. Swenson noted that there may be an opportunity for funding through the labour market grant funding option.

Ms. Swenson noted that a significant amount of staff time has been utilized to oversee the SWOT. The SWOT Executive is working to determine the next steps if they do not receive funding. Director Newell mentioned that the SWOT is very beneficial and critical that the SWOT Coordinator position be filled to assist the SWOT moving forward with the Regional Skills Gap Analysis Action Plan.

Concerns were brought forward regarding the ability to access the Northern Development Initiatives Trust Pine Beetle Account through submissions of interest only and that the Regional Advisory Committees do not have input into the expression of interest process. It is very important for local input in regard to submissions of interest.

DISCUSSION (CONT'D)

Meeting Request to Northern
Development Initiative Trust

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-2-38

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors request that the RDBN Chair and the RDBN Strategic Workforce Opportunities Team representative attend the next Northern Development Initiative Trust Board Meeting to present in regard to the Strategic Workforce Opportunities Team Funding; and further that discussion take place in regard to NDIT Expression of Interests to be brought forward to NDIT Regional Advisory Committees for consideration.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

North Central Local
Government Association
-Call for Nominations for
2013-2014 NCLGA Executive

Moved by Director Strimbold
Seconded by Director Bachrach

2016-2-39

“That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors nominate Director Fisher for the position of Regional Representative for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako for the 2016-2017 North Central Local Government Association Executive.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Resolutions during Delegation
Presentations

Discussion took place in regard to bringing forward resolutions during Delegation presentations to the Regional Board. Options were discussed in regard to Board Members considering bringing forward resolutions under New Business not when delegations are present.

Crowdsourcing App

Director Newell spoke of the possible development of a crowdsourcing app for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako to utilize for various information gathering needs.

Internet/Cell Service
Connectivity Coverage

Director Newell mentioned that information is required in regard to the internet and cell service connectivity coverage in the region. Chair Miller spoke of the information that the RDBN has collected and provided to Network BC in the past. Network BC was very pleased with the amount and accuracy of the information provided. Chair Miller also noted that the collection of the information did take a significant amount of time. Director Newell will utilize the information collected while attending the BC Broadband Conference May 3 & 4, 2016 in Richmond, B.C.

**SPECIAL IN-CAMERA
MEETING MOTION**

2016-2-40

Moved by Director MacDougall
Seconded by Director Petersen

“In accordance with Section 90 (1)(g) of the *Community Charter*, it is the opinion of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors that litigation or potential litigation affecting the local government (Transfer Station Assault) or information received relating to the matter must be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

2016-2-41

Moved by Director Bachrach
Seconded by Director Brien

“That the meeting be adjourned at 2:07 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bill Miller, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant