



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 11, 2025

Directors Present: Chair Mark Parker
Gladys Atrill
Leroy Dekens
Martin Elphee
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert - arrived at 10:09 a.m.
Linda McGuire
Shirley Moon
Kevin Moutray
Chris Newell
Michael Riis-Christianson
Stoney Stoltenberg
Sarrah Storey
Henry Wiebe

Director Absent: Shane Brienen, District of Houston

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Blackwell, Regional Fire Chief - arrived at 11:05 a.m., left at 11:09 a.m.
Megan D'Arcy, Regional Agriculture Coordinator - arrived at 10:57 a.m., left at 11:17 a.m.
Janette Derksen, Waste Diversion Supervisor - arrived at 10:10 a.m., left at 10:54 a.m.
Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services - arrived at 10:10 a.m., left at 10:54 a.m.
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - left at 10:15 a.m.
Amy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Planning and Development Services - left at 10:15 a.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
Scott Zayac, Director of Protective Services - arrived at 10:56 a.m.

Other: Ethan Fredeen, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Fraser Lake - left at 10:38 a.m.
Olanike Salami, Local Government Intern, Village of Fraser Lake - left at 10:38 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

First Nations Acknowledgement

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

December 11, 2025

2025-BM-197

Moved by Director McGuire

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Agenda for December 11, 2025 be approved; and that the Supplementary Agenda be dealt with at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Board Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2025

2025-BM-198

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Storey

That the Board Meeting Minutes for November 20, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTORAL AREA PLANNING

Other

Advisory Planning Commission Minutes - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2025-BM-199

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) Advisory Planning Commission Minutes of November 3, 2025 be received.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ALR Application

Cameron Kral, Planner - ALR Non-Adhering Residential Use Application No. 1285 - Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)

2025-BM-200

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Moon

That Agricultural Land Reserve Non-Adhering Residential Use Application No. 1285 be recommended to the Agricultural Land Commission for approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Land Referral

Rowan Nagel, GIS/Planning Technician - Crown Land Application Referral No. 7410383 - Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

2025-BM-201

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Elphee

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Crown Land Application No. 7410383.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mine Referral

Cameron Kral, Planner - Notice of Work Referral Nos. 0200075 and 0200202 - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2025-BM-202

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District's comments on Notice of Work Referral Nos. 0200075 and 0200202.

Renaming Referral

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - Necoslie River Name Change - Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

2025-BM-203

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Elphee

That staff inform the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture, and Sport that:

1. The RDBN has no objection to the proposed name change, and
2. The Province should consider if their Geographical Naming Policy and Procedures should be updated based on an evaluation of the long-term implications of removing the English reference to the geographic feature being named and using only the First Nations word prefix, or suffix for that feature.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning and Development Services - Gravel Extraction and Processing

2025-BM-204

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Moon

That the Board receive the Director of Planning and Development Services' Gravel Extraction and Processing memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Alex Eriksen, Director of Environmental Services - Bylaw 1764 and 1879 - Proposed Amendment

2025-BM-205

Moved by Director Moutray

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board support the proposed changes to the Solid Waste Management Facility Regulation and User Fee Bylaw and direct staff to bring forward a new bylaw with these changes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- Additional clarification
 - Load volume (side extensions)
 - Brush land clearing debris
 - Specified Risk Material
- Definitions for inclusion in the Bylaw e.g. industrial waste and Industrial, Commercial, Institutional Recycling
- Communication to the public regarding materials that are not accepted at RDBN Solid Waste Management Facilities.
- Discussed Options, 1, 2, 3 and 4
 - Start at \$120 in 2026 and increase to \$225 by 2030

2025-BM-206

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board authorize adjusting the rates of all per metric tonne fees (MT) of the Solid Waste Management Facility Regulation & User Fee Amendment Bylaw 1879 Schedule D - User Fees and Disposal Rules starting in 2026 in the amount of \$120/MT with a percentage increase every year to reach \$225/MT in 2030.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Aligning with the provincial average by 2030
- Landfill closure deficit

- Closure and expansion reserves
- Revenue offsetting the cost of diversion
- Costs of future closure and expansion of landfilling
- Expanding landfill operations in the region to take outside waste and create revenue
- Increasing to \$250MT by 2030
- Industrial project expansion in the region
 - Capturing cost recovery for additional waste
- Increase for all fees in Schedule D.

2025-BM-207

Moved by Director Atrill

Seconded by Director Moutray

That Motion 2025-BM-206 be amended to include a total percentage increase of \$250/MT by 2030.

Opposed: Director Lambert

Director Newell

Director McGuire

CARRIED

That the question be called on Motion 2025-BM-206 as amended.

Opposed: Director McGuire

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATION BYLAWS

Bylaw for First, Second and Third Reading

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - Vanderhoof Rural Fire Protection Maximum Tax Limit Increase

2025-BM-208

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Moutray

That Vanderhoof Rural Fire Protection Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 2099, 2025 be given first, second, and third reading this 11th day of December 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for First, Second, Third Reading and Adoption

**John Illes, Chief Financial Officer - 2025 - 2029 Five Year Financial Plan
Amendment**

2025-BM-209

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

That Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Five Year Financial Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 2096, 2025 be given first, second, third reading and adoption this 11th day of December, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rescind Third Reading, Third Reading as Amended

**Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - Fort Fraser Sewer Service
Establishment Bylaw No. 2086, 2025**

2025-BM-210

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

That the Board rescind third reading of Fort Fraser Sewer Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2086, 2025 and give third reading as amended this 11th day of December, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rescind Third Reading, Third Reading as Amended and Adoption

**Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - RDBN Fort Fraser Water
Service Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 2087, 2025 and RDBN Fort Fraser
Sewer Service Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 2088, 2025**

2025-BM-211

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

1. That the Board rescind third reading of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Fort Fraser Water Service Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 2087, 2025, give third reading as amended and adoption this 11th day of December, 2025.

2. That the Board rescind third reading of Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Fort

Fraser Sewer Service Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 2088, 2025, give third reading as amended and adoption this 11th day of December, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw for Adoption

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - Telkwa Rural Fire Protection Service Area Boundary Amendment Bylaw No. 2093, 2025

2025-BM-212

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

That Telkwa Rural Fire Protection Service Area Boundary Amendment Bylaw No. 2093, 2025 be adopted this 11th day of December, 2025.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - RDBN Committee Appointments 2026

2025-BM-213

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board ratify the Committee Appointments for 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - RDBN Appointments 2026

2025-BM-214

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Board ratify the following appointments for 2026:

Bankers: Bulkley Valley Credit Union

Lawyers: Stewart McDannold Stuart, Victoria, B.C.

Young Anderson, Vancouver, B.C.

Carvello Law Corp., Victoria, B.C.

Election Officers: Cheryl Anderson, Chief Election Officer

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Chief Election Officer

Signing Authority: Any two (2) of:
Chairperson
Vice-Chairperson
Director from Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)
Director from Village of Burns Lake
Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Financial Officer
Director of Corporate Services

Auditors: Beswick Hildebrandt Lund CPA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - Electoral Area Directors (EAD) Forum - March 10-11, 2026 - Richmond, BC.

2025-BM-215

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

1. That the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors wishing to attend the Electoral Area Directors Forum March 10-11, 2026 in Richmond, BC.
2. That the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors wishing to attend the Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA) Forum March 11-13, 2026 in Richmond, BC.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services - BC Natural Resources Forum - Minister Meeting Requests

2025-BM-216

Moved by Director Elphee

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board requests meetings at the BC Natural Resources Forum with Premier Eby, the Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs and Economic Growth, the Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Spencer Chandra Herbert, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, the Honourable Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and the Honourable Brittany Anderson, Minister of State for Local Government and Rural Communities regarding the health of the Nechako River.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Regional CAOs met regarding major projects and camps in the region
- Meeting with a representative from the province to better understand what is being considered regarding camps
- Meetings at BC Natural Resource Forum around the health of the Nechako River
- Can request additional meetings if that is the wish of the Board.

2025-BM-217

Moved by Director Dekens

Seconded by Director Newell

That the Board request a meeting with BC Hydro, RDBN CAO and Board and RDBN member municipal CAOs at the BC Natural Resources Forum to discuss camps for BC Hydro's transmission line expansion in the region.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Lakes District Airport Society - Support for BC Air Access Program Applications

2025-BM-218

Moved by Director Wiebe

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

1. That the Board support the Lakes District Airport Society's application to the BC Air Access Program for an Airport Master Plan at the Burns Lake Airport.
2. That the Board support the Lakes District Airport Society's application to the BC Air Access Program for Runway maintenance equipment at the Burns Lake Airport.
3. That the Board approve letters of support for both applications listed above.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Groundbreakers Youth on Farms Program - Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2025-BM-219

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Atrill

That the Board approve allocating \$9,885 in Regional Grant in Aid from the Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) allocation to Groundbreakers Agricultural Association for the 2026 Youth on Farms Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Decker Lake Hall - Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

2025-BM-220

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board approve allocating \$12,000 in Regional Grant in Aid from the Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) allocation to the Decker Lake Recreation Commission for new tables and a commercial dishwasher.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant to the District of Fort St. James - Healthcare Recruitment Project - Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)

2025-BM-221

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Elphee

That the Board approve a grant of \$15,000 to the District of Fort St. James from the Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) Economic Development Service to support the work of the Healthcare Recruitment Project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Mouse Mountain Parent Advisory Council - Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)

2025-BM-222

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board approve allocating \$7,500 in Regional Grant in Aid from the Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) allocation to the Mouse Mountain Parent Advisory Council for school ski equipment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Mapes Blackwater Sob Lake Community Club - Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)

2025-BM-223

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board approve allocating \$18,186 in Regional Grant in Aid from the Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) allocation to the Mapes/Blackwater/Sob Lake Community Club for a cemetery fencing project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Nechako Valley Exhibition Society - Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)

2025-BM-224

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Moutray

That the Board approve allocating \$50,000, split between the Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) allocation of Regional Grant in Aid and the Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) Economic Development Service, to the Nechako Valley Exhibition Society for a Campground Development project at the Fair grounds.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

- * **Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant to Village of Burns Lake – Healthcare Recruitment Coordinator - Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)**

2025-BM-225

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board approve a grant of \$15,000 to the Village of Burns Lake from the Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) Economic Development Service for the Healthcare Recruitment project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- * **Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services-Grant in Aid - Lakes District Family Enhancement Society - Electoral Areas B (Burns Lake Rural) and E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)**

2025-BM-226

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

That the Board approve allocating \$13,250 in Regional Grant in Aid, \$11,600 from the Area B (Burns Lake Rural) allocation, and \$1,650 from the Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) allocation, to the Lakes District Family Enhancement Society for a capital equipment upgrade project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- * **Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Grassy Plains Community Hall Association**

2025-BM-227

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

That the Board approve allocating \$13,500 from the Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) allocation of Regional Grant in Aid to the Grassy Plains Community Hall Association for an interior repair project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- * **Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant in Aid - Endako Rod and Gun Club - Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)**

2025-BM-228

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Moutray

That the Board approve allocating \$25,000 in Regional Grant in Aid from the Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) allocation to the Endako Rod and Gun Club for a safety berm project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jason Blackwell, Regional Fire Chief - 911 Maintenance Contract

2025-BM-229

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Board renew the contract with Tower Communications for the provision of 911 equipment and system maintenance for an additional five-year term starting January 1, 2026.

That the Board direct award the contract rather than go through a formal RFP process as Tower Communications is the only qualified company to provide the service within the RDBN that staff are aware of.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer - Financial Statements of Partners Involved in Service Delivery

2025-BM-230

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Elphee

That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's Financial Statements of Partners Involved in Service Delivery memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

John Illes, Chief Financial Officer - Schedule of 2026 Budget Meetings

2025-BM-231

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board receive the Chief Financial Officer's Schedule of 2026 Budget Meeting memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Megan D'Arcy, Regional Agriculture Coordinator- RDBN Agriculture Water Assessment and Community Irrigation Study

2025-BM-232

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board receive the Regional Agriculture Coordinator's RDBN Agriculture Water Assessment and Community Irrigation Study memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding:

- RDBN Agriculture Water Assessment and Community Irrigation Study scope of work
- Expectations of the study and using a feasibility study to make a plan moving forward
- Upland Agricultural Consulting and Sound Waste Advise Consulting availability in January 2026 to present to the Board.

Megan D’Arcy, Regional Agriculture Coordinator - Growing Opportunities Newsletter - Issue 31, November 2025

2025-BM-233

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Board receive the Regional Agriculture Coordinator's Growing Opportunities Newsletter - Issue 31, November 2025 memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

* **Scott Zayac, Director of Protective Services - Southside Rural Fire Protection Services Agreement Amendment**

2025-BM-234

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board accept the recommended amendment to the Southside Rural Fire Protection Services Agreement and renew the amended agreement for an additional 5-year term (2026 - 2030).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADMINISTRATION CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Environment and Parks - Response - CN Storage Areas for Creosote Ties

2025-BM-235

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson

Seconded by Director Storey

That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the Ministry of Environment and Parks regarding CN Storage Areas for Creosote Ties.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills - UBCM Follow up RDBN Letter

2025-BM-236

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills regarding follow-up from UBCM RDBN Letter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills - Follow-up UBCM Joint Meeting with RFFFG

2025-BM-237

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Wiebe

That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills regarding follow-up from UBCM Joint Meeting with RFFFG.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Union of B.C. Municipalities - 2025 Resolution Referred to UBCM Executive - Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Association

2025-BM-238

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Board receive the Administration Correspondence from the UBCM regarding the 2025 Resolution referred to UBCM Executive Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Association.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VERBAL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Village of Granisle - Director McGuire

- Light up in the Park went well with 75 people in attendance for the barbeque hosted by the Village of Granisle Volunteer Fire Department
- Light-up Contest taking place December 13 & 14 for the house with the best Christmas lights
- Granisle Mine will host a community Christmas Dinner
 - Continue to provide the dinner although the mine is closed
 - Approximately 75 people attended in 2024 with 50 take out meals being delivered
 - There will be two seatings for dinner
- Seniors Building completed and awaiting Provincial sign off by the engineers for occupancy
 - 7 of the 12 residences have been spoken for
 - 1 and 2 bedroom units with a cap for the highest rental rate and based on affordability
 - Open houses will be taking place.

Village of Burns Lake - Director Wiebe

- Light up event in Burns Lake took place November 28th
- Christmas Parade will take place December 12th
- Lakes District Hospital and Health Centre Emergency Room will be closed 5 consecutive days between Christmas and New Year's.

Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) - Director Lambert

- Met with the Southside BC Ambulance Unit Chief
 - 12 members currently
 - Investigating adding an additional Ambulance vehicle
- Had quarterly Nations meeting on the Southside
- Attended the Southside Volunteer Fire Department Community meeting.

Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) - Director Greenaway

- Attended the following meetings:
 - NCLGA meeting November 28 and 29 in Prince George
 - Fort St. James Recruitment Roundtable meeting
 - Received an invitation from Director Elphee to attend a meeting with the

Ministry of Transportation and Transit and District of Fort St. James

- Brushing on Highway 27 and Sowchea Bay Road
- New walkway on Stewart River bridge
- Northern Health
 - Determine next steps to work together regarding hiring a recruiter for the Fort St. James area
 - Most of the funding is in place to move forward
 - Expressed appreciation to Nak'azdli Whut'en, District of Fort St. James and RDBN
 - Director Elphee working with Northern Health to develop a video showcasing the area
 - Director Greenaway working with the University of Northern B.C. to encourage medical students to consider Fort St. James for work placement
 - Scheduling meetings to continue conversation.

Town of Smithers - Director Atrill

- NCLGA President Update:
 - Attended NCLGA meeting November 28 & 29 in Prince George
 - Focusing on finance - membership fee review at AGM
 - Encouraged everyone to have a look at the NCLGA website
 - Find updates regarding advocacy and resolutions
 - Upcoming webinar focusing on needs in a Psychiatric Hospital for Northern BC
 - Planning for AGM and Conference in May 2026 underway.
- Town of Smithers - Update:
 - Focusing on the Smithers Regional Airport
 - Bringing forward requests to Town Council in the future
 - Public engagement regarding the new Public Library
 - Community Events
 - Encouraging support shopping local
 - Plaid Friday
 - Christmas on Main
 - Acknowledged the passing of John Fisher, father of past RDBN Director Mark Fisher.

Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) - Director Moon

- Cattle Sale Yard - \$75 million through yard between spring and fall auctions in 2025
 - Number of cattle down
 - Bred female sale - 2 farm dispersals
 - Encourage young people to continue ranching/farming
- Involved with the Vanderhoof Centennial Celebration planning
 - Regional District providing funding for tents for Seniors with the support of the Vanderhoof Men's Shed
 - Encourage shop local and support local charities during the holiday season.

Electoral Area A - (Smithers/Telkwa Rural) - Director Stoltenberg

- Phase 3 of the Cycle 16 Trail has stopped construction for the winter.

Electoral Area B - (Burns Lake Rural) - Director Riis-Christianson

- As a member of the Burns Lake Health Care Recruitment Committee met with Northern Health requesting specific statistics regarding recruitment
- Met with Chair Parker, RDBN staff and the Ministry of Citizens Services'
 - Access to poles for fibre install by ISPs
 - the Ministry has reached out and hopes to have a resolution soon
 - Deteriorating cell phone service levels along Highway 16
 - The Ministry has collected data and will share in January 2026
 - Created a dashboard to discuss cell service with providers.

District of Vanderhoof - Director Moutray

- New Economic Development Officer
- College of New Caledonia (CNC)
 - Modified community transition table
 - CNC did not attend
 - Advocacy that CNC increases service levels and participation in the region
- Brink Group has implemented layoffs at its facilities
 - Reassess in January 2026
- December 6 - Parade of Lights with great floats
 - Good to see the support for local businesses
- Attended Rio Tinto meeting December 10th
 - Precipitation at 107% of long-term average.

District of Fort St. James - Director Elphee

- Met with College of New Caledonia
 - Received unexpected news that they are closing the campus in Fort St. James
 - Each campus will be analyzed and closures will be on a case by case basis
 - Challenges regarding the loss of international student revenue
 - Meeting in early 2026 and to look at business partnerships
 - Met with Chief Erickson, Nak'azdli Whut'en and District of Fort St. James to partner in encouraging the College to remain in the community and continue to provide courses
- Moonlight Madness and Fireworks display took place in November.

Village of Fraser Lake - Director Storey

- Cross Country Ski Trail is ready with 10 kms of trail
 - the Trail can be used in the summer for bikes
 - A maintenance contractor was approved at Village Council Meeting on December 10th
- Approved Purple Air Monitor
- Charity Hockey Game December 23rd
- Thank you to Chair Parker for supporting the dance for the community kids
- Anticipating a shortage of RCMP officers in Fraser Lake
 - Advocacy to encourage recruitment.

Chair/Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural) - Chair Parker

- Positive meeting with the Honourable Diana Gibson, Minister of Citizens' Services
- Attended the Fraser Lake Parade of Lights on Friday, December 5th and Vanderhoof's Parade of Lights on Saturday, December 6th
- Attended the Fort Fraser Livestock AGM and provided an RDBN update
- Focus on the Windfarm proposals in the region
 - Engagement in Areas C, D and F
 - 5 major projects submitting a call for power with BC Hydro
 - Potential impacts to 100s of hectares of land
 - Receiving calls from concerned residents
 - Monitoring and engagement process by the BC Energy Regulator
- Fort Fraser Community Commission meeting scheduled for December 15th at the RDBN Office Building
 - Budget discussions

- Chlorination of water
 - Some public concerns
 - Held a public meeting with Northern Health in attendance.

The Board expressed appreciation for one another and staff and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

RECEIPT OF VERBAL REPORTS

2025-BM-239

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Dekens

That the Board receive the various Directors' verbal reports.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

College of New Caledonia Invitation to Attend Future Board Meeting

2025-BM-240

Moved by Director Storey

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Board invite the College of New Caledonia President to an in-person delegation at a future Board meeting to discuss the potential closure of the Fort St. James campus.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minister of Health Invitation to Attend a Future Board Meeting

2025-BM-241

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

That the Board invite the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health to a future Board meeting to discuss the proposed March 2026 changes to Health Authorities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting with BC Hydro at the BC Natural Resources Forum, January 20-22, 2026 in Prince George

Director Moon spoke of the delegation from BC Hydro that attended a past RDBN meeting and talked about private property rights and approaching property owners and ranchers with respect and consideration as the transmission line expansion project moves forward. Director Moon noted the challenges that she has been made aware of regarding BC Hydro accessing property and ranch lands.

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Board, if successful in securing a meeting with BC Hydro at the BC Natural Resources Forum January 20-23, 2026 in Prince George, discuss working with property owners and encourage engagement and further discussion to address challenges.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discretionary Fund for Electoral Area Directors

Director Lambert brought forward the possibility of Electoral Area Directors having a discretionary fund.

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the draft 2026 Budget include consideration of a discretionary fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services