

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, July 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

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

CALL TO ORDER

"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."

1. **ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA**

2. **MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 23, 2025 M/S <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 23, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 1-5
-----	--	--------

3. **DELEGATIONS**

3.1	Andrew Cumblidge – Discussion on Village Provided Services	P. 6
3.2	Via Zoom – Amandeep Singh – HomeZero Collective – Results of Home Energy Efficiency Pilot Project in Vernon – Request for letter of support from Council to support the upcoming application to FCM's Community Efficiency Financing Program	P. 7

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/POLICIES**

5.1	N/A	
-----	-----	--

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Council Member Virtual Attendance and Consideration of By-Election	P. 8-10

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, July 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

	<p>Purpose: To seek Council direction regarding a member of Council who has relocated outside the Village of Ashcroft and is no longer able to attend meetings in person. The Council member has expressed a willingness to continue participating virtually or to resign, depending on Council's preferred approach. This report outlines the legislative work, legal considerations, and options available for Council's review.</p> <p>M/S <i>THAT Council consider the following two options and provide direction to staff:</i></p> <p><i>Option 1:</i> <i>THAT, Council accepts Councillor Lambert's resignation and direct staff to initiate the process for a by-election; AND FURTHER THAT, no amendments be made to Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 to expand eligibility for electronic participation at this time.</i></p> <p><i>Option 2:</i> <i>THAT, Council directs staff to prepare an amendment to Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 to permit ongoing virtual attendance at Council meetings in situations where a member has relocated but remains eligible under the Local Government Act.</i></p>	
6.2	<p>CAO Report – Next Steps – By-Election Planning and Appointment of Election Officials <i>(This report is only to be considered if "Option 1" in the above CAO Report: Council Member Virtual Attendance and Consideration of By-Election is approved by Council.)</i></p> <p>Purpose: This report outlines the required next steps for conducting a municipal by-election following Council's decision to proceed with filling a Council vacancy, including the appointment of elections officials and an overview of legislated timelines under the <i>Local Government Act</i>.</p> <p>M/S <i>THAT, Council appoints Daniela Dyck as Chief Election Officer and Kristine Hardy as Deputy Chief Election Officer for the upcoming municipal by-election, in accordance with Section 58 of the Local Government Act effective July 30, 2025.</i></p>	P. 11-12
FOR INFORMATION		
6.3	<p>CAO Report – Verbal Report</p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this report and future reports is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during regular meetings or</p>	P. 13

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, July 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

	<p>Committee of the Whole. Topics will include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.</p> <p>Verbal Report Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FireSmart Update • EOC Training Update 	
--	--	--

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Charting the Course UBCM 2025 – Small Talk Forum at the 2025 UBCM Annual Convention – Requesting Submissions of Challenges, Success Stories, or other Discussion Topics – Deadline for submissions is Friday, August 15, 2025 M/S	P. 14
7.2	Rail Safety Week 2025 Across Canada September 15-21, 2025 – Request to Adopt attached Resolution M/S	P. 15-16
7.3	Stacey Biekx – Courageous K9 Sponsorship Request M/S	P. 17-18
7.4	MP Frank Caputo – Ashcroft Pre-Budget Consultation – Request for Detailed Suggestions on Pre-Budget M/S	P. 19
FOR INFORMATION		
7.5	TNRD Board Highlights – June 26, 2025	P. 20-25
7.6	TNRD – Local Email Lists Sign Up	P. 26
7.7	TNRD Receives “Innovate Idea Award” for Streamlined GIS Data Management	P. 27
7.8	Minister of Health, Josie Osborne – Thank you for letter regarding the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Coupon Program (FMNCP)	P. 28
7.9	IH – Important Public Health Notification – Measles Awareness and Prevention for Summer	P. 29-30
7.10	BC Hydro – Updated Distribution Extension Policy Launches July 5	P. 31
7.11	HAWC – Thank you card	P. 32
7.12	Summer ESS Newsletter – June 2025	P. 33-37
7.13	IH – Construction to starts on new BC Cancer Centre in Kamloops	P. 38-40

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	P. 41
-----	--------------	-------



AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, July 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
-----	--	--

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

10.1	N/A	
------	-----	--

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert	

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	N/A	
------	-----	--

13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
------	-----	--

14. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Jonah Anstett (Zoom)
Councillor, Jessica Clement
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Doreen Lambert

CFO, Yogi Bhalla
DPW, Brian Bennewith

EXCUSED: CAO, Daniela Dyck

Media – 1
Public – 2

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, June 23, 2025, to order at 6:00 pm.

"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."

1. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 9, 2025 M/S <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, June 9, 2025, be adopted as amended.</i>	CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-113
-----	--	--------------------------------------

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	Paul Martin – Fire Safety and Unsightly Fire Hazard Yards/Properties Mr. Martin brought forward his concerns to Council regarding the condition of certain properties in Ashcroft, specifically noting backyards containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dead trees and shrubs• Accumulations of combustible materials	
-----	---	--

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm

	<p>He suggested that Council consider conducting a walkabout to observe firsthand the potential fire hazards and general unsightliness of these properties.</p> <p>Mayor Roden acknowledged his concerns and advised that the Village is currently in the process of developing and implementing a FireSmart Program. She noted that, as part of these efforts, the Village may explore bringing in a chipper in the future to assist residents with the removal of dead vegetation.</p>	
--	--	--

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.

4.1	<p>Rick Laing – Objection to Water Meters being installed in Ashcroft</p> <p>Mr. Laing voiced his concerns regarding the installation of water meters in Ashcroft. Although this item was not on the Agenda, Mayor Roden permitted him to speak to Council.</p> <p>Mr. Laing stated he was opposed to the installation of water meters and expressed his intention to prevent the Village from spending beyond the \$2.7 million grant allocation. He further indicated that he would continue to voice his opposition to the water meter program moving forward.</p> <p>Mayor Roden, along with the Chief Financial Officer, addressed Mr. Laing's concerns.</p>	
4.2	<p>Cameron Tedford – Protocol for Individuals wishing to address Council on items not contained in the Agenda</p> <p>Mr. Tedford expressed concerns regarding the number of Council meetings he has attended where he was unable to address Council on matters not listed on the Agenda. He questioned the Mayor about procedural consistency, particularly in light of Mr. Laing being permitted to speak on an item not on the current Agenda.</p> <p>Mayor Roden acknowledged that the topic of water meters was not on the Agenda and clarified that the "Public Input" section is designated for members of the public to speak specifically to items listed on the Agenda. She further noted that allowing Mr. Laing to speak was a judgment call on her part, given that the water meter installation program has been a contentious issue among residents.</p>	

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	N/A	
-----	-----	--

6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Adoption of the 2024 Draft Annual Report Purpose: To request Council’s formal adoption of the Village of Ashcroft 2024 Annual Report following the required public review and feedback period. M/S Anstett/Clement <i>THAT, Council adopt the Village of Ashcroft 2024 Annual Report as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-114
FOR INFORMATION		
6.2	CFO Report – Verbal Report – Financial Update Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during regular meetings or Committee of the Whole. Topics include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.	
6.3	EDTC Report – BC Economic Development Summit & Keep it Rural Conference Purpose: To provide Council with a brief summary of my attendance at the BCEDA Summit and Keep it Rural Conference	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Briefcase, 8 Film Productions Inc. – Producer Jonnie Broi request for a single intermittent road closure at the intersection of Railway Avenue and 7th Street on July 5th between 10 pm and 1 am for a short scene M/S Clement/Davenport <i>THAT, Council approve the request by Briefcase, 8 Film Productions Inc. for a single intermittent road closure at the intersection of Railway Avenue and 7th Street on July 5th between 10 pm and 1 am for a short scene.</i>	CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-115
FOR INFORMATION		
7.2	UBCM – 2025 EOC Equipment and Training Approval Agreement	

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm

7.3	Village of Chase – Letter to Minister of Education and Child Care – Funding for Public Education	
7.4	Royal Purple Association – Thank you for Grant In Aid	
7.5	School District No. 74 – Board Bulletin – June 2025	
7.6	TNRD Board Highlights for June 11 Meeting	
7.7	TNRD – Community Grant Write Available	
7.8	TNRD – FireSmart Free Chipping Event Days	
7.9	TNRD – Summer Reading Club 2025	
7.10	Interior Health June 2025 Newsletter	
7.11	BCRHN – Mid-June 2025 Newsletter	

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	
-----	--------------	--

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
-----	--	--

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

10.1	N/A	
------	-----	--

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	<p>Mayor Roden</p> <p>Mayor Roden acknowledged and thanked Councillor Lambert for her years of dedicated service to the Village of Ashcroft. Councillor Lambert is relocating to Vancouver Island to be closer to family. Councillor Lambert became Councillor in the 2013 by-election. She again ran successfully in the 2014-2018 election. She took a term off and ran successfully in the 2022-2026 election.</p> <p>Pending discussions between Mayor Roden and CAO Dyck, it is hoped that Councillor Lambert will be able to continue to serve on Council by attending meetings via Zoom until December 31, 2025, thereby eliminating the need for the Village to incur the costs associated with a by-election.</p>	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	<p>Councillor Lambert</p> <p>Councillor Lambert attended the Seniors Annual Strawberry Tea</p>	



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Council
Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:00 pm

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	N/A	
------	-----	--

13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
------	-----	--

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:12 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council
held Monday, June 23, 2025.

Yogi Bhalla, CFO
Chief Financial 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: ANDREW CUMBLIDGE

3. The topic of your presentation: VILLAGE PROVIDED SERVICES - UTILITIES,
RECYCLING, COMPOSTING

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):
TO PROVIDE INFORMATION - DISCUSSION ON ABOVE

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: JUNE 23/25
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

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 scheduled on an as needed basis; however, senior staff will limit delegations to no more than two per meeting.

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: _____

11 homes were retrofitted to improve energy efficiency. Project funded by homeowners and FCM.

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):

We are now preparing to launch the next phase of this initiative, which aims to retrofit 500 homes across the region. This expanded program will build on the lessons learned during the pilot, further contribute to local climate goals, and strengthen economic and housing resilience. To support our upcoming application to the FCM's Community Efficiency Financing program, we respectfully request a letter of support from Council. This endorsement would signal the City's commitment to advancing home energy efficiency and support our efforts to secure critical funding for this impactful regional initiative.

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 ea@ashcroftbc.ca



TO: Mayor and Council

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2025

FROM: Daniela Dyck, CAO

SUBJECT: Council Member Virtual Attendance and Consideration of By-Election

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council consider the following two options and provide direction to staff:

Option 1:

THAT Council accepts Councillor Lamberts resignation and direct staff to initiate the process for a by-election; AND FURTHER THAT no amendments be made to Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 to expand eligibility for electronic participation at this time.

Option 2:

THAT Council directs staff to prepare an amendment to Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 to permit ongoing virtual attendance at Council meetings in situations where a member has relocated but remains eligible under the Local Government Act.

PURPOSE:

To seek Council direction regarding a member of Council who has relocated outside the Village of Ashcroft and is no longer able to attend meetings in person. The Council member has expressed a willingness to continue participating virtually or to resign, depending on Council's preferred approach. This report outlines the legislative framework, legal considerations, and options available for Council's review.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

BACKGROUND:

The Village's current Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834, 2020 (as amended) permits electronic participation only:

- When a Council member is on medical leave, or
- When electronic participation is necessary to preserve quorum.

These provisions are consistent with Section 128 of the *Community Charter*, which was amended during the COVID-19 pandemic to allow for flexibility during emergency scenarios or periods of illness.

Councillor Lambert recently relocated to another community and is no longer available to attend meetings in person. Councillor Lambert has indicated a strong desire to continue serving the community and has offered to either attend virtually or resign, depending on Council's direction. She has expressed that she does not wish to place an undue burden on the Village as a result of her relocation and is committed to supporting a solution that best serves the community's interests.

To assist in this decision, legal advice was obtained which confirms that both continuing service via virtual attendance (if enabled by bylaw) and proceeding with a by-election are legally permissible options under the Community Charter and Local Government Act. The legislation does not prohibit long-term virtual participation if the Procedure Bylaw allows for it, nor does it require Council members to reside within the municipality after being elected.

DISCUSSION:

Legislative Context:

- Section 81 of the Local Government Act does not require Council members to reside in the community, only that they be residents of British Columbia.
- Sections 128 to 128.3 of the Community Charter authorize electronic participation in meetings if permitted by the Council Procedure Bylaw.
- The legislation is silent on the duration or frequency of virtual attendance, leaving this to local policy and Council discretion.

Legal Opinion Summary:

The legal advice received indicates that amending the Procedure Bylaw to allow long-term virtual attendance is likely consistent with legislation, provided the bylaw ensures public notice and technical capability. The advice also highlights practical considerations such as technology reliability and the need to maintain public confidence and transparency. No definitive legal preference was expressed for either option.

Legislative Intent and Residency Requirements

As noted earlier, under current legislation, a member of Council is not required to reside within the municipality after being elected but must be a resident of British Columbia.

The flexibility introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic for virtual participation was designed to ensure governance continuity under exceptional circumstances (e.g., illness, travel restrictions, public health orders).

Risks of Long-Term Virtual Participation

- Disconnect from community needs
 - Weakened representation and local engagement
 - Legal ambiguity and precedent concerns
 - Public perception and trust in local governance
-

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Option 1 – Proceed with By-Election:

Encourage the Council member to resign and initiate a by-election in accordance with existing procedures.

- Pros:
 - Maintains current bylaw and governance expectations
 - Ensures all members participate in person
 - May align with traditional views of local representation
- Cons:
 - Involves administrative cost and staff time
 - Results in the departure of an experienced Council member

Option 2 – Amend Procedure Bylaw to Permit Virtual Attendance:

Amend Section 22 of Council Procedure Bylaw No. 834 to allow ongoing electronic participation for circumstances such as relocation.

- Pros:
 - Retains an elected Council member who is willing to continue serving
 - Offers flexibility to reflect evolving work and living arrangements
 - Supported by legislation if implemented through bylaw
- Cons:
 - May raise concerns about representation or precedent
 - Potential technology-related disruptions to meeting participation
- Additional Consideration:
 - Should Council choose to amend the Procedure Bylaw to allow ongoing virtual participation, it is recommended that the portfolio currently assigned to Councillor Lambert be reassigned to another Council member. This will ensure continued in-person representation and engagement in matters related to that portfolio, maintaining responsiveness and community connection.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A by-election would involve modest administrative and operational costs, which can be accommodated within the Village's existing budget. Amending the Procedure Bylaw would incur limited costs related to drafting and public notification.

CONCLUSION

Both options presented are legally valid and supported by existing legislation. The decision ultimately rests with Council's assessment of what best reflects the needs and expectations of the community. Councillor Lambert is willing to abide by whichever path Council chooses and has expressed a strong desire to serve in a way that respects the Village's priorities.

Staff are seeking Council's direction on whether to proceed with a by-election or to initiate amendments to the Procedure Bylaw to permit virtual attendance under broader circumstances.



TO: Mayor and Council

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2025

FROM: Daniela Dyck, CAO

SUBJECT: Next Steps – By-Election Planning and Appointment of Election Officials

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, Council appoints Daniela Dyck as Chief Election Officer and Kristine Hardy as Deputy Chief Election Officer for the upcoming municipal by-election, in accordance with Section 58 of the Local Government Act effective July 30, 2025.

PURPOSE:

This report outlines the required next steps for conducting a municipal by-election following Council's decision to proceed with filling a Council vacancy, including the appointment of election officials and an overview of legislated timelines under the *Local Government Act*.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

BACKGROUND:

Under Section 54 of the *Local Government Act*, a municipality must hold a by-election to fill a vacancy on Council, unless the vacancy occurs within one year of the next general election and Council resolves not to fill it.

Section 58 of the *Local Government Act* requires Council to appoint a Chief Election Officer and a Deputy Chief Election Officer to initiate the election process and ensure legislative compliance.

DISCUSSION:

Election Officer Appointments

To meet legislated requirements and initiate the election process, the following appointments are recommended:

- Chief Election Officer: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

- Deputy Chief Election Officer: Kristine Hardy, Deputy Corporate Officer

These appointments will take effect on July 30, 2025, and trigger the legislated election timeline.

Legislated Timelines

Once the Chief Election Officer is appointed, the by-election must occur within 80 days. Key timelines under the *Local Government Act* are as follows:

Milestone	Timeline	Proposed Date
Appointment of Election Officials	Council Resolution	July 30, 2025
Latest Possible General Voting Day	Within 80 days of appointment	October 18, 2025
Nomination Period	36–26 days before General Voting Day	Sept 12–22, 2025
Declaration of Election (if required)	29 days before Voting Day	Sept 22, 2025
Advance Voting Day	At least 10 days before Voting Day	October 8, 2025
General Voting Day	Set by CEO (within 80-day limit)	October 18, 2025 (target)*

*Date to be confirmed by the Chief Election Officer.

Notice Requirements

- Notice of Nomination Period: Must be published twice in the local newspaper, with the first notice appearing at least 6 days before the close of nominations.
- Notice of Election (if required): Published after close of nominations.

Other Considerations

- Coordination with Elections BC regarding campaign financing rules under the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.
- Securing polling stations, staff, ballot printing, and public education efforts.

Financial Implications

Costs associated with the by-election are not included in the 2025 Financial Plan. Staff will bring forward a budget estimate and request a budget amendment if required.

CONCLUSION :

The timely appointment of election officials is the first critical step in fulfilling the Village's legislative obligations to conduct a by-election. With the appointment of a Chief and Deputy Chief Election Officer, the Village can move forward in planning a fair, transparent, and efficient election process that ensures eligible electors have the opportunity to participate in selecting a new member of Council. Staff will continue to provide updates as the process advances and ensure all requirements under the *Local Government Act* and related legislation are met.



TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Daniela Dyck, CAO
SUBJECT: Verbal Report

MEETING DATE: July 28, 2025

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report and future reports is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during regular meetings or Committee of the Whole. Topics will include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.

DISCUSSION:

In the interest of transparency and to allow Council the opportunity for questions and dialogue during meetings, topics for verbal reports will be included on the agenda using this report template.

Verbal Report Items:

- FireSmart - Update
- EOC Training – Update

July 14, 2025



TO: CAO and Senior Staff
FROM: Bhar Sihota, Senior Policy Analyst
Reiko Tagami, Policy Analyst
RE: **Small Talk Forum 2025**

Please join us at the upcoming Small Talk Forum at the 2025 UBCM Annual Convention.

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Carson Hall – Salon B/C (Level 2), Victoria Conference Centre

The Small Talk Forum, for Indigenous and local governments with a population under 5,000, continues to be one of the most popular sessions at Convention. Your direct involvement has made the Forum a repeat success, and in 2025 we encourage you to contribute your ideas. Come prepared to engage in discussion of these ideas, as well as issues raised by other communities.

What are the one or two challenges of greatest concern facing your community? How is your community grappling with these challenges?

If you have a best practice or success story to share, please tell us about it as well. This is an opportunity for small communities to share tips and information, and help one another with day-to-day challenges. For example, has your community completed (or is undertaking) a project or initiative that you think would be informative for other small communities?

Please submit challenges, success stories, or other discussion topics to Bhar Sihota, Senior Policy Analyst, at bsihota@ubcm.ca by Friday August 15, 2025. We will distribute the final agenda, including the list of issues, at the Forum. We will also have a facilitator and resource persons on hand to provide technical information.

We hope that you will be able to take part, and encourage you to submit your ideas. We look forward to seeing you at the 2025 Small Talk Forum in Victoria.

<i>Note: a separate memo for elected officials will be distributed early next week.</i>

Sent: July 14, 2025 11:00 AM

Subject: Rail Safety Week 2025 | Proclamation request

Dear Ms. Dyck,

Rail Safety Week will take place across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025.

For more than 20 years, CN has partnered with Operation Lifesaver Canada (OL) to raise public awareness about the dangers of crossing and trespassing on railway property. In recent years, we have seen disturbing spikes in deaths and serious injuries related to both. Inattention and distraction at crossings, risky behaviours on and around trains, the rise of homeless encampments along rail corridors, and mental health crises are all factors driving the recent, negative reversal in trendlines.

As valued neighbours and partners in promoting community safety, CN and OL together would like to ask your council to join us in raising awareness about the critical issue of rail safety by adopting the enclosed [proclamation](#).

Your leadership plays a vital role in educating the public about the risks associated with inattention at railway crossings and trespassing on train tracks and other rail infrastructure. Rail Safety is a shared responsibility, everyone has a role to play. By signing the proclamation and encouraging public engagement, your municipality will help foster a culture of safety and prevention and we would be honoured to publicly acknowledge your commitment to this cause.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tyler Banick, your local CN Public Affairs representative, at tyler.banick@cn.ca.

For more information:

- Questions or concerns about rail safety in your community, contact our Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909
- For additional information about Rail Safety Week 2025 visit cn.ca/RailSafety or operationlifesaver.ca
- Let us know how you promote rail safety in your community by posting on cn.ca/RSW2025
- For any questions about this proclamation, please email RSW@cn.ca
- Visit cn.ca/RSW-toolkit to access the Rail Safety Week toolkit which includes resources to help you further promote rail safety education in your community

Thank you in advance for your support.



Janet Drysdale
CN Senior Vice-President and
Chief Stakeholder Relations Officer



Shawn Will
CN Chief of Police and
Chief Security Officer



Chris Day
Operation Lifesaver
Interim National Director



RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF RAIL SAFETY WEEK

WHEREAS *Rail Safety Week* is to be held across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025;

WHEREAS, 261 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2024; resulting in 68 avoidable fatalities and 58 avoidable serious injuries;

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries cause by incidents involving trains and citizens; and

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

WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have 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 15 to 21, 2025.

July 18, 2025

Dear Mayor Roden & Council, c/o Kris

Thank you again for your many years of past support and I hope that everyone is doing well! I wanted to re-connect with you for our 2025 campaign. Please accept this email as our official sponsorship renewal request. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you. Have a wonderful day!

Thank you to the Village of Ashcroft for placing your business card sized supportive ad (\$319.00 for the year) in our last edition of the annual Courageous K9 publication in support of Courageous Companions. For your consideration for our upcoming edition, please find attached a copy of your previous ad, and please see our rates and the stories from our last edition at www.courageousk9.ca.

Courageous Companions is dedicated to transforming the lives of military veterans and first responders who have suffered physical or psychological injuries in service. By providing them with certified service dogs at no cost, we help restore independence, confidence, and a sense of hope. These dogs are more than companions-they're life-changing partners.

This important work is only possible thanks to the generous support of community champions like you. We're inviting you to once again consider sponsoring an ad or message of support in the upcoming annual edition of Courageous K9 Magazine. This publication not only highlights the incredible stories of resilience and recovery but also serves as a testament to the generosity of organizations like yours.

By participating again, you'll directly impact the lives of those who have given so much to protect and serve us all. We hope to have you join us once again in support of Courageous Companions. Your support would mean the world to the heroes we serve.

Yours truly,
Stacey Biekx
T: (866) 767-1731
E: sponsor@courageousk9.ca
W: www.courageousk9.ca



Take a Journey
Through Time & Art
www.ashcroftbc.ca

Subject: *Pre-Budget Consultations – Your Voice Matters*

Dear Elected Leaders of Kamloops-Thompson-Nicola

Re: Pre-budget Consultations

As your Member of Parliament, I want to ensure that the priorities of Kamloops-Thompson-Nicola are heard loud and clear in Ottawa, especially as the federal government undertakes its annual pre-budget consultations.

This is a key opportunity for local governments to highlight the infrastructure needs, fiscal pressures and policy recommendations that matter most to our communities. Whether it is investments in emergency preparedness, transportation, housing or support for rural services, your input can shape the direction of the 2025 federal budget.

I welcome any pre-budget suggestions you may have. Please make your suggestions as detailed as possible, with the rationale for why funds are requested. I can then, as your MP, provide your correspondence directly to the Minister of Finance in hopes of securing funding for projects in Kamloops-Thompson-Nicola.

Please forward me your requests on official letterhead by no later than August 15, 2025 to frank.caputo.c1@parl.gc.ca. I will then have opportunity to review your requests and personally forward them, along with other requests from the community, directly to the Minister of Finance.

Your voices carry weight, and Ottawa needs to hear directly from those who understand our region best.

Let us make sure Kamloops-Thompson-Nicola's needs are heard loud and clear.

Sincerely,

Frank Caputo, M.P.

Kamloops-Thompson-Nicola



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



Meeting of June 26, 2025

Board Meetings are held in the TNRD Civic Building Boardroom in Kamloops, B.C., unless otherwise noted. Meetings are open to the public to attend in person or online. Meetings are live-streamed, timestamped, and available to watch on the TNRD YouTube channel.

[View Agenda](#)

[View Meeting Recording](#)

Tobiano – Cherry Creek Fire Protection Service Referendum Results

The Board received a report summarizing results of the Tobiano – Cherry Creek Fire Protection Service referendum, which was conducted on June 21, 2025. Eligible voters

were asked whether they supported expanding the existing Tobiano Fire Protection Service Area to include Cherry Creek, and whether they supported borrowing up to \$2.5 million for construction of a new primary firehall in Cherry Creek and purchasing firefighting equipment.

In total, 493 votes were cast. There were 167 votes in favour of, and 326 votes against, the referendum question. As a result, the proposal was defeated.

This outcome means that the existing Tobiano Fire Protection Service Area will remain in place. The Tobiano Fire Department continues to operate at a temporary location at the golf course maintenance facility, and a purpose-built firehall continues to be needed for the existing fire protection service area.

[Read Report](#)

Solid Waste B-Train Trailer Purchases

The Board approved purchasing four solid waste B-train transfer trailers from Ocean Trailer Ltd. for a combined cost of \$1.46 million.

These trailers will be used to move garbage and recycling from TNRD solid waste facilities to various landfills or recycling processors, and will replace trailers from the existing fleet that are more than 11 years old and in various states of repair.

[Read Report](#)

2024 Grant Funding Overview

The Board received a report summarizing grant funding provided to the TNRD in 2024. Grant funding made up approximately 9% of TNRD budget in 2024, which is a combination of ongoing operational grants and one-time grants.

Last year, the TNRD received \$3.84 million in grant funding for various departments and projects. In total, the TNRD received 25 grants ranging in amounts from \$3,000 to \$435,000. The total amount also included \$1.2 million received through the Canada Community Building Fund.

[Read Report](#)

CAO Report Update

During the monthly CAO Report, Chief Administrative Officer Scott Hildebrand congratulated Chief Librarian Judy Moore on nine years of service, prior to her final day on June 27, 2025, before moving on to a new library job opportunity in Salt Lake City, Utah. Hildebrand explained that Manager of Discovery & Support Services Jenny Abramzik will serve as the interim Chief Librarian, and that a new General Manager of Library Services will be in place by September.

2024 Statement of Financial Information

The Board approved the 2024 Statement of Financial Information and Board Remuneration reports, as required by legislation to be completed before June 30 each year. These reports can be viewed in-person at the TNRD Civic Building and will be published online at: tnrd.ca/financial-reports.

Read Report

Temporary Use Permit 79 (South Green Lake)

The Board approved Temporary Use Permit 79, affecting property located at 715 Green Lake South Road at South Green Lake, within Electoral Area “E” (Bonaparte Plateau).

This TUP will allow traveller accommodation use (short-term rental) in an existing single-family dwelling for up to three years.

Read Report

Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2884 (Quilchena)

The Board approved first and second reading of Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2884, affecting property that includes Quilchena Point RV Marina located on Highway 5A in Quilchena, within Electoral Area “M” (Beautiful Nicola Valley – North).

The zoning amendment proposes to amend the current zoning of *CD-2: Comprehensive Development Zone Two* to add *recreational vehicle (RV) park use* and to add RV park Conditions of Use in the zoning. The owners wish to allow longer-term stays of greater than 30 days on most existing campsites.

The proposed zoning amendment will be taken to a Public Hearing in conjunction with a regular Board Meeting.

Read Report

Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2882 (Rivershore)

The Board approved first and second reading of Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2882, affecting the strata corporation properties at Rivershore Estates & Golf Links within Electoral Area "P" (Rivers and the Peaks).

The zoning amendment proposes to correct a historical zoning anomaly of the Rivershore residential strata lots and surrounding golf course common property, in order to better reflect actual land uses and ensure zoning regulations are practical to enforce during Building Permit processes.

The proposed zoning amendment will be taken to a Public Hearing in conjunction with a regular Board Meeting.

[Read Report](#)

Delegation: Music for the People

The Board heard a presentation from Margot Bandura and Doug Berry from the Music for the People non-profit society. Margot explained that she and her late husband, Rod Bandura, founded Music for the People in 2022 as a concert experience in the spirit of reconciliation. Margot provided information about the upcoming annual Music for the People event, taking place at the Kamloopa Powwow Grounds on September 7, 2025, from 4:00 to 9:00 pm, with free admission. Margot explained that the society has created a new music scholarship in Rod Bandura's name, open to all Indigenous peoples from any community.



Next TNRD Board Meeting:

July 17, 2025, 1:30 pm

TNRD Civic Building Boardroom (4th Floor)

465 Victoria Street, Kamloops, B.C., V2C 2A9

Upcoming Meetings:

- Regular Board Meeting: July 17, 2025: 1:30 pm
- Regular Board Meeting: August 14, 2025: 1:30 pm

Full Board Meeting Schedule

Board and Committee Meeting Minutes

To view archives of TNRD Board Meeting highlights, [click here](#).



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"



NEWS RELEASE

Keep Informed on TNRD Community Updates With Local Email Lists

Kamloops, BC – June 23, 2025 – Keep informed on service updates, newsletters, and community information from the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) by signing up to our new local email lists. These email lists will ensure that residents who sign up will be up to date on relevant TNRD service information in their area.

Residents can choose to receive local TNRD updates for any Electoral Area or Member Municipality. Updates sent to local email lists will include relevant news releases and emergency notices, statutory/ development notices, community notices (such as public meeting invitations), or service updates (such as updates on capital projects, when available).

To sign up, visit our Email List Sign-Up webpage: tnrd.ca/emailsignup.

On this webpage, residents will be prompted to select at least one local area to receive TNRD email updates, and can also easily subscribe to any existing TNRD Newsletters.

In a [Communications Feedback Survey](#) conducted earlier this year, two-thirds of respondents chose “email” as their preferred method for receiving information from the TNRD.

“With these new local email lists, we’ll be able to reach people consistently and quickly with information that is closer related to their community,” said Colton Davies, TNRD Communications Manager. “These email lists will also reduce the TNRD’s reliance on social media for reaching residents with less formal service and community updates.”

The TNRD will continue to use all communication channels and email lists as usual, and local email lists will complement existing methods of communication.

Frequency of local news updates will vary for each Electoral Area and Member Municipality, as TNRD service levels vary significantly between areas. To understand what TNRD services are provided in each area, and what the cost is to taxpayers for each service, view our Tax Rate by Service infographics by [clicking here](#).

Media Contact:

Colton Davies, Communications Manager
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tel.: 250 377-6299
Email: cdavies@tnrd.ca



NEWS RELEASE

TNRD Receives 'Innovate Idea Award' for Streamlined GIS Data Management

Kamloops, BC – July 16, 2025 – The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) is proud to be the recipient of the 2025 Innovative Idea Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of British Columbia (GFOABC), for its partnership with 10 member municipalities to manage GIS data and provide support for the provincial Next Generation 9-1-1 project (NG911).

NG911 is a digital, internet protocol (IP)-based system that will replace decades-old 911 infrastructure in Canada and the U.S., enabling citizens to dispatch 9-1-1 digitally and share digital information during an emergency, in addition to the traditional option of dialling 9-1-1.

Local governments manage geographic data and civic addressing, and maintaining this data is crucial to supporting accuracy and efficiency when first responders are called to an emergency. Many smaller local governments have limited resources to effectively manage this data.

By sharing GIS data resources as part of a formal five-year shared service agreement, signed in 2024 with 10 member municipalities, the TNRD has ensured centralized and consistent data management and compliance with upcoming legislative requirements as part of the NG911 transition.

Participating municipalities in this shared GIS service agreement include Ashcroft, Barriere, Cache Creek, Chase, Clearwater, Clinton, Logan Lake, Lytton, Merritt, and Sun Peaks.

"This GIS shared service agreement cuts out duplication in managing local GIS data, and the cost that each municipality pays the TNRD to fund one staff position and maintain data is a fraction of what it would cost to do this individually," said Scott Hildebrand, TNRD Chief Administrative Officer. "I'm proud of our exceptional GIS Team that has built a seamless data management system and their expertise that they are being recognized for with this award."

Each year, GFOABC issues awards in up to five categories to celebrate outstanding achievements and contributions of local government. The Innovative Idea Award recognizes originality and creativity of a program or project that leads to financial or technical advancement or improves processes significantly with proven cost benefits.

Media Contact:

Colton Davies, Communications Manager
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tel.: 250 377-6299
Email: cdavies@tnrd.ca

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"



June 25, 2025

1309234

Via email: admin@ashcroftbc.ca

Their Worship Barbara Roden
Mayor of the Village of Ashcroft

Dear Mayor Roden,

Thank you for your letter of February 26, 2025, regarding the Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program (FMNCP). I appreciate hearing directly from you about the positive impact this program has had on local farmers, the agricultural sector in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District, and households with lower incomes over the past year.

I'm pleased to share that the BC Association of Farmers' Markets has received \$4.25 million from the Ministry of Health to continue delivering the FMNCP this year. This funding will help over 8,500 lower-income households in approximately 90 communities across the province access nutritious foods at local farmers' markets.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and share your perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josie", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Josie Osborne
Minister

July 3, 2025

Dear Camp Director,

Re: Important Public Health Notification - Measles Awareness and Prevention for Summer

Interior Health is currently responding to confirmed cases of measles in several communities in the region. As part of our public health response, we are reaching out to all summer camps to raise awareness about the current measles situation, so you can take appropriate precaution for children during the summer camp period. Please feel free to share this information with your staff and families of children in your camp.

Measles is a highly contagious airborne disease that can spread rapidly among those not immune to measles in group settings such as summer camp facilities. It can lead to complications like pneumonia, encephalitis (*swelling of the brain*) and even death. Measles cases are being reported across Canada now, including in BC. The risk of measles infection and disease transmission is high among those not immune to measles.

Measles signs and symptoms

Symptoms of measles include fever, cough, runny nose, and red and inflamed eyes, followed by a rash. The rash usually starts first on the face and neck, and spreads to the chest, arms and legs. It lasts about 4 to 7 days.

Prevent the spread

Anyone with symptoms of measles should stay home.

If a child develops measles like symptoms while attending your program:

- Please move them away from other children.
- Ensure only vaccinated staff remain with the child.
- Immediately call the family to plan for the child to go home.
- Advise the family to call 8-1-1 and/or seek medical care, calling ahead to health care facilities to limit exposure to others.

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Dākelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, syilx, and Tšilhqot'in Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.

Protection against measles

Vaccination is the best way to prevent measles. MMR vaccine (measles, mumps, rubella) is given as a two-dose series and is more than 97% effective in preventing acquiring measles.

- The first dose of MMR vaccine can be given at 12 months of age through local Public Health
- Measles vaccines are available for children 4 years and older at many community pharmacy locations, as well as at all public health units. Call ahead to make an appointment to ensure availability.
- Immunization records are available through the [BC Health Gateway](#).

Resources & Support

- 8-1-1 is available to everyone in British Columbia and has many knowledgeable health care professionals to answer health questions and provide health advice
- For up-to-date information on Measles, please visit the [Interior Health Measles](#) resource page through the QR code below:



Thank you for assisting Interior Health to keep our communities and summer camps safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Pollock'.

Sue Pollock, MSc, MD, FRCPC
Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Däkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, syilx, and Tšilhqot'in Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.

From: southern-interior.info <southern-interior.info@bchydro.com>
Sent: July 3, 2025 1:31 PM
To: southern-interior.info <southern-interior.info@bchydro.com>
Subject: Updated Distribution Extension Policy launches July 5

Good afternoon,

I am writing to inform you that our updated Distribution Extension Policy will take effect on **July 5, 2025**. More information of the policy changes can be found on our webpage at bchydro.com/extensionpolicy.

This policy, in place since 2008, governs how costs are allocated for new or upgraded connections to our distribution system. In response to feedback about the policy from municipalities, developers, and other stakeholders, we conducted extensive engagement to gather input on potential changes. Following this consultation, we submitted an application to the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) for policy updates last summer, which they approved in March.

Key changes

- **Elimination of system improvement costs:** Customers will no longer need to pay for system improvement costs in most cases, except under extraordinary circumstances.
- **Increased BC Hydro contributions:** Our maximum contribution towards extension costs has been significantly increased, reducing costs for many customers.
- **Improved cost sharing:** The updated policy introduces equitable cost-sharing frameworks for connections where initial customer infrastructure investments allow future connections by others.

Why these changes matter

These updates will lower connection costs for many customers, speed up connection timelines, and provide greater cost certainty—especially for developers. Most importantly, they'll support investments in affordable housing, including larger multi-unit developments, and help electrify homes and businesses across B.C.

Sincerely,
Dag

Dag Sharman | Manager, Community Relations Southern Interior

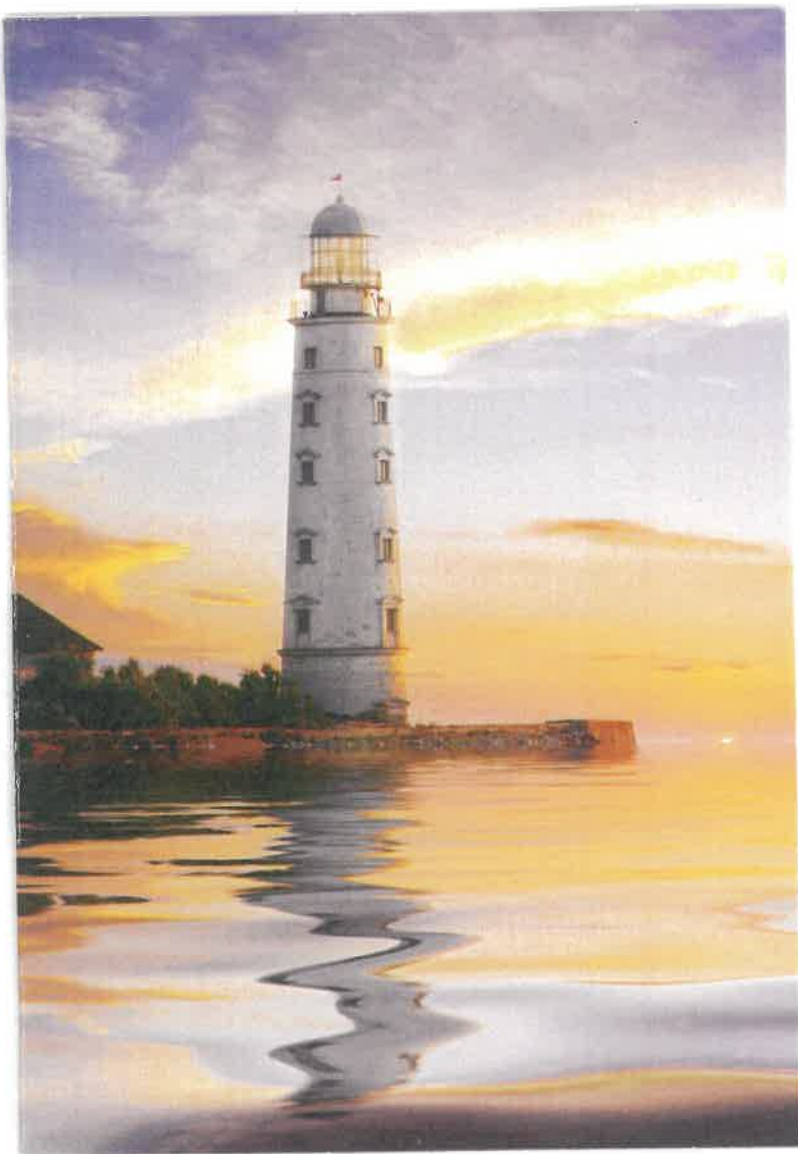
BC Hydro
1401 Kalamalka Lake Road,
Vernon, BC V1T 8S4

M 250 308 7633
E dag.sharman@bchydro.com

bchydro.com

Smart about power in all we do.

This email and its attachments are intended solely for the personal use of the individual or entity named above. Any use of this communication by an unintended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, any publication, use, reproduction, disclosure or dissemination of its contents is strictly prohibited. Please immediately delete this message and its attachments from your computer and servers. We would also appreciate if you would contact us by a collect call or return email to notify us of this error. Thank you for your cooperation.



JULY 16, 2005

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Thank you for allowing HAWC to use your mail drop number to distribute the Healthcare Survey 2005 to all residents of our large catchment area. We appreciate the support from the Village of Ashcroft.

Sincerely,

LeAnne Davies
President, HAWC



June 2025

ESS Newsletter

Emergency Support Services Program Office Communication

ESS Summer Forward: Insights from ESS Director

As spring draws to a close, I have been reflecting on the experiences and conversations we've shared this year.

At the Network of ESS Teams (NESST) conference in April, I was deeply moved by the dedication, care, empathy, and commitment each of you brings to your roles. Joined by our EMCR leadership and many team members, we witnessed incredible innovation, ideas, knowledge sharing, courage, and vulnerability at NESST. We all left the conference full of excitement and ideas on how to advance the work that is so important to you and impacts your daily efforts.

Throughout this spring, I've had the pleasure of engaging in conversations with many of you, and my team and I have attended various exercises, forums, and gatherings. The most profound takeaway from these opportunities is that we can achieve more when we work together to overcome challenges and enhance the support we provide to evacuees. We are excited to re-establish the ESS Advisory Forum as a step forward in formalizing collaboration across the province and among partners. Stay tuned for more information on this initiative.

Based on the engagement and feedback we've received, you'll find several updates, resources, and initiatives shared within this newsletter. As we approach wildfire season, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued engagement and collaboration. I look forward to continuing this important work together.

Yana Stratemeyer-Trinczek, Director Emergency Support Services

Updates and Insights: NESST Conference

The ESS Program Unit would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the recent Network of Emergency Support Services Teams (NESST) conference. A special thank you to the NESST organizing committee and the city of Prince George for generously hosting this year's event.

As the summer continues, the ESS Program Unit encourages all communities to stay prepared, informed, and connected.



ESS Webinars

➤ Emergency Preparedness Week: Insurance Webinar

In recognition of Emergency Preparedness Week (May 4-10), the ESS Program Unit is highlighting a recorded webinar that focuses on the importance of insurance during emergencies. This session features experts from the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC), Emergency Support Services (ESS), and the Disaster Financial Assistance Program, offering practical guidance on how to protect yourself, your household, and your property.

 Click [here](#) to watch recording

➤ Cultural Safety Webinar

Thank you to everyone who attended the Cultural Safety Webinar in June. For those who were unable to join, a recording is available on the ESS Responder Resource Hub.

 Click [here](#) to watch recording

ERA Engagement

In April an email was sent to ESS leadership to invite individual engagement around the Evacuation Registration and Assistance (ERA) tool. Since then, our team has enjoyed connecting with many teams - hearing teams feedback, supporting teams transition, and helping teams feel more confident using ERA. Several new teams were onboarded with the ERA tool.

If you have not had a chance to respond yet, you are encouraged to reach out by emailing emcr.ess@gov.bc.ca to arrange an individual engagement or onboarding session.

New Support flag in ERA

A new feature has been added which lets responders know when an evacuee has a duplicate support on a different file.



Please see the ERA change log for details.



New Public Facing Resources: Pamphlets & Posters

The ESS Program Unit is developing a series of public education materials, including pamphlets and posters, to increase awareness of the ESS Program. These materials will be available online for Local Authorities and Indigenous Governing Bodies to access and can be printed to use in Reception Centers. These resources are being designed to support evacuees by providing clear, and easy to read information on available services and supports. Stay tuned for additional communications and updates coming soon.



ESS Reminders



- **Supplier Contact Information:** If supplier ownership or contact details change, notify ESSFinanceInquiries@gov.bc.ca to avoid any delays in reimbursement processing.
- **BC Service Card Reminder:** Accessing virtual ESS services, including e-Transfer, requires a valid online BC Services Card. Ensure you have a valid online BC Services Card, and remind your loved ones to register too!

Deployments

The ESS Program Unit offers a sincere thank you to all communities that have submitted their team's availability for potential deployments and remote mutual aid support. If you have team members who are interested in deploying, or who would like more information, please email EMCR.ESS@gov.bc.ca.

Reminders:

- Approval Required: No ESS volunteer will be deployed without prior approval from their ESSD/EPC.
- Team Deployments: Volunteers will be deployed in teams.
- Deployment Selection: Assignments are based on availability, experience/skillset, and the specific needs of the local community.
- Deployment Duration: Deployments are capped at 9 days total – 7 days deployed, with 1 travel day before and after.
- A new Volunteer Reference Guide is available on the ESS Responder Resource Hub.



Responder
Resource Hub



Photo Credit:
Vernon ESS

EEAF Updates: Extraordinary Evacuee Authorization Form

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

The ESS Program Unit is pleased to announce recent updates to the Extraordinary Evacuee Authorization Form (EEAF). These changes enhance clarity around the existing process and support timely access to Emergency Support Services for individuals with extraordinary needs. Local Governments and Indigenous Governing Bodies may use the updated form prior to an evacuation order to request ESS for individuals whose unique circumstances could hinder their ability to evacuate safely. The revised form and accompanying instruction guide will be available on the ESS Responder Resource Hub.

ESS Policy Updates: 2.14 Community Navigator & 2.15 Cultural Activity Support Locations

The ESS Program Unit is keen to announce updates to Community Navigator and Cultural Activity Locations Support policies to enhance ESS commitment to cultural safety and humility, with a stronger focus on cultural inclusivity and accessibility.

Key Changes include:

Expanded Supports: Community Navigators and Cultural Activity Location Supports (CALS) are now available to all communities, including Metis and urban Indigenous populations.

Response Capability: First Nations communities can pre-identify Community Navigators during evacuation alerts for more proactive supports during emergencies.

Culturally Informed Care: Greater emphasis on land-based healing, traditional wellness practices, and culturally sensitive evacuation care.

Expanded Eligible Expenses for Reimbursement: Enhanced definitions and reimbursement criteria for CALS, including traditional foods, spaces, and transportation.



These updates aim to foster trust, respect, and effective emergency response across all communities. The ESS Program Unit will be sending out more information, with clear guidance materials and FAQ documents coming soon.



Summer

The ESS Program Unit wishes everyone a safe and happy summer!



Construction starts on new BC Cancer centre in Kamloops

July 24, 2025

Construction has begun on a new BC Cancer centre in Kamloops that will provide people in the Thompson-Cariboo-Shuswap region with better access to cancer care closer to home.

"This new BC Cancer centre in Kamloops is the single largest capital investment into the expansion of cancer care in the Kamloops region," said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure. "By building a facility equipped with the latest technology designed to meet the growing treatment needs of patients in the area, we're helping more people have access to high-quality cancer care closer to home. This project is part of our broader commitment to strengthening health-care infrastructure across the province."

The centre is being built at the Westlands site at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops.

Chemotherapy is available at Royal Inland's community oncology network clinic in Kamloops. Currently, patients travel to Kelowna or the Lower Mainland for radiation treatment. At the new centre, radiation treatment will be provided in shielded treatment rooms with three high-energy radiation treatment linear accelerators (LINACS).

Once the cancer centre opens to patients in 2028, it is expected to host 7,500 patient radiation consults and follow-up appointments annually. In its opening year, the centre is expected to provide approximately 16,500 treatments for up to 1,200 patients. This will save patients and their families time, stress and the burden of long-distance travel during care.

"The new BC Cancer centre in Kamloops is about delivering life-saving care closer to where people live, and to their loved ones and support networks," said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. "When people can access care closer to home, we know it leads to better experiences and healthier outcomes. This centre is a vital step toward ensuring people in the Thompson-Cariboo-Shuswap region receive timely, high-quality cancer care, when and where they need it most."

The new BC Cancer centre will include:

- Radiation therapy planning including a computerized tomography scan (CT) simulator;
- Diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging (MRI);
- An outpatient oncology ambulatory care unit, including exam rooms and consult rooms;
- An interfaith sacred space for patients, caregivers and staff to recuperate and recharge;
- Staff support, including offices and workstations; and
- A 470-stall parkade.

The project also includes expansion and upgrades to Royal Inland's community oncology clinic and pharmacy.

EllisDon Corporation has been selected to lead construction. Upgrades to the existing oncology clinic will continue, with work scheduled to finish at that site in 2029.

The new facility will be operated by BC Cancer in partnership with Interior Health. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$386 million, shared between the Province and the Thompson Regional Hospital District.

Royal Inland Hospital is one of two Interior Health tertiary referral hospitals, providing care for people in the Thompson-Cariboo-Shuswap region. It offers services including emergency care, surgeries, mental-health support, medical testing, cancer care and outpatient clinics.

The new BC Cancer centre is part of B.C.'s 10-Year Cancer Action Plan, which sets out immediate steps to improve prevention, detection and treatment of cancer.

Quick Facts:

- As the population grows and ages, the number of people diagnosed with cancer continues to increase.
- Upgrades to Royal Inland's community oncology clinic will include modernizing and increasing the number of cancer-treatment spaces and exam rooms.
- The pharmacy will also be renovated and expanded, with enhanced functionality including the installation of improved dispensing and automated-dispensing replenishing area, along with additional storage.

Learn More:

To view the original funding announcement,

visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024HLTH0016-000162>

To learn more about B.C.'s 10-Year Cancer Action Plan,

visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023HLTH0012-000229>

For more information about health capital projects in B.C.,

visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/capital-projects>

Actionable Motion and Task List Tracker 2025					
JUNE					
Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Time line	Status
	2025 MOTIONS				
R-2025-05	THAT, Council direct staff to prepare a Good Neighbour Bylaw to be brought back for consideration.	BEO/CAO	Develop Draft Bylaw		in-progress
R-2025-92	THAT, Council sends a letter thanking Susan Brown for her years of service and specifically for her support for the new seniors' complex being constructed by Thompson View Manor Society. CAO Dyck asked for direction as to when Council would like the letter to be sent. Direction to staff – send letter in November closer to retirement date.	CAO	Letter to be sent in November closer to her retirement		Diarized in Calendar to send letter in November
R-2025-105	THAT, Council confirm whether August 23, 2025, is acceptable for hosting the Community BBQ in collaboration with the FireSmart team and Urban Systems; and THAT, if approved, staff proceed with organizing the event and promoting it to the community.	EDT	Organization of August 23 Community BBQ		in-progress
R-2025-111	THAT, staff submit a full proposal for a funding application for the Ashcroft Flood Risk Assessment project through the DRIF program; and THAT, Council supports the project and commits to cost overruns.	CFO	Submit Application		completed
R-2025-114	THAT, Council adopt the Village of Ashcroft 2024 Annual Report as presented.	EDT	Make Annual Report available on website, etc.		completed
R-2025-115	THAT, Council approve the request by Briefcase, 8 Film Productions Inc. for a single intermittent road closure at the intersection of Railway Avenue and 7th Street on July 5th between 10 pm and 1 am for a short scene.	EA	Email Jonnie Boi of Briefcase, 8 Film Productions Inc. advising approval. Notify Transport Companies of Road Closure.		completed