

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**MEETING NO. 13**  
**VIRTUAL**

**Thursday, October 21, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Chair Gerry Thiessen

Directors Gladys Atrill  
Shane Brienen  
Dolores Funk  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Linda McGuire  
Annette Morgan  
Bob Motion  
Chris Newell  
Mark Parker  
Jerry Petersen  
Michael Riis-Christianson  
Sarrah Storey

Director Absent Mark Fisher, Electoral Area "A" (Smithers Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
Nellie Davis, Manager of Regional Economic Development  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services  
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – arrived at 10:05 a.m., left at 1:30 p.m.  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Others Rosemary Barnewall, District Program Manager, Bulkley/Stikine District, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – arrived at 10:16 a.m., left at 11:04 a.m.  
Corrin Peet, Assistant District Manager, Fort George District, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – arrived at 10:16 a.m., left at 11:04 a.m.

Media Eddie Huband, LD News

**FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Thiessen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA** Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Storey

**2021-13-1** "That the Board Meeting Agenda of October 21, 2021 be approved; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **MINUTES**

### **Board Meeting Minutes September 23, 2021**

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-13-2

“That the Board Meeting Minutes of September 23, 2021 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Committee Meeting Minutes - October 7, 2021**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Storey

2021-13-3

“That the following Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

- Committee of the Whole Minutes  
-October 7, 2021
- Connectivity Committee Minutes  
-October 7, 2021
- Natural Resources Committee Minutes  
-October 7, 2021
- Rural Agriculture Committee Minutes  
-October 7, 2021
- Waste Management Committee Minutes  
-October 7, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING (All Directors)**

### **Bylaw for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

#### **Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1963, 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

2021-13-4

1. “That the Board confirms the consultation options identified on the consultation checklist for Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1963, 2021 and that the consultation undertaken is adequate.

2. That the Board consider Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1963, 2021 in conjunction with the RDBN’s financial plan and waste management plan.

3. That Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1963, 2021 be given first and second reading this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021 and proceed to Public Hearing once the Plan has been referred to the Agricultural Land Commission.

4. And, that the Public Hearing on Vanderhoof Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 1963, 2021 be delegated to Director Petersen or his alternate.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Bylaws for 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading and Adoption**

Rezoning Application  
RZ A-05-21 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading &  
Adoption for Rezoning Bylaw  
No. 1958, 2021 - Electoral Area “A”

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-13-5

1. “That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1958, 2021 on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1958, 2021 be given third reading and adoption this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rezoning Application  
RZ A-06-21 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading &  
Adoption for Rezoning Bylaw  
No. 1959, 2021 - Electoral Area “A”

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-13-6

1. “That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1959, 2021 on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1959, 2021 be given third reading and adoption this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OCP Amendment & Rezoning  
RZ D-01-21 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading &  
Adoption for OCP Amendment  
Bylaw 1956, 2021 and Rezoning  
Bylaw No. 1957, 2021  
Electoral Area “D”

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Morgan

2021-13-7

1. That the Board receive the Report of the Public Hearing for Endako, Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1956, 2021 and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1957, 2021 on the Supplementary Agenda.

2. That Endako, Fraser Lake and Fort Fraser Rural Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1956, 2021 be given third reading and adoption this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.

3. That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rezoning Bylaw No. 1957, 2021 be given third reading and adoption this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT**

Development Variance Permit      Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Application No. B-01-21              Seconded by Director Funk

2021-13-8

1. That the Board approve Development Variance Permit B-01-21 for the property located at 2590 Gerow Island Road, to vary Section 8.0.7.1(c) of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw No. 1800, 2020 by reducing the minimum required structure setback from a parcel line which abuts a highway from 4.5 metres to 2.4 metres, to permit the construction of a shop.
2. That the Board direct staff to issue the permit once a copy of an approved setback permit for the shop from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **OTHER**

Advisory Planning Commission      Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Member Appointment                  Seconded by Director Funk

2021-13-9

1. “That the Board remove Louise Fisher and Erwin Tom from the APC for Electoral Area B.
2. That the Board appoint Karen Ogen to the APC for Electoral Area B for the term ending in 2022.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (All Directors)**

### **ALR Applications**

ALR Non-Farm Use Application      Moved by Director Petersen  
No. 1236 – Electoral Area “F”          Seconded by Director Greenaway

2021-13-10

1. “That Agricultural Land Reserve Non-Farm Use Application No. 1236 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval with the further recommendation that the Agricultural Land Commission ensure appropriate phased reclamation of the gravel pit.
2. That staff contact the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and request that the Ministry ensure that the permit terms for the subject property are developed in consideration of environmental impacts to Clear Creek.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Moved by Director Morgan  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-13-11 "That the Board receive the First Nations Liaison's Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer provided an overview of the First Nations Liaison's Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action memorandum.

The following was discussed:

- Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action engagement and awareness
- Discussing Calls to Action related to Local Governments in the future
- How to approach specific incidents relating to Indigenous youths' necessities – clothing, food, education
- Recognition of citizens within communities that are currently without basic needs
- Community initiatives to support children in need of food
- Opportunity to reflect on challenges and injustices to families in communities – what to do so that those incidents don't occur again
- Creating opportunity and space to acknowledge that situations continue to take place and recognizing everyone's safety is important.

## **DELEGATION**

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE – Corrin Peet, Assistant District Manager, Fort George District and Rosemary Barnewall, District Program Manager, Bulkley/Stikine RE: Highway Safety**

Chair Thiessen welcomed Corrin Peet, Assistant District Manager, Fort George District and Rosemary Barnewall, District Program Manager, Bulkley/Stikine, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mses. Barnewall and Peet provided an overview of the boundaries of the Fort George and Bulkley/Stikine Districts.

Mses. Peet and Barnewall provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

### **Highway 16**

#### **Highway 16 Passing Lanes**

- 21 Passing lanes since 2001
  - o Prince George to Smithers – 16 passing lanes
    - Prince George to Vanderhoof – 9 passing lanes
  - o Broman Lake Passing Lane Project under construction – anticipated completion 2021
  - o Toboggan Lake (north of Smithers)– awaiting Tender
  - o Cluculz Hill Passing Lane in long term Transportation Plan
    - Requires Provincial approval for further funding prior to moving towards the Construction Tender process

## **DELEGATION (CONT'D)**

- Continue to monitor the performance of Highway 16
  - o Focus on continued safety and reliability improvements
  - o 6 - Resurfacing projects in 2020/2021
  - o 2 - Speed reader boards in Vanderhoof
  - o Shoulder widening between Cluculz Lake and Vanderhoof
  - o Commercial vehicle safety
  - o Road user complaints
    - Maintenance contractor
    - MoTI Operations staff

### Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) - Highway 16 West

- Prince Rupert
- Kitwanga West
- Kitwanga East
- Fort Fraser
- Bednesti.

The following was discussed:

- Fort Fraser AADT last operable in 2014 and 2017.
  - o Potential short count data for Fort Fraser – Ms. Barnewall will provide information concerning operation timeline
  - o RDBN writing a letter to Minister Fleming, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Short count stations throughout the region
  - o Collect data for a week approximately every 2 years
- Increase from 2009 to 2020
  - o 1 – 4%
- Traffic data available on the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure website
- Highway 16 collisions
  - o Decreasing trend
  - o A number of variables
  - o Where repeated incidents occur, improvements are investigated
  - o Increase in fatalities
  - o MoTI staff review each incident to determine all variables
- Intersection at Highway 16 and 27
  - o Merging lane to continue west
  - o Highway 27 is part of a Corridor Study to be completed March 2022
- Construction zone safety and enforcement
  - o RCMP enforcement
- Side road concerns
  - o Maintenance contractors
    - Contractual obligation to respond to concerns and complaints
    - 2021 was challenging in regard to road maintenance due to weather
    - MoTI is working with its contractors' concerning rehabilitation works
  - o MoTI to provide operational staff contact information
  - o Process and information for reporting road complaints
- Data not providing a full picture of what is occurring on Highway 16
  - o Pipeline traffic increase
    - Short intense traffic experience not considered nor impacts the 20-year capital investment projects
  - o Port of Prince Rupert traffic
- Village of Burns Lake 10-year Traffic Report/Safety Survey
  - o MoTI staff will provide information to the Village of Burns Lake
- Highway shoulder widening
  - o Highway 35
  - o Expanding shoulder widths when upgrading/resurfacing
- Industrial traffic counts in the region- MoTI staff to provide information.

Chair Thiessen thanked Mses. Peet and Barnewall for attending the meeting.

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

Committee Meeting  
Recommendations  
-October 7, 2021

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2021-13-12

"That the Board approve the September 9, 2021 Committee Meeting Recommendations 1 through 3 as written:

**Committee of the Whole Meeting – October 7, 2021**

**Recommendation 1:**

**Re: 2022 UBCM Community Resilience Investment Grant**

"That the Board support a UBCM Community Resilience grant application that includes an amended letter requesting that they waive the stipulation that rebate funding can only be 50% of the funding for the activities listed in the 2022 FireSmart Community and Supports Program & Application Guide Table 3; and further, that the letter be forwarded to neighboring Regional Districts."

**Rural/Agriculture Committee – October 7, 2021**

**Recommendation 2:**

**Re: COVID-19 Relief Funds – Allocation to Electoral Area Servcies**

"That the Board approve the following allocations:

- Area A - \$56,630.96
- Area B - \$20,881.05
- Area C - \$15,245.97
- Area D - \$15,880.12
- Area E - \$17,163.83
- Area F - \$39,488.67
- Area G - \$9,729.41."

**Recommendation 3:**

**Re: COVID-19 Relief Funds – Application Approval**

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

- **Electoral Area A**
  - o Smithers District Chamber of Commerce – Live, Love, Local Campaign - \$5,000."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Regional District of Bulkley-  
Nechako Procedure Bylaw

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Morgan

2021-13-13

"That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Procedure Bylaw No. 1964, 2021 be given first, second, and third reading this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Discussion took place regarding:

- Public access and engagement opportunities at meetings
- Electronic Meeting participation
  - o Connectivity issues
  - o Electronic participation to be provided 24 hours prior to the meeting to the Chair, and CAO or Corporate Officer
- Electronic Participation in case of Emergency or Special Circumstances
- Importance of in-person meetings
  - o Include Procedure Bylaw with Election Candidate Packages
- Board of Directors providing presentations to schools regarding Regional Districts – holding mock Board meetings
- Meeting schedule posted on RDBN Website and in regional newspapers
- Meeting times.

Fort Fraser Community Hall  
Grant Local Establishment  
Amendment Bylaw  
No. 1962, 2021

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-13-14

“That Fort Fraser Community Hall Grant Local Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1962, 2021 be adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fort Fraser Fire Protection  
Service Establishment  
Amendment Bylaw  
No. 1961, 2021

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director McGuire

2021-13-15

“That Fort Fraser Fire Protection Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1961, 2021 be adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RDBN Directors' Remuneration  
and Expenses Bylaw  
Amendment No. 1960, 2021

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Atrill

2021-13-16

“That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw Amendment No. 1960, 2021 be adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding the Bylaw adoption process and Section 8 c condition: Begin before 7 am on the date of departure to claim breakfast. Staff will bring it forward at the next review of the RDBN Directors' Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw.



**Break for Lunch at 12:15 p.m.**

**Reconvened at 12:45 p.m.**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORTS (CONT'D)**

**Grant in Aid Request – Lakes Literacy**

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

2021-13-17

“That Lakes Literacy be given \$4,497.75 in Grant in Aid monies, \$2,248.87 (50%) from Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural) and \$2,248.88 (50%) from Electoral Area “E” (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) for repairs and maintenance on the W.O.W Bus.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**COVID-19 Relief Funds**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Parker

2021-13-18

“That the Board approve the following COVID-19 Relief Funds Applications:

**Electoral Area “B” (Burns Lake Rural)**

-Lakes District Family Enhancement Society – Insurance and Rent for Ashurst Children’s Center  
- \$7,066.50

**Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural)**

-Fraser Lake Saddle Club – Insurance, Utilities, Facility Maintenance - \$1,739.50.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Federal Gas Tax – Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) Cluculz Lake – Septic System Upgrade**

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Morgan

2021-13-19

1. “That the Board rescind Motion 2021-11-15 from August 12, 2021 authorizing a contribution up to \$18,585.00 of Electoral Area ‘F’ (Vanderhoof Rural) Federal Gas Tax allocation monies to a Recreation Infrastructure Project at the Cluculz Lake Community Hall Association, and further,

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. That the Board authorize a contribution up to \$18,585.00 of Electoral Area ‘F’ (Vanderhoof Rural) Federal Gas Tax allocation monies to a Fire Hall Project at the Cluculz Lake Fire Hall.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$18,585.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.”

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Federal Gas Tax – Area “A” Moved by Director Parker  
(Smithers Rural) Village of Seconded by Director Atrill  
Telkwa – Riverside Accessibility  
Project

2021-13-20

1. “That the Board authorize contributing up to \$37,500.00 of Electoral Area ‘A’ (Smithers Rural) Federal Gas Tax allocation monies to a Recreation Infrastructure Project for the Village of Telkwa, and further,

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. That the Board authorize the withdrawal of up to \$37,500.00 from the Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund.

(Participants/Weighted/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting Request to Minister  
Farnworth re: Potential  
Solutions for ‘Stay & Defend’

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Newell

2021-13-21

“That the Board authorize a letter to Minister Farnworth requesting a meeting with the Minister and the RDBN to discuss potential solutions to ‘Stay & Defend’ issues.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Growing Opportunities  
Newsletter Update

Moved by Director Parker  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-13-22

“That the Board receive the Regional Agriculture Coordinator’s (East) Growing Opportunities Newsletter Update memorandum.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE**

Minister Lisa Beare, Ministry  
of Citizens’ Services – 2021  
Virtual UBCM Minister Meeting  
Follow-up

Moved by Director Lambert  
Moved by Director Storey

2021-13-23

“That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens’ Services – 2021 Virtual UBCM Minister Meeting Follow-up.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **ACTION LISTS**

Action Lists – September 2021

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Brien

2021-13-24

“That the Board receive the Action List for September 2021.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

<u>Fort Forum Arena – Fort St. James</u>	Director Motion mentioned that the installation of the ice plant at the Fort Forum Arena in Fort St. James is in its final stages.
<u>Town of Smithers Official Community Plan (OCP)</u>	Director Atrill reported that the Town of Smithers is reviewing its Official Community Plan and will be conducting community engagement in the near future.
<u>Town of Smithers 2022 Budget Process</u>	Director Atrill noted that the Town of Smithers is working to complete its 2022 budget process ahead of schedule and complete its Operation Budget by the end of December 2021.
<u>Town of Smithers – COVID-19</u>	Director Atrill spoke of the challenges of COVID-19 in Smithers and that the Bulkley Valley District Hospital is currently experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak. Director Atrill noted that the Town of Smithers business community will be receiving correspondence in regard to complying with Provincial Health Orders.
<u>9-1-1 Failure - Smithers</u>	Director Atrill mentioned that a fatal accident occurred October 20, 2021 in Smithers. She provided an overview of the events that took place after the accident and the 9-1-1 failure that occurred.
<u>Granisle Curling Rink Dehumidifier</u>	Director McGuire noted that the installation of the dehumidifier in the Granisle curling rink is nearing completion.
<u>Village of Granisle By-Election</u>	Director McGuire mentioned three candidates have been nominated for the Village of Granisle By-Election on November 6, 2021.
<u>Village of Granisle Strategic Planning Session</u>	Director McGuire spoke of the Village of Granisle completing its Land Inventory Analysis and will be having a Strategic Planning Session to review its Zoning Bylaw to address the information in the analysis.
<u>Village of Granisle Events</u>	Director McGuire commented that the Village of Granisle Remembrance Day Ceremony will take place outdoors. She also noted that the Granisle Lions Club is proceeding with its outdoor memorial light up the tree Christmas in the park event.
<u>Grassy Plains School Food Program</u>	Director Lambert noted that he is working to coordinate support with Rio Tinto, First Nations communities and Grassy Plains School to develop a food/breakfast program for the school.
<u>Southside Economic Development Association</u>	Director Lambert mentioned he is also working to renew the operation of the Southside Economic Development Association but due to COVID-19 PHO's it has been challenging to schedule a meeting.
<u>Telus Tower – Cheslatta Carrier Nation</u>	Director Lambert commented that Cheslatta Carrier Nation has been approached by Telus to install a communication tower in Grassy Plains.

## **VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)**

<u>BC Ambulance Shortage</u>	<p>Director Lambert brought forward concerns regarding the continued BC Ambulance shortage and the wait times for a BC Ambulance to attend an accident scene and transfer patients to higher levels of care. He spoke of the announcement by the Province this fall to improve service levels and the need to ensure there is fair access throughout the Province.</p> <p>BC Ambulance representatives are scheduled to attend the December 16, 2021 RDBN Board Meeting.</p>
<u>Sowchea Creek Flooding</u>	<p>Director Greenaway mentioned he will be attending a meeting with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to address Sowchea Creek Flooding concerns prior to Spring 2022.</p>
<u>Minister Osborne, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Meeting COVID-19 Relief Funds</u>	<p>Director Parker commented that while attending the teleconference meeting with Minister Osborne, Ministry of Municipal Affairs last week he spoke to the benefit of COVID Relief Funds and that the funds will be needed moving into 2022 for community halls and local associations requiring assistance due to the continued impact from COVID-19.</p>
<u>Veterinarian Shortage</u>	<p>Director Parker provided an update in regard to the RDBN letter sent concerning the veterinarian shortage in the Province. He mentioned there is more work to be completed and he is attending a UBCM follow up meeting with Deputy Minister Thomas Ethier, Ministry of Agriculture to discuss the issue as well as slaughterhouses.</p>
<u>Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network</u>	<p>Director Riis-Christianson attended the Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network meeting which included a presentation regarding 5G service. He will provide an overview at a future Connectivity Committee Meeting.</p>
<u>NCLGA – Solid Waste Management Forum October 12 &amp; 13, 2021</u>	<p>Director Petersen attended the North Central Local Government Association Solid Waste Management Virtual Forum on October 12 &amp; 13, 2021. He mentioned that the event was well organized, and that other Regional Districts are having similar issues in regard to waste as the RDBN. He noted the importance of learning from each other, and Director Petersen hopes it will become an annual event.</p>
<u>Northern Health and Regional Hospital Districts Annual Meeting – October 18, 2021</u>	<p>Director Petersen attended the Virtual Northern Health and Regional Hospital Districts Annual Meeting on October 18, 2021. Northern Health's 2022 Capital Expenditures was discussed. Director Petersen will bring forward a report at a future Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District meeting.</p>
<u>HRVA Electoral Area "F" Committee Meeting October 20, 2021</u>	<p>Director Petersen also attended the Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis (HRVA) Electoral Area "F" Committee Meeting on October 20, 2021. It was the first meeting of the committee and it included some good discussion.</p>
<u>Fraser Lake/CityWest Fibre Installation</u>	<p>Director Storey provided an update in regard to CityWest's installation of fibre in Fraser Lake. She noted that due to weather the project completion date may be spring 2022.</p>

## **VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)**

<u>Fraser Lake Arena Upgrade</u>	Director Storey mentioned that the Fraser Lake Arena is undergoing a project upgrade which will add a vestibule, entrance, bathrooms, community hall, kitchen and modernize the curling rink.
<u>Drone Pilot Project</u>	Director Storey announced an exciting collaborative pilot project with Stellat'en First Nation, UBC and the Village of Fraser Lake to deliver medical supplies by drone. The first drone launched October 13, 2021.
<u>COVID-19</u>	Director Storey spoke of the challenges taking place regarding COVID-19 testing and contact tracing.
<u>Seniors Housing</u>	Director Storey noted that she attended meetings with Minister Eby, Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing. Discussion took place regarding seniors housing, young adults entering the housing market and long term housing for homeless population with the focus on prevention and quicker action to remove individuals from the streets. Minister Eby spoke to support for rural communities and understanding the different issues in each community.
<u>Meeting with Nathan Cullen, MLA Stikine - RBA</u>	Chair Thiessen, Director Brienen and CAO Helgesen met with Nathan Cullen, MLA Stikine to discuss RBA. He provided an overview of the discussion. Chair Thiessen noted that a follow up meeting is scheduled in a month's time.
<u>Nechako First Nations Meeting</u>	Chair Thiessen mentioned meeting with the Nechako First Nations and the signing of the MOU to Rehabilitate the Nechako River. He thanked all Directors who were in attendance for the event and noted the press coverage of the event.
<u>COVID-19</u>	<p>Chair Thiessen brought forward concerns in regard to the impacts to healthcare workers from the COVID-19 Pandemic. He has met every Monday with Vanderhoof doctors and representatives of St. John's Hospital and he has extended the invitation to Director Petersen as well.</p> <p>Chair Thiessen encouraged the Regional Board to find ways to show support and appreciation for area healthcare workers, RCMP and BC Ambulance paramedics.</p> <p>Director Parker commented that the RDBN hosting meetings virtually shows support to our healthcare workers. He thanked Chair Thiessen and staff for hosting a virtual RDBN meeting.</p> <p>Director Lambert brought forward the Vaccine Passport mandate. Discussion took place regarding the potential impacts to healthcare facilities in the region.</p>
<u>House Insurance related to Fire Protection Areas</u>	Chair Thiessen commented that he has been made aware that a number of insurance companies are not considering areas under fire protection unless a fire hall is staffed 24/7. He brought forward concerns regarding the impacts to people purchasing homes.

## **VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS (CONT'D)**

### **Receipt of Verbal Reports**

Moved by Director McGuire  
Seconded by Director Lambert

2021-13-25

“That the verbal reports of the various Board of Directors be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Letter to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure** **Re: Fort Fraser AADT Data Collection Station**

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Parker

2021-13-26

“That the Board write a letter to the Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the permanent Fort Fraser Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) data collection station being inoperable since 2014 and that it be repaired promptly; and further, that additional permanent AADT data collection stations be installed between Fort Fraser and the Kitwanga East AADT data collection station.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

### **BVLD Airshed Management Society – Request for Letter Of Support**

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
Seconded by Director Funk

2021-13-27

“That the Board provide a letter to the BVLD Airshed Management Society in support of the Wood Stove Exchange Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Lambert  
Seconded by Director Newell

2021-13-28

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:37 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

---

Gerry Thiessen, Chair

---

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services