



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

Supplementary AGENDA Thursday, October 24, 2024

<u>PAGE NO.</u>	<u>ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
2-3	Written Submission Development Variance Permit A-03-24 Board Agenda Pgs 30-39	Receive
4-6	Referral Comments Development Variance Permit A-03-24 Board Agenda Pgs 30-39	Receive
<u>ADMINISTRATION REPORTS</u>		
7	Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services - Committee Meeting Recommendation - October 10, 2024	Recommendation
8-12	Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services - North Central Local Government Association - Mental Health and Addictions Accord for Endorsement	Recommendation

ADJOURNMENT

From: [Deneve Vanderwolf](#)
To: [Danielle Patterson](#)
Subject: FW: Written Submission for development variance permit application A-03-24
Date: October 22, 2024 10:21:37 AM

From: RDBN Planning
Sent: October 22, 2024 7:00 AM
To: Cameron Kral <cameron.kral@rdbn.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Written Submission for development variance permit application A-03-24

From: David and Kerri Posthuma [REDACTED]
Sent: October 21, 2024 11:43 PM
To: RDBN Planning <planning@rdbn.bc.ca>
Subject: Written Submission for development variance permit application A-03-24

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To The Regional District Planning Department,

Thank you for the letter highlighting the development variance permit application A-03-24 for the property on Old Babine Lake Road.

It is unfortunate to see that the proposed lot boundary change left no place outside of the well established hay field/proposed lot 1 to develop a future house. In other words, the proposed lot 1 will no longer be entirely used for agricultural purposes because a dwelling would have to be placed on the established hay field (proposed lot 1 has been used for hay production for decades). The boundary of the proposed lot 1 doesn't allow for maximum agricultural use. The purpose of the minimum parcel of 16 ha allowed at subdivision in the agricultural zone is to protect valuable farmland so it cannot be divided into small lots rendering those smaller lots vulnerable to higher dwelling density.

I don't know the intentions of development for this new proposed lot 1 but if the application is successful, the proposed lot 1 would be very valuable and desirable to develop; inevitably a dwelling would be built on it. It seems that it would better suit our local farming community if this proposed lot 1 could be larger/line up with agricultural zoning requirements to maintain its

usefulness for agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Kerri Posthuma



October 16, 2024

Cameron Kral
Planning Technician
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Sent by email: cameron.kral@rdbn.bc.ca

Re: Local Government File #DVP A-03-24 – Development Variance Permit at two unaddressed lots on Old Babine Lake Road.

PID: 015-104-362 – Property 1

PID: 027-979-610 – Property 2

Collectively ‘the Subject Properties’

Dear Cameron Kral,

Thank you for providing the opportunity for Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Ministry) staff to comment on File #DVP A-03-24, a development variance permit (DVP) that proposes to vary section 16.0.3.1 of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Zoning Bylaw by reducing the minimum parcel area that may be created by subdivision from 16 ha to approximately 8 ha on the Subject Properties. From a land use planning perspective, Ministry staff offer the following comments:

- Ministry staff are aware that if the DVP is approved the applicant intends to proceed with their subdivision application for a boundary adjustment to create “Proposed Lot 1” and “Proposed Lot 2” which will be bisected by a natural ridge, rather than the current boundary bisecting three fields into north and south sections.
- Ministry staff are also aware that the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) reviewed a previous application to subdivide the Subject Properties into three lots (ALC ID #53502). The ALC refused the application but concluded that they would consider a configuration that creates a full parcel that comprises the 8 ha of arable land west of the ridge. The current application for a DVP is based on the intent to create that 8 ha lot, as supported by the ALC.

- Generally, Ministry staff are concerned with reducing minimum lot size as smaller parcels of agricultural land typically result in diminished agricultural potential. Regarding this specific application however, the intended outcome of creating a lot of arable land to the west of the ridge, ensuring the residence's septic and driveway are no longer divided north-south by the current boundary, and removing the existing divide through the fields, would likely result in a net benefit to agriculture.

Please contact Ministry staff if you have any questions regarding the above comments.

Sincerely,



Chelsey Andrews, MCP

Land Use Planner
Strengthening Farming Program
Ministry of Agriculture and Food

chelsey.andrews@gov.bc.ca

Phone: 1 250-850-1854

CC: Agricultural Land Commission – ALC.Referrals@gov.bc.ca

From: [Megan D"Arcy](#)
To: [Cameron Kral](#)
Subject: Re: DVP A-03-24 Referral Documents
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 10:01:15 AM

Hi Cameron,

I reviewed the DVP A-03-24 Referral Documents. Based on the information provided, it is my understanding that if the proposed boundary change were to be approved, there would be one land parcel with the house, driveway, and other infrastructure, and a smaller one that is predominantly in current use as a forage field. The impact to the agricultural potential of the former seems like it would be unchanged. The impact to the agricultural potential of the latter proposed parcel would depend on how it is used and/or developed in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors

To: Chair and Board
From: Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Date: October 24, 2024
Subject: **Committee Meeting Recommendation - October 10, 2024**

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Recommendation 1 as written.

BACKGROUND

The following is the recommendation from the October 10, 2024 Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting for the Regional Board's consideration and approval.

Rural/Agriculture Committee - October 10, 2024

Recommendation 1:

Re: Community Works Funds and Regional Grant in Aid

"That the Board approve in principle allocating up to a maximum \$724,000 annually from the RDBN's Community Works Fund allocation to the Environmental Services Capital Budget in the 2025-2029 draft financial plans.

That the Board direct staff to develop an amended Grant in Aid Policy and new Community Works Fund Allocation Policy that reflects the changes to the program and recommends alternative actions if the full Grant in Aid balance is not spent annually."

ATTACHMENTS: None



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors Supplementary

To: Chair and Board

From: Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Date: October 24, 2024

Subject: **Mental Health and Addictions Accord - Mental Health and Addictions Symposium- November 13 &14, 2024 in Prince George**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

That the Board endorse the Mental Health and Addictions Accord; and

That the Board appoint Director _____ as the representative available to participate in the signing ceremony at the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium on November 13 and 14, 2024, in Prince George, BC.

BACKGROUND

At the October 10, 2024 meeting the Board passed a motion authorizing Rural Directors attendance at the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium co-hosted by the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA), Lheidli T'enneh, the City of Prince George and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George on November 13-14, 2024 in Prince George.

The NCLGA has provided the signatory version of the Mental Health and Addictions Accord that will be signed at the Symposium. The NCLGA has requested that local governments consider endorsing the Accord and provide the name of the representative attending on behalf of the local government by November 6, 2024.

At this time staff is seeking Board direction.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter from NCLGA – Mental Health and Addictions Accord
2. 2024 Mental Health and Addictions Accord



October 18, 2024

To: NCLGA Membership

Re: Mental Health and Addictions Accord

Dear NCLGA Membership,

Please find attached the signatory version of the Mental Health and Addictions Accord (“Accord”) for your potential endorsement. The Accord is a living document aimed at identifying shared principles and actions to promote improvements in mental health and addictions services across Central and Northern British Columbia.

The signing ceremony will be a key part of the [Mental Health and Addictions Symposium](#), being held on November 13-14, 2024, in Prince George, BC. This ceremony will symbolize the collective commitment of signatories to advancing mental health and addictions initiatives across the region. Participating agencies will have the opportunity to be recognized for their leadership and collaboration in this important area.

If your local government is interested in endorsing the Accord, please email Bettina Johnson at bjohnson@nclga.ca with your selection of one of the following options for your response:

- We endorse the Accord and will have a representative available to participate in the signing ceremony at the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium on November 14, 2024, in Prince George, BC. (Please provide the representative’s name by November 6, 2024)
- We endorse the Accord but will NOT have a representative available for the signing ceremony. However, we would like our agency to be acknowledged during the ceremony.
- We are interested in endorsing the Accord but will not have approval in time for the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium. We will provide confirmation at a later date.

If your local government is not able to endorse the Accord before the Symposium, please note that endorsement can be provided at any time following the event. Additionally, the Accord is scheduled for review and an update in 2025, offering further opportunities for input and endorsement. For more information or to discuss further, please feel free to reach out to Bettina Johnson at bjohnson@nclga.ca.

Thank you for considering this important opportunity to join other organizations in advancing collective action to improve mental health and addictions services. Your support and participation are essential in fostering meaningful progress and making a positive impact on the lives of individuals and communities across the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Judy Greenaway'.

Judy Greenaway

President

North Central Local Government Association

2024 MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCORD

We, the undersigned, recognize the urgent and ongoing need to address the mental health and addictions crisis affecting our communities in Central and Northern British Columbia.

We acknowledge the profound impact of mental health and addictions on individuals, families, caregivers, communities, and our society as a whole.

We recognize the inherent dignity of all who live and work in Central and Northern British Columbia, their right to appropriate mental health and addictions services, and the need to work together to improve services and outcomes for those affected by mental health, addictions and their related intersections.

Therefore, we hereby commit to the following principles and actions, working collaboratively and leveraging our collective resources to advance positive solutions:

PRINCIPLES

1. Collaboration and Partnership:

- We acknowledge that addressing mental health and addictions requires a collaborative and dedicated approach, involving government agencies, healthcare providers, community organizations, Indigenous communities, educational institutions, businesses, and individuals with lived experience and their caregivers.

2. Recognition of Complexities Facing Indigenous Communities:

- We recognize that Indigenous communities in Central and Northern British Columbia have complex historical, cultural, geographic, social, and economic dynamics that need to be considered.

3. Recognition of Complexities Facing Local Governments:

- We recognize that local governments face unique complexities, including limited resources, capacity constraints, geographic isolation, and diverse community needs.

4. Recognition of Complexities Facing Central and Northern BC:

- We recognize that Central and Northern British Columbia face regional complexities, such as remote locations, industrial and remote worksites, harsh weather conditions, limited healthcare infrastructure, and socio-economic disparities.

5. Stigma Reduction:

- We recognize that stigma surrounding mental health and addictions often deters individuals from seeking and receiving help and accessing appropriate care in a timely manner.

6. Prevention and Early Intervention:

- We understand the critical importance of prevention and early intervention in addressing mental health and addictions. We recognize while many of the most severe mental illnesses are not preventable, many people can be considerably helped by appropriate and timely treatment.

2024 MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCORD

7. Accessible and Culturally Relevant Services:

- We acknowledge the necessity for accessible, culturally relevant mental health and addictions services that meet the diverse and evolving needs of our communities.

8. Community Support and Recovery-Oriented Care:

- We recognize the vital role of community-level supports and services at all stages, alongside timely and accessible recovery-oriented care, in promoting the well-being and recovery of individuals affected by mental health and addictions. We recognize the importance of education on severe mental illness, and the availability of long-term treatment options.

9. Equity and Social Justice:

- We acknowledge that marginalized and underserved populations, including Indigenous communities, racialized groups and 2SLGBTQI+ individuals, face disproportionate levels of mental health and addiction challenges and are more likely to experience poverty and that this reality needs to be addressed.

ACTIONS

1. Information Sharing and Coordination:

- We are committed to sharing information and coordinating efforts to improve the delivery of mental health and addictions services across Central and Northern British Columbia. This includes sharing best practices, data, and resources to enhance service coordination and integration, as well as the collecting and sharing of baseline data to monitor progress on the actions of the Accord.

2. Advocacy:

- We are committed to advocating to the Provincial Government for increased funding, resources, and policy changes that support the timely delivery of mental health and addictions services in our communities. This includes advocating for investments in prevention, education, early intervention, treatment, and long-term recovery supports, as well as for policies that address the social determinants of health.
- We are committed to advocating for education and awareness initiatives to challenge stigma, enhance understanding, and foster empathy and support for all those affected by mental health and addictions.
- We are committed to advocating for prevention and education programs, early screening initiatives, and timely access to intervention services for children, youth, families and caregivers to address mental health and addictions before they escalate.
- We are committed to advocating for the development of services that are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the cultural and linguistic diversity of all community members in Central and Northern British Columbia.
- We are committed to advocating for the development of local, community-based support services, peer support programs, and diverse recovery-oriented treatment options that empower individuals and their caregivers on their recovery journeys. This includes

2024 MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCORD

promoting social integration and community connection as vital in recovery-oriented treatment. We commit to advocating for solutions that address systemic inequities, promote social justice, and ensure that efforts to address the mental health and addictions crisis are inclusive, respectful, and equitable for all community members.

3. Shared Vision for Central and Northern BC:

- We are committed to advocating for the development of a shared vision for Central and Northern British Columbia, identifying supports needed in smaller communities, and advocating for increased funding and policy changes.

CONCLUSION

In signing this Mental Health and Addictions Accord, we affirm our dedication to working collaboratively and advocating for positive change to address the mental health and addictions crisis in Central and Northern British Columbia. We support this Accord as a living document with flexibility to evolve into the future.

We pledge to uphold the principles of collaboration, cultural safety, equity, and prevention as we work towards a future where all residents can thrive in body, mind, and spirit.

Signed,

Representatives of Indigenous Governments

Representatives of Local Governments

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Title, Agency

Representatives of Organizations

Individual Representatives

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Community

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Community

Name, Title, Agency

Name, Community