



Council members take a tour of the newly renovated Fort Nelson Public Library

### Audio/Visual Recording at Council Meetings

At the February 25, 2019 meeting, Regional Council requested additional information be provided on the existing restrictions on audio and visual recording at Council meetings.

Regional Council's past practice of not permitting the use of audio or visual recording devices during Council meetings was reconfirmed by a majority of Council in 2010. Investigation disclosed that all but two other jurisdictions permit recording of meetings by the public, with Regional Council opting to have staff prepare an amendment to the existing bylaw to permit recording devices at council meetings in future. [More Information](#)

### EDISON Project Background Report

In 2012 the NRRM initiated the EDISON (Economic Development Information System Online) Project with the assistance of CSCW Corporation of Victoria, BC. Initially funded through a Federal Invest Canada-Community Initiatives grant, the intent was to compile key socio-economic data on an ongoing basis, to be used in understanding the status and planning needs associated with the development of the Northern Rockies, and to assist in attracting investment. Since that time the project has captured a variety of information and has provided a resource which has supported such activities, among others, as the:

- Development of the [State of the Community](#) report (released 2018 in cooperation with the Northern Rockies Children and Family Action Committee);
- Completion of a [Foreign Direct Investment Strategy](#) (early 2018)

The funding associated with the EDISON Project (to be considered by Regional Council during its budget deliberations) is an annual expense of \$15,000 to fund annual license fees, upkeep of, and access to the EDISON database, maintaining the NRRM's investment in the data bank. [More information](#) • [Data Inventory Summary](#)

### Municipal Office Will Close Christmas Week

Deputy CAO Erin LaVale advised council that the office closure over the 2018 Christmas week received no negative public feedback and recommended that the municipal office be closed over the Christmas break in 2019, especially in light of very limited external traffic over the holiday period. Regional Council resolved to close the municipal office on Monday, December 23, 2019 at 4:30pm, reopening January 2, 2020 at 8:30am. [More information](#)

### Development Variance Permit No. 1901 Ed's Building Supply

The applicant, Ed's Building Supply Ltd. is seeking a Development Variance Permit (DVP) to replace a storage structure damaged by fire, that will use more than the permitted maximum lot coverage of 60%. ([NRRM Zoning Bylaw No. 119,2016](#))

With a new, slightly larger storage building in place, approximately 74.5% of the lot at 4432 50th Ave North (Lot A) will be utilized. It should be noted that if the existing structure were to be developed today, it would also require this variance prior to construction.

Having received no responses, after notification of neighbouring properties within 110 metre radius of the subject property, Regional Council approved DVP Application No. 1901. [More information](#)

- [Site Plan](#)



Prior to the March 11 Regional Council meeting, Deputy CAO and Emergency Program Coordinator, Erin LaVale provided Council with an introduction to the updated Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) which has been recently upgraded with provincial grant funding.

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### Also of note...

- Regional Council approved the purchase of a John Deere 770G Motor Grader for the airport, from Brandt Tractor Ltd. in the amount of \$317,000, including shipping plus applicable taxes. The tractor purchase is 100% funded by a federal Airport Capital Assistance Program (ACAP) grant. A 4 year, 2,000 hour extended warranty was also purchased in the amount of \$7,750, to be paid from the Equipment Reserve Fund. [More information](#)
- The Northern Rockies Regional Recreation Centre Statistics for February 2019 were received for information. [February 2019 NRRRC Stats](#)
- A [letter from Catherine McKenna](#), Minister of Environment and Climate Change, was received for information. The letter was in response to correspondence and a [press release](#) from the NRRM regarding Boreal Caribou Habitat recovery measures.

- Regional Council approved the drafting of two letters of support for the Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society:
  - \* for Adult Literacy Program Funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education;
  - \* and the annual CultureFest from Heritage Canada Re-Inter-Action Multiculturalism Funding
- Informal notification of a successful application by the NRRM for a [2019 Local Government Intern](#), was received from the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT). The NDIT program provides funding of up to \$35,000 to allow local governments to offset the salary expense of hiring a recent graduate for a 12-month contract, where the intern is able to acquire training and experience. [More information](#)

Learn more about what is happening in and around the community on the [NRRM website](#):

# Engage Northern Rockies