



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, May 8, 2025

PAGE NO.

ACTION

AGENDA – May 8, 2025

Approve

Supplementary Agenda

Receive

MINUTES

3-5

Rural/Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes - April 10, 2025

Approve

REPORTS

6

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services – Electoral Area D Economic Development Service Grant – Village of Fraser Lake Resident Attraction Video Project

Recommendation

7-10

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services – Rural Community Halls

Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

2022-2026 RDBN Board Strategic Plan

- 1. Relationships with First Nations**
- 2. Advocacy with the Province**
- 3. Housing Supply**
- 4. Community and Economic Sustainability**

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, April 10, 2025**

PRESENT: Chair Michael Riis-Christianson

Directors Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Shirley Moon
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Stoney Stoltenberg

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer – via Zoom
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services
– arrived at 2:12 p.m. – left at 2:14 p.m.

Others Linda McGuire, Granisle
Kevin Moutray, Vanderhoof

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director ParkerRSC.2025-4-1

“That the Rural Services Committee Agenda for April 10, 2025 be approved as amended.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES**Rural Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
-March 13, 2025Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director MoonRSC.2025-4-2

“That the minutes of the Rural Services Committee meeting of March 13, 2025 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Crown Land Referral Nos.
 6409020 and 6409527

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RSC.2025-4-3

"That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application Nos. 6409020 and 6409527."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Director Travel Budgets
 and Conference Attendance

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
 Seconded by Director Moon

RSC.2025-4-4

"That the Committee receive the report from Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services, titled Director Travel Budgets and Conference Attendance."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Degrading Cell Service on Hwy 16

Discussion took place regarding degrading cell service along Highway 16. It was suggested that deciduous growth impacts cellular signals, so summer would be the best time to assess it.

Staff commented that cell towers were initially installed for LTE and 3G. New 5G phones experience more instances without service.

Moved by Director Parker
 Seconded by Director Newell

RSC.2025-4-5

"That a letter be sent to the Minister of Citizens' Services requesting that cell service be tested and monitored along Highway 16 due to degrading cell service."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RSC.2025-4-6

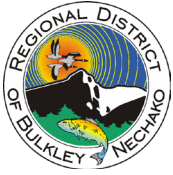
"That the meeting be adjourned 2:45 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Services Committee

To: Chair and Committee

From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services

Date: May 8, 2025

Subject: **Electoral Area D Economic Development Service Grant -
Village of Fraser Lake Resident Attraction Video Project**

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

That the Committee recommend that the Board approve an Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) Economic Development Services Grant of up to \$8,000 to the Village of Fraser Lake for a resident attraction video project.

BACKGROUND

With the loss of the mill the Village of Fraser Lake is seeing many homes placed on the market. Resident retention and attraction is important to keep local businesses running and maintain overall community viability.

This project will see the production of a 60s main video, as well as four social media videos and photography assets to promote resident attraction.

This request is for 50% of a \$16,000 project budget.

Director Mark Parker is supportive of the application.



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Services Committee

To: Chair and Committee
From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services
Date: May 8, 2025
Subject: Rural Community Halls

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Receive.

BACKGROUND

Many RDBN Electoral Areas are home to community halls. These community hubs are important social and recreational hubs for rural communities. Several factors impact the long-term sustainability of this infrastructure, much of which was completed by volunteers prior to the 1980s. These factors include:

- Rising costs for insurance.
- High cost to maintain and repair aging infrastructure.
- High cost to complete accessibility accommodations.
- Decline in volunteer participation.
- Aging volunteer demographics.

Community Halls in the Region include:

Area A - Paul Lychak-Evelyn Community Hall, Glenwood Hall, Round Lake Hall

Area B - Decker Lake Recreation Commission, Rose Lake Community Club, Palling Community Hall

Area D - Endako Community Hall, Fort Fraser Community Hall

Area E - Grassy Plains Community Hall, Wisteria Community Hall, Colleymount Recreation Commission (Trout Creek Hall), Francois Lake Hall

Area F - Cluculz Lake Community Hall, Braeside Community Hall, Mapes Blackwater Lake Community Club

Area G - Topley Community Club

In the last few years, Directors have supported community hall infrastructure through Community Works Funds or Grant in Aid. For example:

Grassy Plains Community Hall	Foundation Repair	\$200,000	CWF
Driftwood School	Foundation Repair	\$80,000	Grant in Aid
Francois Lake Hall	Roof Repair	\$57,500	CWF
Fort Fraser Community Hall	Furnace Replacement	\$15,000	CWF and Grant in Aid

Under the new Community Works Funds agreement, supporting third-party infrastructure is no longer possible. Should Directors wish to consider hall ownership, one potential benefit is the ability to use CWF or RBA for community hall projects.

There are some examples in BC of Regional Districts working cooperatively with rural communities to own or financially support recreation facilities and community halls and grounds, like the [Peace River Regional District](#).

The Regional District of Fraser Fort-George (RDFFG) has established individual services for ownership of seven halls and other similar facilities. A sample of their facilities service and associated financial responsibilities is attached for your information.

ATTACHMENT

Miworth (RDFFG) Community Facilities Service – Guide to Responsibilities

MIWORTH COMMUNITY FACILITIES SERVICE

Guide to Responsibilities of the Miworth Community Association, the Service Budget and the Regional District

The following tables is to be used as a guide and a starting point for annual budget discussions. *Items marked with an asterisk can be either paid for by the Society directly or by the Service. If the Service pays for these items on a regular basis then the Service budget must account for them when the budget is prepared. Liability Insurance is paid for by the Society since the coverage is for programs/actions of the Society.

Capital expenses: items that have a useful life of greater than one year, not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations, valued at over \$25,000.

Minor Capital expenses: items that are capital in nature (useful life of greater than one year, not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations, valued at under \$25,000.

Item	Responsibility of the Regional District attributable to the Taxable Service	Responsibility of the <i>Society</i> , paid for by the <i>Society</i>	Responsibility of the <i>society</i> , attributable to the Taxable Service
Capital Expenses (valued at over \$25,000) projects and maintenance	X		
Janitorial services and supplies			X*
Window cleaning interior and exterior			X*
Parking lot maintenance: including snow removal and upkeep such as filling potholes etc.			X*
Landscaping maintenance, ie: grass cutting, flower beds etc.			X*
Garbage removal		X	
Interior and Exterior door locks maintenance or replacement.			X
Annual fire extinguisher inspection and maintenance			X
Appliances: maintenance, minor repairs, replacement (ie: fridges, coolers, stoves, exhaust fans, dishwashers etc.)		X	
Facility appurtenances including but not limited to dishes, cutlery, cooking utensils, warming trays, coffee and beverage machines, tables chairs, stage equipment, janitorial equipment such as janitorial cart and wheeled mop bucket, brooms, mops		X	
Phone, internet services		X*	
Utilities: electricity, heating fuel, water and sewage			X

Insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liability Directors Contents Coverage for appurtenances owned by the <i>Society</i> such as furniture, appliances – anything removable from the hall 		X	
Insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Fire and Perils 	X		
Permits and licences necessary for the operation of the facility by the <i>Society</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liquor licence Northern Health catering/health permit Any other such permits that may be required by law or legislation 		X	
Maintenance of mechanical (HVAC) & plumbing installations, electrical systems	X If capital in nature		X* If regular maintenance ie: duct cleaning
Maintenance of lighting, lamp and tube replacement – interior and exterior, cost of bulbs, fixtures etc. <i>labour may be donated by a CA member</i>			X
Interior and exterior maintenance that is the result of normal wear and tear, ie painting, will be a joint responsibility to manage depending on project type and project cost, competitive bidding to comply with the Regional District purchasing policy will apply, all capital improvements and maintenance must be approved by the Regional District prior to being done	X		X
Damage to the Lands and Improvements incurred by the <i>Society's</i> use or rental of the Lands and Improvements, beyond normal wear and tear of the premises		X	