



**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY August 24, 2020**

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Please be advised that the HUB Online Network will record and broadcast or live stream today's Council meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Motion to add or delete Agenda items*

*Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended*

**M/S**

*"THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented."*

**2. MINUTES**

3.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday July 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 <i>"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented."</i>	P. 1-5
3.2	Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Monday August 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 <i>"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented."</i>	P. 6-7
3.3	Minutes of the Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) Steering Committee held Wednesday July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 <i>"That the Minutes of the EDT Steering Committee Meeting held Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented."</i>	P. 8-10
3.4	Minutes of the Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) Steering Committee held Wednesday August 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 <i>"That the Minutes of the EDT Steering Committee Meeting held Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented."</i>	P. 11-13

**3. DELEGATIONS**

4.1	Sgt Darren Angman – RCMP Ashcroft Detachment	
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**4. PUBLIC INPUT**

*All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.*

**5. BYLAWS**

5.1	OCP and Zoning amendments will move forward once covenants are received from the property owners .	
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## 6. STAFF REPORTS

<b>REQUEST FOR DECISION</b>		
6.1	Encroachment at 711 Brink Lane <i>“That Council approve the Encroachment Agreement request for 711 Brink Lane, that all legal and filling costs be expensed to the property owner, and further that the Mayor and CAO be approved to sign the agreement.”</i>	P. 14-16
6.2	Water Treatment Plant Project Sand Mitigation Proposal <i>“That Council approve water treatment separator design, tender and install.”</i>	P. 17-21
6.3	Financial Updates & Debt Payment <i>“That Council approve payment of both fire and WTP debt.”</i>	P. 22
6.4	July 27 <sup>th</sup> Delegation – Heritage Conservation, Gloria Mertens <i>“That Council not consider the establishment of a Heritage Conservation committee or commission for the purpose of designating the Slough as a Heritage Site; and further that Ms. Mertens be advised to contact the Ashcroft Terminal Working Group and share her presentation.”</i>	P. 23-24
6.5	Drylands Arena – Re-Opening <i>“That Council endorse the Drylands Arena re-opening plan as presented.”</i>	P. 25-26
6.6	TNRD Building Inspection Services Contract Renewal <i>“That Council accept the terms of the TNRD Building Inspection Contract renewal for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2021 and concluding December 31, 2023; and further that the Mayor and CAO be approved to sign the contract.”</i>	P. 27-30
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
6.7	Legacy Park July 2020 Visitor Activity	P. 31
6.8	NDIT Intern Status Update Report	P. 32-33
6.9	EDTC Status Update Report	P. 34

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
7.1	Village of Kaslo – Resolution: A Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Health Care	P. 35-36
7.2	Town of Comox – National Pharmacare Call to Action; Call for National Pharmacare Sample Message	P. 37-40
7.3	CN Rail – Rail Safety Week Letter; Draft Resolution <i>“That Council adopt this Resolution and support national Rail Safety Week to be held from September 21 to 27, 2020”</i>	P. 41-42
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
7.4	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Consultation with Local Governments on COVID-19 and Economic Recovery	P. 43-48
7.5	UBCM - Response to Building BC’s Recovery, Together	P. 49-62
7.6	TNRD - Free Disposal Days Cancelled for 2020	P. 63-64
7.7	TNRD - Kamloops and Regional Libraries Reopen to the Public	P. 65-66
7.8	BC Ministry of Agriculture - Information on Order in Council #353/2020 - Amendments to Regulations Under the Agricultural Land Commission Act	P. 67-73
7.9	UBCM – Evacuation Route Planning Grant Payment Letter	P. 74



7.10	TNRD – TNRD Secures Land Tenure for New Fire Hall in Loon Lake	P. 75-76
7.11	Brad Vis – Extensive Flooding along the Bonaparte River, BC	P. 77-78
7.12	Information Correspondence Listing	P. 79

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

8.1		
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**9. NEW BUSINESS**

9.1		
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**10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS**

10.1	<p><i>EDT Steering Committee</i></p> <p><i>“That Council approve the EDT Committee Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Agreement as presented.”</i></p> <p><i>“That Council endorse the EDT Committee request to allocate up to \$5000 for Radio Ads.”</i></p>	
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**11. COUNCIL REPORTS**

11.1	Mayor Roden	P. 80-83
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	

**12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING**

*Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1*

12.1	<i>“That Council move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1 (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege necessary for that purpose;”</i>	
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**13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING**

13.1		
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**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**  
**REGULAR AGENDA**

**FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE  
OFFICE AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020**

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PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Roden  
Councillor Marilyn Anderson  
Councillor Jonah Anstett – via Video  
Councillor Nadine Davenport  
Councillor Debra Tuohey  
  
Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
Brian Bennewith, Director of Public Works

Media - 1  
Public - 1

EXCUSED:

Prior to the meeting, Mayor Roden advised that the HUB Online Network will not be recording the meeting due to a schedule conflict, however a HON Reporter was in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed Margaret Moreira, Ashcroft’s new Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator to the meeting.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Motion to add or delete Agenda items*

*Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended*

**M/S Roden / Davenport**

*“THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, July 27, 2020 be adopted as amended.”*

*Error item 6.4 update to correct date to “defer tax sale to 2021”*

**CARRIED R-2020-169**

Unanimous

**2. MINUTES**

3.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 22, 2020 <b>M/S Roden / Davenport</b> <i>“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 22, 2020 be adopted as presented.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-170
3.2	Minutes of the Public Hearing held Monday, June 22, 2020 <b>M/S Roden / Tuohey</b> <i>“That the Minutes of the Public Hearing held Monday, June 22, 2020 be adopted as presented.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-171

**3. DELEGATIONS**

4.1	<p>Gloria Mertens of 301 Rattlesnake Rd – Heritage Conservation  Ms. Mertens indicated she was appearing before Council as a private citizen but is part of a group considering forming a Society.  Power point presentation:  Presentation is to encourage Council to consider heritage conservation of the Slough  Historic places can be many things that provide a sense of place and adds to our unique identity  Community Heritage Register – 3 things required:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. meet the definition</li> <li>2. indicate reasons why</li> <li>3. meet required documentation</li> </ol> <p>McAbee Fossil beds recently deemed as a Heritage Site  Process includes Council creating a commission to designate heritage sites  Value items for statement of significance include:  heritage value, cultural value, historical value, ecological value, economic value, social value, geological value, educational value, recreational value, artistic value,  Character defining elements  A Community Heritage Register is a planning tool, must be adopted by council resolution  Heritage BC has a module to guide the process  Once a site is established and named the Province must be notified.  The slough is currently zoned as park land  If established the Commission could marry the Brands of Wellness Awaits you and Historic Ashcroft</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b>  Mayor Roden thanked Ms. Mertens for her presentation  Concern regarding truck traffic and pedestrian trail  Query wondering if the Terminal Working Group had seen the presentation?  Suggested that the Working Group be provided with the opportunity to see the presentation;  Question regarding who will monitor the tourists re: garbage, culture, respect of the site, parking, etc.</p>	
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**4. PUBLIC INPUT**

*All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.*

Gloria

6.4 – Comment in favour of tax sale proceeding in 2020

6.8 – Comment in support of the Mosaic card

6.6 – Suggestion that the EDTC investigate Heritage Commissions

7.2 – Comment in support of accepting cash for payments

7.8 – Comment in support of BC Rivers Day and encouraged Council to consider ways to participate

8.1 – Comment for Council to consider alternative venues so more residents could attend meetings, public hearings etc.

Concern re: TNRD Voyent Alert system recognizes Elm St with two names: Elm St. and Harper Mill Road.

**5. BYLAWS**

5.1	N/A	
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**6. STAFF REPORTS**

<b>REQUEST FOR DECISION</b>		
6.1	Application to FCM Municipal Asset Management Program <b>M/S Tuohey / Davenport</b> <i>“That Council approve the Asset Management Project Resolution as attached and approve the letter of commitment for collaborative work on Asset Management with Cache Creek.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-172
6.2	UBCM Virtual Ministers, Senior Gov’t Staff and other Meetings <b>M/S Roden / Anstett</b> <i>“That Council direct staff to request meetings with the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), BC Hydro and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) the week prior to the UBCM Convention.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-173
6.3	UBCM Community Excellence Awards <b>M/S Anderson / Tuohey</b> <i>“That Council approve Village of Ashcroft Asset Management Program be considered for Union of BC Municipalities 2020 Community Excellence Awards.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-174
6.4	Decision on 2020 Tax Sale Deferral <b>M/S Roden / Tuohey</b> <i>“That the Village of Ashcroft continue with the regular scheduled Tax Sale for 2020.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-175
6.5	Participation of Mosaic Advertising <b>M/S Anderson – no seconder</b> <i>“That Council not approve the Mosaic Card request.”</i> <b>Roden / Davenport</b> <i>“That Council is in support to pay 75% for the first 1500 of the Mosaic card.” Discussion</i> <b>Amendment to the Motion above – amendment was Carried,</b> Motion was defeated <b>M/S Touhey / Davenport</b> <i>“That Council approves to pay 100% of the Mosaic card order.”</i> <b>M/S Roden / Anderson</b> <i>“That Council defer the Mosaic Card request to the Economic Development and Tourism Committee for future consideration.”</i>	DEFEATED  DEFEATED  CARRIED - Anderson R-2020-176 CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-177
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
6.6	Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator (EDTC) Status Update Report	

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>FOR ACTION</b>
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7.1	2020 UBCM Virtual Convention Registration <b>M/S Roden / Tuohey</b> <i>"That any Council member attending please contact the CAO for registration by August 1, 2020."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-178
7.2	Cash Payments at Village Office <b>M/S Roden / Touhey</b> <i>"That a letter be sent to Ms. Murray advising that the village encourages other forms of payment but will accept cash transactions."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-179
7.3	South Cariboo Sportsmen Association – Request for Grant-In-Aid <b>M/S Anderson / Anstett</b> <i>"That Council approve the South Cariboo Sportsmen Association Grant in Aid request for \$500."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-180
7.4	Community Energy Association – Invitation to the 2020 Climate & Energy Action Awards info - info	Receive and file
7.5	Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General and Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing – COVID-19 Related Measures Act (Bill 19)	Receive and File
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
7.6	UBCM – 2019 Village of Ashcroft Housing Needs Assessment (VAHNA) Final Payment	Receive and File
7.7	NDIT – 2020 BFI Program Application Approval	Receive and File
7.8	BC Rivers Day – September 27, 2020 contact Al Midgely to see of any plans for this year	Direction to Staff
7.9	Clean Energy BC – Bill 17 – 2020 Clean Energy Amendment Act, 2020	Receive and File
7.10	Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) – Support for small business recovery	Receive and File
7.11	Charge North – EV travel from trails to trees to seas	Receive and File
7.12	CN – Investing \$445 million in BC <b>M/S Roden / Anstett</b> <i>"That staff contact CN to see if any of this funding has been allocated to the crossing at Old Cariboo Road."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-181
7.13	NDIT – Love Ashcroft – Annual Marketing Funding	Receive and File
7.14	SD No. 74 (Gold Trail) – Appointment of District Vice Principal of Inclusion	Receive and File
7.15	BC Transit – Increased passenger capacity	
7.16	Village of Clinton – Appointment of new CAO <b>M/S Roden / Anderson</b> <i>"That Council send a letter of congratulations to Clinton's new CAO Mr. Daly."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-182
7.17	IH – COVID-19 Update – July 22, 2020	Receive and File
7.18	Gold Country – Roots to Routes through Community Art, Blossom BC – The Sunflower Project	Receive and File

## 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Motion List <b>M/S Roden / Davenport</b> <i>"That the Motions list for July 27, 2020 be received and filed."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-183
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**9. NEW BUSINESS**

9.1	N/A	
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**10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS**

10.1	N/A	
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**11. COUNCIL REPORTS**

11.1	Mayor Roden - Report	Receive and File
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey - Report	Receive and File

**12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING**

*Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1*

12.1	Community Charter section 90.1(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements Roden / Anderson	CARRIED Unanimous R-2020-184
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**13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING**

13.1		
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**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S Roden / Anderson**

*"That the Regular Meeting of Council for July 27, 2020 be adjourned at 9:16 pm."*

CARRIED

Unanimous

R-2020-185

Certified to be a true copy of the  
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of  
Council held Monday July 27, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Barbara Roden, MAYOR

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**FOR Monday August 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM**

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PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Roden  
Councillor Marilyn Anderson  
Councillor Nadine Davenport  
Councillor Debra Tuohey

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
Amy O'Rourke, NDIT Ashcroft Intern

EXCUSED: Councillor Jonah Anstett

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the Special Meeting of Council for August 17, 2020 to order at 10:02 am

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended*

**M/S Roden / Tuohey**

*"That the Agenda for the Special Meeting of Council held on August 17, 2020 be adopted as amended:  
Item 7.1 Legal Address be changed to Lot 3 at 605 Railway Ave."*

CARRIED - Unanimous (S-2020-13)

**3. MINUTES**

All Minutes are adopted at a Regular Meeting of Council

**4. DELEGATIONS**

4.1	NONE	
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**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5.1	NONE	

**6. BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION**

6.1	N/A	
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**7. STAFF REPORTS**

7.1	Anderson Development Permit Application	CARRIED Unanimous
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	Councillor Anderson recused herself as in a conflict as she is the owner of the property under discussion. <b>M/S Tuohey / Davenport</b> <i>"That Development Permit No. DP-20-01 be issued for Lot 3, Block 6, Plan KAP189, DL 423, KDYD at 605 Railway Ave. Ashcroft BC."</i>	S-2020-14
7.2	<b>Wiebe Development Permit Application</b> <b>M/S Anderson / Tuohey</b> <i>"That Development Permit No. DP-20-02 be issued for Lot 5, Block 11, Plan KAP189, DL 423, KDYD at 509 Railway Ave. Ashcroft BC."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous S-2020-15

**8. QUESTION PERIOD**

**9. CLOSED MEETING**

*Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1*

9.1	N/A	
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**10. TERMINATION**

**M/S Roden / Anderson**

*"That the Special Meeting of Council for August 17, 2020 be adjourned at 10:12 am."*

CARRIED - Unanimous (S-2020-16)

Certified to be a true copy of  
the Special Meeting of Council held  
Monday August 17, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Roden,  
MAYOR

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**  
**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**AT 7:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY JULY 29, 2020**

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**PRESENT:**

Margaret Moreira, EDTC Village of Ashcroft  
 Barbara Roden, Mayor, Village of Ashcroft  
 Marilyn Anderson, Councillor, Village of Ashcroft  
 Barry Tripp – Manager, Legacy Park  
 Jessica Clement – Representative from WRAPS and The HUB Online Network  
 Harp Dawar – Manager, Chevron KFC

**Via Zoom**

Deb Arnott – General Manager, Community Futures  
 Marshal Kraus – Business Development Officer Intern, Community Futures  
 Kathy Paulos – Curator, Ashcroft Museum

**EXCUSED:**

Ogesh Chand – Owner/Operator, Grand Central Restaurant  
 Andrea Walker – Chair, Communities in Bloom

**CALL TO ORDER**

EDT called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the committee.

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*No motion made*  
**M/S**

2. **MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Committee <i>No minutes as this was first meeting of the EDT Steering Committee</i>	

3. **DELEGATIONS**

3.1		
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4. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

*Round table introductions.*

5. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF COMMITTEE:**

*A brief statement made with regard to definition of a committee and what it's roles and responsibilities are.*

6. **DOCUMENTS:**

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
7.1	<b>Terms of Reference</b> <b>M/S EDT/Tripp</b> <i>Request by Jessica Clement to edit "The HUB" to "The HUB Online Network"</i> <i>Request by Marshal Kraus to edit "Krause" to "Kraus"</i> <i>Motion to accept amendments as above</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-01
7.2	<b>Confidentiality Agreement</b> <b>M/S EDT/Tripp</b> <i>"That the Confidentiality agreement be adopted as presented"</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-02
7.3	<b>Code of Conduct</b> <b>M/S EDT/Roden</b> <i>"That the Code of Conduct be adopted as presented."</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> <b>EDTC-2020-03</b>
7.4	<b>Radio Marketing</b> <b>M/S Tripp/Anderson</b> <i>"That the EDT research radio ads through Radio NL and Stringray to do 4-6 ads to a maximum budget of \$5,000 and that the EDT will follow up with an email to committee members with findings."</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> <b>UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-04

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

8.1	<b>Motel/Hotel Study-Marketing and Promotion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accommodations are a priority</li> <li>• Research the community of Salmon Arm and their success with building a motel and to contact a realtor for land options</li> <li>• Motel to have a community gathering place. ie: pub/lounge</li> <li>• location of motel should have a good view and easy access from hwy.</li> <li>• Create a promo video of Ashcroft to send to potential investors</li> <li>• note of interest; capital is extremely tight, investors would need cash to proceed.</li> </ul>	
8.2	<b>Love Ashcroft-Business Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDT reported all businesses registered with Love Northern BC for Ashcroft have been contacted to update their listing.</li> <li>• Suggestions for new businesses are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Slim Jim's</li> <li>○ Sam's Diner</li> <li>○ Art Club</li> <li>○ Wendy Wiebe</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
8.3	<b>Signage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wayfinding signage to guide visitors to Ashcroft from Hwy #1</li> <li>• Contact Ashcroft Manor Ranch to gauge their interest of village putting signage on their property.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three smaller signs indicating “Restaurants”, “Attractions”, “Accommodations” spaced approx. 1km apart.</li> <li>• Signage indicating “Alternate Route”</li> <li>• Signage indicating “Circle Tour/Route”</li> <li>• Research details of ownership/installation of “old” Ashcroft sign at intersection of Hwy #1 and Cornwall Road.</li> <li>• Move signage located on Hwy #97C to Hwy #1 as we are only permitted to have one “free” for the community.</li> <li>• To add “Wellness Awaits You” to bottom of sign located at the end of the bridge.</li> <li>• To re-assess the community branding as we have three identities...History, Old Fire Hall, Wellness Awaits You.</li> </ul>	
8.5	<p><b>Marketing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote community to Kamloops through radio ads</li> <li>• Stingray currently has/had funds available through grants</li> <li>• Funds available to do an 8-page Visitor Guide that encompasses all the community has to offer. Can be distributed throughout the region to facilitate travel planning for visitors.</li> <li>• Visitor Guide can be digitized and posted to website</li> <li>• Recommendation to create guide and get it ready for printing in the spring.</li> <li>• Research NDI website for marketing grants</li> </ul>	
8.6		

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

9.1	N/A	
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**9. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:**

*“That Council approve the EDT Committee Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Agreement as presented.”*

*“That Council endorse the EDT Committee request to allocate up to \$5000 for Radio Ads.”*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S Tripp/Anderson**

*“That the next EDT Steering committee meeting, as defined in the **Terms of Reference**, be set for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers; and further that the meeting of the EDT Committee be adjourned at 8:05 pm.”*

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Margaret Moreira, EDTC

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Barbara Roden, MAYOR

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**  
**MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM STEERING COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**AT 7:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020**

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**PRESENT:**

Margaret Moreira, EDTC Village of Ashcroft  
 Barbara Roden, Mayor, Village of Ashcroft  
 Barry Tripp – Manager, Legacy Park  
 Jessica Clement – Representative from WRAPS and The HUB Online Network  
 Harp Dawar – Manager, Chevron KFC  
 Trish Schatchel-Executive Director, South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society

Public-1

**Via Zoom**

Marshal Kraus – Business Development Officer Intern, Community Futures

**EXCUSED:**

Ogesh Chand – Owner/Operator, Grand Central Restaurant  
 Andrea Walker – Chair, Communities in Bloom  
 Kathy Paulos – Curator, Ashcroft Museum  
 Deb Arnott – General Manager, Community Futures  
 Marilyn Anderson, Councillor, Village of Ashcroft

**CALL TO ORDER**

EDT called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the committee.

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Motion to add or delete Agenda items*

*Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended*

**M/S Roden/Tripp**

*“THAT the agenda for the EDT Steering Committee held on Wednesday, Aug 19, 2020 be adopted as presented.”*

2. **MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the EDT Steering Committee meeting held Wednesday July 29, 2020 <b>M/S Clement/Tripp</b> <i>“That the Minutes of the EDT Steering Committee meeting held Wednesday, July 29, 2020 be adopted as presented.”</i>	<b>CARRIED          UNANIMOUSLY          EDTC-2020-05</b>
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3. **DELEGATIONS**

3.1	N/A	
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4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

*All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.*

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
5.1	<b>Radio Ads-option A or B</b> -Script <b>M/S Clement/Roden</b> "That EDTC move forward with Option B for one month on three stations, (New Country 103.1, K97.5, Radio NL 610 AM); and That EDTC do a third script that focuses on Recreation"	<b>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-06
5.2	<b>Promotional Video of Ashcroft:</b> <b>M/S Roden/Tripp</b> "That EDTC contract Mastermind Studios to do a 2-3 minute promotional video in mid-September of Ashcroft"	<b>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-07
5.3	<b>Hwy signage.</b> <b>M/S Clement/Tripp</b> "That the EDTC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research cost of refurbishing billboard located on Ashcroft Ranch Property on Hwy#1 just South of Ashcroft Manor</li> <li>• Contact ranch owner to enquire to the cost of placing a billboard on their property approximately 1KM further south along Hwy#1</li> <li>• Cost of a new billboard approximately the same size as one that is currently on ranch property.</li> </ul>	<b>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-08
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
5.5	Land options for Motel build <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDTC reported waiting for reply from realtor regarding availability of land options</li> </ul>	Receive and File
5.6	Love Ashcroft-Business Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three new businesses requested information to apply</li> </ul>	Receive and File
5.7	Visitor Guide "That website be updated for tourism and that a guide be developed for printing in the spring; and for EDTC to request a quote for a smaller 4x5 guide."	<b>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-09

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
6.1	BCEDA Ed for Local Leaders-Post-COVID19 Version Workshop “That a doodle pole be sent out to committee, council and staff to establish a date for workshop”	<b>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</b> EDTC-2020-10

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S Tripp/Roden**

*“That the meeting of the EDT Committee be adjourned at 8:05 pm”*

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Encroachment at 711 Brink Lane

---

### **Purpose**

To request Council approval for an Encroachment Agreement between the Village and the property owners of 711 Brink Lane.

### **Recommendation**

*“That Council approve the Encroachment Agreement request for 711 Brink Lane, that all legal and filling costs be expensed to the property owner, and further that the Mayor and CAO be approved to sign the agreement.”*

### **Alternatives**

*“That Council not approve the Encroachment Agreement and request further information.”*

### **Discussion**

The property owner of 711 Brink Lane contacted the Village to discuss an encroachment issue for the aforementioned property. It appears that the front corner and concrete apron are encroaching on Village roadway at the south west corner of Brink Lane.

The encroachment was discovered during a recent survey of the property. The public Works department is aware of the request; however, an encroachment agreement does not affect current infrastructure that may be under the surface of the encroached property.

The property owners preferred long-term solution for the encroachment is to complete a road closure and purchase the encroached property at fair market value. Prior to the consideration of a road closure, the public works department will confirm if water lines buried under the encroached land. In the event that Village infrastructure runs beneath the encroached property, the Village will have two options:

1. Establish a registered easement for access to the infrastructure – only required if we move forward with the road closure;
2. The proposed encroachment agreement remains attached to the property for the life of the dwelling.

### **Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

N/A

### **Legislative Authority**

Land Title Act

### **Financial Implications**

N/A

### **Attachment Listing**

1. Encroachment Request
- 

### **Prepared by:**



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

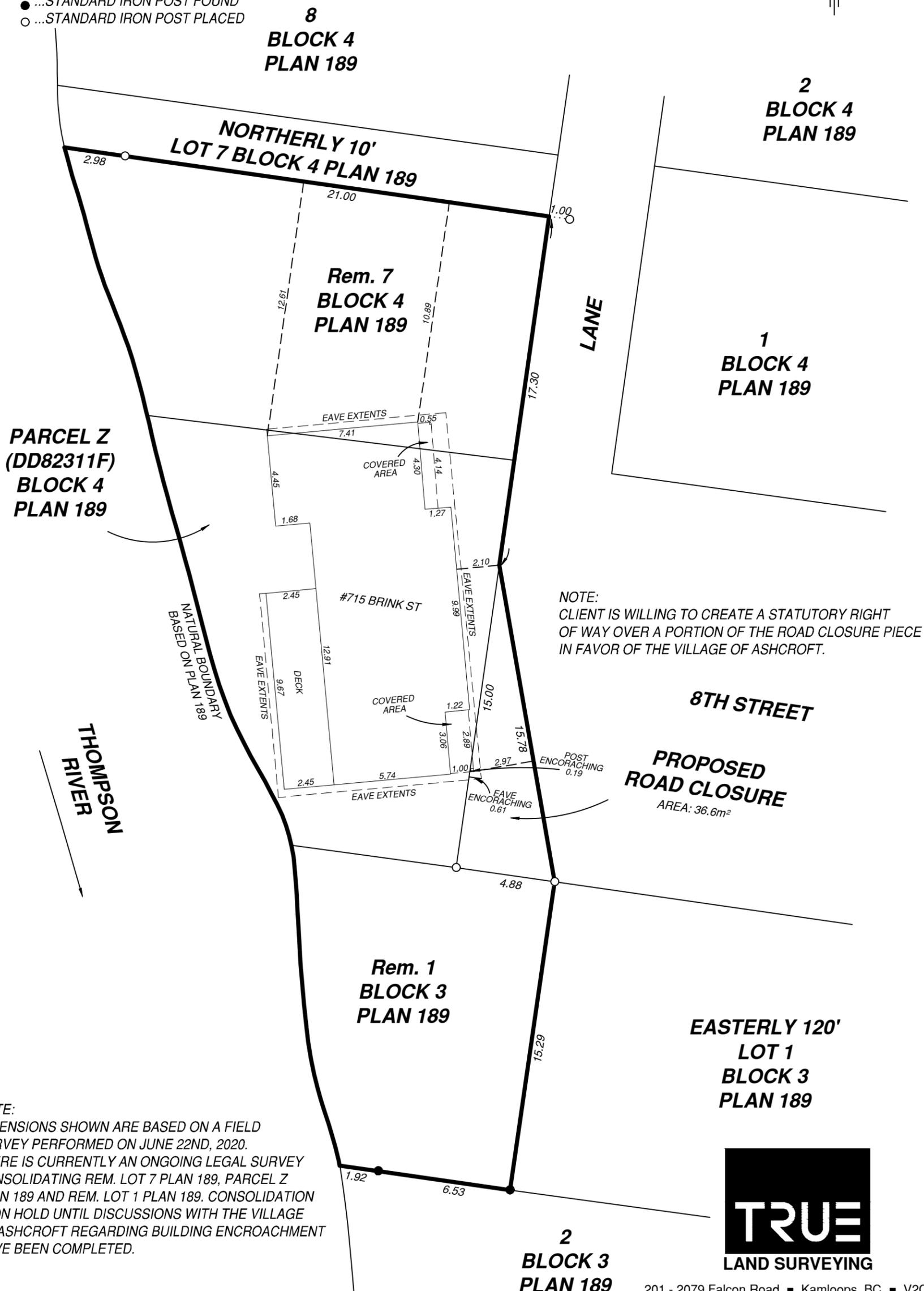
# SKETCH PLAN TO ACCOMPANY DISCUSSION REGARDING A ROAD CLOSURE AND CONSOLIDATION



ALL DISTANCES ARE IN METRES 1:200

## LEGEND

- ...STANDARD IRON POST FOUND
- ...STANDARD IRON POST PLACED



NOTE:  
CLIENT IS WILLING TO CREATE A STATUTORY RIGHT OF WAY OVER A PORTION OF THE ROAD CLOSURE PIECE IN FAVOR OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT.

NOTE:  
DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE BASED ON A FIELD SURVEY PERFORMED ON JUNE 22ND, 2020. THERE IS CURRENTLY AN ONGOING LEGAL SURVEY CONSOLIDATING REM. LOT 7 PLAN 189, PARCEL Z PLAN 189 AND REM. LOT 1 PLAN 189. CONSOLIDATION IS ON HOLD UNTIL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT REGARDING BUILDING ENCROACHMENT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.



201 - 2079 Falcon Road ■ Kamloops BC ■ V2C 4J2  
tel 250.828.0881 ■ fax 250.828.0717  
info-kam@TRUE.bc.ca  
DRAWN BY: MJ  
DWG FILE: 1954-011-PROPOSAL  
JOB NO: 1954-011  
FB:49 ■ P:70-76



# Village of Ashcroft Application for Encroachment

P.O. Box 129  
Ashcroft B.C. V0K 1A0  
Ph: (250) 453-9161 or (877)453-9161  
Fax: (250) 453-9664

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant Information

Company Name (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Site / Encroachment Information

Location of Encroachment: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Encroachment: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Encroachment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Justification of Encroachment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Provide an 11" x 17" site plan with the location and dimensions (including area) for: the encroachment, property lines, structures, affected frontage, and components of the right-of-way (e.g. location of curb, sidewalk, poles, etc.). If needed, additional sheets for reference, sufficient information must be provided to understand the proposal.**

## Insurance Requirements

Applicant must maintain third party liability insurance coverage for Permitted Encroachment Area with,

- a: a reputable insurer acceptable to the Village;
- b: a minimum per occurrence coverage of \$5 million;
- c: the Village as an additional insured, and
- d: a 30 day cancellation provision that requires notice be given by the insurer to the Village.

## Policy

**Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For payment fee information, refer to Encroachment into Village Owned and/or Controlled Lands Policy, adopted by Council on January 1, 2017, Resolution No. 999**

End of Application

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Yogi Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Water Treatment Plant Project sand mitigation proposal

---

### **Purpose**

Quarterly update to council on village financials and Water Treatment Plant Project sand mitigation proposal.

### **Recommendation**

Council approve water treatment separator design, tender and install

### **Alternatives**

Not to install separators.

### **Discussion**

Due to the wildfire and other climate change impacts we are now seeing increased turbidity for much longer periods with increased amounts of sand in the river. This increased sand and coarse materials increasingly degrades our equipment, leading to premature wear and shorter useful lives. To mitigate it we proposed to install separators at the intake.

### **Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

Asset Management

### **Legislative Authority**

NA

### **Financial Implications**

The total impact is anticipated in the \$150,000 range while design and tendering estimate is \$36,500

### **Attachment Listing**

1. WTP separators proposal
- 

**Prepared by:**



Yogi Bhalla,  
Chief Financial Officer

**Approved for submission to Council:**



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

August 17, 2020

File: CD1093.0000.00

Village of Ashcroft  
601 Bancroft St. PO Box 129  
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

**Via email:** [yoginder@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:yoginder@ashcroftbc.ca)

**Attention:** Yoginder Bhalla, CFO

**RE: ASHCROFT WATER TREATMENT PLANT SEPARATORS – DETAILED DESIGN AND TENDER SERVICES**

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ashcroft water treatment plant is located beside Legacy Park near the northern end of Railway Avenue. Water is pumped from the Thompson River into the plant where it is treated by membrane filtration and chlorination. These treatment methods address the water quality concerns of turbidity and microbiological contaminants (protozoa), which are quality parameters that the Village did not meet prior to construction of the treatment plant.

The treatment plant has recently experienced strain on its equipment due to an increase in turbidity of the intake water to the plant. The Elephant Hill wildfire in 2017 has impacted the watershed, resulting in regular flooding of the Bonaparte River. The flooding is contributing to increased turbidity of the Thompson River, which feeds water to the plant.

The water treatment plant was piloted with elevated turbidity but not for the duration currently being experienced. The increased amount of sand and coarser particles has resulted in premature wear of mechanical equipment (pumps and strainers).

It is proposed to install separators into the water treatment plant to remove the sand and reduce the impacts on the plant equipment.

### 1.1. PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

Our understanding of this project is that a minimum of two separators are planned to be installed in the treatment plant between the river intake pumps and balancing tank. Urban met with the Village on site and the preferred location is next to the flow balancing tank on the main floor.

The separators are to be installed such that they can be bypassed if required. Waste will be discharged into the plant's existing settling tank. A structural engineer will be engaged to review the new loads on the suspended slab. An electrical engineer will be engaged for this project to provide design work for the automated valves required to split flow between the strainers and discharge the sand to the settling tank.

It is planned to request quotations from minimum two equipment suppliers, prepare drawings for equipment installation, and prepare a CCDC contract to tender the work.

## 2.0 WORK PLAN

The tasks outlined in this proposal cover detailed design and tender for the project. A separate work plan for construction and inspection services will be provided upon completion of design.

### 2.1. TASK 1: PROJECT STARTUP AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

- Project start-up meeting with Village staff and project team. Due to COVID-19 concerns, it is expected that this meeting will be held over Microsoft Teams or Web-ex.
- Prepare request for proposal for separator equipment.
- Prepare a summary memo for separator design decisions and quotation results.

**Deliverables for Task 1:** Project Startup meeting minutes, Summary memo on equipment recommendations.

### 2.2. TASK 2: PRELIMINARY DESIGN – 70% DRAWINGS

- Prepare 70% design drawings for review with Village staff and operators.
  - Prepare a plan and two sections for the separators;
  - Update the WTP P&ID;
- Site visit to evaluate space and process constraints.
- Engage with structural engineer to confirm structural loading capacity.
- Engage electrical engineer for input on controls requirements. At this stage have assumed automated inlet valves and residuals discharge valves based on demand and flowrates.
- Teleconference with Village staff to review 70% drawings.

**Deliverables for Task 2:** 70% design drawings.

### 2.3. TASK 3: DETAILED DESIGN – 100%

- Incorporate the comments from the 70% design drawings complete design to 100% level.
- Coordinate with sub-consultants to provide project continuity over design drawings and specifications.
- Preparation of a CCDC contract for tender.
- The final detailed design and specifications will be reviewed with the Village prior to posting for tender.

**Deliverables for Task 3 include:** Issued for Tender design drawings, CCDC contract specifications.

### 2.4. TASK 4: TENDER SERVICES

- We will post the tender package to an online tendering service, MERX.com, as well as provide a tender advertisement for the Village to post on BC Bid and the Village's website.

- During the tender period, we will support the project by responding to questions, preparing addenda (as required).
- Upon tender close, we will complete the tender opening, review the submissions and provide a bid review letter to the Village for approval by Village Council. This will include preparation of the notice of award to the preferred contractor upon approval by Village Council.
- We will update and issue “For Construction Drawings”

**Deliverables for Task 4 include:** Tender opening summary and recommendations of award and other contract documents needed to enable the Village to select a contractor.

Issued for Construction drawings.

Note: We have not included any construction services in this work plan and will provide an updated scope of work and fee estimate for that stage of the project as it arises.

## 2.5. SUB-CONSULTANTS

### 2.5.1. Structural Engineering

A structural engineer will be required to support the installation design of the separators. We have engaged with CWMM to complete this scope of work.

An allowance for CWMM has been made to review the structural slab design and comment on suitability to support the proposed equipment.

### 2.5.2. Electrical Engineering

Electrical engineering design and support throughout this project will be provided by Exceed Electrical Engineering.

The electrical engineer will complete the controls design for the separators. Their scope includes:

- Electrical drawings to connect proposed control valves to the existing WTP controls.
- Update of current controls system
- Preparation of tender documents.

## 3.0 PROJECT TEAM

The project will be completed by Peter Coxon, P. Eng, with support from Jillian Reynolds, EIT, and Alex Harpaeur, process mechanical technologist. This team has been supporting the Village of Ashcroft for the past 5 years.

## 4.0 FEE ESTIMATE AND SCHEDULE

Based on the scope of work provided in Section 2.0, the following fee estimate has been prepared. These fees include the sub-consultants.

#### 4.1. FEE ESTIMATE

A breakdown of the fee estimate is provided as follows, for each of the tasks identified in Section 2.0.

Task 1: Project Start-up and Equipment RFP	\$ 6,500
Task 2: Preliminary Design and 70% Design Drawings	\$ 10,500
Task 3: Detailed Design to 100%	\$ 15,000
Task 4: Tender Services	\$ 4,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 36,500</b>

**Fee estimate includes sub-consultant fees. The total is inclusive of disbursements but excludes taxes.**

#### 4.2. SCHEDULE

The Village is interested in completing construction of this project by freshet 2021. Freshet typically begins in April/May. The following schedule is proposed to meet this requirement:

Task	Duration	Timeframe
Select Equipment	2-4 Weeks	September 2020
Order Equipment and Review Shop Drawings	4 weeks	September – October 2020
Equipment Manufacturing	3-4 Months	October 2020 to February 2021
Tender	2 Weeks	December 2020
Construction	3 months	January – March 2021

#### 5.0 CLOSING

We thank the Village of Ashcroft for the opportunity to prepare a work plan for the design services for the proposed separators for their water treatment plant. We will work directly with the Village to communicate design, schedule and budget. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should there be any questions.

Sincerely,

**URBAN SYSTEMS LTD.**



Jillian Reynolds, EIT  
Design Engineer



Peter Coxon, P.Eng.  
Principal

JR/crb

Enclosures

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Yogi Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Financial Updates & debt payment

---

### **Purpose**

Quarterly update to council on village financials, projects and debt payment

### **Recommendation**

Council approve payment of both fire and WTP debt.

### **Alternatives**

Retain debt.

### **Discussion**

We are in the position to pay off our debt while retaining adequate cushion to proceed forward with our projects. The WTP loan stands at \$1,000,000 while the outstanding balance of the Fire Truck Loan is at \$355,000. This payout would save the village approximately \$125,000 in annual payment cost at current low rates of interest. This when added to the total debt avoided of 4.5 million has saved the three times that amount in financing costs.

### **Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

Prudent Financial Management

### **Legislative Authority**

NA

### **Financial Implications**

Savings as outlined in discussion

### **Attachment Listing**

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#### **Prepared by:**



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Yogi Bhalla,  
Chief Financial Officer

#### **Approved for submission to Council:**



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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer & Amy O'Rourke, NDIT Intern  
**SUBJECT:** Delegation – Heritage Conservation, Gloria Mertens

---

### Purpose

To provide Council with a report summarizing Gloria Mertens presentation as a delegation at the July 27, 2020 Regular Meeting of Council.

### Recommendation

*"That Council not consider the establishment of a Heritage Conservation committee or commission for the purpose of designating the Slough as a Heritage Site; and further that Ms. Mertens be advised to contact the Ashcroft Terminal Working Group and share her presentation."*

### Alternatives

Receive for Information

### Discussion

The Official Community Plan, Bylaw No. 822 addresses Council policy in relation to industry, public safety, recreation and the environment among other things. The OCP clearly states the goal of Council is to protect environmentally sensitive areas, promote public safety and minimize damage to property by exercising caution in areas exhibiting hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions. The OCP also speaks to "Open Space" which is intended to protect spaces such as the slough from potential development.

The mandate of a Council in British Columbia is defined by the Province as:

*"Providing for good government of its community. Providing for services, laws and other matters for community benefit. Providing for stewardship of the public assets of its community. Fostering the economic, social and environmental well-being of its community."*

Ashcroft's Mission Statement states:

*"The Village of Ashcroft is a welcoming, safe and attractive community characterized by an exceptional climate and a strong sense of history and opportunity. As stewards of the community, Village Council is committed to providing accountable leadership by addressing our fiscal reality through strategic planning and building effective relationships."*

It is not Council's mandate to dictate land uses to property owners beyond zoning. Further, it is not Council's mandate to facilitate loopholes that would allow public access to or through private property. Land administration and the conservation of the environment is a municipal responsibility; however, this responsibility is not intended to compromise public safety on private and in this case industrial land. It is at the discretion of the property owner to determine best safety practices for the industrial environment. The Village is in full support of the Ashcroft Terminal Community Working Group as an appropriate venue through which community members can work with the Ashcroft Terminal to find a solution.

There is no doubt that the Slough has been a recreational site in Ashcroft for generations. Although the Slough is zoned as "Parks and Public Use" it remains private property with the added complication of there being no legal access to the Slough; accessing this site involves illegally crossing the CN Rail line in addition to private industrial land. The Slough property has past recreational significance; however, access in the past has always been at the discretion of the property owners. Through the years, the Slough has been owned by ranchers, a dairy farm, Dupont Explosives, and most recently by the Ashcroft Terminal.

Staff has reviewed and researched Ms. Mertens suggestions and conclude the following:

The presentation does not identify historical, cultural, archeological, or ecological value that would make the Slough a suitable contender for a Community Heritage Site.

- The area of the Slough is unique in Ashcroft primarily because of the sedimentation that has occurred, creating a beach area of recreational value. This sedimentation is, however, not uncommon. A similarly sandy

beach along the Thompson River can be seen at Juniper Beach Provincial Park approximately 20 minutes from Ashcroft.

- If this were an area of unique ecological value, restricted access should be considered and trail construction re-evaluated to limit erosion and general disruption to the area. Roadsides are a recognized pathway for invasive flora, with roadside trail construction creating further disrupted land in which invasive flora may thrive.
- Designating the Slough as a Heritage Site would not address present problems: Federal law against uncontrolled rail crossing, safety concerns, and the Ashcroft Terminal being liable for those that enter their property.
- Ms. Mertens' presentation describes the Slough as important for First Nations. Designating this location as a Heritage Site under the Village of Ashcroft would be an inappropriate avenue to protect, reclaim, or respect a potentially important Indigenous site. Further, claims of sacred importance to Indigenous peoples are made to support the presenter's specific end of public access to the Slough.
- Staff question the desirability and safety of a Heritage Site that floods on a yearly basis.
- The Village could promote Juniper Beach Provincial Park (20-minute drive from Ashcroft) as a safe location to see both train tracks, experience a sandy beach, go fishing, etc. as a representative desert landscape that is provincially protected and designated as a recreational area.

Ms. Mertens is evidently passionate about protecting the Slough environment, gaining public access to the Slough, and advocating for the residents that signed the digital petition; however, the fact remains that the Slough is private property without safe or legal public access. Village involvement in designating the Slough as a Heritage Conservation Site opens a Pandora's Box of liability. Staff recognize that the community deeply values the area, however, the most appropriate means of addressing this issue is through discussion and collaboration with the Ashcroft Terminal Working Group:

<https://www.ashcroftterminal.com/news/ashcroft-terminal-community-working-group>

Staff commend Ms. Mertens' passion but recommend her efforts be redirected to the Working Group.

**Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 822

Zoning Bylaw No. 823

**Legislative Authority**

Federal & Provincial Gov't

**Financial Implications**

N/A

**Attachment Listing**

N/A

---

**Prepared by:**



Amy O'Rourke  
Ashcroft NDIT Intern  
and



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Drylands Arena – Re-Opening

---

### Purpose

To request Council endorsement of the proposed re-opening plan for Drylands Arena

### Recommendation

*“That Council endorse the Drylands Arena re-opening plan as presented.”*

### Alternatives

*“That Council direct staff to edit the Drylands Arena Re-opening plan as discussed.”*

### Discussion

COVID-19 continues to impact Village operations and the re-opening of the Drylands Arena is no exception. The Thompson Cariboo Minor Hockey Association (TCMHA) has contacted the village and expressed interested in running a hockey program. The Association is currently working on a “Return to Hockey Member Plan.”

Staff has researched requirements for re-opening the arena; the proposed re-opening plan implements recommendations from WorkSafeBC, ViaSport, BC Parks and Recreation Associations “Guidelines for Restarting Operations” and Hockey Canada’s “Return to Hockey Safety Guidelines.” Staff also polled other BC Municipalities to see what they were doing- many forwarded reopening plans that were recently completed or under development. Upon consideration of all the received information, staff recommend the following:

- Delay arena opening to November 1, 2020
  - Factors informing the delay: rising case counts in BC, school recommencing, virus presence in Interior Health region;
- Reopen arena only if the COVID-19 virus seems to be under control;
- Limit arena “open” times to 4-5 days per week, this will allow the Village to schedule one 8hr staff member;
- TCMHA needs to determine if these restrictions are feasible to run minor hockey and advise the Village by September 15, 2020;
- TCMHA must develop their own COVID-19 Safety Guidelines such as Hockey Canada’s “Return to Hockey Member Plan”;
- TCMHA is responsible for monitoring all COVID rules in effect;
- TCMHA must schedule 4 hour blocks of ice time;
- TCMHA must purchase liability insurance that includes COVID-19 coverage (provide copy to Village);
- Arena Use Parameters:
  - Open exclusively to minor hockey – no adult league or public skate;
  - Development training only, no games, no contact;
  - Social distancing on and off ice
  - Dressing rooms closed- players arrive in equipment, remove skate guards at entrance before getting on the ice;
  - Coordinated pick up and drop off locations (enter at rear entrance, exit at front entrance);
  - No concession

- No spectators

Staff is recommending these restrictions keeping the sole purpose of public safety in mind. The Drylands Arena does not have the space, staffing levels or capacity to operate all services during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, we recognize that kids need recreational opportunities and some sort of normal activity. When the COVID-19 pandemic is no longer a threat to public health and safety, these restrictions will be lifted and normal operations will resume at the arena.

When/if Council endorses the reopening of the Drylands Arena, a COVID-19 safety plan will be developed using the guidelines provided by the Public Health Officer, WorkSafeBC and ViaSport.

**Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

N/A

**Legislative Authority**

WorkSafeBC,  
Public Health Officer

**Financial Implications**

Regular Operational costs approx. \$180,000/year

**Attachment Listing**

N/A

---

**Prepared by:**



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

**STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING**

**DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** TNRD Building Inspection Services Contract Renewal

---

**Purpose**

To request Council approval to renew the TNRD Building Inspection Services Contract.

**Recommendation**

*“That Council accept the terms of the TNRD Building Inspection Contract renewal for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2021 and concluding December 31, 2023; and further that the Mayor and CAO be approved to sign the contract.”*

**Alternatives**

Receive for Information

**Discussion**

The Village of Ashcroft has contracted Building Inspection services through the TNRD for many years. As the contract states, the Village receives 1 hour per week of services in the office plus onsite inspections.

The fees remain the same as the previous contract at \$4414 / year in addition, all revenues generated by the Building Permit process be received by the TNRD for services rendered.

The Village does not have the capacity to manage building inspections in-house and staff strongly advocate for continuing the service.

**Strategic/Municipal Objectives**

Official Community Plan  
Zoning Bylaw

**Legislative Authority**

Community Charter Division 8

**Financial Implications**

\$4414 per year plus all revenues generated by Building Permit applications.

**Attachment Listing**

1. TNRD Building Inspection Draft Contract Renewal
- 

**Prepared by:**



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer



# Building Inspection Service Agreement

2020-092

THIS AGREEMENT dated for reference this 1st day of September, 2020.

BETWEEN:

The **THOMPSON-NICOLA REGIONAL DISTRICT**,  
a Regional District pursuant to the provisions of  
the *Local Government Act* of British Columbia, having its  
office at #300 – 465 Victoria Street, City of Kamloops  
Province of British Columbia,

(hereinafter called the “**TNRD**”)

AND:

The **VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT**,  
a duly incorporated municipality pursuant to the provisions  
of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* of  
  
in the Province of British Columbia.

(hereinafter called the “**Municipality**”)

WHEREAS the TNRD is empowered by *the Local Government Act* to provide building inspection services, by contract, to any municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality has requested to contract with the TNRD to issue building and plumbing permits and conduct building and plumbing inspections;

NOW, THEREFORE the Parties agree as follows:

## 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The TNRD agrees to provide building and plumbing inspection services to the Municipality extending over all lands under the jurisdiction of the Municipality in accordance with the applicable building bylaw of the Municipality.
- 1.2. The TNRD shall receive all building and plumbing permit applications and may issue permits as required by the applicable building bylaw and shall collect and retain all permit fees.

## 2. TERM

- 2.1. This agreement shall commence on the **1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2021** and will continue for a term expiring on the **31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2023**. Unless either party gives notice of termination, this contract shall be renewed for an additional one year term.
- 2.2. Either party may terminate this agreement by giving the other party a written notice of termination prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, in which event this agreement shall cease and terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December following the date of the notice of termination.

## 3. FINANCIAL ISSUES

- 3.1. The TNRD will provide building and plumbing inspection services to the Municipality once per week for a total of approximately 48 times per year.
- 3.2.
- 3.3. The amount to be paid by the Municipality to the TNRD for services rendered under the provisions of this agreement shall be **\$ 4414** per year (50% reduction to recognize municipal staff and office contribution). This annual fee shall be paid in addition to the permit fees collected by the TNRD in accordance with Section 1.2, and shall continue for the remaining term of this agreement unless notice is given by either party that they wish to renegotiate the amount as a result of changing costs. If the parties fail to reach agreement on the annual fee, this agreement may be terminated by either party.
- 3.4. The Municipality agrees to pay the applicable annual fee to the TNRD for such services on or before the 5th day of August each year.

## 4. INDEMNIFICATION

- 4.1. The TNRD shall indemnify and save harmless the Municipality, its officials, employees and agents, from and against any losses, claims, damages, actions, causes of action, costs and expenses that the Municipality may sustain, incur, suffer or be put to at any time either before or after the expiration or termination of this Agreement, where the same or any of them are based upon, arise out of or occur, directly or indirectly, by reason of any negligent act or omission of the TNRD or of any agent, employee, officer, or director of the TNRD in relation to the provision of Services under this Agreement, excepting always liability arising out of the independent negligent acts of the Municipality.
- 4.2. The Municipality shall indemnify and save harmless the TNRD, its officials, employees and agents, from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, actions, causes of action, costs and expenses that the TNRD may sustain, incur, suffer or be put to at any time either before or after the expiration or termination of this Agreement where the same or any of them are based upon, arise out of or occur, directly or indirectly, by reason of any negligent act or omission of the Municipality or of any agent, employee, officer, elected official or committee member of the Municipality in relation to the provision of services under this Agreement, including the provision of erroneous advice or failure to provide advice on municipal building inspection matters to the TNRD or others or any bylaw enforcement proceeding taken by the Municipality, including any failure to enforce any building bylaw, but excepting always liability arising out of the independent negligent acts of the TNRD.

- 4.3. The TNRD shall not be responsible for determining compliance with municipal bylaws other than the applicable building bylaws(s).
- 4.4. The Municipality shall be responsible for maintaining general liability insurance covering the services to be performed under this contract with a firm satisfactory to the TNRD.
- 4.5. The Municipality and TNRD shall seek to accommodate all reasonable requests with regard to improving the service provided hereunder.
- 4.6. The Municipality hereby agrees to provide Municipal office space and the necessary Municipal office staff required to accommodate and support TNRD Building Inspector(s) in the performance of their duties for both Municipal and Electoral Area residents.
- 4.7. The TNRD shall not be required to provide services pursuant to this agreement if prevented or unable due to strikes, lockouts, or other labour disputes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this agreement on the day first written above.

Thompson-Nicola Regional District,  
by its authorized signatories:

Village of Ashcroft

\_\_\_\_\_

Chair

\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Officer

\_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Officer

## STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** August 24, 2020  
**FROM:** Barry Trip Legacy Park Camp Host  
**SUBJECT:** July 2020 Visitor Activity

---

### Purpose

To provide Council with an update regarding Legacy Park visitor activity for July 2020

### Discussion

breakdown of the Park activities for July 2020

- Billable RV nights	143 @ \$ 20.00	\$ 2860.00
- Billable weekly	30 @ \$100.00	\$ 3000.00
- Sani dump	71 @ 5.00	\$ 355.00

Total receipts \$ 6215.00

The month of July was a very busy month with visitors from every corner of the province. We did however, host one couple from Alberta and one from Ontario.

We have seen repeat business throughout the month from a number of visitors as the popularity and awareness of the park increases. It's also believed that the "opening" of the province and the turnaround in the weather contributed to the large number of visitors. It is interesting to note that we had more billable nights this month than July 2019.

Phone calls continue to be the method of choice when it comes to making reservations. There seems to be fewer reservation "no shows" this year than last year, so far.

Late in the month we received a directive from the province to record the names and contact numbers of any people visiting our campers. We have also been asked to control the number of people in the sites to a maximum of 9.

### Financial Implications

Revenues received \$6215.00

---

**Prepared by:**

Barry Trip  
Legacy Park Camp Host

**Approved for submission to Council:**



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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

## REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** July 27, 2020  
**FROM:** Amy O'Rourke, Intern  
**SUBJECT:** Intern Update Report

---

### **Purpose:**

To update Council on current status of work undertaken by the NDIT intern.

### **Recommendations:**

For information only

### **Alternatives:**

### **Discussion:**

- Monitoring and creating content for the Love Ashcroft Facebook page
  - Promoting a new Love Ashcroft business on a weekly basis
  - Promoting the Love Ashcroft program
- Monitoring and creating content for the Village of Ashcroft Facebook page
  - Heat & fire safety posts
  - Notice of water conservation restrictions & fire bans
  - COVID safety – posters, possible exposure notices, general updates
  - Promoting Business Façade Improvement program
- Created COVID-19 signage & Safety Plan
- Publishing information to the Village of Ashcroft Twitter feed
- Overseeing the Ashcroft Heat Advisory and Response Plan
  - Created two advisories for public distribution
  - Pre-season Advisory mailed out to residents along with water conservation notice
  - Provided update to HARS stakeholders in August meeting
  - Created an Extreme Heat page on the Village website
  - Distributed educational brochures & posters to the Hub, Pool, Museum, and Village Office
  - Notified public and stakeholders of two Level 1 Heat Advisories
- Redid monthly newsletter format & wrote July and August newsletters
- Water conservation education
  - Created informative mail out
  - Researched and ordered custom water conservation kits
    - Currently available for pick up by residents in the Village Office – 61 have been distributed as of August 20th
  - Created a Water Conservation Poster Contest for Ashcroft youth– deadline newly extended to September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Overseeing the Business Façade Improvement Program
- Helped organize the Ashcroft Staycation Radio promotion
  - Organized sponsorship and prize packs
- Assisting with website updates
- Assisting with updating Business License Bylaw
- Taking the LGMA Foundations of Local Government course over the fall
- Creating a brochure to simplify the development process
- Digitizing agreements & creating a database
- Various policy & bylaw research

- Learning about the tax sale process & will be assisting CFO Bhalla with the September tax sale

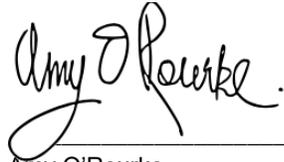
**Strategic Municipal Objectives:**

**Financial Implications:**

**Attachment Listing:**

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**Prepared by:**



Amy O'Rourke,  
NDIT Intern

**Approved for submission to Council:**



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

## REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

**DATE:** August 19, 2020  
**FROM:** Margaret Moreira, EDT  
**SUBJECT:** EDTC Status Update Report

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**Purpose:**

To update Council on current status of work undertaken by the Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator.

**Recommendations:**

For information only

**Alternatives:**

**Discussion:**

- Completed Terms of Reference, Confidentiality Agreement and Code of Conduct
- Added one new member to committee – Trish Schatchel from South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society
- Confirming details for radio ads which will run the month of September on three radio channels in the Kamloops and outlying areas.
- Continuing to update the Economic Development and Tourism pages of the Village website with Amy and Yogi
- Continuing to work with Amy on social media promotions of Love Ashcroft
- Continuing to look at signage options which include refurbishing/replacing existing signs along Hwy #1
- Confirming details for a 2-3 minute promotional video of Ashcroft. Video to be done by Mastermind Studios sometime in September to capture the best scenery. Video would be used on social media, website and to promote to investors.
- Setting a date for the BCEDA Ed for Local Leaders-Post-COVID19 Version Workshop. This workshop will be available for committee members, council members and staff.

**Strategic Municipal Objectives:**

Economic Development and Tourism Strategy

**Financial Implications:**

**Attachment Listing:**

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Prepared by:



Margaret Moreira,  
Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator

Approved for submission to Council:



Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Office



July 23, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mayor and Council,

**RE: A Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Health Care**

The Council of the Village of Kaslo is sponsoring the following resolution, which was identified by the Association of Kootenay-Boundary Local Governments as a top shared priority, to the UBCM Convention this September.

**A Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Health Care**

*Whereas local health care at all stages of life impacts the economic development of communities: e.g. family members lose work time, people and their businesses move out of the community or choose not to locate there;*

*And whereas “ageing in place” keeps seniors close to home, where their partner, family or friends are better able to provide loving support and care, which reduces the load on health care providers and improves quality of life for all;*

*And whereas concentrating health services in regional centres transfers a significant economic burden to individuals in the form of transportation costs, increased energy consumption and housing in-affordability;*

*And whereas providing health care jobs in small communities stimulates the local economy with numerous spin-off benefits, creating opportunities to attract new people, their families, and businesses;*

*And whereas our elderly, and all patients, deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, not as “users”;*

*Now therefore be it resolved that we call upon the Government of British Columbia to build a strategy to expand rural community health care services with consideration for maximizing local*

Box 576, Kaslo, BC V0G 1M0  
Tel. 250-353-2311 ext. 201 Fax. 250-353-7767  
E-mail: [cao@kaslo.ca](mailto:cao@kaslo.ca)  
<http://www.kaslo.ca>

*economic impacts, creating professional job opportunities, access to affordable housing, improving social wellbeing and reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.'*

(Resolution 23/2020 Passed January 28, 2020)

We appreciate your consideration to support our resolution, which has become even more timely and relevant considering the impacts Covid-19 on the health and vitality of small, rural and remote communities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suzan Hewat". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Suzan Hewat

Cc: BC Municipalities and Local Governments  
The Honourable Adrian Dix, British Columbia Minister of Health

## National Pharmacare Call to Action

From The Office of  
Councillor Stephanie McGowan  
Town of Comox

Dear Community Leaders,

With the economy in crisis because of COVID-19, now is the time for the federal government to fulfill its promise to implement a universal, public national pharmacare program. The need for pharmacare has never been starker.

Rapid implementation of a universal pharmacare system could help Canadian households, businesses, and municipalities and avoid needless suffering.

Prior to COVID-19, Canada's patchwork of private and public drug plans left [1 in 5 Canadians with little or no prescription drug coverage](#). Canadians were already three times more likely to [skip prescriptions because they could not afford them](#) than residents of comparable countries with universal pharmacare systems, like the United Kingdom. COVID-19 will make this worse.

[Over 3 million Canadians have lost their jobs](#) because of the COVID-19 pandemic and 2.5 million more are working less than half of their usual hours. All 5.5 million of these Canadians now have less income to pay for medicines that they or their family members need. Those who were fortunate enough to have had work-related health insurance may lose that too.

Even before COVID-19, [thousands of Canadians already ended up in hospital](#) and [hundreds of Canadians died](#) every year as a result of their inability to afford the medicines they need. More will do so as a result of their reduced incomes and loss of drug coverage – right at a time when we need Canadians to avoid hospitals as much as possible.

Canada's patchwork of private and public drug plans is not just letting patients down, it is also costing far more than a universal pharmacare system would. Canada spends at [least 50% more per person on pharmaceuticals](#) than countries with universal, single-payer pharmacare systems. Other countries spend less because they use their nation-wide purchasing power of to negotiate [lower prices for brand name and generic drugs](#).

The inefficiency in Canada's system is placing a heavy financial burden on Canadian households and employers. Local governments are among those bearing this burden. In 2015, Canada's local governments spent an [estimated \\$500 million](#) to provide private drug coverage for our public sector employees. The costs of these plans have increased dramatically since, driven by increased availability and use of [high-cost medicines](#), the costs of which are very difficult for individual employers to manage.

Having multiple drug plans operating in every province – including multiple private plans for public sector employees – needlessly duplicates administrative costs and reduces Canada's power to effectively manage prices. Wasteful spending on these drug plans has long diverted resources from services that Canadians need from local governments. Now, with reduced local government revenues stemming from the COVID-19 mitigation efforts, the cost of these plans are an even greater problem across the country.

It is therefore time for the federal government to implement the long-promised universal, comprehensive, public pharmacare plan. Since the 1960s, five separate national commissions have recommended that medically necessary prescription drugs be included in Canada's universal, public health insurance system. Just last year, Trudeau's [Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare](#) produced an evidence-based and practical implementation plan that would begin this year.

The creation of a universal pharmacare plan was in the [Liberal platform](#), in mandate letters for the [minister of health](#) and [deputy prime minister](#), and a top of the priority of the [NDP](#), whose support is critical in this minority parliament.

COVID-19 has made the case for implementing universal even stronger.

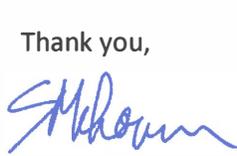
The federal government has the opportunity right now to provide an immediate \$3.5 billion for universal, public coverage of between 100 and 200 medicines of greatest importance to the health of the Canadian population. This would [improve access to essential treatments](#) when Canadians most need it while, according to the governments' own estimates, save Canadian households and employers [billions of dollars more than it cost government to run](#).

We ask municipalities to join us in requesting that the federal government by sending your own message or inserting your community name and letterhead on the attached document requesting the Federal Government follow through with their Advisory Council's recommendations and move forward with implementing this program. All messages should be sent to:

Honourable Minister of Health  
Patty Hadju  
Address Locator 0900C2  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
[hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca](mailto:hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca)

Special thanks to:  
Professor Steve Morgan, UBC  
Melanie Benard, Canadian Health Coalition  
Oxana Genina, Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions

Thank you,



Stephanie McGowan,  
Councillor  
Town of Comox  
[SMcGowan@comox.ca](mailto:SMcGowan@comox.ca)



Alex Bissinger  
Councillor  
Town of Comox  
[Abissinger@comox.ca](mailto:Abissinger@comox.ca)



Pat McKenna  
Councillor  
Town of Comox  
[Pmckenna@comox.ca](mailto:Pmckenna@comox.ca)



Nicole Minions  
Councillor  
Town of Comox  
[Nminions@comox.ca](mailto:Nminions@comox.ca)

## Sample Message on Pharmacare Implementation

Dear Honorable Minister Patty Hajdu,

<Insert Municipality Name here> is requesting that your government move forward in implementing a national pharmacare program.

With the economy in crisis because of COVID-19, now is the time for the federal government to fulfill its promise to implement a universal, public national pharmacare program. The need for pharmacare has never been starker.

Rapid implementation of a universal pharmacare system could help Canadian households, businesses, and municipalities and avoid needless suffering.

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The creation of a universal pharmacare plan was in the [Liberal platform](#), in mandate letters for the [minister of health](#) and [deputy prime minister](#), and a top of the priority of the [NDP](#), whose support is critical in this minority parliament.

COVID-19 has made the case for implementing universal even stronger.

**We are calling on the government to implement universal pharmacare now!**

To:

Honourable Minister of Health  
Patty Hadju  
Address Locator 0900C2  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9  
hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca

**From:** Stephen Covey <[stephen.covey@cn.ca](mailto:stephen.covey@cn.ca)>  
**Sent:** August 20, 2020 8:35 AM  
**To:** Daniela Dyck <[cao@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:cao@ashcroftbc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Rail Safety Week 2020 | Safety is a shared responsibility



[cn.ca](http://cn.ca)

Dear Ms. Dyck:

As a responsible global railroad that links communities to markets around the world, CN is taking all necessary steps to protect our employees, communities, customers, vendors and partners, in response to the unprecedented challenges associated with the pandemic. As we continue to run a solid operation to safely serve our customers and keep the economy moving, we remain committed in our efforts to educate the public on rail safety.

Rail Safety Week will be held in Canada, the United States and Mexico from September 21-27. Our activities will look different this year, however our efforts to get the rail safety message out will be stronger than ever. Rail safety never takes a break and, as proud neighbours, we continue to work with *Operation Lifesaver*, our communities and local authorities, CN Police Service officers and other CN employees to help prevent accidents and injuries at rail crossings, and ensure everyone's safety on and around railroad infrastructure year-round.

### **Rail Safety is a shared responsibility**

Every year, more than 2,100 North Americans are killed or seriously injured because of unsafe behaviour around tracks and trains. Rail safety is everyone's responsibility. By looking out for each other and working together, we can help keep our communities safe and prevent fatalities and injuries on or near railway property.

Your council can continue to be a powerful ally in this effort to prevent these incidents and save lives by adopting the attached draft proclamation, as you have done previously. Please send a copy of your proclamation by mail or by e-mail to [Marie-Pier.Triganne@cn.ca](mailto:Marie-Pier.Triganne@cn.ca) and let us know about your plans to promote rail safety in your community.

CN – Marie-Pier.Triganne  
935 de la Gauchetière Street West  
16th floor  
Montreal, Quebec  
H3B 2M9

If you have any questions or concerns about rail safety in your community, please contact our Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909. For additional information about Rail Safety Week 2020, please consult [cn.ca/railsafety](http://cn.ca/railsafety) or [operationlifesaver.ca](http://operationlifesaver.ca).

Sincerely,

Stephen Covey  
Chief of Police and  
Chief Security Officer

Fiona Murray  
Vice-President, Public and  
Government Affairs



(Draft Resolution)

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RAIL SAFETY WEEK**

**Whereas *Rail Safety Week*** is to be held across Canada from September 21 to 27, 2020;

**Whereas** it is in the public's interest to raise citizens' awareness of the dangers of ignoring safety warnings at level crossings and trespassing on rail property to reduce avoidable deaths, injuries and damage caused by incidents involving trains and citizens;

**Whereas** Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;

**Whereas** CN has requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

It is proposed by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_

seconded by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_

It is hereby **RESOLVED** to support national ***Rail Safety Week*** to be held from September 21 to 27, 2020.

[Date]

Ref: 256384

Honourable John Horgan  
Premier  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Honourable Carole James  
Minister of Finance  
PO Box 1234 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V1A 2BC

Dear Premier and Minister James:

During the month of July, I held 10 consultation sessions about COVID-19 and economic recovery with municipal mayors and regional district chairs or their representatives across the province. The sessions provided an opportunity for local governments to contribute directly to British Columbia's recovery conversation. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing invited representatives from 189 local governments including 21 regional districts and 14 resort communities to the conversations. The discussion and ideas that were generated helped inform this letter and I am pleased to share them with you.

Overwhelmingly, local government representatives were most concerned about connectivity, infrastructure, transit and food security. The ministry also heard that people want more than economic recovery, they want to make things better for everyone and COVID-19 provides the opportunity to do that as we restart the economy towards recovery.

The consultation sessions were guided by the principles, values and measures outlined in the government's discussion paper, Building B.C.'s Recovery, Together. They focused on the importance of getting people back to work quickly, the value of equity, leaving no one behind, restoring the Province of British Columbia's revenue base, supporting climate commitments, and having an immediate and demonstrable impact on economic recovery.

.../2

Local governments put forward a variety of practical, innovative and valuable ideas in the consultation sessions. The following priority themes (common topics or subject areas for recovery investment) were identified:

- **Connectivity/Broadband**
- **Investment in Infrastructure**
- **Transit/Transportation**
- **Agriculture/Food Security**
- **Child Care**
- **Low Wage Workers/Employment**
- **Health Care, Mental Health and Social Services**
- **Tourism/Recreation**
- **Education/Training**
- **Clean Energy and Technology**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Industry/Business Development**
- **Reconciliation**

These priority themes (described further in **Appendix 1**) cut across all local governments, independent of size and location. They also reflect a strong sense of “building back better” – an idea that has been widely expressed by many who say that with the hard economic impact of COVID-19 comes an opportunity to diversify, innovate, collaborate and partner to make things better for people and communities as we work towards economic recovery.

The priority themes and ideas expressed by local government leaders were primarily focused on what could be done to help various sectors in their communities rather than on the needs of the local governments themselves. At the same time, the importance of local governments having enough supports and capacity to restart operations was also noted.

A number of local governments have laid off workers, experienced real revenue losses (e.g. transit, user fees) and faced significant new costs (e.g. adapting local government facilities and services to a COVID-19 environment). Some local governments also noted the opportunity to rethink local government financing to ensure that their financial tools are sufficiently robust and sustainable to meet the increased and changing demands on local governments and their services.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the dedication, hard work and leadership local governments are providing to their communities, each with unique needs, during a challenging and ever-evolving time. As B.C. has moved into restart and now recovery planning, local governments have not only been working hard to get themselves back to full operation in a safe way, they have also been supporting the businesses, non-profits and other interests in their communities. This includes patio expansions for restaurants, shop local campaigns, virtual community events, business information tools, local economic recovery task forces and direct contributions in dedicated time and resources.

.../3

Most importantly, local governments have been doing this work in collaboration with other local governments across their regions, First Nation neighbours, all sectors in their communities and the Province. The commitment to come together in response to the unprecedented COVID-19 emergency persisted as we worked together to get restarted and now continues in rebuilding together as local governments work with the Province to plan for recovery.

I appreciate the time that everyone took out of their busy lives to participate in the consultation sessions and the recommendations they provided from their unique positions on the front lines of the pandemic.

It gives me great pleasure to provide this input from my calls with local government leaders to the economic recovery engagement process. I expect that some local governments will also be submitting ideas into that process directly. The Union of BC Municipalities has also prepared a letter for submission and I am very pleased to include it here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Selina Robinson', written in a cursive style.

Selina Robinson  
Minister

pc: Her Worship Mayor Maja Tait, President, Union of BC Municipalities  
Local Governments in British Columbia

## **Appendix 1 – Description of Priority Themes**

### **Connectivity/Broadband**

Digital connectivity is the number one opportunity that emerged in almost every engagement session, especially for rural and remote communities. To fully participate in the new economy, communities need digital access through broadband, cellular mobility, and capacity development to effectively use these technologies. Reliable and affordable high-speed internet is critical to removing barriers to growth and community well-being to enable working from home, remote schooling, moving traditional businesses to an online format and developing new types of businesses. Improving connectivity generates opportunities for everyone to learn new skills and access essential services and it will make it easier for communities to attract new residents and business investment that creates jobs for the long-term.

### **Investment in Infrastructure**

Local governments recognize that continued investment in critical infrastructure projects that facilitate the delivery of public services, such as drinking water, sewage collection and treatment, cultural and recreational facilities, parks and transportation are good investments for everyone and creates primary and secondary jobs in their communities. Investment in infrastructure addresses environmental, economic and social dimensions, and is seen as having general economic benefits for all industry sectors. Several communities have also noted that they have “shovel-ready” projects.

### **Transit/Transportation**

Effective transit and transportation networks are vital for economic recovery as they help bring people back to work and allow businesses to distribute their products and get the supplies they need. Local leaders identified a need for transit funding to make up for revenue losses and to enable the service frequency and safety that will get riders “back on board”. Other transportation infrastructure needs identified include expansion of highways, increased ferry services and investment in railway and municipal airports.

### **Agriculture/Food Security**

During the pandemic, it became even more apparent that food security is an essential need. The ability for small producers to increase their capacity and structural support is needed to ensure food is marketed, produced, processed, packaged, distributed and sold locally. Local leaders acknowledged that our reliance on foreign agricultural workers impacts food security and identified an opportunity to create a skilled domestic agricultural workforce in order to reduce reliance on workers from outside B.C.

### **Child Care**

The provision of childcare is essential for enabling workers to return to work and speed up economic recovery. Many communities identified a lack of adequate childcare in their communities. Local leaders recognize that investments in safe, reliable and affordable childcare is vital to economic recovery.

### **Low Wage Workers/Employment**

The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on low wage workers especially in certain sectors (e.g. tourism, retail and food services, agriculture and non-profits), and particularly women and youth, highlights the need for support for these workers. Local leaders talked about supplementing wages as a way to stimulate recovery that would also make it easier to recruit for often hard-to-fill jobs. Some local governments noted that their communities would benefit if they could hire students and others for temporary positions in the short term, until the economy picked up.

### **Health Care, Mental Health and Social Services**

The pandemic and emergency measures have strongly impacted vulnerable populations. Isolation from services and support networks has had a profound impact on the homeless population, families living in poverty, and individuals struggling with pre-existing mental health and substance use issues. Local governments and non-profit organizations have been at the forefront of mitigating these impacts during the pandemic. Support from the Province and collaboration with local governments and non-profit organizations is essential in post-pandemic planning as this provides an opportunity to not just “pick up where we left off” but re-shape and strengthen B.C.’s health care, mental health and social services.

### **Tourism/Recreation**

Some local governments with great natural assets, noted the challenge of diversifying their tourism economies to be more resilient over the long term. Investments to support local governments in enhancing natural assets through the development of trails, parks and facilities such as campsites and washrooms will help create new jobs, especially for youth, expand tourism and improve outcomes for people and communities.

### **Education/Training**

A number of local governments identified the need for training programs to attract young people that can participate in the economy and some others noted that resource-based workers were also going through a separate economic downturn (i.e. mill closures) and that sector could also benefit from retraining and education programs.

### **Clean Energy and Technology**

Communities have asked for consistent investment to help them transition to a low carbon future and support green technology aligned with CleanBC goals. These investments will ensure that communities and local businesses are ready to seize economic opportunities coming from clean energy and technology and create more and higher-value jobs. Additionally, local governments noted that investments in climate change adaptation and mitigation activities and studies would have long-term benefits.

## **Affordable Housing**

There is still a shortage of affordable housing in the province. Investment in affordable housing will reduce chronic homelessness and support vulnerable populations by providing those most in need with a safe place to call home. Affordable and workforce housing will allow people to return to work quickly and give them the security they need to fully participate in the economy. Building affordable housing not only provides much needed housing but employs hundreds of skilled workers and can provide new workers with opportunities to learn new skills.

## **Industry/Business Development**

Innovation and investment in traditional resource industries such as forestry is a critical component of economic recovery as these industries support and create jobs in many of B.C.'s rural communities. Communities and businesses need support to capitalize on innovative and emerging opportunities. Local governments recognize the need to assist businesses in developing an online presence and the need to work in collaboration with their local business community on an ongoing basis to promote economic recovery.

## **Reconciliation**

The pandemic has highlighted the need to work together across communities and regions. Investing in ways to foster partnerships with Indigenous neighbours that not only support reconciliation but also builds community economic resilience is a real opportunity before us. There is strong willingness among local governments to work in collaboration with neighbouring Indigenous communities (as many have done in COVID-19 response); it was noted that some smaller and rural/remote local governments as well as First Nations lack resources and capacity for the level of engagement needed to achieve real economic progress.

July 31, 2020

The Honourable John Horgan  
Premier of British Columbia  
PO BOX 9041, STN PROV GOV  
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Carole James  
Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier  
Room 153, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister James:

**Re: UBCM Response to *Building BC's Recovery, Together***

On behalf of BC local governments, please find attached the Union of BC Municipalities submission to the Province's *Building BC's Recovery, Together* consultation document.

Our submission reflects the results of member outreach undertaken over the March – May period, as well as more recent local government engagement on specific policy files such as public transit.

As well, I am pleased to advise that at our July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Executive formally constituted a Special Committee on Economic Recovery, comprising members of the Presidents Committee. We would welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with you to share the perspectives of local government as we continue to move forward with the Restart Plan.

I also wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership as we continue to navigate our province through this challenging and unprecedented time.

Yours truly,



Mayor Maja Tait  
UBCM President

Cc: Hon. Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

*Attachment: UBCM Submission to the Province's Building BC's Recovery, Together*

## Union of BC Municipalities Submission to the Province's *Building BC's Recovery, Together* Consultation Paper

### 1. Introduction

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) represents 100% of the local governments in British Columbia (BC), as well as eight First Nations members, and has advocated for policy and programs that support its membership's needs since 1905.

BC local governments are recognized as orders of government in their respective jurisdictions under the Community Charter and Local Government Act. As the order of government closest to its citizens, local government leaders know the significant impact that this pandemic has had on BC residents; small and large businesses; non-profit groups and other community-based organizations.

As the recognized, collective voice of BC local government, UBCM is pleased to provide this submission to the Province's *Building BC's Recovery, Together* consultation process.

### 2. *Building BC's Recovery, Together* Consultation Process

The Province's *Building BC's Recovery, Together* consultation process offers British Columbians an opportunity to provide their feedback either through the consultation paper, on line survey or one of the virtual town halls. Due to the personal focus of the Province's consultation, UBCM was unsure if this was the appropriate avenue for us to make our views known. However, at our July board meeting Executive members directed that we prepare a submission to ensure that the local government voice was heard as part of the Province's recovery process. As a result, our submission does not respond directly to the questions posed within the Province's consultation paper (*page 12*) but instead provides an overview of the feedback we have heard from our members after undertaking our own member engagement.

So while our submission may not fit within the Province's template for response, we note that many of the elements covered within our submission do align with the provincial priorities identified on page 11 of the consultation paper as follows:

- *STRENGTHENING OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM*
- *CREATING AND RESTORING GOOD-PAYING AND SUSTAINABLE JOBS*
- *BECOMING MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT*
- *IMPROVING EDUCATION, TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES*
- *TAKING ADVANTAGE OF BC'S ABUNDANT CLEAN ENERGY*
- *MOVING FORWARD ON MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES*
- *BUILDING THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES THAT ALL COMMUNITIES NEED TO THRIVE*
- *ENSURING THAT BC IS ON A STRONG FISCAL FOOTING*

And while our submission may not directly reference all of the identified provincial priorities, UBCM does have a repository of resolutions and policy positions that would indicate broad member support for all of the priorities that have been identified.

In the Province's consultation paper, it states: *"As conversations across the province move from restart to recovery, it is clear recovery means more than returning to the past. This is an opportunity for businesses, organizations and non-profit agencies to help us generate solutions to address the challenges they face."*

UBCM concurs with this statement. By identifying the challenges facing local governments, as well as possible solutions, we hope our submission helps to generate new and creative opportunities for BC local government. We view our submission as a first step to help inform the Province's recovery process and look forward to further engagement in the coming months.

### **3. UBCM Perspectives on Recovery**

#### **Local Government and Financial Recovery**

In late March 2020, UBCM reached out to a wide of range of local governments to gather information on the immediate and projected long-term financial pressures facing local governments, their residents, and local businesses as a result of the pandemic. Many local governments identified a loss of variable revenue, the shelving of capital projects, a re-evaluation of property taxes, new costs of supporting vulnerable populations, and concerns over reserve restrictions and looming financial deadlines. In response to these concerns, UBCM raised potential relief measures with the Province that focused on property taxes, legislated financial timelines, restrictions on reserves, capital project timelines, grants, and infrastructure stimulus funding.

In early April, the Province introduced a financial relief framework that initiated temporary changes to B.C.'s property tax framework to provide financial support for businesses and local governments. Among the changes introduced, local governments were given the ability to borrow, interest-free, from their capital reserve funds and municipalities will be able to access school tax revenue collected for the Province until the end of the year. UBCM committed to monitoring the impact of the measures on local government finances, and working with the Province to ensure that local governments had the necessary resources to sustain their communities.

After a second round of outreach, many of our members acknowledged the provincial measures were a modest first step in attempting to address the pandemic-related financial challenges for communities. The measures provided local governments with some flexibility, enhanced cash flow, and short-term certainty that assisted them in financial decision-making. These provincial measures were viewed as a tool for governments to use in the interim, as well as support for local businesses. Even with these provincial measures, many local governments had to re-evaluate their budgets and make extremely difficult decisions and adjustments on capital spending, service levels, staffing, and proposed property tax increases, to ensure continued operation and delivery of critical services. Many local governments also engaged in layoffs of casual, temporary and facility related staff in early April, with the continued uncertainty of the pandemic impacting potential future layoffs.

While there was a general feeling that local governments might be able to financially weather the next several months, our members expressed particular concern about their finances in coming year(s). The risk of delinquencies amongst residential and commercial property taxpayers remains high as the economic fallout from the pandemic mounts. Local governments are concerned that the continued loss of non-taxation revenue, coupled with the uncertainty of tax delinquencies, will hinder the ability of local governments to advance capital projects, maintain existing essential services, and pay back reserves without significant property tax increases in the years ahead.

Upon receiving this feedback, UBCM called for additional provincial support measures in May to address local government funding shortfalls, mitigate the risk of tax delinquencies, and facilitate a revival of local economies. In particular, UBCM called for financial support for transit to aid local economic recoveries; an infrastructure stimulus framework to generate economic returns for communities; and an expansion of the property tax deferral program to all residents to reduce the risk of tax delinquencies. A copy of our May 8<sup>th</sup> letter to Minister Robinson is attached to this submission.

In addition, UBCM supported the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' request for a minimum of \$10 billion in emergency operating funding, with an additional \$2.4 billion for communities with transit systems, to be provided through a direct federal allocation to local governments.

Recently the federal government announced a \$19 billion funding program to support provinces with their recovery efforts, with specific funding to be targeted to local governments, specifically transit services. On July 22<sup>nd</sup> the Province announced it would target up to \$1 billion of additional spending to address COVID-19 impacts and restart plans of local governments and public transit services, conditional on matching federal contributions under a 50/50 cost-sharing criteria. UBCM welcomes this announcement and looks forward to working with the Province to identify how best to support local governments with their recovery efforts.

### **Local Government and Public Transit**

As noted above, in the early days of the pandemic, UBCM reached out to local governments to identify their financial challenges. And while we heard predictably about property taxes, and the loss of other revenue sources (i.e. casinos, parking and recreation fees) we also heard very specific concerns around transit, and the significant impact on local government budgets.

UBCM then followed up with officials from BC Transit, TransLink and the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation to get a better understanding of the impacts on transit communities across BC. The financial impact is, and continues to be devastating.<sup>1</sup> In May, the UBCM Executive directed that we offer our support to BC Transit and TransLink communities to address the problem in a collective way. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, UBCM hosted a Public Transit Forum for all BC Transit and TransLink communities. What we found most interesting was, despite facing major financial challenges, mayors from transit communities commented on how important it was to remain on track; how they wanted to be part of the conversation to make transit more nimble and better able to adapt to these crisis situations.

During the Forum a document outlining draft principles and recommendations was shared with participants. The document specifically asked the Province to work with all transit / community partners on the development of a transit recovery strategy to address the financial impacts; and a rebuilding strategy that would

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<sup>1</sup> For example: Kelowna - \$3M losses predicted over next 12 months; Nanaimo RD - \$2.5 - \$3 million in 2020; Nelson - \$100,000 in revenue losses to date; Prince George - \$100,000-\$200,000 in revenue losses to date.

focus on how to sustain, grow and identify alternative funding models to support public transit.

UBCM recognizes that the Mayors' Council is working with Minister Robinson to address TransLink community concerns, however there is no comparable collective for BC Transit communities. As a result, UBCM wrote to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on behalf of BC Transit communities offering to assist. We indicated our interest in working with the Province to coordinate a consultation process with affected communities to identify how best to support them to deliver transit at this critical time, and into the future. A copy of our June 29<sup>th</sup> letter to Minister Trevena is attached.

As noted earlier, UBCM was pleased to learn of the July 22<sup>nd</sup> announcement by the Minister of Finance to earmark up to \$1 billion to fund the Province's portion of municipal and transit services assistance, depending on the outcome of further federal cost-sharing discussions. We look forward to learning more about how this funding will be allocated to support transit communities recover from fare losses and rebuild the system to be more resilient. UBCM remains committed to working with the Province to identify other funding models to ensure transit can remain sustainable not only at this critical time, but through the recovery process into the future.

### **Local Government and Infrastructure**

As the Province turns its attention to the recovery phase of the pandemic, Infrastructure stimulus has historically generated significant economic returns for local communities, through increased employment, the flow through of dollars to local businesses, and the creation of much needed community assets.

When UBCM reached out to its members this past spring about recovery, members expressed broad support for securing an infrastructure stimulus framework that:

- maximizes flexibility on project category, eligible costs, procurement and timelines;
- provides 100% funding for any recovery program and/or current infrastructure program; and
- ensures administrative ease and efficiency in recognition of local staff capacity.

In addition, members noted that any infrastructure stimulus framework should support "shovel worthy" projects over shovel ready projects, expedite BC announcements in the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), and remove existing federal stacking rules. UBCM believes that the current Gas Tax funding model is the appropriate model for any infrastructure stimulus framework,

as it maximizes local choice and flexibility to ensure funds are invested in the areas with the greatest need and economic return.

An ancillary issue that has surfaced repeatedly in our discussion of infrastructure stimulus relates to procurement. While we understand existing trade agreements prescribe specific procurement obligations, our members have expressed a desire to procure locally, where possible, as means to support local economic recovery. Local governments have expressed frustration with the BC Bid process, as it does not permit local governments to hire/buy local due to specified procurement thresholds. Adjustments to procurement thresholds or processes may provide an opportunity for economic stimulus, at a time when local economic development is critical to the overall provincial recovery effort.

### **Local Government and Broadband Connectivity**

Improved and expanded broadband internet connectivity has been, and continues to be a key priority for UBCM. Its importance has been underscored in 2020 by the move to work and conduct business remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the early days of the pandemic local governments with limited connectivity struggled to conduct normal council/board business in a virtual format. While most local governments found ways to adapt, there are still many regions of our province that continue to struggle daily due to the lack of, or inadequate connectivity. The pandemic has revealed how vulnerable these communities are when disasters happen, and highlight how important it is to remedy the current situation.

We applaud the Province for expanding the Connecting British Columbia program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to help internet service providers (ISPs) undertake immediate network equipment upgrades to rapidly improve capacity and internet speeds in underserved areas, but unfortunately it is still not enough. None of the current funding programs address the issue of existing, dormant backbone and last-mile infrastructure that either lacks an ISP to make use of it, or is owned by an existing Internet service provider that declines to activate and use it. Consequently, action needs to be taken to require ISPs or the owners of network infrastructure to activate and make use of existing, dormant network infrastructure to help achieve universal broadband Internet access.

Addressing the broadband connectivity gap is critical to the recovery effort. Communities need reliable adequate broadband connectivity to conduct the day to day business of local government; attract and retain business; support distance education / learning opportunities; access online health support/services; and ensure that their citizens are able to engage fully in a virtual environment.

## Local Government and Societal Impacts of COVID-19

While much of our submission has focused on economic recovery, our Executive and broader membership have identified the significant social impacts associated with the pandemic. As noted in the Province's consultation paper, hundreds of thousands of individuals have lost their jobs with those most impacted coming from the service sectors, notably retail, restaurants, hotels and tourism.

An example of this impact is very clearly evident on a community such as Whistler, a tourist destination, dominated by service sector employment. The following account was shared by Councillor Jen Ford, UBCM Third Vice-President:

*The Whistler Food Bank saw an immediate and alarming uptick in need for food security. Prior to Covid, the food bank handed out bags to roughly 45 households each week (one day per week it was open). In the first week, we saw 100, in the next week we were up to 200, and the peak was just before the CERB cheques started, there was 600 bags in a week. We moved to the conference centre with 5 day per week service. The service has remained strong with an average of 200 bags per week, and will remain at the conference centre through September. This move made sense to allow for adequate spacing and processing of the food donations. There are also outreach services available on site for support navigating CERB applications, financial support, and multicultural outreach. Prior to Covid, the majority of people would talk about insecure and unstable housing as the biggest issue. That has changed substantially, and it is now job insecurity and mental health.*

*As far as the tourism impact, Whistler generates 25% of the provincial tourism export revenue. The closure of hotels and reduced capacity of restaurants will be felt for many, many months ahead. Many of the local restaurants have reopened, and all the hotels have reopened, but we're seeing an entirely different kind of guest who is spending less and staying for shorter stays, unlike our typical visitor. Every business in town is being challenged by far fewer workers and few applicants, so service levels are difficult.*

The societal impacts of the pandemic cannot be underestimated. Additional and ongoing support is needed to assist vulnerable populations that have been significantly affected. Whether its unemployment, homelessness, substance abuse/addictions, mental health or other situations requiring social support services, communities are on the front line working with the Province, local organizations and volunteers to do what they can to help their residents.

#### 4. UBCM Role in the Provincial Recovery Effort

In order to effectively respond to, and recover from, the current pandemic, it is imperative that federal, provincial, local and aboriginal governments work collaboratively to address the devastating health, safety, social and economic impacts that have impacted every resident, in every region of our province and country.

At the July 2020 UBCM Executive meeting, board members directed that a Special Committee on Economic Recovery be established to serve as a contact point for provincial and federal governments to support recovery efforts. The newly established Special Committee is comprised of the following Executive members:

- Mayor Maja Tait, President
- Councillor Brian Frenkel, 1<sup>st</sup> VP
- Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP
- Councillor Jen Ford, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP
- Councillor Arjun Singh, Past President
- Councillor Craig Hodge, GVRD/Metro Rep.

Members of the Special Committee would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Province to discuss our submission or any other matters as they pertain to local governments and pandemic recovery.

#### 5. Concluding Remarks

On behalf of local governments across BC, UBCM thanks the Province for undertaking the ***Building BC's Recovery, Together*** consultation process. We appreciate the opportunity to share what we have heard from our members since the state of emergency was declared in March 2020.

While this submission is not exhaustive of the issues and challenges facing our members, we consider it to be an accurate portrayal of the key concerns facing BC local government. As the collective voice of local government, UBCM stands ready to work with the Province and offer our assistance as BC moves forward through the recovery phase.

*Attachments:*

- *May 8, 2020 letter to Minister Robinson*
- *June 29, 2020 letter to Minister Trevena*

May 8, 2020

The Honorable Selina Robinson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2  
Via Email: MAH.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Robinson,

On behalf of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), I wish to thank you for listening to the range of financial pressures facing local governments that were raised in our discussions with you and your staff in April. The Province's willingness to move quickly and develop measures seeking to address those financial challenges was welcomed by UBCM and its members.

The measures announced on April 16<sup>th</sup> were an important first step in supporting our members and their local economies, as they provided additional relief to small business and gave some flexibility to help local governments maintain operations. At the time of their announcement, UBCM committed to monitoring the impact of the measures on local government finances, and working with the Province to ensure that local governments had the necessary resources to sustain their communities.

We have since reached out to our membership to gauge the impact of the provincial financial relief framework, and to identify a stimulus approach that would assist a post-pandemic recovery in our communities. Outlined below you will find a summary of our outreach findings, coupled with a request for additional measures that would address local government funding shortfalls, mitigate the risk of tax delinquencies, and facilitate a revival of local economies.

### **Provincial Financial Relief Measures**

Many of our members acknowledge the April 16<sup>th</sup> measures as a modest first step in attempting to address the pandemic-related financial challenges of communities. The measures provided local governments with some flexibility, enhanced cash flow, and short-term certainty that assisted local governments in their financial decision making. They were viewed as a tool for governments to use in the interim, as well as financial support for local businesses. It should be

noted that many local governments had to re-evaluate their budgets and make extremely difficult decisions and adjustments on capital spending, service levels, staffing, and proposed property tax increases, to ensure continued operation and delivery of critical services. Many local governments also engaged in layoffs of casual, temporary and facility related staff in early April, with the continued uncertainty of the pandemic impacting potential future layoffs.

While there is a general feeling that local governments might be able to financially weather the next several months, our members are particularly concerned about their finances for the following year(s). The risk of delinquencies amongst residential and commercial property taxpayers remains high as the economic fallout from the pandemic mounts. Local governments are concerned that the continued loss of non-taxation revenue, coupled with the uncertainty of tax delinquencies, will hinder the ability of local governments to advance capital projects, maintain existing essential services, and pay back reserves without significant property tax increases in the years ahead.

### **Expanded Property Tax Deferral Program**

Given the risk of property tax delinquencies, local governments are seeking an expansion of the existing Property Tax Deferral Program to cover all residential tax payers at a minimum. While the program's eligibility covers a significant number of residents, there remains a sizeable number of ineligible residents that require support. An expanded program would mitigate the risk of delinquencies, and provide a greater degree of certainty for budgeting and long-term financial planning.

### **Transit Financial Support**

The need for financial support for transit has also emerged as an issue amongst transit dependent communities throughout the province. Not only has the loss of fare revenue significantly impacted many local government budgets, but the decreased ridership arising from physical distancing requirements threatens the financial sustainability of existing services levels. Transit is a service critical to supporting local economic recoveries, and UBCM's members are looking for provincial funding assistance to support the sustainability of transit in their communities.

### **Economic Recovery Stimulus Funding**

UBCM's members are seeking economic recovery stimulus funding once the Province fully turns its attention to the recovery phase of the pandemic. Infrastructure stimulus has historically generated significant economic returns for local communities, through increased employment, the flow through of dollars to local businesses, and the creation of much needed community assets.

To that effect, UBCM's members are broadly supportive of securing an infrastructure stimulus framework which maximizes flexibility on project category, eligible costs, procurement and timelines; provides 100% funding for any recovery program and/or current infrastructure program; and which ensures administrative ease and efficiency in recognition of local staff capacity. In addition, any infrastructure stimulus framework should support shovel worthy projects over shovel ready projects, expedite BC announcements in the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), and remove existing federal stacking rules. UBCM believes that the current Gas Tax funding model is the appropriate model for any infrastructure stimulus framework, as it maximizes local choice and flexibility to ensure funds are invested in the areas with the greatest need and economic return.

I wish to thank you for your leadership and collaboration on combating the impact of the pandemic in BC's communities. I look forward to working with the Province on these proposed measures to ensure that local governments have the resources necessary to sustain their operations and services while stimulating their local economies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maja Tait', written in a cursive style.

Mayor Maja Tait  
UBCM President

June 29, 2020

The Honourable Claire Trevena  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Room 306 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Trevena:

**Re: Public Transit in BC**

On behalf of UBCM I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on work that we have undertaken to support transit communities in BC. While all BC communities have been financially impacted by COVID-19, UBCM has found that transit communities are struggling even more so. I shared some initial findings when we connected a few months ago, and now have additional feedback that I felt was important to convey.

In response to member concerns, UBCM hosted a Transit Forum on June 16<sup>th</sup> for both TransLink and BC Transit communities. The session was well attended with over 90 participants and was planned in coordination with the TransLink Mayors' Council. The Forum opened with a joint presentation by Erinn Pinkerton, President and CEO, BC Transit and Kevin Desmond, CEO, TransLink on the state of public transit in BC. Both presenters noted that the next two years will bring continued uncertainty and the need to be nimble and responsive.

Mayors from both TransLink and BC Transit communities shared the financial and operational challenges they have faced over the past four months and how they have tried to adapt. Discussion focused on a draft set of principles and recommendations that reflected on how to recover from current losses and what is needed to rebuild public transit. This document, attached, received overwhelming support.

And, despite the significant financial losses faced by many transit communities, it was heartening to learn that over 90% of participants indicated that their community remains committed to the same growth, transportation and other local/regional plans and objectives that they had in place prior to COVID-19. Interestingly, the Mayors commented on how important it was to remain on track; the importance of continued transit growth and the need to make transit more nimble and adaptive to respond to these crisis situations.

And finally, over 98% of Forum participants supported being part of a collaborative approach (UBCM, BC Transit and TransLink communities) going forward that would advance the recommendations for rebuilding transit in BC to the provincial and federal government.

UBCM and its local government members recognize that transit is an essential service that is key to the Province's Restart Plan. Based on what we heard from Forum participants, there is an opportunity for transit communities to help identify what recovery and rebuilding might look like and to ensure public transit remains sustainable into the future as the Province continues to re-open the economy.

We recognize that the Mayors' Council is already working collaboratively with Minister Robinson's office and would offer our organization as a body that could assist your Ministry in establishing an ongoing working relationship with BC Transit communities.

In closing, we would welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss how we can work in partnership to develop a recovery and rebuild strategy for BC public transit.

Yours truly,



Mayor Maja Tait  
UBCM President

**Att: *Principles and Recommendations to the Province for Rebuilding Transit in BC***

cc: Hon. Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Responsible for TransLink)  
Mayor Jonathon Cote, City of New Westminster and Chair, Mayors' Council  
Mayor Colin Basran, City of Kelowna  
Mayor Jack Crompton, Resort Municipality of Whistler  
Kevin Desmond, CEO, TransLink  
Erinn Pinkerton, CEO and President, BC Transit  
Mike Buda, Executive Director, Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

**From:** [Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#)  
**To:** [Daniela Dyck](#)  
**Subject:** Free Disposal Days Cancelled for 2020  
**Date:** July 27, 2020 10:01:06 AM

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PRESS RELEASE

300-465 VICTORIA STREET | KAMLOOPS, BC | V2C 2A9 | 250-377-8673 | 1-877-377-8673

## THOMPSON-NICOLA FREE DISPOSAL DAYS CANCELLED FOR 2020

**Kamloops, BC - July 27, 2020** - In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District's solid waste Free Disposal Days have been cancelled for 2020.

Free disposal days are hosted annually at all twenty-six TNRD solid waste facilities in April and May. Due to COVID-19, the annual Free Disposal Days were initially postponed; however, the uncertainty surrounding the length of time that gathering size restrictions will be in effect by the provincial government has led to the difficult decision of cancelling all Free Disposal Days for 2020.

During the height of the pandemic, the TNRD waived the fees for residential bagged garbage in an effort to protect workers and residents over a ten week period. Approximately \$50,000 in fees were waived.

For more information, please contact 250-377-2596 or email [recycleright@tnrd.ca](mailto:recycleright@tnrd.ca).

---

**Media contact:**

Jamie Vieira, Manager of Environmental Services  
Thompson-Nicola Regional District  
Tel.: 250-377-7197  
Email: [jvieira@tnrd.ca](mailto:jvieira@tnrd.ca)

Click [here](#) to view this press release on our website.





Email sent to: [daniela@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:daniela@ashcroftbc.ca)

Thompson-Nicola Regional District  
300-465 Victoria Street  
Kamloops, British Columbia | V2C2A9 | Canada  
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**From:** [Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#)  
**To:** [Daniela Dyck](#)  
**Subject:** Kamloops and Regional Libraries Reopen to the Public  
**Date:** August 7, 2020 4:01:14 PM

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PRESS RELEASE

300-465 VICTORIA STREET | KAMLOOPS, BC | V2C 2A9 | 250-377-8673 | 1-877-377-8673

## THOMPSON-NICOLA REGIONAL LIBRARIES REOPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Kamloops, BC - August 7, 2020** - the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library has reopened all 13 of its community libraries to the public with limited services and extra safety measures in place. As we enter this next phase of opening, the safety of staff and patrons remains our top priority.

Here's what you can expect at your next visit:

- Occupancy limits are in effect at each location
- Time limit – visits are limited to 60 minutes per day
- Public washrooms are not available at this time
- No food or drink is permitted in the library at this time
- Periodic or early closures for cleaning may occur

Services available:

- Internet sessions can be scheduled for up to 45 minutes
- Pick up holds, and use the self-checkout
- Be sure to check out our virtual programming, as in-library offerings are currently suspended
- Library Takeout service continues – a great alternative for those who have health concerns, or who have been enjoying the convenience of this new service

To ensure a safe and enjoyable visit, please follow these guidelines:

- If you are feeling unwell, please stay home!
- Return Library materials through the outside drop slot prior to entering
- Hand sanitizing stations are located in the entrance of all libraries
- Physical distancing of 2 metres or more is required at all times inside the library

We look forward to welcoming you back. Please visit [www.tnrl.ca](http://www.tnrl.ca) to check the hours of operation for your local library.

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Click [here](#) to view this press release on our website.

**Media contact:**

*Kamloops Libraries*

Margo Schiller, Manager of Kamloops Libraries & Engagement

Thompson-Nicola Regional Library

Tel.: 250-372-5145

Email: [mschiller@tnrd.ca](mailto:mschiller@tnrd.ca)

*Outside Kamloops*

Melissa Lowenberg, Manager of Community Libraries & Engagement

Thompson-Nicola Regional Library

Tel.: 250-377-8673

Email: [mlowenberg@tnrd.ca](mailto:mlowenberg@tnrd.ca)



Email sent to: [daniela@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:daniela@ashcroftbc.ca)

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□

File: 0280-30

Ref: 192545

July 30, 2020

To: All local and treaty First Nation governments with land in the Agricultural Land Reserve

**Re: Information update on Order in Council #353/2020 - Amendments to regulations under the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* regarding application fees, soil removal, and fill placement. Part of Bill 15 – *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* also brought into force by the same Order in Council.**

Greetings,

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information about recent regulations that will bring into effect changes to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (ALCA) and its regulations. As part of recent public engagement undertaken by the B.C. Government, many local governments indicated that they would benefit from additional guidance and information from the Ministry of Agriculture on any significant legislative changes.

On June 26, 2020, [Order in Council No. 353/2020](#) updated Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) regulations (see news release at <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020AGRI0026-001178>). Effective September 30, 2020, the Order in Council:

- amends the Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation and the Agricultural Land Reserve General Regulation as they relate to soil removal, fill placement, and application fees; and,
- brings into force a part of the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* (Bill 15), which amends the ALCA to enable the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) CEO to file remediation order notes on title.

The September 30, 2020 effective date provides time for local governments, the public, other stakeholders, and First Nation governments to become familiar with, prepare for, and adapt to those changes. These changes will impact both private and public landowners.

The appendix to this letter provides additional information about these changes.

If you have any questions regarding these amendments and the revitalization of the ALC and the ALR, please contact Arlene Anderson, Director of Legislation, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, at [Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca).

.../2

If you have questions about the administration of the ALR, please contact the ALC at [ALCBurnaby@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALCBurnaby@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer McGuire". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jennifer" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "McGuire".

Jennifer McGuire  
Assistant Deputy Minister

Appendix (1)

cc: Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director  
Union of BC Municipalities

Kim Grout, Chief Executive Officer  
Agricultural Land Commission

Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

## Appendix: Summary of Recent Changes

Please note: this information is for guidance purposes only. For more details please see the ALCA, the Agricultural Land Reserve Transitional Regulation, the Agricultural Land Reserve General Regulation, the Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation, and information provided by the ALC.

### Application Fees

On March 12, 2020, [Order in Council \(OIC\) No.131/2020](#) was approved by the B.C. Government. This OIC simplifies how application fees are collected by local governments, First Nation governments, and the ALC. Those changes will come into effect September 30, 2020. In response to feedback about application fee amounts, Order in Council No. 353/2020 makes further changes about application fees. It lowers the fee for “non-adhering residential use” applications and it increases the amount of application fees that go to a local or First Nation government when they are required to review an application. For more information about applications that require local or First Nation government review, please see section 34 of the ALCA and section 34.1 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* (Bill 15).

<b>Until September 29, 2020</b>			
<b>Application fees when local or First Nation government review is required</b>			
Application type	Fee to local or First Nation government	Fee to ALC	Total fee
Non-Adhering Residential Use	\$300	\$1200	\$1500
Soil or Fill Use			
Non-Farm Use			
Subdivision			
Exclusion			
Inclusion	\$0	\$0	\$0

<b>As of September 30, 2020 and after</b>			
<b>Application fees when local or First Nation government review is required</b>			
Application type	Fee to local or First Nation government	Fee to ALC	Total fee
Non-Adhering Residential Use	\$450	\$450	\$900
Soil or Fill Use	\$750	\$750	\$1500
Non-Farm Use			
Subdivision			
Exclusion			
Inclusion	\$0	\$0	\$0

On September 30, 2020 and after, fees for “non-adhering residential use” applications will be reduced from \$1,500 to \$900. Local and First Nation governments will also receive 50 percent of

the total application fee when their review is required, receiving \$450 for “non-adhering residential use” applications and \$750 for other types of application.

If a landowner applies to a local or First Nation government and the local or First Nation government does not forward the application to the ALC, the applicant only pays the local or First Nation government their portion of the application fee (\$450 or \$750). The applicant will not pay the ALC’s portion of the application fee because the ALC will not review the application.

OIC No. 353/2020 also changes the amount a local or First Nation government will pay when they initiate some types of application to the ALC. Instead of the current higher fee, local and First Nation governments will pay \$450 for a “non-adhering residential use” application or \$750 for most other types of application. The most common local or First Nation government-initiated applications with these lower fees will likely be exclusion applications for land within their jurisdiction and applications for non-farm uses or subdivisions of land the local government owns. Fees for applications that are set out in regulation as those that must be filed directly with the ALC (transportation and utility use applications) remain at \$1500; they are not changed by OIC No. 353/2020.

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### **Soil Removal and Fill Placement**

OIC No. 353/2020 will make it easier for farmers on the ALR to maintain and build roads.

#### **Annual Farm Road Maintenance**

For maintenance of existing farm roads, soil removal or fill placement is currently allowed up to a volume of 50m<sup>3</sup> per year. If a farmer needs to use more than that amount, they must seek permission by submitting a Notice of Intent or an application to the ALC. Some people with larger parcels expressed that this 50m<sup>3</sup> limit unintentionally impacts their farms, and so this OIC increases the amount of soil removal or fill placement for farm road maintenance to 50m<sup>3</sup> per 100m of existing road length annually, effective September 30, 2020. To remove soil or place fill for the construction of a new farm road or for maintenance beyond 50m<sup>3</sup> per 100m of farm road length, a person can consult the ALC website for more information about seeking permission by submitting a Notice of Intent or application to the ALC.

#### **Recycled Concrete Aggregate and Recycled Asphalt Pavement**

Construction and demolition waste are prohibited fill materials in the ALR. Prohibited fill materials are those:

- that a person cannot use for a fill use permitted by regulation (see Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation section 35), and,
- that the ALC may not approve to be used as fill if a person applies (see Agricultural Land Reserve Transitional Regulation section 30.1 and Agricultural Land Reserve General Regulation section 23).

OIC No. 353/2020 defines recycled concrete aggregate and recycled asphalt pavement and permits them to be used as fill for roads and parking areas in certain circumstances. Since some farm road maintenance is permitted under the regulations (see Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation section 35 [d]), a person will be able to use recycled concrete aggregate or recycled asphalt pavement as fill for farm road maintenance up to the annual permitted amount without submitting a Notice of Intent or an application to the ALC.

When a person applies to the ALC for permission to place fill for road construction, maintenance, or widening, the ALC will be able to approve the use of recycled concrete aggregate or recycled asphalt pavement as fill. Similarly, when a person applies to the ALC for permission to place fill for parking area construction or maintenance, the ALC will be able to approve the use of recycled concrete aggregate or recycled asphalt pavement as fill.

For the purposes of the ALCA, recycled concrete aggregate and recycled asphalt pavement will be concrete and asphalt from a demolition process that have had other construction debris, like metal rodding, glass, or wood removed from them. Recycled concrete aggregate and recycled asphalt pavement will have to be crushed or screened and not exceed specific dimensions. Recycled concrete aggregate will have to be able to pass through a 1.905 cm screen (the size of 3/4 inch crush) while recycled asphalt pavement particles will be 1.905 cm<sup>3</sup> or smaller.

The ALC's compliance and enforcement team monitors how ALR land is used and responds to information or concerns they receive, including concerns about illegal fill dumping. People should contact the ALC if they suspect unauthorized land uses like fill dumping on the ALR. More information on the ALC's compliance and enforcement program can be found online here: <https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/alc-act-alr-regulation/compliance-and-enforcement/about-compliance-and-enforcement>.

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### **Remediation Order Notes on Title**

Currently, a person might purchase ALR land without being aware that there are outstanding remediation orders related to contraventions of the ALCA. OIC No. 353/2020 brings part of the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* (Bill 15) into force. That part gives the ALC's CEO the ability to file notices in the land title office about remediation orders that have been issued under the ALCA. The CEO may cancel the remediation order note when they are satisfied that the remediation order has been complied with, or that the remediation order cannot be substantially complied with. If the CEO registers a remediation order note on title, it will provide an avenue for prospective buyers to become aware of outstanding issues with the ALR land.

## **Recent legislative changes: Revitalization of the ALR and the ALC**

The *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* (Bill 15) continued the B.C. government's commitment to revitalize the ALR and the ALC. The part of Bill 15 that strengthens the independence and governance of the ALC was brought into force on March 12, 2020. Much of the remainder of Bill 15 will be brought into force on September 30, 2020.

The changes made by the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2018* (Bill 52) and the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2019* (Bill 15) build on recommendations of the Minister's Independent Advisory Committee (the Committee) to revitalize the ALR and the ALC, focusing on four targeted areas:

- protecting the ALR land base into the future;
- preserving the productive capacity of the ALR;
- improving governance of the ALR; and,
- supporting farmers and ranchers in the ALR.

From February 4 to April 30, 2018, the Committee held stakeholder consultation meetings in nine communities across B.C. with representatives from 29 local governments and over 110 individuals representing farming and ranching associations and other agricultural organizations and stakeholder groups. The Committee also hosted an online public survey, receiving over 2300 completed surveys during that period, as well as over 270 written submissions.

Feedback collected from this public engagement demonstrated that British Columbians believe the ALR is fundamental to the economic performance of the province's agriculture sector and to the province's food security. They value the ALR because it ensures viable agricultural land is available, affordable, and in production now and into the future. There is strong support from British Columbians for protecting the ALR.

The first stage of legislative changes to revitalize the ALR and the ALC were made by the *Agricultural Land Commission Amendment Act, 2018* (Bill 52). The amendments in Bill 52 were brought into force on February 22, 2019, and made changes in three key areas:

- Restricting the removal of soil and placement of fill; and, increasing penalties for the dumping of construction debris and other harmful fill in the ALR.
- Directly addressing mega-mansions and speculation in the ALR by limiting principal residence size on ALR land and empowering the ALC to approve additional residences if they are necessary for farm use.
- Reunifying the ALR as a single zone, ensuring consistent rules with strong protections for all ALR land across the province.

These critical amendments were needed immediately to preserve the viability and productive capacity of the ALR through addressing the detrimental nature of mega-mansion builds and the abuse of soil and fill on the ALR. Further, Bill 52 confirmed that all land in the ALR is valuable by removing the two-zone approach. It was vital that government eliminate the perception that there is higher and lower priority agricultural land in B.C.

### **Role of the Agricultural Land Commission**

The ALC is the independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in B.C. in collaboration with other communities of interest. The ALC administers the ALR in accordance with the ALCA and its regulations.

The appointed commissioners review land use plans, create operational policies, and decide land use applications. ALC staff support the commissioners through administration, planning, mapping, and compliance and enforcement of legislation and orders. The ALC and its staff anticipate working with stakeholders throughout implementation of the Bill 15 changes in order to provide operational and administrative guidance. ALC staff will provide local governments with information updates through the ALC update emails, information bulletins, process guidelines, updates to the ALC website and application Portal, and educational materials with respect to Bill 15.

### **Role of the Ministry of Agriculture**

The Ministry of Agriculture establishes government's policy and legislative framework for the ALC and the ALR. To encourage farming and promote the development of the industry, the Ministry provides agricultural land use planning support and information material for local and TFN governments across the province through its Strengthening Farming Program and Regional Agrologist network.

August 5, 2020

Mayor Roden and Council  
Village of Ashcroft  
601 Bancroft Street  
Ashcroft, BC, V0K 1A0

**RE: 2018 CEPF: Evacuation Route Planning – Evacuation Route Planning**

Dear Mayor Roden and Council,

Thank you for providing a final report and financial summary for the above noted project. We have reviewed your submission and all reporting requirements have been met.

The final report notes a total eligible expenditure of \$25,000.00. Based on this, a payment in the amount of \$25,000.00 will follow in 6 – 8 weeks by electronic funds transfer. This transfer represents full payment of the grant and is based on 100% of the total reported expenditure.

I would like to congratulate the Village of Ashcroft for undertaking this project, and responding to the opportunity to develop Evacuation Route plans to increase the resiliency of BC communities.

If you have any questions, please contact Local Government Program Services at (250) 387-4470 or by email at [cepf@ubcm.ca](mailto:cepf@ubcm.ca).

Sincerely,



Rebecca Bishop  
Program Officer

*cc: Daniela Dyck, CAO*

*The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund is funded by the Province of BC*

[Click here to view this newsletter in your browser](#)



**THOMPSON-NICOLA**  
REGIONAL DISTRICT  
The Region of BC's Best

**PRESS RELEASE**

300-465 VICTORIA STREET | KAMLOOPS, BC | V2C 2A9 | 250-377-8673 | 1-877-377-8673

## **TNRD SECURES LAND TENURE FOR NEW FIRE HALL IN LOON LAKE**

**Kamloops, BC - July 31, 2020** - The Loon Lake community is one step closer to a new fire hall with the confirmation of a Crown Lease secured from the provincial government.

The 2.64 acre Crown Lease is located approximately half way along Loon Lake, within 8 km of the most populous area of the community. The site was identified by a subject matter expert through a Fire Services Review done on behalf of the TNRD.

In July of 2017, Loon Lake's fire hall was destroyed as a result of the Elephant Hill Wildfire. Since that time, the TNRD has been working to secure land to construct a new fire hall in consultation and cooperation with several stakeholders, including area First Nations and various Provincial ministries.

"We are thrilled to be able to announce this land tenure for the new fire hall", said Jason Tomlin, Manager of Fire Protection Services. "We're extremely thankful for the support of MLA Jackie Tegart, Electoral Area Director Sally Watson, and the entire Loon Lake community for their patience during this lengthy process. The Loon Lake volunteer firefighters have shown incredible commitment and tenacity in keeping the community safe while working through some challenging conditions."

In 2018 Fraserway RV, through the Adventurer Foundation, committed \$275,000 towards the construction of the new fire hall in Loon Lake. In an ongoing effort to support the Fire Department and the rebuild project, the TNRD's Fire Protection Advisory Committee has started a community bottle drive fundraising program. Empties can be dropped off at the Loon Lake Transfer station that then get sorted, bagged and sent in for refund. The TNRD has also received other organized and personal donations for this project.

Design and preliminary ground works are underway with construction expected to start early in 2021. The Crown Lease has been secured for the next 30 years.

The Loon Lake Fire Department is actively recruiting to add to its dedicated ranks. For more information, please email [loonlakevfd@tnrd.ca](mailto:loonlakevfd@tnrd.ca).

**Media contact:**

Jason Tomlin, Manager of Fire Protection Services  
Thompson-Nicola Regional District  
Tel.: 250-377-2598  
Email: [jtomlin@tnrd.ca](mailto:jtomlin@tnrd.ca)

Click [here](#) to view this press release on our website.



MUNICIPALITIES: Ashcroft | Barriere | Cache Creek | Chase | Clearwater | Clinton  
Kamloops | Logan Lake | Lytton | Merritt | Sun Peaks

ELECTORAL AREAS: "A" "B" "E" "I" "J" "L" "M" "N" "O" "P"



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

*Brad Vis*

Member of Parliament  
Mission–Matsqui–Fraser Canyon

August 18, 2020

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Environment & Climate Change

Via email: [ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca)

**Re: Extensive Flooding along the Bonaparte River, B.C.**

Dear Minister Wilkinson:

Every year the Bonaparte River in the B.C. Interior places an increasing number of properties under evacuation alert, many succumbing to the threat of flood. This year nearly 200 homes were placed under evacuation alert in Cache Creek, some escalating to an evacuation order or “shelter in place” because access roads had been washed away.

Constituents of Cache Creek, Ashcroft and Bonaparte Indian Band are raising their plight to all levels of government to save their homes, farms, and businesses. Entire bridges are being swept away leaving residents to scramble to repair their own access to properties. Residents and business owners are caught in a flood without the support of flood mitigation infrastructure and are currently being penalized under the B.C. Water Sustainability Act in attempts to build up the land to protect their homes, properties and livelihoods. In a flood constituent should not have to choose between losing their property or paying a heavy fine. All levels of government must work together collectively to develop a flood mitigation strategy that delivers the best outcome possible for residents. This should be partnered with a comprehensive fish and wildlife habitat conservation plan including considerations for protecting steelhead trout which are on the precipice of extinction.

<i>Ottawa</i>	<i>Constituency Office</i>
Room 570, Valour Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6 Tel.: 613-992-1248 Fax.: 613-992-1298	#7 - 32650 Logan Avenue, Mission, British Columbia, V2V 6C7 Tel.: 604-814-5710 Fax: 604-814-5714

Brad.Vi@parl.gc.ca

Flood mitigation along the Bonaparte River is crucial as surrounding communities continue to grow. The full magnitude of the impact of the Elephant Hills wildfire spanning 191,865 hectares in 2017 is still to be seen, however it is suggested the fire resulted in major loss of soil retention. Coupled with severe flooding, the Bonaparte is quickly creating new channels adding to the imminent loss of property.

It is clear a concrete plan is needed to address the impacts of flooding experienced by communities along the Bonaparte; to ensure the safety of residents, protect their land, homes and businesses and to conserve the vital watershed and salmon habitat.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Vis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brad Vis  
Member of Parliament  
Mission-Matsqui-Fraser Canyon

CC: Santo Talarico, Mayor, Village of Cache Creek

Barbara Roden, Mayor, Village of Ashcroft

Randy Porter, Chief, Bonaparte Indian Band

Jackie Tegart, M.L.A., Fraser-Nicola

Department of Oceans & Fisheries

Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society

**INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE**  
**MONDAY, August 24, 2020**

Lori Ackerman, Fort St John Mayor

- Letter to Premier John Horgan Re: BC Utilities Commission's Approval of BC Hydro's Application to Amend the Net Metering Service under Rate Schedule 1289

The Centre for Rural Health Research Podcast Team

- A New Podcast Series from the Centre for Rural Health Research at UBC

Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch

- Policy Directive 20-22 – Cannabis Licensing Regulation amendment – Online Sales, Prepaid Purchase Cards (Gift Cards)

Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia (MIABC)

- MIABC Board Highlights Summer 2020

Interior Health

- Targeted COVID-19 testing in response to Kelowna cluster
- COVID-19 potential exposure notice in Kelowna
- All Kelowna COVID-19 testing returning to UPCC
- Regional update on large algal bloom in Shuswap Lake
- Supporting Mount Christie wildfire efforts
- Healthy Communities August 2020 Newsletter

Thompson Nicola Regional District

- Kamloops Pinantan Playground - Upgrades and Grand Opening

/kw

## COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

**DATE:** August 24, 2020

**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Mayor Roden

**Assigned Committees:**

Finance Committee  
Gold Country Communities Society (GCCS)  
Historic Hat Creek Ranch  
Cache Creek Environmental Assessment  
TNRD  
Municipal Insurance Association (MIA)

**Alternate:**

Heritage  
Communities in Bloom (CiB)

**July 27, 2020: Business and recovery online meeting**

Joined Fraser-Nicola MLA Jackie Tegart, BC Liberal leader Andrew Wilkinson, and a number of area stakeholders for a discussion about business and recovery issues in our area and its communities. Key issues raised include:

- Uncertainty regarding a second wave of COVID-19 and what that might entail in terms of actions taken;
- A tight labour market and lack of workers;
- Concerns around visitors to our communities and whether or not they are taking/observing appropriate safety measures;
- Concerns around whether the Ashcroft Hospital has adequate resources/staff to continue to deliver health care services in a pandemic;
- The decline of tourism and the inequitable distribution of tourism funding; and
- Uncertainty surrounding education and what 'back to school' will look like this year.

**July 29, 2020: HUB Online Network promo**

Filmed a very tongue-in-cheek video for the HUB Online Network, appealing to the youth of Ashcroft and Cache Creek to help defend our towns against the Cardboardonians on Aug. 22. Many thanks to Sgt. Angman and Cst. Goffic of the Ashcroft RCMP detachment for playing along by appearing in the video armed with water guns.

**July 29, 2020: Economic Development committee meeting**

The first meeting of the Ec Dev Steering Committee. Committee members introduced themselves, and discussed the purpose and scope of the committee as well as terms of reference and a code of conduct.

- The importance of the hotel study and more hotel rooms in Ashcroft was discussed. The study will be actively marketed and the committee will look into getting a promotional video of Ashcroft made that can be sent to potential investors.

- Radio advertising was discussed. Stingray Radio (which operates three stations in Kamloops) is offering an advertising promotion at the moment, so rates will be obtained. The committee voted a maximum budget of \$5,000 for the ads.
- Other items discussed included signage; the 'Love Ashcroft' program; and a promotional brochure.

### **August 6, 2020: Radio interview**

Interview with Curt Appleby on the Howie Reimer show on Radio NL. He was most intrigued by the Cardboardian attack coming up on Aug. 22, but we also discussed how Ashcroft was coping with COVID-19, tourism, economic development, and the many attractions of Ashcroft as a place for Kamloopsians to come for a 'day away'.

### **August 10, 2020: Phone call with CP**

Mike LoVecchio, Director of Indigenous Relations and Government Affairs for CP, called regarding an incident on Saturday, August 8, when both CP crossings in Ashcroft were blocked for 35 minutes due to stopped trains. I happened to be first in line to cross by the cemetery to head to the Mesa and called the number on the crossing to report that we had been stopped for more than 10 minutes at that point. The incident was obviously reported to Mike, who called to say that the matter had been investigated. There was no accident on the line; it was a case of a poor stop by the eastbound train, which should have pulled up short of the crossing instead of proceeding to block both crossings while it waited for a westbound train. The crew involved were being spoken with about it.

### **August 12, 2020: Operation Lifesaver committee**

There was some brainstorming about what to do regarding Rail Safety Week (which starts on Sept. 21) due to lack of events and limitations on gatherings. Heat-sealable decals with a warning about train tracks are available for interested communities, which can be applied on the road on either side of crossings, and it was suggested that communities that get the (free) decals install them during Rail Safety Week and take photographs to be sent to Operation Lifesaver for publicity.

### **August 12: COVID-19 helpline ZOOM meeting**

Discussion about the COVID-19 helpline for Ashcroft/Cache Creek residents, involving representatives from the HUB, E. Fry, Equality Project, Community Resource Society, Sage Hills Church, Ashcroft Moving Forward, Better at Home, Soup's On, Spences Bridge Community Club, BC Ambulance Service, VOA, and Village of Clinton.

- The E. Fry Society is booming and seeing a lot of Food Bank use. They have done renovations at the rear of the Village Office building to allow easier access, as the Food Bank is now located in the former daycare space. They are looking for more storage space as they stockpile food for fall and winter.
- Literacy programs are on hold until at least the fall.
- The Hospice Society has permission for its volunteers to go back into the Hospice Room at the Ashcroft Hospital. Volunteers have been able to go into people's homes but some have been reluctant due to COVID-19.

### **August 13, 2020: TNRD regular board meeting**

- Regular board meetings continue to take place in the Rivers Lounge at the Sandman Centre.
- All Thompson-Nicola Regional Library branches are now open, albeit with slightly changed hours to accommodate more cleaning, and with limits to how long patrons can be in the branch at one time (an hour) or use the computer (45 minutes at one time). Free WiFi continues to be available outside all branches, at all times, the Library Takeout service will be continuing.
- A feature film scheduled to film in Ashcroft/Cache Creek/surrounding area in September has been postponed until June and July 2021 due to actor scheduling challenges. The Film Commission experienced a flurry of activity in July but is now quiet and in wait-and-see mode as the film industry figures out insurance, testing, and operating protocols.

### **August 19, 2020: Economic Development Committee**

The second meeting of the Ec Dev Steering Committee.

- The committee agreed to embark on a radio advertising campaign on three Kamloops radio stations (New Country 103.1, Radio NL, and K 97.5), with 30 x 15-second commercials each week for four weeks per station (a total of 360 ads in a month). There will be three different ads, all promoting Ashcroft and various attractions as a destination to visit that's only one hour from Kamloops. The total cost will be @ \$3,000.
- The committee also agreed to hire Mastermind Studios from Kamloops to produce a two to three minute promotional video for Ashcroft, to be used in various ways on various media, including as a tool to help market Ashcroft to possible developers/investors. The plan is to have the video shot by the end of September 2020.
- Highway signage was discussed (i.e. old, outdated signage, placement of signage). It was decided to look into the cost of a new sign on Highway 1 (south of Ashcroft Manor) and see about the possibility/cost of placing it on private land.
- The committee discussed the cost of a promotional brochure for Ashcroft. It was decided to get more pricing quotes for different formats, and also look at having it online.
- The committee will book a BC Economic Development Association 'Education for Local Leaders: Post-COVID-19 Version' workshop in October, to be attended by the Ec Dev committee members, council, and staff.

### **August 20, 2020: Board Governance training**

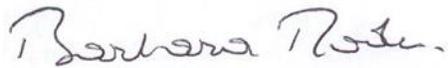
Attended a five-hour webinar session about board governance led by Deb McLelland of On Board Training. The session was arranged by Gold Country Communities Society for members of its board, as well as members of the Friends of Historic Hat Creek Ranch. The session was in three parts from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and covered the rules, the strategy, and the players of board governance. There are similarities with local governance, but some significant differences, and it was an interesting and valuable session.

### **MIABC news**

As a voting member of the Municipal Insurance Association of B.C. I will be attending the (virtual) AGM on Sept. 21. MIABC notes the following: 'In anticipation of claims arising from the pandemic, insurers across the globe have begun implementing contagion coverage exclusions. While local governments do not face a significant risk of being found liable for COVID-19 transmission, we

anticipate that local governments will nevertheless be subject to these claims. In order to provide our members with sufficient coverage to defend them, the MIABC proposes to amend the Liability Protection Agreement (LPA) to provide broad contagion coverage with a \$250,000 limit. The proposed coverage is subject to the requirement that members follow all applicable emergency and public health guidance. This amendment will be submitted to the members for a vote at the AGM.'

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Roden, Mayor