

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

MEETING NO. 1

Thursday, January 27, 2022

PRESENT:

Chair	Gerry Thiessen
Directors	Gladys Atrill Shane Brienen Mark Fisher Dolores Funk Tom Greenaway Clint Lambert – via Zoom Linda McGuire Annette Morgan – via Zoom – arrive at 10:25 a.m. Bob Motion Chris Newell – via Zoom – left at 12:08 p.m. Mark Parker Jerry Petersen Michael Riis-Christianson Sarrah Storey
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development – left at 10:05 a.m. Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 12:55 p.m. Justin Greer, Economic Development Assistant – left at 10:04 a.m. John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services – arrived at 10:05 a.m. Taddea Kunkel, First Nations Liaison – arrived at 1:50 p.m., left at 1:55 p.m. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Maria Sandberg, Planning and Parks Coordinator – via Zoom Deneve Vanderwolf, Planning Technician/Regional Transit Coordinator – arrived at 11:42 a.m., left at 1:40 p.m. Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
Others	Taylor Bachrach, MP, Skeena Bulkley Valley – left at 11:10 a.m. Jenn Cara, Operations, Enbridge – left at 10:35 a.m. Graham Genge, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor, Enbridge – left at 10:35 a.m. Sandy Mackay, Housing Research & Policy Lead, M'Akola Development Services – left at 11:39 a.m. Emma Shea, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor, Enbridge – left at 11:11 a.m.
Media	Eddie Huband, LD News – via Zoom

FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CALL TO ORDER

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

STAFF INTRODUCTION

Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development introduced Justin Greer, Economic Development Assistant.

**AGENDA &
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-1-1

“That the Board Meeting Agenda of January 27, 2022 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2021

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-2

“That the Board Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2021 be adopted as amended.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Business Arising out of the Minutes

Director McGuire requested an update regarding follow-up from BCEHS presentation to the Board December 16, 2021. Staff will continue to follow-up. She also requested an update regarding Motion 2021-15-3 Recommendation #3. Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning indicated staff have sent communication to the proposed operator and landowner and are awaiting a response. Staff will continue to follow-up.

Committee Meeting
Minutes- January 13, 2022

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-1-3

“That the following Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

- Committee of the Whole Minutes
 - January 13, 2022
- Natural Resources Committee Minutes
 - January 13, 2022
- Rural Agriculture Committee Minutes
 - January 13, 2022
- Waste Management Committee Minutes
 - January 13, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

ENDBRIDGE – Graham Genge, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor and Emma Shea, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor RE: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Overview

Chair Thiessen welcomed Graham Genge, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor, and Emma Shea, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor, Enbridge.

Mr. Genge provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

British Columbia LNG Opportunities

- About Enbridge
- Values in Action – Enbridge’s Sustainability Goals
- Achieving Net Zero by 2050
- Enbridge in British Columbia
- Lifecycle Engagement: Community Investment
- Community Opportunities

DELEGATION (CONT'D)

ENDBRIDGE – Graham Genge, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor and Emma Shea, Sr. Community and Indigenous Engagement Advisor RE: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Overview (Cont'd)

- Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission (WCGT) Project
 - The WCGT Project – Supporting Potential LNG Export Initiatives
 - Environmental Assessment Certificate
 - Revised Project Scope
 - Environmental Fieldwork Programs
 - WCGT Project Condition Plans
 - Social and Economic Effects Management Plan
 - Pacific Trail Pipeline (PTP) Project.

The following was discussed:

- Pipeline route
 - Doesn't traverse through Khutzeymateen area
 - Environmental Assessment certified corridor
 - Starting Cypress in northeast BC to Ridley Island
 - Two route options
 - New terminal location yet to be determined
- Perspective and views regarding future use of fossil fuels
- Enbridge – delivery agent - has an opportunity to support project development
 - Westcoast Connector
 - Investigated corridors of least disturbance in consultation with Indigenous groups
- Acquisition of Pacific Trail Project
 - No timeline for development currently
 - Purchased the rights to the project – no terminal component
 - Working with First Nations Limited partnership to determine interest
- Electrification needs
 - Opportunity to have multiple pipelines
 - Investigating one pipeline with the opportunity to grow
 - Environmental Assessment Certificate - project currently has five gas driven turbine compressor stations
 - Investigated the volumes/flow and advancement in technology
 - Determined that could build one compressor station that is electric driven in the Willow Flats area (northeast BC)
 - Future expansion will require working with BC Hydro for an additional compressor station in remote areas
- Pipelines are new infrastructure in the northwest
 - Discussing with the Province the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA)
- Working through previous process with building pipeline infrastructure a number of reassurances were given
 - Impacts to transportation, waste management, healthcare
 - Working with the Province
 - Industry benefits along with a number of impacts
- Having further discussions regarding the Socio-economic Effects Management Plan
- Importance of discussing the Socio-economic Effects Management Plan
 - Mr. Genge indicated the desire to work with the Regional District to find solutions and opportunities regarding healthcare, transportation, waste management, etc.
 - Employment – help support and ensure the key components are in place to ensure a strong employment base
- Continued frequent dialogue.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Genge and Ms. Shea for attending the meeting.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Taylor Bachrach, MP, Skeena Bulkley Valley RE: Update

Chair Thiessen welcomed Taylor Bachrach, MP Skeena Bulkley Valley.

MP Bachrach provided the following update:

1. Rail Safety
 - Relationship with railroad important and at times challenging
 - House of Commons Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities - Parliamentary Study on rail safety
 - A result of advocacy from communities in the northwest
 - Volunteer fire departments
 - Want to make sure have what is needed to protect communities
 - A series of hearings took place in Ottawa
 - Chair Thiessen provided a virtual presentation
 - Prime Minister called an election stopping all work – the report was unable to be tabled in Parliament
 - MP Bachrach pleased to be reappointed as NDP Transport critic
 - Looking forward to bringing the report forward
 - Wanting two additional days of hearings
 - Will provide an update in the future.
2. Bus Service
 - Discussions in the region since 2012 and in relation to the Highway of Tears
 - Board advocacy
 - Community Bus Program and Bulkley Nechako Transit
 - Northwest BC has some of the best intercommunity transportation
 - Busing is an issue being discussed nationally with the withdrawal of Greyhound Bus Services
 - Major service level gaps
 - Greyhound provided a connection nationally
 - Federal Government needs to show leadership and provide transit
 - Currently sponsoring a petition in the Federal Government to determine a plan for a busing system that connects rural Canada
 - Planning a Town Hall Meeting February 22, 2022.
3. Northern Residence Reduction
 - Topic was raised in Granisle
 - Some northern and remote community residents receive a tax reduction to account for higher cost of living
 - Haida Gwaii – push the boundary to have northern residence reduction
 - Received comments from other communities wanting to be able to participate
 - Need to review eligibility criteria for communities and what criteria determines remoteness
 - Opportunity to collaborate across party lines
4. Rural Internet
 - Connected Coast Project
 - Connecting with Fraser Lake and hearing about their partnership with CityWest
 - Great way to find solutions/innovation
 - Aware of the work the Regional District is doing regarding connectivity
 - Keen to hear from the Board as to where the gaps are
 - Telecom companies putting forward projects where can make a business case
 - Leaving out rural areas
 - Need government to provide direction/leadership to ensure no one is left out

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

Taylor Bachrach, MP, Skeena Bulkley Valley RE: Update (CONT'D)

5. Climate Action/Energy efficiency
 - Greener homes initiative \$2.6 million over 6 years
 - Important initiative
 - Expressed concern that northern /rural communities are left out
 - In order to access – have to have an energy assessment
 - Not many energy advisors in western BC
 - Attempting to determine the actual number of advisors
6. Second year of pandemic – everyone is tired /frustrated
 - Keenly aware of truckers protest across Canada
 - People frustrated
 - Also hear from others that are frustrated not meeting vaccination rates
 - Need to be patient/compassionate – everyone is coming at it from a different angle
 - Aspect of the supply chain
 - Challenges
 - Federal government needs to build resiliency in the supply chain.

The following was discussed:

- The Village of Fraser Lake brought forward a resolution to NCLGA in 2018 re: Rural Living Allowance
- Connectivity in Fraser Lake and the inability to apply for grant funding
 - Addressing the Federal connectivity mapping issues
- Lack of communication from CN during a train blocking the tracks on Park Drive in Fraser Lake
- Appreciation for MP Bachrach's continued work regarding rail safety
- Level rail crossing upgrades and costs to municipalities
 - Needs to be reviewed
 - Costs need to be borne by users and Federal Government
- Frustration regarding lengthy approval process for grant applications
- Village of Granisle Community Energy Rebate Program for appliances
- Vaccine mandates
 - MP Bachrach expressed willingness to meet regarding concerns
 - NDP support the advice of the Provincial Health Officer and public health measures to combat the pandemic
- Climate Change initiatives and the need for the Federal Government to understand the uniqueness of rural BC and Canada.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Bachrach for attending the meeting.

DELEGATIONS (CONT'D)

M'AKOLA DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - Sandy Mackay, Housing Research & Policy Lead RE: Housing Needs Report Project

Chair Thiessen welcomed Sandy Mackay, Housing Research & Policy Lead, M'Akola Development Services.

RDBN Housing Needs Report

- Report Structure
 - Introduction and Regional Summary
 - Electoral Area Housing Needs Reports
 - Local Appendices
- Study Area
- Starting Context
- Population and Households
- Older Residents
- Renting
- Cost of Ownership
- Agriculture Housing
- Ways Forward
- Next Steps.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Examples of municipality and rural area housing partnerships
- Regional growth
- Increase supply of stock housing without increasing land base
- Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural) Cost of Ownership decrease and cost of housing increase
 - Low sales volume may have contributed to the cost of ownership decrease
- Smaller/intensive agriculture land use
- Affordable housing issues and the need to find alternative solutions – thinking outside the box
- Most projections of population based on 2016 census data due to timing of report
- New census information will be released in the next month
- Cost of building and finding contractors a challenge.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mr. Mackay for attending the meeting.

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)

Bylaw for 1st and 2nd Reading

Rezoning Application
RZ A-09-21 1st & 2nd Reading
Rezoning Bylaw No. 1969
-Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Funk

2022-1-4

1. "That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1969, 2022 be given 1st and 2nd reading this 27th day of January, 2022 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.

2. That the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1969, 2022 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area A."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Temporary Use Permit

Temporary Use Permit TUP
A-01-21, Electoral Area "A"

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-5

1. "That the Board approve the issuance of Temporary Use Permit TUP A-01-21 to allow a temporary expansion of "True North Raw," a raw pet food and prepackaged meat business.
2. That the Board direct staff to issue the permit, when staff have received either:
 - a. a copy of an approved Commercial Access Highway Use Permit for the commercial business from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, or
 - b. written confirmation from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure that Commercial Access Highway Use Permit is not required for the commercial business."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)

ALR Application

Subdivision in the ALR
Application No. 1234
-Electoral Area A

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-6

"That Agricultural Land Reserve Non-Farm Use Application No. 1234 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Referral

Village of Telkwa Referral for
OCP Amendment Bylaw
746, 2022 and New Zoning
Bylaw No. 747, 2022

Moved by Director Morgan
Seconded by Director Fisher

2022-1-7

"That staff inform the Village of Telkwa that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako has no concern with the referral request for the proposed OCP Amendment Bylaw No. 746, 2022 and new Zoning Bylaw No. 747, 2022."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mines Application Referral
No. 139611557-006
-Electoral Area D

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-1-8

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako comment sheet on Mines Application Referral No. 139611557-006 be provided to the Province."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Referral (Cont'd)

Crown Land Application
Referral No. 7410220
-Electoral Area D

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-1-9

“That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako comment sheet on Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410220 be provided to the Province.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER

Electoral Area Housing Needs Report

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning noted staff will bring forward a report to the Board with recommendations regarding the Electoral Area Housing Needs Report.

The following was discussed:

- Potential amendment to H1 zoning to allow second dwellings
- ALR regulations regarding housing
 - Applying the ALR definition for Total Floor Area (TFA)
 - RDBN defining TFA or utilizing ALR definition
- Regional Growth Management Plan
 - Some services strained within municipalities due to rural residential development outside municipal boundaries
 - Residential development just outside community – strain inside community
 - Legislation under the *Local Government Act* regarding Regional Growth Strategies
- Review Regional Growth Management Plans during an Official Community Plan review
- Coordinating discussions with municipalities during their OCP review processes
 - Town of Smithers is currently reviewing its OCP
- Grant funding and staff time for future housing needs reports
- Regional housing reports.

Electoral Area Housing Needs
Report

Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Fisher

2022-1-10

“That the Board receive the RDBN Electoral Area Housing Needs Report 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Break for lunch at 12:08 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:59 p.m.

2021 Planning Department
Year End Report

Moved by Director Motion
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-1-11

“That the Board receive the 2021 Planning Department Year End Report.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER (CONT'D)

**Bulkley Nechako Transit
Service Summary Report**

2022-1-12

Moved by Director Motion
Seconded by Director Brienen

“That the RDBN Board direct staff to:

1. Renew the Community Transit Partnership Agreement with the City of Prince George for a further 5 years.
2. Work with First Nations and the Provincial and Federal Governments to establish a consistent, equitable, and manageable long term funding arrangement for transit service to First Nations communities.
3. Direct staff to discuss the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Regional Public Transit and Para-Transit (Highway 16) Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1790, 2016 at the Rural/Agriculture Committee and report back to the Board with recommendations regarding amendments to the Bylaw including any increase to the requisition limit.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Fort St. James
 - Challenges of transit service levels
 - Inability to connect with the Highway 16 Transit System
- Granisle Community Bus also unable to connect with the Highway 16 Transit system
- Northern Development Initiative Trust Northern Community Shuttle Program
 - Granisle has applied
- Electoral Areas contributing if service levels are unavailable
- Provincial and Federal Government Funding Model
 - The need for all levels of government participation
- Staff to provide a comprehensive report
- Notable percentage of riders from Electoral Areas
- Utilizing Grant in Aid and other methods of funding e.g. Federal Gas Tax
- Clearly identify who is responsible for all aspects of the service, including bus shelters, signage, garbage clean up, infrastructure implementation, capital planning, etc.
- Including Northern Health and School Districts in Transit discussions
- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Regional Public Transit and Para-Transit (Highway 16) Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1790, 2016

OTHER (CONT'D)

- Buses being at capacity and riders unable to access along the route
 - The issue has been brought forward to BC Transit
 - Asked to address it in BC Transit's Service Review of the Highway 16 Transit System and the safety concerns
 - BC Transit indicated there is a formula used to determine ridership
- Continuation with the Transit Service Agreement with BC Transit will continue for a year if no action is taken by the Board
- Electoral Area "E" (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) – request no additional taxation for residents for service
- Town of Smithers support transit opportunities.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Committee Meeting
Recommendations
-December 16, 2021
and January 13, 2022

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-1-13

"That the Board approve recommendations 1 to 5 as written:

Rural/Agriculture Committee – December 13, 2021

Recommendation 1: Re: Minor Service Budgets

"That the budgets discussed in the Chief Financial Officer's Minor Services memorandum be included in the 2022 Financial Plan."

Natural Resources Committee – January 13, 2022

Recommendation 2: Re: Write a Letter RE: Harmonizing Stumpage Policy for Community Forests

"That the Board write a letter in regard to the concerns and impacts of Harmonizing the Stumpage Policy for Community Forests."

Rural/Agriculture Committee – January 13, 2022

Recommendation 3: Re: Minor Fire Services

"That the budgets discussed in the Minor Fires Services memorandum be included in the 2022 Financial Plan."

Recommendation 4: Re: COVID-19 Relief Funds – Application Approval

"That the Board approve the following applications for COVID-19 Relief Funds:

- Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)
 - Fort St. James Curling Club - Utilities and Ice Preparation - \$4,932.18
 - Fort St. James Speed Skating Club – Ice Fees for 2021/22 Session - \$5,000.00."

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Waste Management Committee – January 13, 2022

Recommendation 5: Re: Write a Letter to Recycle BC

“That the Board write a letter to Recycle BC providing an outline of the current supply issues RDBN Recycling Depots are experiencing and what is required to address the issue; and further, that the letter be cc'd to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Green for Life Environmental Inc., John Rustad, MLA Nechako Lakes and Nathan Cullen, MLA Bulkley Stikine.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Budget Bylaw – Five Year
Financial Plan (2022-2026)**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-14

“That the Board give first and second reading to RDBN Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1971, 2022 this 27th day of January, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Cluculz Lake Fire Protection
Service Reserve Bylaw
No. 1967, 2021**

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-1-15

“That Cluculz Lake Fire Protection Service Reserve Bylaw No. 1967, 2021 be adopted this 27th day of January, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Smithers Rural Recreation and
Culture Service Area
Amendment Bylaw No. 1968, 2021**

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-16

“That Smithers Rural Recreation and Culture Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1968, 2021 be adopted this 27th day of January, 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Northern Development
-Nechako Valley Sporting
Association Application**

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Parker

2022-1-17

“That the Board supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Nechako Valley Sporting Association for the Grooming Shed Project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Northern Development - Stuart Moved by Director Greenaway
Lake Nordic Society Application Seconded by Director Motion

2022-1-18

“That the Board supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Stuart Lake Nordic Society for the Trail Groomer Project.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Pre-Approval of the 2022 Fort Fraser Rural Fire Protection Service Budget to Purchase Two Fire Apparatus Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Petersen

2022-1-19

“That the Board pre-approve the 2022 Fort Fraser Rural Fire Protection Service Budget to purchase two fire apparatus.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Smithers Rural Fire Protection And Recreation and Culture Agreement – January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026 Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Atrill

2022-1-20

“That the Board authorize the Board Chair and the Chief Administrative Officer to sign the Smithers Rural Fire Protection and Recreation and Culture Agreement for a 5-year term.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sunset Beach Service Agreement Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Storey

2022-1-21

“That the Board authorize the Chair and the Corporate Officer to sign the Sunset Beach Service Agreement between the Regional District and the Nadleh Whut'en Band for an additional 5-year term expiring on December 31, 2026.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Write a Letter to Recycle BC Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Parker

2022-1-22

“That the Board ratify the letter written to Recycle BC regarding Recycle BC's Service Disruption.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)

Administration Reports & Correspondence

Moved by Director McGuire
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2022-1-23

“That the Board receive the following

Administration Reports

-the First Nations Liaison’s Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action memorandum.”
-Regional Agriculture Coordinator’s (East) Growing Opportunities Newsletter Update memorandum

Administration Correspondence:

-Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – UBCM Meeting 2021
-Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure -Lloyd Drive Intersection
-Enbridge – Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Certificate Condition and Plans and Upcoming Engagement.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Highway 118 – Logging Truck Traffic

Director McGuire mentioned that she reached out to the sawmills, Lakes District Maintenance (LDM) and RCMP to discuss safety concerns and practices of logging trucks travelling on Highway 118. The sawmills indicated they would address the issue and travel on Highway 118 has improved.

Access to Natural Gas

Director McGuire commented that it is cost prohibitive to have natural gas brought to Granisle. The Village of Granisle has sent letters to the BC Utilities Commission, Provincial Ministers and MLA regarding the issue.

Village of Granisle Energy Efficient Appliance Program

Director McGuire reported that the Village of Granisle provides its residents an Energy Efficiency Appliance Program. If a resident purchases a new appliance between \$500-\$1,000 a year they may provide their receipt to the municipal office for a rebate.

Property Tax Assessments -Village of Granisle

Director McGuire noted that the Village of Granisle is receiving attention regarding its Property Tax Assessment increase of 14% and still being the cheapest location in BC to purchase a home.

The Village of Granisle has also completed its Lands Inventory Study and will be investigating ways to help owners to develop empty lots. They are also researching a frontage tax.

Caledonia Classic Sled Dog Races – February 4-6, 2022

Director Greenaway invited the Board to attend the Caledonia Classic Sled Dog Races in Fort St. James on February 4-6, 2022.

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)

Hay Delivery to Southern BC Director Lambert spoke with John Anderson, his counterpart in Southern BC regarding the delivery of hay from the Southside, Burns Lake, as well as neighbouring communities to those impacted by flooding. He thanked all the donors and those delivering the hay to Southern BC. He mentioned that it has given people impacted by the floods hope. Chair Thiessen thanked Director Lambert for his role in collecting and organizing donations. Director Parker also mentioned Vanderhoof and Fraser Lake have donated a number of semi loads of hay.

Veterinarian Shortage Director Parker provided an update regarding the veterinarian shortage in the Province. He spoke of an upcoming meeting with Lara Beckett, Director, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, members of the Veterinarian Association, University of Northern BC to discuss resolutions to be brought forward for the Board's consideration regarding veterinarian shortages. He will also be attending a meeting with stakeholders from the Robson Valley through to the RDBN. Director Parker mentioned that he has been receiving a lot of positive feedback and support. He will bring forward updates at future meetings.

Receipt of Verbal Reports Moved by Director Brien
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2022-1-24 "That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-1-25 "In accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, it is the opinion of the Board of Directors that matters pertaining to Sections 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations, 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 (Northwest Resource Benefits Alliance and Proposed Boundary Expansion) may be closed to the public therefore exercise their option of excluding the public for this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Storey
Seconded by Director McGuire

2022-1-26 "That the meeting be adjourned at 2:09 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY