

**STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
AGENDA
Thursday, September 18, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA

Approve

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Receive

MINUTES

**Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes -
September 4, 2025**

Page 2

Approve

CORRESPONDENCE

District of Tumbler Ridge News Release - September 4, 2025

Page 7

Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

IN-CAMERA MOTION

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

- Vanderhoof Primary Care Facility

ADJOURNMENT

**STUART-NECHAKO REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 04, 2025**

Directors Present: Chair Judy Greenaway
Martin Elphee
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Mark Parker
Michael Riis-Christianson
Sarrah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Secretary
Cheryl Anderson, Acting Secretary
John Iles, Treasurer
Wendy Wainwright, Recording Secretary

Others: Michael Hoefer, Executive Director, Capital
Planning, Facilities Operations & Logistics,
Northern Health - via Zoom
Mark DeCoos, Vice President Financial and
Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer,
Northern Health - via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Greenaway called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

2025-SNRHD-001

Moved by Director Parker
Seconded by Director Moutray

That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Agenda for September 4, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES**Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes - June 19, 2025****2025-SNRHD-002**

Moved by Director Elphee

Seconded by Director McGuire

That the Stuart-Nechako Regional Hospital District Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION**NORTHERN HEALTH**

Michael Hoefer, Executive Director, Capital Planning, Facilities Operations & Logistics

Re: Nats'oojeh Hospital (Fort St. James)

Mr. Hoefer provided an update of the Nats'oojeh Hospital and Health Centre.

- Implementation Process - High-level Update
- Design and Construction Process Update
- Demolition of Old Hospital
- Schedule - High Level
- Local Business and Labour Demographics.

Discussion took place regarding the contaminant being removed from an old fuel tank that was in the ground for approximately 20 years.

CORRESPONDENCE**The Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health - Response to May 16, 2025 Letter****2025-SNRHD-003**

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the SNRHD Board receive the correspondence from the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Thursday, September 04, 2025

3

Discussion took place regarding:

- Rural practice in Granisle
 - Physician receiving additional funding
- Physician Coverage in Granisle
 - Clarity required regarding clinical resources
- Village of Granisle has a meeting with the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, at the 2025 UBCM Convention and will discuss the topic further
- Letter stated what the region has and didn't address the needs of the region
- Toolkit provided is being utilized.

VERBAL REPORTS

Village of Burns Lake

Director Wiebe brought forward concerns regarding Emergency Room closures.

Village of Granisle

Director McGuire met with Lisa Puglas, Health Services Administrator, Lakes District and Daryl Petsul, Senior Operations Officer, Northern Interior, Northern Health and discussed:

- Emergency Exit has been tendered
- Video cameras are in place to assist with safety
 - Needing an automatic door opener as well.

District of Fort St. James

Director Elphee provided the following update:

- Emergency Room will be closed every evening for the three weeks in September as well as times over the weekends
- Celebrated his mom's 100th Birthday.

Chair Greenaway, Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)

Chair Greenaway attended a meeting with the Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health and the Regional Hospital District Chairs.

Three questions were asked of the Chairs:

- What is the role of the Regional Hospital District?
- What role does the Province see the Regional Hospital Districts will have in the future?
 - Chair Greenaway indicated that the Province will move toward downloading recruitment and retention to Regional Hospital Districts which will have significant impacts on communities.

Thursday, September 04, 2025

4

- What are two to three priorities within the hospital district?
 - Chair Greenaway noted:
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Percentage of funds required by hospital districts to fund hospitals and equipment
 - SNRHD is a small hospital district with a small population
 - Would like to work with Ministers Ma and Osborne to find a solution
 - Taxation – SNRHD pays one of the highest taxation rates
 - Emergency Room Closures
- Minister Ma spoke of the following:
 - Infrastructure responsibility
 - school, hospitals, transportation
 - Main focus
 - To respond quickly and most cost effectively
 - Considering building modular units
 - Will be coming to regional districts to amend Official Community Plans to accommodate future construction.
 - Focus of other Regional Hospital Districts
 - Wanting to work and provide input with health authorities in determining project needs
 - Want more fulsome discussion for projects needs and requirements
 - Concerns regarding the different percentages that hospital districts are required/asked to fund – want consistency.

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS**2025-SNRHD-004**

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board receive the various Directors' verbal reports.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Thursday, September 04, 2025

5

IN-CAMERA MOTION

2025-SNRHD-005

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director McGuire

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

- Vanderhoof Primary Care Facility.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

2025-SNRHD-006

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director McGuire

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Judy Greenaway, Chairperson

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services



DISTRICT OF TUMBLER RIDGE
Office of the Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

District of Tumbler Ridge

September 4, 2025 – Tumbler Ridge, BC

Mayor and Council's Statement Regarding Northern Health's ER Closure Decision

The Mayor and Council of the District of Tumbler Ridge are deeply disappointed by Northern Health's decision to eliminate after-hours emergency department coverage at the Tumbler Ridge Health Centre. We condemn this decision and are gravely concerned about its impact on our residents, visitors, and those who travel here to work, recreate, and explore our community. Tumbler Ridge is a remote and resilient community, home to world-class outdoor recreation, a UNESCO Global Geopark, and major industrial activity in mining, wind energy, and contracting. Our workforce, residents, and visitors regularly engage in resource-based work, backcountry activities, and sporting events that carry real risks. Access to emergency care is not optional in a community like ours—it is an essential service. Reducing coverage places our community members, visitors, and workforce at significant risk.

We also want to be clear: our frustration is not directed at the doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other health care staff who continue to dedicate themselves to serving our community under challenging circumstances. We are grateful for their professionalism and commitment, and we stand firmly behind them.

This decision rests with Northern Health, and we hold them directly responsible. At this time, we are not placing blame on the Ministry of Health or the Province of British Columbia. However, we strongly urge Northern Health to reconsider and remain open to meaningful conversations with the District to find solutions to ensure Tumbler Ridge has the reliable emergency care that our residents, workforce, and visitors deserve.

The Mayor and Council remain committed to advocating for Tumbler Ridge and will continue to press for action that prioritizes the health and safety of our community.


Mayor Darryl Krakowka
 District of Tumbler Ridge