



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO  
RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
AGENDA  
Thursday, January 15, 2026**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**January 15, 2026**

Approve

**MINUTES**

**Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes - November 6, 2025**

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Approve

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**IN-CAMERA MOTION**

That this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Sections 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* for the Board to deal with matters relating to:

- Labour Relations

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2022-2026 RDBN Board Strategic Plan**

**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, November 06, 2025**

Directors Present:

Chair Michael Riis-Christianson  
Judy Greenaway  
Clint Lambert - arrived at 10:15 a.m.  
Shirley Moon - via Zoom  
Chris Newell  
Mark Parker  
Stoney Stoltenberg

Directors Absent:

Alternate Directors:

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - via Zoom - arrived at 10:14 a.m.  
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services  
Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services  
Jason Blackwell - arrived at 10:02 a.m., left at 10:04 a.m.

Others: Shane Brien, District of Houston  
Leroy Dekens, Village of Telkwa  
Martin Elphee, District of Fort St. James  
Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof - via Zoom  
Henry Wiebe, Village of Burns Lake

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

## **AGENDA**

### **November 6, 2025**

#### **2025-RSC-015**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Rural Services Committee Agenda for November 6, 2025 be approved as amended to include Deteriorating Cell Phone Service under New Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **MINUTES**

### **Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes - October 9, 2025**

#### **2025-RSC-016**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Newell

That the Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **REPORTS**

### **Jason Blackwell, Regional Fire Chief - Civic Address Sign Project**

#### **2025-RSC-017**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Committee recommend that the Board approve staff to move forward with the 2026 NG 911 grant application from UBCM and provide overall grant management for the project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid for Area C (Fort St. James Rural) - Fort St. James Public Library**

#### **2025-RSC-018**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Committee recommend that the Board approve a grant of \$6,000 to the Fort St. James Public Library from Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)'s allocation of Regional Grant in Aid for a re-useable inter-library shipping project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Non-Profit Newsletter Project**

**2025-RSC-019**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg  
Seconded by Director Moon

That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to include a quarterly newsletter curated for non-profit organizations in the workplan for the Economic Development department.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**NEW BUSINESS**

Community Pastures

Director Moon brought forward the need for discussion regarding Community Pastures. Staff will bring forward at a future Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Deteriorating Cell Service

Chair Riis-Christiansen brought forward concerns regarding deteriorating cell service along the highway corridors.

Discussion took place regarding the following:

- Letter from Ministry of Citizens' Services sent to the District of Fort St. James referencing the data from Cellular Drive Study undertaken by the Ministry
  - RDBN sending a letter requesting the information
- Changes from LTE to 5G technology and the potential lack of long-range capabilities
- Deteriorating cellular service along Highway 16
- Increased dropped cellular service along Highway 16
- Activation of 9 cell towers by Rogers Communication potentially impacting service

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- RDBN sent a letter to the Minister of Citizens' Services in April 2025
  - Send a follow-up letter.

Moved by Director Parker

Seconded by Director Newell

That the Committee recommend that the Board write a letter to the Ministry of Citizens' Services requesting the Cellular Drive Study data along Highway 16.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2025-RSC-020**

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Newell

That the meeting be adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services