



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 20, 2026

Directors Present: Chair Mark Parker
Gladys Atrill
Leroy Dekens
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert - arrived at 11:32 a.m.
Linda McGuire - via Zoom
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Chris Newell
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey - via Zoom
Henry Wiebe
Alternate Director Judith Friesen, District of Fort St. James

Directors Absent: Shane Brien, District of Houston
Martin Elphee, District of Fort St. James

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer - via Zoom
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Berlin, Manager of Building Inspections - arrived at 10:30 a.m., left at 10:43 a.m.
Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - via Zoom, in person 11:20 - 11:22 a.m.
Steve Davis, Building Inspector - arrived at 10:43 a.m., left at 10:44 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services
Amy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Planning and Development Services
Christopher Walker, Emergency Services Manager - arrived at 10:20 a.m. via Zoom, arrived in person 11:00 a.m., left at 11:24 a.m.

Others: Quinten Beach, Superintendent of the Nechako Watershed, Rio Tinto - left at 10:38 a.m.
Andrew Czornohalan, Director - Energy & Watershed Partnerships, Rio Tinto - via Zoom - left at 10:38 a.m.
Tayna Thorpe, Manager, Communities and Social Performance, Rio Tinto - via Zoom - left at 10:38 a.m.
Merewyn Comeau, LD News - Black Press - via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

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

First Nations Acknowledgement

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

August 20, 2026

2026-BM-504

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Agenda and Supplementary Agenda for August 20, 2026 be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes - August 6, 2026

2026-BM-505

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Meeting Minutes - July 9, 2026

2026-BM-506

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Meeting Minutes - August 6, 2026

2026-BM-507

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Newell

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes and Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

RIO TINTO - Andrew Czornohalan, Director - Energy & Watershed Partnerships, Quinten Beach, Superintendent of the Nechako Watershed and Tayna Thorpe, Manager, Communities and Social Performance Re: Update - via Zoom and In-Person

Chair Parker welcomed Andrew Czornohalan, Director - Energy & Watershed Partnerships, Quinten Beach, Superintendent of the Nechako Watershed and Tayna Thorpe, Manager, Communities and Social Performance, Rio Tinto.

Reservoir & Watershed Conditions

- Reservoir conditions have improved significantly from 2025 due to strong winter snowpack and favourable spring runoff.
- December snowfall reached 182% of average.
- March recorded the highest snowpack on record in the reservoir area.
- Reservoir levels at the beginning of the year were near record lows but recovered steadily and are now above the long-term average.
- Spring freshet inflows reached approximately 121% of average.
- Some low-lying and unregulated watersheds continue to experience dry conditions.
- Lower-than-normal flows remain in some tributaries, including the Nautley and Stellako Rivers.

Water Management

- Rio Tinto successfully implemented the 6A Hydrograph for the first time.
- Monitoring results will be used to refine future operations and support environmental outcomes.
- Work is underway on an updated Summer Temperature Management Plan for implementation in 2027, with input from First Nations, local governments, and stakeholders.
- Modelling indicates that a repeat of this year's wet winter conditions would not increase flood risk for Cheslatta Lake or Vanderhoof.

Operations & Business Performance

- Safety remains the company's highest priority.
- Aluminum production is ahead of forecast, with approximately 426,000 tonnes expected in 2026.
- Improved hydrology has enabled energy exports to BC Hydro and contributed to a stronger financial outlook.

Capital Projects

- Completed a \$140 million conveyor replacement project.
- Advancing a Kemano modernization program, with nearly \$1 billion in planned investments over the next decade to extend the facility's operating life.
- Construction continues on the \$10 million Kenny Dam Seepage Weir Project, which will enhance dam monitoring, seepage management, and safety.

Ne Too Infrastructure Project

- Continued work on the Ne Too Infrastructure Project in partnership with Saik'uz, Stelat'en, Cheslatta, and Nadleh Whut'en First Nations.
- The project explores:
 - Additional reservoir storage capacity
 - Enhanced water-release infrastructure at Kenny Dam
 - Watershed improvements within the Nechako, Cheslatta and Nautley systems.
- A pre-feasibility study is underway and expected to be completed in 2027.

Community Investment

- The reservoir Navigational Buoy Program will continue.
- Rio Tinto continues to invest in environmental, educational, research, health, and community initiatives throughout the region, including partnerships with First Nations, School District 91, UNBC, climate and fisheries research programs, Carrier Sekani Family Services, freshwater fisheries initiatives, and Indigenous development corporations..
- Commitment to ongoing engagement with local governments, Indigenous

communities, and stakeholders.

Tariffs and Aluminum Markets

- A question was raised regarding potential impacts of Canadian-U.S. trade negotiations and tariffs on aluminum.
- Rio Tinto advised that it has no additional information beyond what is publicly available.
- Aluminum and steel remain key topics in ongoing discussions.

Summer Temperature Management Plan (STMP)

- Concerns were raised about fluctuations in river levels resulting from STMP operations and the impacts on navigation, fish habitat, and fish stranding.
- Rio Tinto noted that it has evaluated alternative operating scenarios, including more consistent release rates, but modelling showed those approaches could result in more temperature exceedances.
- The company is exploring a revised approach for 2027 that would reduce the range between high and low releases while maintaining temperature management objectives.
- Rio Tinto acknowledged concerns regarding water-level fluctuations and confirmed that these factors will be considered for temperature management in future planning.

River Level Changes and Public Communication

- Concerns were expressed regarding rapid river level changes and the challenges they create for river users.
- Rio Tinto agreed to explore ways to better predict and communicate river level fluctuations to improve public awareness and planning.

Monitoring and Public Engagement

- Questions were raised about opportunities for more public discussion regarding STMP results and future management approaches.
- Rio Tinto advised that an annual post-season STMP report is being prepared and will be publicly available.

Chair Parker thanked Messrs. Czornohalan and Beach and Ms. Thorpe for attending the meeting.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Building Inspection

Steve Davis, Building Inspector - Section 57 Notice on Title NOT C-01-26 – 4659 Stones Bay Subdivision Road - Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

Chair Parker called for Comments from the Gallery. No Comments received from the gallery.

2026-BM-508

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Corporate Officer be directed to file a Notice in the Land Title Office stating that a resolution has been made under Section 57 of the Community Charter relating to land legally described as Lot 4, District Lot 4932, Range 5, Coast District, Plan 1398, Except Plan 4109 (4659 Stones Bay Subdivision Road).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for First and Second Reading

Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - Official Community Plan and Rezoning Application RZ D-01-24 – First and Second Reading for Bylaw Nos. 2106, 2026 and 2107, 2026

2026-BM-509

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Greenaway

1. That Endako, Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2106, 2026 be given first and second reading this 20th day of August, 2026 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.
2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 2107, 2026 be given first and second reading this 20th day of August, 2026 and subsequently be taken to Public Hearing.
3. That the Board approve the attached Official Community Plan (OCP) Consultation and Consideration Checklist.
4. That the Public Hearing for Endako, Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2106, 2026 and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 2107, 2026 be delegated to the Director or Alternate Director for Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural).

5. And, that the Public Hearing be postponed until documentation demonstrating the proposed lots can accommodate on-site sewage disposal systems has been provided to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for First, Second and Third Reading

Cameron Kral, Planner - Rezoning Application RZ B-01-26 – First, Second, and Third Reading for Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2113, 2026 – Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

2026-BM-510

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 2113, 2026 be given first, second, and third reading this 20th day of August, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Temporary Use Permit

Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - Temporary Use Permit Application A-02-26 – Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2026-BM-511

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

1. That the Board approve the issuance of Temporary Use Permit A-02-26 to allow aggregate processing at 6165 Donaldson Road for a three-year duration, with operational hours from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.
2. And, that TUP A-01-23 be cancelled upon the issuance of Temporary Use Permit A-02-26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ALR Application

Cameron Kral, Planner - ALR Removal of Soil Application No. 1288 -Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) 2026-BM-512

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Storey

1. That Agricultural Land Reserve Removal of Soil Application No. 1288 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval, and that the ALC be encouraged to ensure adequate reclamation throughout the life of the operation and ensure that Telegraph Road is adequately maintained for nearby farmers.
2. And that the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals be encouraged to engage with area residents to identify any potential community impact issues that require mitigation during their permitting process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cameron Kral, Planner - ALR Removal of Soil Application No. 1290 – Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

2026-BM-513

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That Agricultural Land Reserve Removal of Soil Application No. 1290 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Referrals

Natasha Burgert, Planning Summer Student - Crown Land Referral No. 6409613 – Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)

2026-BM-514

Moved by Director Newell

Seconded by Director McGuire

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's response to Crown Land Referral No. 6409613.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - PNG Act Referral for a Storage Reservoir Licence

2026-BM-515

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the comment sheet be provided as the Regional District's response to the *PNG Act* Referral for a Storage Reservoir Licence.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - Wind Energy Project Review Process

2026-BM-516

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board support the Wind Project Review Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

186 Energy Inc. Reply to RDBN Formal Response Regarding IUL Application New EERA 100123014

2026-BM-517

Moved by Director Dekens

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board receive Correspondence from 186 Energy Inc. regarding IUL Application New EERA 100123014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APC Minutes - August, 4, 2026 - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2026-BM-518

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

That the Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) APC Minutes for August 4, 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APC Minutes - July 28, 2026 - Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

2026-BM-519

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) APC Minutes for July 28, 2026 be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services - Committee Meeting Recommendations - August 6, 2026

2026-BM-520

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board approve recommendations 1 through 6 as written.

Committee of the Whole – August 6, 2026

Recommendation 1:

Re: Directors' Remuneration Update

That Bylaw 2115 be brought forward to the Board at a future meeting for consideration with remuneration amounts being adjusted to Option 1B with the Payment Reviewer increased from \$1716 to \$2,000 per year with the alternate Payment Reviewer being the Chair or Vice-Chair.

Recommendation 2:

Re: Grant in Aid for Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

That the Board approve a Regional Grant in Aid of \$30,000 from the Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) allocation to the Bulkley Valley Agricultural and Industrial Association for new bleachers at the Bulkley Valley Exhibition Fair Grounds.

Recommendation 3:

Re: Grant in Aid for Paul Lychak Evelyn Community Hall - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

That the Board approve a Regional Grant in Aid of \$50,000 from the Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) allocation to the Paul Lychak Evelyn Community Hall for a Roof and Kitchen upgrade project.

Rural Services Committee Meeting – August 6, 2026

Recommendation 4:

Re: Crown Land Referral No. 6409614 - Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)

1. That the Comment Sheet for Crown Land Referral No. 6409614 be sent to the Province as the Regional District's comments for Crown Land Referral No. 6409614 as amended outlining the Regional District's concerns regarding development at Nanika Lake and surrounding area, and,
2. That a letter be sent to Raye Resources Inc. outlining the Regional District's concerns regarding exploration in the Nanika Lake area; and,
3. Further, that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals and the Office of the Wet'suwet'en outlining the Regional District's concerns and, following a response from the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals and the Office of the Wet'suwet'en that Raye Resources Incorporated be invited to attend a future Committee Meeting to address the Regional District's concerns and to provide an overview of exploration development plans in the area.

Recommendation 5:

Re: Volunteer Recognition Program Policy

That the Board approve the draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy.

Recommendation 6:

Re: Draft Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure

That the Board approve the draft Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION BYLAWS

Bylaw for First, Second and Third Reading

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer - Directors' Remuneration Bylaw No. 2115 2026-BM-521

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 2115, 2026 be given first reading this 20th day of August, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2026-BM-522

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Atrill
That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 2115, 2026 be given second reading this 20th day of August, 2026.

2026-BM-523

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg
That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 2116, 2026 Schedule A, Section 3(B) be amended as follows:
That the Vice-Chair of the Regional District Board shall receive an additional \$6,000 per year, paid in equal monthly amounts.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2026-BM-524

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Moutray
That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 2115, 2026 as follows:

- 1. That Meeting Remuneration set out in Schedule B for meetings constituting a Full Day (3.5+ hours) be set at \$290; and
- 2. That the Meeting Remuneration set out in Schedule B for meetings constituting a Half Day (<3.5 Hours) be set at \$145, except for board meetings, for which directors will receive the Full Day rate of \$290.

Directors In Favour:	Directors Opposed:
Friesen	Atrill
Moutray	Dekens
Newell	Greenaway
Riis-Christianson	McGuire
Stoltenberg	Moon
	Storey
	Wiebe

DEFEATED

That the Question be called on Motion 2026-BM-522 as amended.

Directors In Favour:

Atrill

Dekens

Greenaway

McGuire

Stoltenberg

Storey

Wiebe

Directors Opposed:

Friesen

Moon

Moutray

McGuire

Newell

Riis-Christianson

CARRIED

2026-BM-525

Moved by Director Dekens

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 2115 be given third reading this 20th day of August, 2026.

Directors In Favour:

Atrill

Dekens

Greenaway

McGuire

Stoltenberg

Storey

Wiebe

Directors Opposed:

Friesen

Moon

Moutray

Newell

Riis-Christianson

CARRIED

Bylaw for First, Second, Third Reading and Adoption

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer - Five Year Financial Plan Amendment

Director Riis-Christianson removed himself from the meeting at 11:19 a.m. due to a conflict of interest.

2026-BM-526

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' 2026 Five-Year Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2117, 2026 be given first, second, third reading and adoption this 20th day of August, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Riis-Christianson returned at 11:20 a.m.

* **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Build Communities Strong Fund, Community Stream Grant to the Town of Smithers for Library Project

2026-BM-527

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

1) That the Board authorizes contributing up to \$200,000 of Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) Build Communities Strong Fund allocation monies to the Town of Smithers for a Cultural Infrastructure project at the Smithers Public Library, and;

(participants/weighted/majority)

2) That the Board authorizes the withdrawal of up to \$200,000 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) Grant in Aid for Telkwa Museum Society – New Furnace

2026-BM-528

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Moon

That the Board approve allocating \$6,887 from the Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) allocation of Regional Grant in Aid to the Telkwa Museum Society for a furnace replacement project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Shari Janzen, Community Development Coordinator - Letter of Support Request – College of New Caledonia

2026-BM-529

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board provides a letter of support to the College of New Caledonia Burns Lake Campus to support an application to WorkBC's Community Workforce Response Grant for its Carpenter Foundation Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Shari Janzen, Community Development Coordinator - Resolution of Support Request – Evelyn Community Association

2026-BM-530

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Evelyn Community Association for the Paul Lychak Evelyn Community Hall Upgrade project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Shari Janzen, Community Development Coordinator - Resolution of Support Request - Smithers Whitewater Club

Recommendation

2026-BM-531

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

That the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Smithers Whitewater Club for its Short Film Marketing Project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Christopher Walker, Emergency Services Manager - Order in Council No. 186 for the EDMA

2026-BM-532

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Board receive the Emergency Services Manager's Order in Council No. 186 for the EDMA memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Union of B.C. Municipalities - Thank you Letter to Chair Parker - Local Government Advisory Committee - EDMA Regulations

2026-BM-533

Moved by Director Moutray

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Board receive the Thank you Letter to Chair Parker from the Union of B.C. Municipalities regarding the Local Government Advisory Committee - EDMA Regulations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Union of B.C. Municipalities - Build Communities Strong Fund - Community Stream First Community Works Fund

2026-BM-534

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Moon

That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the Union of B.C. Municipalities regarding Build Communities Strong Fund - Community Stream First Community Works Fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Village of Burns Lake – Director Wiebe

- Paving taking place throughout town
- Rebuild of the burned building is well on its way
- Shared a story of an individual who has mountain biked throughout Canada and considers Burns Lake to have the best trails.
- Rock the Dock and Light up the Lake taking place August 29th.

Village of Telkwa - Director Dekens

- Watermain Replacement Project continues
- 14th Telkwa BBQ taking place on Labour Day.

Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) - Director Greenaway

- Chili bakeoff at Cottonwood Beach with three entrants who were awarded an apron and a badge
- Seal coating taking place on Sowchea Road
- Work is also being done on Highway 27.

Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural) - Director Newell

- Logging taking place south on the Morice-Owen FSR from Canfor's license resulting in increased traffic. It is not being milled locally.
- House fire on Buckflats outside of the fire protection area
 - Appreciated the help that was provided
 - Spoke about the vulnerability living outside of the fire protection area.

Town of Smithers - Director Atrill

- Premier Eby visited Smithers at the end of July
 - Discussions focused on housing initiatives, including recently completed projects, the RBA, and Smithers entrepreneurial spirit
 - Photo with Percy the Cat
- Met in the Community Forest with members of the Wood Lot Association, the Community Forest, the licensee, the municipalities and First Nations to have a less structured, on-the-ground conversation
- Recognized the RDBN and Director Stoltenberg for support of the Cycle 16 Project
 - Pavement from Telkwa partway to Smithers
- Skate Park Society opened Phase 4 of the skate park and acknowledged the RDBN
- Through the Ride North Mountain Bike cooperative, journalist Bryce Sherbach visited Boer Mountain as part of the Underexposed tour from Valemount to Terrace.

Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) - Director Moon

- Reported a very successful Fall Fair with good attendance
 - 35 market steers were judged which was encouraging
 - 4H Auction set a record generating over \$400,000
 - Started a Purebred Pen Show which was well received and encouraged participation from young producers.

Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) - Director Stoltenberg

- River has been busy with people fishing for Coho
- Phase 3 of the bike trail has been completed and is being well-used.

Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) - Director Riis-Christianson

- Participated in a CityWest Zoom update on connectivity projects in the eastern part of the district with some positive progress reported
- Will be participating in the Great Healthcare Walk at Spirit Square on September 3rd to welcome new medical professionals and recognize those already serving the community.

District of Vanderhoof - Director Moutray

- Air Show was successful financially which is difficult given the rising costs, particularly fuel expenses
- Fall Fair was a success
- Important to continue to support agricultural fairs across the region
- Pride Event on August 22.

District of Fort St. James - Alternate Director Friesen

- Received a FireSmart assessment and was impressed with the program and staff expertise
- Municipality continues to face challenges with fire department funding
- Secured approximately \$7 million in federal and provincial funding for a new water infrastructure project
- Recent improvements to Goodwin Park, including a paved walking path, have been well received by residents.

Village of Fraser Lake - Director Storey

- Fraser Lake is getting a new sidewalk
- Water tower project is complete and the old tower has been removed
- Paving work is still underway with completion anticipated in September
- New bike park is open
- Salmon Fest, hosted by Stelat'en First Nation, will take place August 26-28.

Village of Granisle - Director McGuire

- Granisle Days was held last weekend and was a success
- MP Ellis Ross and MLA John Rustad were in attendance
- August is busy with salmon season
- Paving project funded by RBA is nearly complete
- Meeting with Northern Health next week
- UBCM preparations are underway.

Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) - Director Lambert

- Met with local First Nations and had a productive discussion on the proposed helipad project.
 - Reviewed examples of helipad projects elsewhere and a basic, lower-cost option would be sufficient to meet community needs.
 - Awaiting information from Northern Health on the project
- Discussed the Three Nations water project, including plans to upgrade the water intake system to increase capacity.
 - Growing demand on the system is creating challenges, but there may be opportunities to partner on future water infrastructure improvements that would benefit the broader community.

Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) - Chair Parker

- Minister Popham's planned visit to the Vanderhoof area was postponed due to wildfire impacts in southern B.C.
 - Interest was expressed in rescheduling the visit, including a future tour once conditions stabilize.
- Work continues on the closure and decommissioning of the Lakeview Trailer Court. Resident relocation is underway, with supports in place and some residents already securing alternate housing options.
- Demolition of the Endako Hotel is nearly complete.
- The Fort Fraser Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating its 60th anniversary with a barbecue this Saturday.
- A meeting is scheduled with representatives from FPX Nickel to receive updates and follow up on regional matters of interest.

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

2026-BM-536

Moved by Director Dekens

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board receive the various Directors' verbal reports.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN-CAMERA MOTION

2026-BM-537

Moved by Director Newell

Seconded by Director Dekens

That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Sections 90(2)(b) of the Community Charter for the Board to deal with matters relating to:

- Connectivity.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

2026-BM-538

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the meeting be adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services