

From the Bear Pit

Regional Council

December 10, 2018



Chamber of Commerce 2019 Visitor Information Centre Budget Request

Regional Council preapproved an increase to the Visitor Information Centre's (VIC) budget to \$4400. The primary factor necessitating this increase is Young Living's plans for a Winter Festival in March 2019. This festival is expected to bring significant visitors to Fort Nelson over two weeks in March. To accommodate these visitors the VIC will need to expand its hours earlier than normal. The expected amount of people is equivalent to a month in the VICs peak travel season. This increase will require a minimum of an additional month of full operation and associated wages. [More information](#)

Tourism Overview

Regional Council reviewed a presentation highlighting the activities and programs undertaken by the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality to support/expand tourism regionally. The Regional Economic Strategy currently underway will have a significant tourism component that will serve as a complement and update to past Tourism Strategic Plans. [More Information](#)

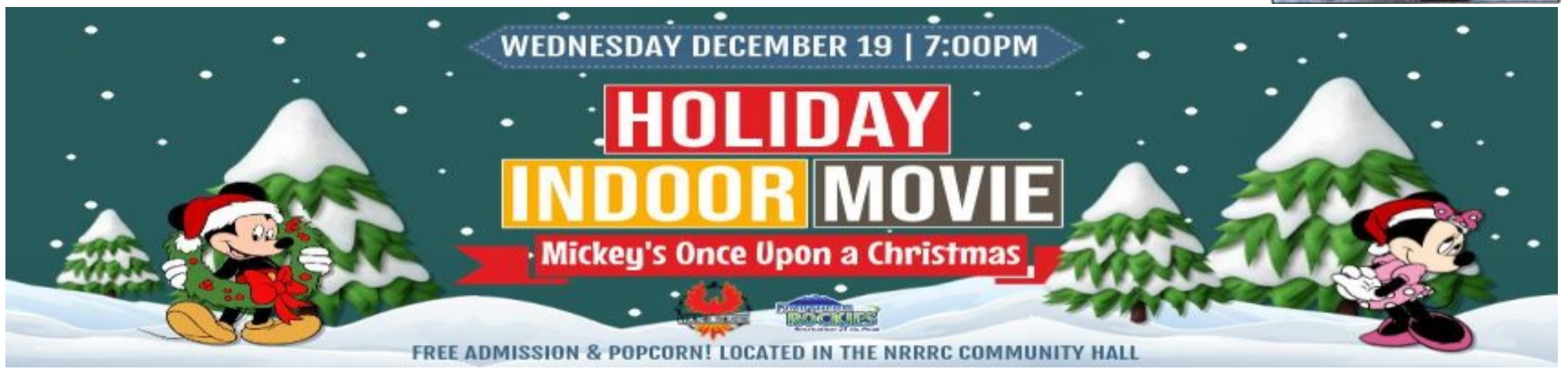
Waste Water Treatment Plant Aeration System Update

Regional Council approved the Waste Water Treatment Plant Aeration System Upgrade Contract No. 2018-05, to be awarded to Canadian Western Mechanical for the amount of \$2,231,641.20 plus 10% contingency and all applicable taxes to be funded from the WWTP Aeration System Upgrade budget. [More Information](#)

Northern Rockies Fire Rescue

Fire Chief Bailie presented to Regional Council regarding the Northern Rockies Fire Rescue's (NRFR) light and heavy apparatus. The last Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) was released in April, 2015. The NRRM increased their rating from a category 7 (lowest) to a category 6 at that time, with resulting reductions in insurance premiums for residence in the amount of approximately \$200,000.

Under the FUS rating system, vehicle ages capabilities and other departmental factors can influence the scoring. Currently, all of the NRRM's apparatuses exceed frontline guideline of 15 years and were recommended for replacement in the 2015 report. A phased replacement plan will be introduced during the 2019 budget process. [More Information](#)



Also of note...

- Regional Council received a presentation from Jay Morrison, NorthRiver External Affairs and Ryan Wark, Enbridge Manager of Operations. [More Information](#)
- Regional Council received Administration Report #105—Regional Economic Strategy Update for information. [More information](#)
- Regional Council approved the waiving of ice rental fees for the Municipal Charity Hockey Game taking place Wednesday, December 19th 6pm-8pm. This will be the 5th year this game has taken place. [More information](#)

- Regional Council received the 2019 Northern Rockies Regional Hospital District Provisional Budget for adoption. [More information](#)
- Regional Council approved writing a letter of support regarding the request that Northern Health and the BC Government purchase and cook locally sourced food for the Fort Nelson General Hospital Multi Level Care Residents. [More Information](#)

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Engage Northern Rockies