



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 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021

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

CALL TO ORDER

Due to the Public Health Officer Ministerial Order M0192, the February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council is closed to the public but will be broadcast by the HUB Online Network.

M/S

"That the Regular Meeting of Council for February 8, 2021 be closed to the public as per the Public Health Order M0192 and as permitted by Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 and that the meeting be available for public access via the HUB Online Network; and further that questions and comments received via email be addressed by Council at 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

"THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, February 8, 2021 be adopted as presented."

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 25, 2021 <i>"That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 25, 2021 be adopted as presented."</i>	P. 1-6

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	Jamie Vieira, Manager Environmental Services & Coleen Hougan, Invasive Plant Management Coordinator – TNRD Invasive Plant Program – Member Municipality Proposal	P. 7-14
3.2	Mike Dedels, Wildfire Invasive Plant Management Coordinator – Invasive Plant Control in the Village of Ashcroft. Funded program through the TNRD	P. 15

4. PUBLIC INPUT

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

5. BYLAWS

5.1		
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – NDI Community Spaces – Community Garden Funding <i>“That Council endorses the Village of Ashcroft grant funding application to Northern Development Initiative Trust under the Community Spaces funding stream for the development of a Community Garden in the downtown core; and further that Council support the project throughout its duration.”</i>	P. 16
FOR INFORMATION		
6.2	CFO Report – Year End Financial Review	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Easter Scavenger Hunt – Donation Request <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 17
7.2	Kathleen Kinasewich – Request for Street Art in the Round <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 18-21
FOR INFORMATION		
7.3	NDIT – 2021 Grant Writing Support – ND Project Number 7194 20	P. 22
7.4	NDIT – 2021 Business Façade Improvement Program – ND Project Number 7060 40	P. 23
7.5	MP Brad Vis – Letter to School District No. 74 – Support for Transfer of Asset to the Ashcroft HUB Society	P. 24-25
7.6	Invitation to Council to meet with MP Brad Vis on February 11, 2021 – A meeting has been scheduled for this day in the afternoon	P. 26
7.7	Flip Chart Information Correspondence – February 8, 2021	P. 27

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	P. 28-31
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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	P. 32-33
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	



12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

12.1	N/A	
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
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14. ADJOURNMENT



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

MINUTES

**OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE
OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021**

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

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
Yoginder Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer
Brian Bennewith, Director of Public Works

Media – 1

EXCUSED:

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Due to the Public Health Officer Ministerial Order M0192, the January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council is closed to the public but will be broadcast by the HUB Online Network.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to add or delete Agenda items

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S Davenport / Anderson

“THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, January 25, 2021 be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2021-22

2. MINUTES

2.1	<p><i>Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 11, 2021</i></p> <p>M/S Roden / Tuohey</p> <p><i>“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 11, 2020 be adopted as amended to include item 9.1 Councillors Tuohey and Davenport recused themselves in a conflict of interest and returned after the decision.”</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-23</p>
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3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	<p>Tyler Bell, Acting Fire Chief – Annual Fire Department Review Acting Chief Bell presented the Fire Department year-end report to Council with a power point presentation highlighting the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 20 less call outs for 2020 • Chief White completed 80 Fire Inspections • Membership did decline in 2020 but is on increase • 2 members received service awards, 5 will achieve milestones in 2021 • The FCABC and RC training grant funding applied for and received by the village is being used to complete the required Playbook training • Apparatus is in good shape but Council should be aware that Rescue 1 and Tender 4 are showing signs of mechanical failure and will require a plan for replacement • Members participated in Fire Education Week at DSCS • 30 smoke/co detectors were purchased and installed by the department • Fire hall is in need of upgrades – FD and VOA is working on a CVRIS grant application to address this. • Looking forward to 2021 – SCBA require hydrostatic testing • Need to send Chief and Captain to LAFC Fire Investigations training • Fire Inspection training required for one member or VOA to consider contracting this service <p>Looking forward to 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FD is looking forward to continued communication between the FD and VOA • FD participation on working group • Complete grant funded training • Review and update bylaws, constitution and remuneration <p>Council thanked Acting Chief Bell for his presentation and welcomed him back to future meetings. Council also expressed their gratitude for the service the fire department members provide to the Village and surrounding area.</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.

Gareth Smart read questions submitted to the media:

- 3.1 FD year-end report, clarification requested in regards to:
 - Will Village provide staff time to assist the admin function for the FD – will be addressed at the Working Group
 - Fire Inspection Services – Will VOA consider contracting this service – to be considered by the Working Group
 - Remuneration for Highway Rescue – to be considered by the Working Group

- Membership: Acting Chief Bell was asked to follow up after the meeting and respond to these questions.
 - What is the minimum number of FD members required to attend a call out?
 - There appear to be a number of probationary members, what does this mean and what measures are being taken to recruit and maintain members?
- Generator – Will the Village relocate the existing generator from the VOA office to hall and replace the office generator – No, a new generator will be purchased for the Fire Hall
- 6.1 Flood Risk Assessment
 - Costs seem inflated, did the Village consider tendering this project to other Engineers? – Urban Systems is the Village Engineering firm; our experience indicates quoted costs are comparable to other Engineering Firms.

5. BYLAWS

5.1	N/A	
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Funding to Renovate Fire Hall M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>“That Council endorse the application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) to renovate Fire Hall 2.”</i> Councillor Anstett abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest as a volunteer on the Fire Department	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-24
6.2	CAO Report – Council Working Group Assignments M/S Roden / Anderson <i>“That Council approves the Working Group appointments as follows:</i> 1. <i>Emergency Plan Update</i> Councillor Anstett / Councillor Davenport 2. <i>Storm Drainage and Run Off Study</i> Councillor Anstett / Mayor Roden 3. <i>Water to AIB</i> Councillor Anderson / Councillor Davenport 4. <i>North Ashcroft Reservoir</i> Councillor Anstett / Councillor Davenport 5. <i>Trails Master Plan</i> Mayor Roden / Councillor Tuohey 6. <i>Heritage Park Assessment and Community Garden</i> Councillor Anderson / Councillor Tuohey 7. <i>Fire Department Sustainability</i> Mayor Roden / Councillor Davenport”	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-25
6.3	CFO Report – Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping & Flood Mitigation Planning Application M/S Roden / Davenport <i>“That Council endorse application to the Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping & Flood Mitigation Planning.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-26
FOR INFORMATION		

6.4	CAO Report – NDI Community Planning for Housing – Coordinator Funding – Update	
6.5	<p>CFO Report – Year End Financial and Asset Management Presentation As required by the audit process: Technical difficulties unable to access BI Reports Asset Management grant waiting for FCM approval Insurance quote came back 50% higher this year, requested quote from MIA. Re-valued all insurance limits – removed duplication and reduced insured value where possible keeping value where necessary. MIA quote should be received by Jan 28th. Projects Update: River Intake will exceed budget due to Federal mandate to have Environmental Officer on site Separator – in-progress, should be complete by freshet season Lift station requires a kiosk as a safety cover, this was missed in design process. Hot tub – IHA requirements and approvals has increased costs Sand separators are ordered, finalizing contractor for the project Province will be administering Home Owner Grant applications online– website is not functional – website should be live mid-February HOG Challenges – senior population Village has proactively set up a computer in the reception area, staff will be able to assist residents will applications if needed VADIM – new owner is Central Square We have a desk top system – the system is older and presents many challenges We will look at moving to a server-based system, planning for August Financials: Water treatment plant has a deficit – due to increased costs by hydro Budget will require adjustment due to cost pressures for 2021 Internet connection is down and CFO is unable to connect to present the BI report, CFO Bhalla will bring back report for next Council meeting Question: Will intake chamber and separator projects be complete before freshet? – Goal is to complete – intake chamber should begin next week and be completed by end of March</p>	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Community Resources Society – Request Use of the Community Hall for Christmas Hampers 2021 M/S Tuohey / Anstett <i>“That Council approves the Community Resource Society’s request for free Community Hall use in December for the Hamper Drive.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-27
7.2	Ashcroft Volunteer Fire Department – Annual Fire Department Year End Review for 2020 M/S Roden / Tuohey <i>“That the Ashcroft Volunteer Fire Department Year End Report be received and filed.”</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-28

7.3	Medical Cannabis Petition M/S Roden / Davenport <i>"That the Village Of Ashcroft host the petition at the village office and allow public to come in and sign if they are so inclined."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-29
7.4	British Columbia/Yukon Command The Royal Canadian Legion – Military Service Recognition Book M/S Tuohey / Anderson <i>"That Council approves an advertisement in the Military Recognition book for 2021 as a full colour business card ad."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-30
7.5	Ashcroft Indian Band – Letter of Support Request M/S Anstett / Anderson <i>"Send a letter in support of AIB's application for funding to plan and construct a walking/bike path along Cornwall Rd."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-31
FOR INFORMATION		
7.6	Kamloops Cancer Centre – Letter to the Premier from local MLA's	
7.7	City of Nelson – Vaccination for Essential Critical Infrastructure Municipal Employees	
7.8	BC Transit – Customer Service Key Messages – Coronavirus	
7.9	City of North Vancouver Mayor – Letter to Minister of Environment re: Implementing a Province-wide Ban on Anticoagulant Rodenticides	
7.10	School District No. 74 News Release – Thank You Lytton K-12 Partners	
7.11	Information Correspondence – Flip Chart	
	M/S Tuohey / Anstett <i>"That the Information Items listed above be received and filed."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-32

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager M/S Roden / Davenport <i>"That the Task Manager be received and filed."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-33
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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	EDTC – Select Committee of Council M/S Roden / Davenport <i>"That Council approve the dissolution of the Economic Development and Tourism Select Committee of Council; and that a Working Group be established to act as a steering committee; and further that the Council members appointed to the Select Committee remain as the appointed members of the working group."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-34
10.2	Minutes for the January 12, 2021 Bylaw Enforcement Officer Working Group Meeting M/S Tuohey / Roden <i>"That the Minutes of the January 12, 2021 Bylaw Enforcement Officer Working Group meeting be received and filed."</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2021-35



11. COUNCIL REPORTS

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

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

12.1	N/A	
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
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14. ADJOURNMENT

M/S Roden / Anderson

"That the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, January 25, 2021 be adjourned at 6:59 pm."

CARRIED-Unanimous-R-2021-36

Certified to be a true copy of the
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of
Council held Monday January 25, 2021

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
MAYOR

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

In order to appear before Council as a delegation, please take the time to complete this form. It will help you in providing Council and staff with an overview of your presentation and the key points you wish to bring to their attention. We ask that you keep your presentation to a MAXIMUM of ten (10) minutes so that there will be a reasonable amount of time for Council to address any questions that may arise. Delegations are generally scheduled for Committee of the Whole meetings that are held on the 4th Monday of the month, however exceptions are reviewed on a case by case basis.

1. Name of Organization or Group (if applicable): _____
2. Name(s) and title(s) of Person(s) making presentation: _____

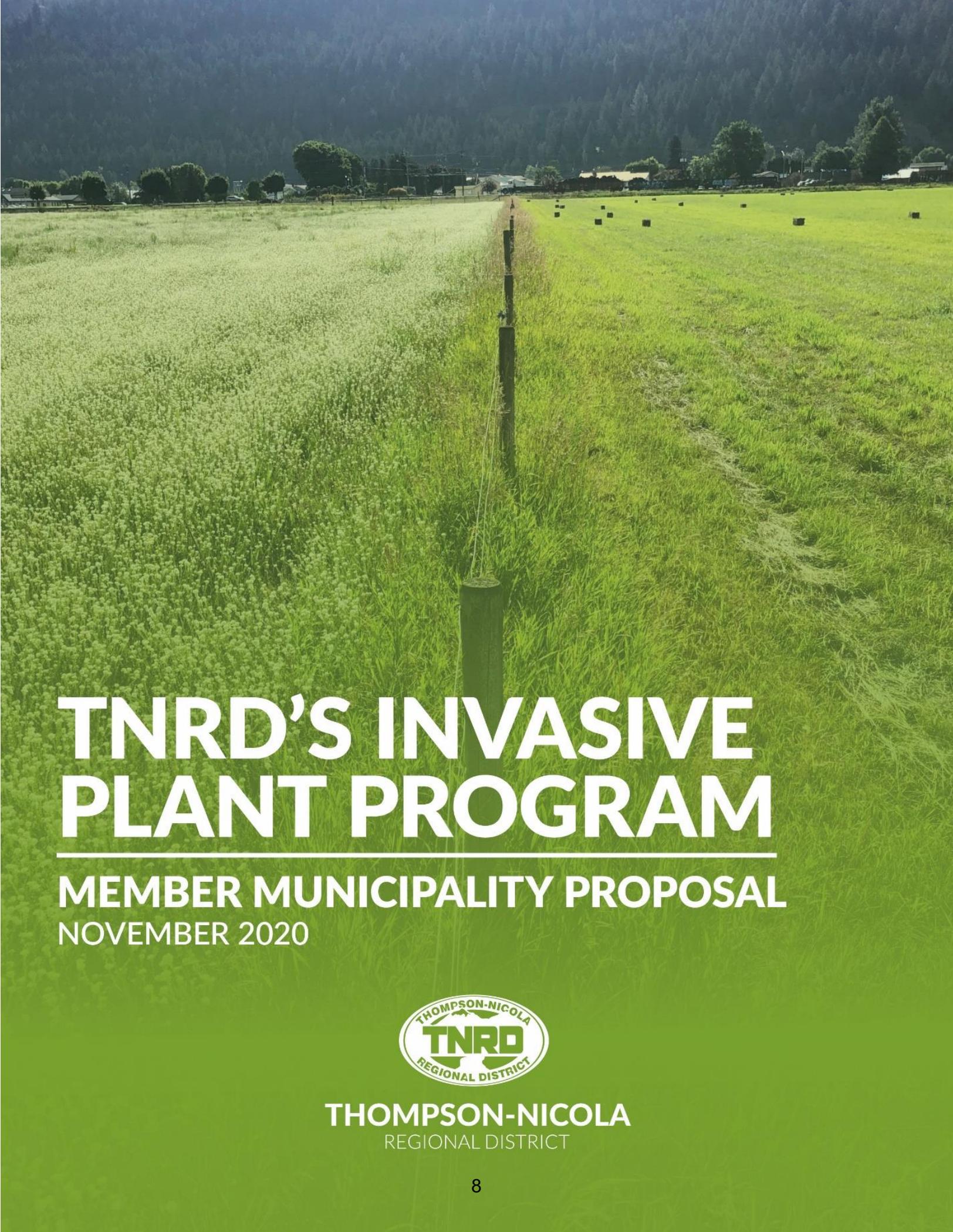
3. The topic of your presentation: _____

4. What are you seeking from Council as a result of your delegation's presentation? (i.e. funding, a letter of support, a change in a bylaw or policy, to provide information only):

5. If you or your group are seeking some form of financial assistance, please explain why you feel that the Village should be funding your request:

6. If seeking financial assistance please attach a budget for your project and expected sources of revenue.
7. If you require a power-point projector or other presentation tool, please advise staff in advance. Paper copies of your presentation should be brought as back up in case of system failure.
8. If you have additional printed materials that you would like Council to read as support for your presentation, please have 7 copies delivered to the office NO LATER THAN the Thursday morning prior to your date of presentation. This will ensure that all Council members receive your materials prior to the meeting and can be better informed as to the background of your presentation.
9. Date requested to make presentation: _____
Alternate date (if necessary): _____
10. You should not expect a decision from Council the same night as your presentation unless it is a time sensitive item.

Thank you for taking the time to prepare yourself and Council members for your presentation. This form and attachments can be dropped off at the Village Office or emailed to admin@ashcroftbc.ca



TNRD'S INVASIVE PLANT PROGRAM

MEMBER MUNICIPALITY PROPOSAL
NOVEMBER 2020



THOMPSON-NICOLA
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Overview

This proposal has been prepared by the Thompson-Nicola Regional District's Environmental Health Services Department for TNRD Member Municipalities. This proposal presents an opportunity for member municipalities to opt into the TNRD invasive plant service on an ongoing annual basis.

This proposal is intended to be used by member municipalities to inform staff and council of the benefits, and funding implications, related to joining the TNRD invasive plant service. This proposal is a follow-up to a presentation given at the TNRD Committee of the Whole meeting on October 16, 2020, where the concept was first presented.

Introduction

The TNRD Invasive Plant Program was established in 1976 with the specific purpose of funding knapweed control on private ranch lands. The service was established as an Electoral Area (EA) service funded by taxation of properties in all ten (10) TNRD EAs. Member Municipalities were not included in the service at the time, because weeds were seen as only an agriculture problem and the service was designed specifically to assist farms/ranches.

Invasive plants have become a serious concern in the urban and semi-rural areas located within municipalities. Since invasive plants do not stop at jurisdictional boundaries, successful invasive plant management in the region can only happen if all land owners, including municipalities and their residents, actively manage invasive plants on their properties. By having municipalities join the TNRD service, overall invasive plant management throughout the region will be strengthened and municipal residents will receive direct assistance in controlling invasive plants on their own land.

The Concern

The main issue is that invasive plants easily spread with no regard for jurisdictional boundaries. There are numerous organizations putting tremendous effort and resources into invasive plant management. In order to be successful, all land managers and land owners need to be actively managing invasive plants in the region. For more information on why municipalities should be concerned about invasive plants, see Appendix 1 below.

We know there is interest from residents within municipalities for invasive plant management support, as TNRD staff have been fielding inquiries from municipal residents for years. Specifically, there has been interest from landowners within municipalities in the financial assistance and equipment loan-out part of the TNRD program. At this time municipal residents do not qualify for these programs because municipalities are not part of the service area. In addition, TNRD staff have been assisting several municipal Public Works and/or Parks departments with invasive plant management issues. Again, because municipalities are not part of the service, TNRD staff can only offer limited support.



Benefits to Municipalities

There are a number of benefits to municipalities in joining the TNRD Invasive Plant Program:

- Stable and long term invasive plant management programs within municipal boundaries.
- Financial assistance for residents managing invasive plants on private properties.
- Support for municipal staff managing invasive plants on public land.
- Enhanced coordinated effort to control invasive plants throughout the region.
- Increased education, outreach and awareness within your municipality.
- Protecting land values from the impacts of invasive plants.

About the TNRD Invasive Plant Program

The TNRD invasive plant program has three main components: 1) *Landowner Assistance*, 2) *Education and Outreach*, and 3) *Coordination*. It's important to note that the invasive plant program applies to noxious weeds only, and not for treatment of lawn or garden weeds that are a nuisance, but not designated as "noxious". The content below provides an overview of each component.

1. Land Owner Assistance Programs

Landowner assistance is the largest component of the invasive plant service. The landowner assistance programs are designed to help residents protect their land from the impacts of invasive plants. The program offerings can be combined, allowing for comprehensive, affordable, and effective weed management. Below is an overview of the landowner assistance program components:

- Rebate Program** - financial support is offered in the form of rebates to landowners that hire certified applicators to manage weeds on their property. Depending on the weed species, landowners can qualify for either a 50% rebate or 100% rebate towards the cost of weed control. Rebates can be applied for on an annual basis. The maximum rebate is based on property size (either \$1,500 or \$3,000).
- Sprayer Loan-Out Program** - the TNRD has a fleet of spraying, seeding, and fertilizing equipment that is available for free loan-out to people who have the expertise to perform their own weed control. The equipment is available for loan-out for up to a week at a time.
- Biological Control Program** - the TNRD provides biological control agents to private landowners free of charge. TNRD staff and contractors collect and redistribute biological control agents (insects) to help slow the spread of select weed species. The biological control insects are available for release on both private properties and public land within the service area (subject to insect availability).
- Private Land Consultations**- landowners can take advantage of the free land consultations where invasive plant specialist visits properties (by request) to assist with weed identification and the development of a weed management plan.



2. Education and Outreach

The Thompson-Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee (TNIPMC), administered by the TNRD, works to stop the spread and introduction of invasive plants in the region. The committee delivers an extensive regional education and outreach program. The Committee actively offers numerous services to other organizations, groups, agencies and members of the public, including workshops, training, presentations, and field days.

3. Coordination

The TNIPMC encourages multi-party collaboration on invasive plant management in the region. The TNIPMC is comprised of 11 members representing a variety of perspectives, including: Provincial Government Agencies, Local Government (TNRD Board Directors), Agriculture, First Nations, and Conservation. Each of these representatives help guide the invasive plant management activities that take place within the TNRD, ensuring that the efforts are being made in a collaborative and coordinated manner.

Proposed Funding Model

The service is currently funded through taxation of the ten (10) electoral areas. In addition, the TNRD has historically received grants from the province specific to coordination and education, however the grants are subject to change year to year. The table below (table 1), highlights the revenue sources for the 2020 invasive plant service.

Table 1. 2020 Invasive Plant Program Funding Sources

Funding Source	2020 Contributions
TNRD tax levies (EA's only)	\$341,906
Carry Forward (surplus)	\$20,058
Provincial Grants	\$40,000

The TNRD is proposing a unique cost share model with municipalities in which only the incremental costs would be covered by municipalities, opposed to the more conventional model where tax contribution is based on converted assessment. This model is being proposed as the TNRD recognizes that the conventional model would put an unfair proportion of the cost on municipalities.

The program is designed to enable treatment of existing infestations as well as new infestations as they arise. Therefore, it is anticipated that the amount of rebates paid to properties within individual municipalities may fluctuate annually, sometimes being below and sometimes above the municipal tax contribution. The intent is not for the rebates to match the contribution amounts, the intent is for the service as a whole to have enough funding to pay out rebates where infestations are occurring.



It's important to note that under the proposed funding model, rural electoral areas will still fund the majority of the program. For example, if all 11 TNRD member municipalities join, the 10 EAs will fund over 75% of the total tax requisition. If fewer municipalities opt into the service, the EAs will fund an even larger portion.

The proposed funding model is based on estimated cost increases of adding individual municipalities. We intend to revisit the contribution model based on total rebate applications and other program costs within a few years of operation.

The table below (Table 2) shows the proposed starting tax contribution for each municipality as well as the maximum contribution percentage in relation to the total budget.

Table 2. Proposed Tax Contributions for Member Municipalities

Municipality	Population Range	Starting Tax Contribution (2022)	Maximum Contribution of Total Budget (%)
Lytton	Less than 1,000	\$5,000	1.5%
Sun Peaks	Less than 1,000	\$5,000	1.5%
Clinton	Less than 1,000	\$5,000	1.5%
Cache Creek	Less than 1,000	\$5,000	1.5%
Ashcroft	Over 1,000, less than 5,000	\$10,000	2.5%
Barriere	Over 1,000, less than 5,000	\$10,000	2.5%
Logan Lake	Over 1,000, less than 5,000	\$10,000	2.5%
Chase	Over 1,000, less than 5,000	\$10,000	2.5%
Clearwater	Over 1,000, less than 5,000	\$10,000	2.5%
Merritt	Over 5,000, Less than 50,000	\$20,000	4.5%
Kamloops	Over 50,000	\$40,000	9%



Next Steps

In order to amend the TNRD service to include municipalities, a council resolution will be required from interested municipalities. Once resolutions have been received, the TNRD Board will go through the process of amending the service establishment bylaw.

Below is a proposed timeline for next steps:

- March 31, 2021 - Council resolutions in favour of joining TNRD service received
- May 2021 – Service establishment bylaw amendment to TNRD Board
- 2022 – Taxes levied and service begins

TNRD Invasive Plant Program Contacts

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Thompson-Nicola Regional District
EHS Manager
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jvieira@tnrd.ca

Coleen Hougen, P.Ag.
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Invasive Plant Coordinator
250-377-6306
chougen@tnrd.ca



Appendix 1 - Why Care?

Invasive plants were once thought to be only an issue in the agriculture and ranching sector. Unfortunately we are now seeing many problem plants in municipalities. The economic damage from invasive plants is not insignificant. A 2009 report estimated the damage of only six (6) specific invasive plant species to be \$65 million in the province.

Real estate values can be negatively impacted by invasive plants. A study in Manitoba estimated reduction in land values due to noxious weeds is \$30 million. As more people become aware of the risks and management challenges of invasives, people are thinking twice about purchasing infested properties.

There are also costs associated with the damage to infrastructure cause by some weeds. For example, Japanese knotweed which has been identified in most towns in the TNRD, is very difficult to eliminate once established. It can grow through asphalt and concrete and cause extensive damage to private and public property. Knotweed is known to damage septic tanks beyond repair, requiring complete replacement. It can easy spread by fragments of the plant being moved (intentionally or unintentionally).



Figure 1. Japanese Knotweed growing through asphalt

Invasive plants can also have impacts on the health of humans and livestock. Giant hogweed can cause sever skin burns that can persists for months. It has even been highlighted by WorkSafe BC as a workplace hazard. Fortunately we have not seen this plant in the TNRD, but it is near our boarder (Lower Mainland).



Figure 2. Japanese Knotweed in Kamloops

Hoary alyssum is another significant plant of concern, especially for horse owners. It is toxic to horses and is easy spread through contaminated hay. Hoary alyssum is widespread throughout the TNRD.

There are dozens of other provincially listed noxious weed species that can damage property, reduce land value, and have negative impact of animals that are actively being treated on both public and private land.

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

In order to appear before Council as a delegation, please take the time to complete this form. It will help you in providing Council and staff with an overview of your presentation and the key points you wish to bring to their attention. We ask that you keep your presentation to a **MAXIMUM** of ten (10) minutes so that there will be a reasonable amount of time for Council to address any questions that may arise. Delegations are generally scheduled for Committee of the Whole meetings that are held on the 4th Monday of the month, however exceptions are reviewed on a case by case basis.

1. Name of Organization or Group (if applicable): TNRD Environmental Services

2. Name(s) and title(s) of Person(s) making presentation: Mike Dedels,
Wildfire Invasive Plant Management Coordinator

3. The topic of your presentation: Invasive Plant Control in the Village of Ashcroft. Funded program through the TNRD

4. What are you seeking from Council as a result of your delegation's presentation? (i.e. funding, a letter of support, a change in a bylaw or policy, to provide information only):
Information on potential fully funded program for road and private land treatment of Invasive Plants.
The TNRD could fund a summer 2021 position to do chemical or mechanical treatment of Invasive Plants
plus education and outreach under their Red Cross funded program

5. If you or your group are seeking some form of financial assistance, please explain why you feel that the Village should be funding your request:
N/A

6. If seeking financial assistance please attach a budget for your project and expected sources of revenue.

7. If you require a power-point projector or other presentation tool, please advise staff in advance. Paper copies of your presentation should be brought as back up in case of system failure.

8. If you have additional printed materials that you would like Council to read as support for your presentation, please have 7 copies delivered to the office **NO LATER THAN** the Thursday morning prior to your date of presentation. This will ensure that all Council members receive your materials prior to the meeting and can be better informed as to the background of your presentation.

9. Date requested to make presentation: February 8, 2021
 Alternate date (if necessary): Flexible

10. You should not expect a decision from Council the same night as your presentation unless it is a time sensitive item.

Thank you for taking the time to prepare yourself and Council members for your presentation. This form and attachments can be dropped off at the Village Office or emailed to admin@ashcroftbc.ca

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

DATE: February 8, 2021
FROM: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: **NDIT Community Spaces – Community Garden Funding**

Purpose

Request Council endorsement to submit a grant application to Northern Development Initiative Trust under the Community Spaces funding stream to be allocated for Community Garden strategic priority.

Recommendation

THAT, Council endorses the Village of Ashcroft grant funding application to Northern Development Initiative Trust under the Community Spaces funding stream for the development of a Community Garden in the downtown core; and further that Council support the project throughout its duration.

Alternatives

That Council defer the application to the NDIT Spring Intake.

Discussion

Priority #6 in Council's 2021-2022 Strategic Plan is the development of a Community Garden and Heritage Park and tree assessment.

This report is before Council prior to the Working Group responsible for the project's first meeting as the Winter Intake for grant application is time sensitive. The Community Spaces funding has a quarterly intake, the Winter intake closes February 12th. Delaying Ashcroft's application for funding to the Spring intake on May 14th would cause challenges to complete the project in time to utilize that garden in 2021.

NDIT's Community Spaces funding stream will fund 70% of the gross cost of the project to a maximum of \$30,000. Donations and in-kind contributions are eligible to offset the gross cost of the project, in essence the Community Garden could be completely grant, volunteer and donation funded. If the project cost is in excess of \$30,000 and a shortfall is determined by the Working Group, a budget consideration may be required.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Strategic Plan

Legislative Authority

N/A

Financial Implications

To be Determined by the Working Group

Attachment Listing

N/A

Respectfully Submitted by:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Phyllis Rainey

Sent: February 3, 2021 8:09 PM

To: Maike Mayden <admin@ashcroftbc.ca>

Cc: Joyce Beddow Buckland

Subject: Easter Scavenger Hunt

To: Ashcroft Village Mayor and Council

Last year, we organized a successful physically distanced Easter Scavenger hunt. We had 104 kids participate. There were three main prizes plus all other participants/families received Easter treats. The Village of Ashcroft kindly donated a season Family Pool Pass as first prize.

We are planning another physically distanced Scavenger Hunt similar to last year. We are wondering if the Village would donate a season Family Pool Pass again this year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Phyllis Rainey and Joyce Beddow Buckland

From: [Kathleen Kinasewich](#)
To: [Kathleen Kinasewich](#); [Daniela Dyck](#)
Subject: Fwd: Request for Agenda Request placement of Art on Fence area
Date: February 3, 2021 5:24:04 PM

To Village of Ashcroft Council

A request to hang Art in the circle on the fence next to the Elizabeth Fry offices.

I am testing out my digital life and hope you understand my request clearly. Pictures of the area mentioned are in the CANVA presentation. I have been to the location and have measured and evaluated the potential for Hanging our art here , to bring more beautification to the Village of Ashcroft and Art to community members. My video request is also attached in the body of a UTube video. Details attached.

Please find the link in the body of this email ,for a CANVA presentation (slide show) asking permission to hang street art made in the circle on the fence alongside and behind Elizabeth Fry offices .

Our project " Community Art in the Circle" will begin planning and making appropriate applications with various Arts and community organizations. Before we can begin planning , budgeting and proceeding in any way with the details of this project, I will need permission from the board at the Village of Ashcroft.

This project is in the pre planning stages , we do expect to get started late June 2021 and complete with all our groups by the end of September 2021.

I am asking if this presentation , a few minutes, will be added to the agenda for the upcoming council meeting on Monday,February 8,2021. Should for any reason you may not be able to review this presentation format . Please advise right away and I will make whatever adjustments necessary for you to view the request accordingly. (Can you please confirm its addition to the agenda and its outcome .

Your support and cooperation are very much honoured and respected.
Should you require to contact me with any questions, please do as soon as possible to the phone number below or my email address.

THE PRESENTATION

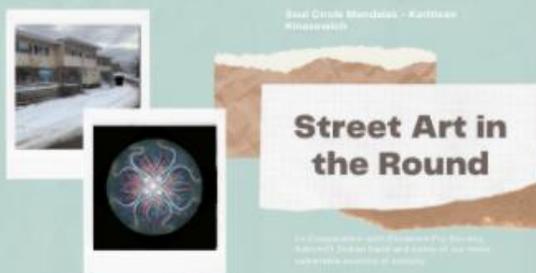
YOUTube video -Verbal and visual explanation of project and the request with council
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0n0AfsR800>

Pictures of area in mention are in the presentation

https://www.canva.com/design/DAEU6zghYS0/qPhLolg323Q_szkmdwk7DA/view?utm_content=DAEU6zghYS0&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink

Respectfully Submitted
Kathleen Kinasewich
Soul Circle Mandalas
250-458-2489

Soal Circle Mandala - Kathleen Kakinasewich



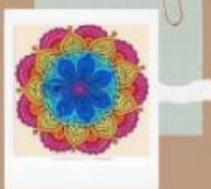
Street Art in the Round

In Cooperation with Elizabeth Fry Society, Richmond, United Social and Centre of our Home, and the Society of Health.

1

STREET ART IN ASHCROFT

project overview



2



78%

INCREASE IN POSITIVE IDENTITY WITH SELF AND COMMUNITY

6

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

BEGINS WITH YOU



7



Please share your letter of support and permission to bring the art to the circle by holding on the bottom perforated the presentation.

BY EMAIL AT [KAKINASEWICH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:kakinasewich@gmail.com)
www.soualcirclemandalas.com

PLEASE WRITE YOUR LETTER OF SUPPORT NOW.

11



WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY AND OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS, ART COUNCIL OF B.C., VANCOUVER FOUNDATION AND MORE!

Kathleen Kakinasewich of Soal Circle Mandala will be facilitating the art project, please feel free to make contact with me to answer any questions that arise. 250-418-2888

12

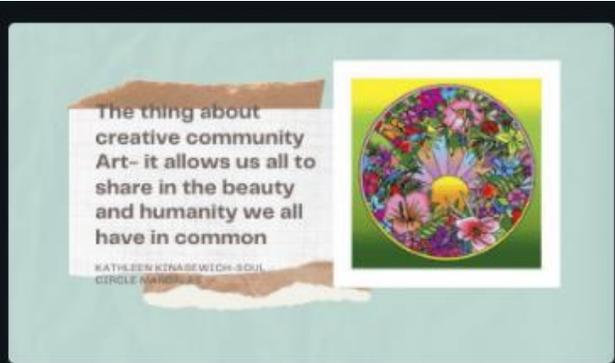


WHY STREET ART ?

Artistic expression and Hope

Offering opportunity to be with community - leave a legacy in art - sharing with community.

3



The thing about creative community Art- it allows us all to share in the beauty and humanity we all have in common

KATHLEEN KZNASEWICH-SOUL
CIRCLE MANDALA

4

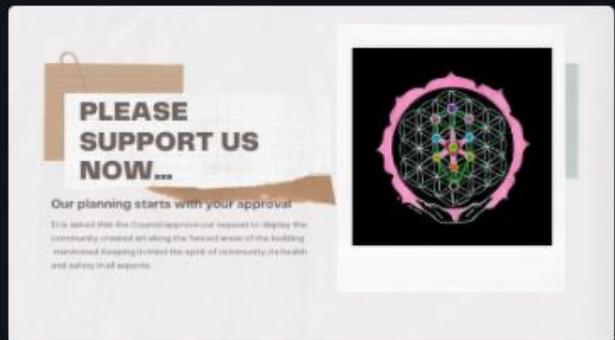


TO BEGIN

We need your approval to display the art created and be hung on the fence

The fence we being requested for display would be outside of the Elizabeth City offices and along the river into the parking lot. We will take all consideration of the gardens and their need for sunlight. We will also take into account the safety of the area for community safety of the artists adding such beauty.

8



PLEASE SUPPORT US NOW...

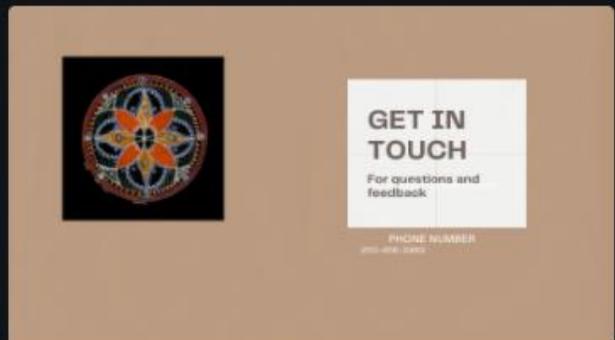
Our planning starts with your approval

We would like the Council to approve our request to display the community created art along the fenced areas of the building. We would like to keep in mind the spirit of community, its health and safety in all aspects.

9



13



GET IN TOUCH

For questions and feedback

PHONE NUMBER
252-338-1234

14



BENEFITS OF STREET ART ON THE BODY AND MIND

COMMUNITY PRIDE

A drawing of the body that we all share is the ART of building wholeness & beauty in community.

SELF-ESTEEM BUILDING

Creating art in the world... displaying it in the landscape to both self & others in the landscape for many like it always.

BETTER MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH

Art in community has been shown to health practitioners that it helps to heal feelings of isolation, anxiety and depression.

5



Imagine the colour and beauty before your eyes... We plan to hang the art up to the gate area, as to not impede on the gate operation for community charity area.

10

January 27, 2020

Village of Ashcroft
PO Box 129
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

Attention: Mayor Barbara Roden

**Subject: 2021 Grant Writing Support
Northern Development Project Number 7194 20**

The Northern Development Initiative Trust board appreciates your interest and application to the 2021 Grant Writing Support program. The purpose of this funding is to provide grant writing support for priority community projects and to provide assistance to non-profits and First Nations located in or near your community. We are pleased to advise you that your application has been approved for a rebate grant up to \$8,000 toward a community grant writing position during the 2021 calendar year. Northern Development is flexible as to when you contract or hire these services during 2021.

The Village of Ashcroft must submit a completed Grant Writing Support program reporting form which can be found on Northern Development's website at www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/funding-programs/capacity-building/grant-writing-support/. This report must verify a minimum of \$10,500 in wages or contract payments, a minimum of 400 hours spent on grant writing services, and a minimum of \$200,000 of grant applications during the approved calendar year. The minimum requirements must be met in order to receive the full \$8,000 rebate. Complete reporting is due by February 28, 2022.

The Northern Development Board wants to see the Village of Ashcroft reach its economic potential and we look forward to being a partner in that endeavor.

Sincerely,

Joel McKay
Chief Executive Officer

c: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Ashcroft

January 22, 2021

Village of Ashcroft
PO Box 129
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

**Attention: Barbara Roden
Mayor**

**Subject: 2021 Business Façade Improvement Program
Northern Development Project Number 7060 40**

Northern Development Initiative Trust was created by the Province to be a catalyst for central and northern B.C. to grow a strong diversified economy by stimulating sustainable economic growth through strategic and leveraged investments.

I am pleased to advise you that the Village of Ashcroft's Business Façade Improvement application for the 2021 year has been approved up to \$20,000 from the Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Regional Development Account on January 19, 2021.

Funding under this program is provided as a reimbursement upon Northern Development's receipt of reporting documents. Complete reporting is due by January 31, 2022. Reporting materials can be found on Northern Development's website at www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/funding-programs/community-development/business-facade-improvement/.

We wish you every success with your project. We are excited to see how your Business Façade Improvement projects will stimulate economic growth and strengthen our region.

Sincerely,



Joel McKay
Chief Executive Officer

- c: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Ashcroft
Margaret Moreira, Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator, Village of Ashcroft



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

January 21, 2021

Brad Vis

Member of Parliament
Mission—Matsqui—Fraser Canyon

The Board of School Trustees
School District No. 74 (Gold Trail)

Delivered via email: nrempel@sd74.bc.ca, vadrian@sd74.bc.ca, ostorkan@sd74.bc.ca, daljam@sd74.bc.ca, lcasper@sd74.bc.ca, cranta@sd74.bc.ca, lminnarriet@sd74.bc.ca, tdowns@sd74.bc.ca

Re: Transfer of Asset to the Ashcroft HUB Society

Dear Chairs and Trustees:

As Member of Parliament for Mission-Matsqui-Fraser Canyon, I wish to add my support to the transfer of the building at 711 Hill Street, Ashcroft, from School District No. 74 to the Ashcroft HUB Society.

The Ashcroft HUB is an integral community resource existing to fill the needs of not only Ashcroft but the remote and rural communities of Cache Creek, Savona, Spences Bridge and Walhachin as well as the Nlaka'pamux and Secwepemc First Nations. In a region where residents can be very far from their neighbours, the Ashcroft HUB is truly a catalyst for community engagement. Their facility is a centre for programs ranging from arts, recreation, continuing education and other events.

During a time when we are unable to gather in person, it is more important than ever that we support organizations that are adapting and continue to benefit residents by offering wellness programs and combatting social isolation.

While I understand the non-profit society is unable to purchase the building at this time, I am working to support their quest for funding with the federal and provincial governments through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure fund.

<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

I am delighted to support the Ashcroft HUB Society's asset transfer request so the community may continue to gather as we strive to build thriving, healthy and accessible communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Brad Vis', written in a cursive style.

Brad Vis, M.P.
Mission-Matsqui-Fraser Canyon

From: Rachel, Alison (Vis, Brad - MP) [<mailto:alison.rachel.817@parl.gc.ca>]
Sent: February 2, 2021 2:39 PM
To: Maike Mayden <admin@ashcroftbc.ca>
Subject: February 11 visit

Good afternoon Mayor Roden,

On behalf of MP Brad Vis, I am writing to extend an invitation to meet.

Mr. Vis and staff will be travelling through Cache Creek on February 11th would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you in the afternoon in Ashcroft.

Kindly inform our office should you wish to arrange a meeting at this time.

Warm greetings,

Alison Rachel

Community Outreach Liaison
Office of Brad Vis, MP
Mission-Matsqui-Fraser Canyon
#7 – 32650 Logan Ave
Mission, B.C., V2V 6C7
O: 604.814.5710 / M: 604.615.9385
E: Alison.Rachel.817@parl.gc.ca



INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE – FLIP CHART

FEBRUARY 8, 2021 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Interior Health

- IH update on COVID-19 cluster in Williams Lake area
- IH declares COVID-19 outbreak at Teck mining operations near Elkford over
- IH declares COVID-19 outbreak on Royal Inland Hospital unit
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster at Big White
- IH declares outbreak over at Williams Lake Seniors Village
- IH declares COVID-19 cluster in the Fernie region
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster at Big White (Jan. 26/21)
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster in Williams Lake area (Jan. 26/21)
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster in Williams Lake area (Jan. 29/21)
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster in Fernie
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster at Big White (Jan. 29/21)
- IH declares outbreak at Westsyde Care Residences in Kamloops
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster in Williams Lake area (Feb. 2/21)
- IH update on COVID-19 cluster at Big White (Feb. 2/21)

KADREA

- Media Release – After an isolated 2020, Kamloops and area Realtors partner with the United Way TNC to bring love to our communities
- Media Release – Upward trend continues in Kamloops real estate, but active inventory is a cause of concern

/kh

Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Time line	Status
2020 MOTIONS					
R-2020-86	“That Council defer the Outdoor Burning Bylaw Report until the COVID-19 pandemic is over and public is able to attend	CAO	COVID-19 orders are lifted to include public input		on temporary hold
R-2020-159	“That the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the Section 219 ‘no disturbance’ covenant on behalf of the Village of Ashcroft for rezoning application RZ-20-01”	CAO	Property owners have engaged a consultant to clarify the arch site and move forward		in-progress
R-2020-160	“That Council approve staff to research and develop an updated Business License Bylaw for the Village of Ashcroft and bring it back to Council for consideration.”	CAO/ Intern/AA	Intern and Admin are working on a draft under the supervision of the CAO		in-progress
2021 MOTIONS					
R-2021-04	<p>“That the Council Committee appointments be reassigned as follows: Health: Cnclr. Tuohey – Alt. Mayor Roden Ec. Dev. Tourism: Cnclr. Anderson – Alt. Cnclr. Anstett NDIT: Cnclr. Davenport – Alt. Cnclr. Anstett Heritage: Cnclr. Tuohey – Alt. Cnclr. Davenport All other committee appointments remain as previously assigned.</p> <p>“That the Council Committee appointments be reassigned as follows: Health: Cnclr. Tuohey – Alt. Mayor Roden Ec. Dev. Tourism: Cnclr. Anderson – Alt. Cnclr. Anstett NDIT: Cnclr. Davenport – Alt. Cnclr. Anstett Heritage: Cnclr. Tuohey – Alt. Cnclr. Davenport All other committee appointments remain as previously assigned.”</p>	EA/Recept	Update Council committee appointment list - notify NDIT		complete

R-2021-05	"That each Council member choose their top four Working Group options, list them descending and bring the list to the next Council meeting for consideration and appointment."	Council	Bring top 4 choices to the Jan 25, 2021 Council meeting	complete
R-2021-06	"That Council approves the CAO and CFO to sign the Annual Operating Agreement to continue the inter-community bus service with BC Transit and the communities of Clinton and Cache Creek."	CAO/CFO	sign agreement	complete
R-2021-08	"That Council approve the AVFD request for a \$500 Grant in Aid."	CFO	Cheque Requisition	complete
R-2021-09	"That Council request a zoom meeting to discuss the future disposal of the AES property with the Board of Trustees."	CAO	Meeting requested for February 10, 2021	complete
R-2021-10	"That Council direct staff to send a letter to Premier John Horgan, MLA Tegart and the Ministers of Health and Finance in support of the City of Vernon's resolution in support of universal no-cost access to all prescription contraception available in BC under the Medical Services plan."	CAO	Draft Letters	complete
R-2021-11	"That Council move the motion made by the City of Kamloops Council and forward it the Federal Government requesting immediate action be taken to address the Overdose Crisis in Canada."	CAO	Draft Letter	complete
R-2021-13	"That Council members bring resolution suggestions back to the next meeting keeping in mind a broader based universal issue affecting many municipalities."	Council	January 25th Agenda. No resolution suggestions received	in-progress
R-2021-14	"That Council direct staff to request another meeting between Mayor Talarico, Mayor Roden, Sgt Angman and C/Supt. Haugli to discuss policing concerns in the Ashcroft/Cache Creek area."	CAO	email sent to Sgt Angman to begin meeting coordination	complete
R-2021-18	"That Council approve administration to sign the Annual Operating Agreement and submit it to BC Transit before January 31, 2021."	CAO/CFO	sign agreement	complete

R-2021-20	"That Council approve the Economic Development and Tourism-Strategic Plan 2020-2021".	EDTC	Sign and file agreement		complete
R-2021-24	"That Council endorse the application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) to renovate Fire Hall 2."	CAO			complete
R-2021-25	"That Council approves the Working Group appointments as follows: 1.Emergency Plan Update Councillor Anstett / Councillor Davenport 2.Storm Drainage and Run Off Study Councillor Anstett / Mayor Roden 3.Water to AIB Councillor Anderson / Councillor Davenport 4.North Ashcroft Reservoir Councillor Anstett / Councillor Davenport 5.Trails Master Plan Mayor Roden / Councillor Tuohey 6.Heritage Park Assessment and Community Garden Councillor Anderson / Councillor Tuohey 7.Fire Department Sustainability Mayor Roden / Councillor Davenport"	CAO/EA			complete
R-2021-26	"That Council endorse application to the Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Mapping & Flood Mitigation Planning."	CFO			complete
R-2021-27	"That Council approves the Community Resource Society's request for free Community Hall use in December for the Hamper Drive."	EA			complete
R-2021-29	"That the Village Of Ashcroft host the petition at the village office and allow public to come in and sign if they are so inclined."	ADMIN			complete

R-2021-30	"That Council approves an advertisement in the Military Recognition book for 2021 as a full colour business card ad."	EA			complete
R-2021-31	"Send a letter in support of AIB's application for funding to plan and construct a walking/bike path along Cornwall Rd."	CAO			complete
R-2021-34	"That Council approve the dissolution of the Economic Development and Tourism Select Committee of Council; and that a Working Group be established to act as a steering committee; and further that the Council members appointed to the Select Committee remain as the appointed members of the working group."	EDTC			complete

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

DATE: February 8, 2021
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 Committees:

Health Care
 Communities in Bloom (CiB)

Working Groups:

Economic Development/Tourism WG
 Storm Drainage & Run Off WG
 Trails Master Plan WG
 Fire Department Sustainability WG

January 28: Gold Country Communities Society

The preliminary budget was presented for comments, and it was noted that the budget has been significantly impacted by COVID-19. The Cache Creek market is hoping to be able to open the first weekend in May. Historic Hat Creek is hoping to have a limited opening this season, but no final decision has been made. They are also hoping to offer more access to the gift shop similar to last summer and at Christmas. Lytton has a new CAO. I gave an update on various initiatives in Ashcroft, including the NDIT Facade Improvement Program and Grant Writer funding, Plaid Friday, promotional videos, and the new working groups.

January 29: Radio interview

Spoke with Colton Davies of Radio NL in Kamloops on a variety of issues, including water treatment projects, housing development, and lack of housing in Ashcroft and the region.

January 29: Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Regional phone call with Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs, and mayors and board chairs from Southern Interior/Okanagan municipalities and regional districts. More infrastructure funds are coming in spring/summer 2021 and I raised the possibility that one possibility for use of funds would be hiring a housing needs coordinator (since NDIT is not offering that grant opportunity this year). Brian Frenkel, UBCM president, spoke of the need for the Province to consult with local governments regarding the role of UNDRIP in issues affecting local governments, and to do this consultation earlier. Climate change, funds for refurbishment of aging municipal buildings to make them more energy efficient, lack of information from Interior Health to local governments about COVID-19 in the region, housing (lack of), and challenges to small business and tourism were all mentioned by participants.

January 29: Liberal caucus town hall meeting

Zoom call with members of the BC Liberal caucus and municipal stakeholders from around the province about challenges surrounding natural resources and the environment. Climate change, the need to move away from ‘knee jerk’ responses to wildlife issues, challenges to the forest industry and agriculture, the continued threat of mega fires and the need to be proactive rather than reactive, and the need for better communication about the importance of the natural resource sector when it comes to urban populations that are disconnected from that sector were among the topics raised. I raised the need to keep up pressure on the provincial government to push for action around the endangered Fraser River steelhead trout, which is again being considered by the federal government for inclusion in the Species at Risk Act.

February 3: TNRD/GCCS meeting

An online meeting with TNRD participants in the Gold Country Financial Contribution bylaw to finalize the last details for the amending bylaw, to ensure that everyone knows the changes to the bylaw in advance of it being brought to the full board at the February meeting. There was discussion about the revised terms of the bylaw to ensure that any parties wishing to withdraw have to give adequate notice so that GCCS is not ‘blindsided’.

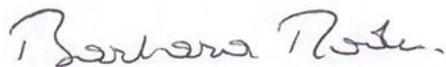
February 3: Liberal caucus town hall meeting

Zoom meeting with members of the BC Liberal caucus, including Fraser-Nicola MLA Jackie Tegart, about ‘Supporting BC Families’. Participants from around the province raised and discussed a number of topics, including more and better mental health supports (particularly for youth) in rural communities, more and better home care support for seniors to allow them to age in place for longer, RCMP staffing levels at rural detachments, on-call paramedics leading to staffing shortages in rural ambulance stations as employees got elsewhere for full-time work, child/day care accessibility, more support for those with opioid and other drug addiction issues, and more.

February 3: Closed GCCS board meeting

An emergency closed board meeting was called on the morning of Feb. 3 and took place at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Roden,
Mayor