

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 13, 2025

PRESENT:

Chair	Michael Riis-Christianson
Directors	Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert – arrived at 9:48 a.m. Shirley Moon Chris Newell – via Zoom Mark Parker Stoney Stoltenberg
Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services – via Zoom – arrived at 9:50 a.m. Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Others	Shane Brienens, District of Houston – arrived at 9:49 a.m. Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof Wayne Salewski, President, Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society Henry Wiebe, Village of Burns Lake

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RSC.2025-3-1

“That the Rural Services Committee Agenda for March 13, 2025 be approved.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
-February 13, 2025

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RSC.2025-3-2

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

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Support for the Regional Transit Service

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

RSC.2025-2-3

"That the Committee recommend that the Board support the utilization of \$75,000 in Northwest BC Regional Funding (RBA) for the Regional Transit Service for the 2025 to 2028 calendar years."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RBA Project Funds

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RSC.2025-3-4

"That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' RBA Project Funds memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Electoral Area Economic Development Service Application Process

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Moon

RSC.2025-3-5

"That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' Electoral Area Economic Development Service Application Process memorandum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Staff's willingness to work with Electoral Area Directors to reach out to organizations to provide information regarding the EA Economic Development Service
- Reporting defaults to the Grant in Aid Policy
- Economic challenges nationally and internationally
- Supporting local businesses, producers, manufacturers
- Encouraging a circular economy in communities
- Being creative in finding solutions for economic development.

NEW BUSINESS

BC Vegetable Marketing Commission Survey

Director Moon spoke of the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission providing a survey to producers north of the 54th parallel. She noted the importance of ensuring producers in the area are aware of the survey. Staff received the survey and will provide communication to producers through the Growing Opportunities Newsletter, website and the Regional Producer meeting on March 22 in Burns Lake.

NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D)

Discussion took place regarding communication to residents providing explanations of Canadian labelling in stores. Staff will develop messaging to distribute through RDBN social media.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Parker

RSC.2025-3-6

"That the meeting be adjourned 9:51 a.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services