Mayor, Councillors and members of the public at the February 20, 2020 Preliminary Budget Open House

From the Bear Pit

Regional Council Newsletter

February 24, 2020

GasNorth Energy Liquefaction Plant

Bob Fedderly and Cliff Wright of GasNorth Energy Ltd. gave a presentation regarding an LNG project near Fort Nelson. GasNorth has received a permit from the BC Oil and Gas Commission (BCOGC) to develop a LNG liquefaction facility, which will be able to produce 50,000 gallons per day (3 to 4 tanker loads per day).

GasNorth is partnered with Fort Nelson First Nation and Prophet River First Nation in the project to liquefy local natural gas to address demand in northern markets. Mr Fedderly reported that site preparation could start as early as this year after planning, surveying and engineering are completed.

Mr. Fedderly estimated that there will be significant local work on this project during construction, as well as a smaller number of long term operations and trucking opportunities.

GasNorth Energy Ltd. handout image

Accommodations for Physicians and Health Practitioners

Regional Council approved a 12 month lease agreement to provide housing for newly recruited health practitioners and locum physicians. An overall cost of $24,000 was approved with funds coming from an appropriated surplus within the hospital budget. With the ongoing shortage of health practitioners, the need for additional housing will help attract professionals required to provide vital services in our community. Administration Report No. 16/20

BUDGET OPEN HOUSES

Thanks to all the residents that came out to the 2020 Preliminary Budget Open Houses held February 20 & 27.

If you weren't able to make it, you may also submit comments or question to admin@NorthernRockies.ca. More budget information ● Preliminary Budget

CouncilCast

Did you know that you can watch Regional Council meetings from the comfort of your own home?

Click to visit the new YouTube channel by searching NRRM or accessing https://www.northernrockies.ca/

"Gotta Go" Alaska Highway Washroom Facility Partnership

Regional Council is investigating partnering with the Peace River Regional District, Public Services & Procurement Canada, and the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure to provide 5 new washroom facilities along the Alaska Highway between Fort St. John and the Yukon border. Following the successful installation of a facility at Mile 202 (Trutch/Minnaker Pullout) in October 2018, the Gotta Go program's would see two additional sites constructed at Sikanni Chief and Steamboat Mountain.   A subsequent project phase is planned for construction of facilities at Peterson Canyon and Army Hill pullouts. If approved, this partnership will share the costs of the construction and operation of these facilities broadly across the partners, and limit the impact on local taxpayers. Administration Report No. 17/20

Also of note…

- Regional Council approved six grants applications to the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) for renewal and new projects. These include: Northeast BC Tourism Marketing Cooperative, Northeast BC & Alaska Highway Branding, Recreation Accessibility Upgrades, Grant Writer, Economic Development Capacity Building and Business Façade Improvement Program. Administration No 15/20
- Regional Council gave first, second and third readings to the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No 179, 2020 • Bylaw Report No. 179/20

- Regional Council resolved to investigate costs to share information about the vermicomposting project with attendees at the NCLGA Solid Waste Forum in Prince George June 16 & 17, 2020.
- The Tourism Advisory Committee provided recommendations for Regional Council's consideration, including regarding the benefits of a tourism coordinator for the NRRM. Regional Council resolved to consider these recommendations as part of ongoing strategic planning.
- The January 2020 Recreation Statistics Report was received for information.