



From the Bear Pit



Pictured above Northern Rockies Fire Rescue conducting Swift Water Rescue Training at Muskwa River Bridge.

June 14, 2021

2021 Virtual UBCM Convention September 14th-17th

UBCM Convention is held every year to give a voice to all sizes and all areas of the province's local governments. This convention continues to be the forum for UBCM policy-making, providing opportunities for all British Columbia's local governments to get together and share all their experiences and take a common approach.

Regional Council has directed staff to arrange meeting notes for Premier and Cabinet Minister meetings upcoming [2021 Virtual UBCM Convention](#). Meetings to take place with Municipal Affairs Minister Josie Osbourne, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation Minister Bruce Ralston, as well as Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Minister Katrine Conroy.



Corporate Sustainability Policy

Regional Council adopted the [Corporate Sustainability Policy](#) as presented. The NRRM's Corporate Sustainability Policy is intended as a Council policy to guide Municipal staff, through corporate practices and behavior, to reduce environmental impacts caused by the Municipality's operations in all departments and facilities. • [Attachment](#)

Phoenix Theatre Drive-In Cinema Location Temporary Use Permit

Regional Council approved that the Phoenix Theatre Management Society's application for a Temporary Use Permit (#2101) for a period of three years to permit the use of a Drive-In Cinema within a Highway Commercial (C2) zoned lot owned by Northern Rockies Regional Municipality located at 5307 50th Avenue South. • [Attachment](#)

Airport Runway Project Underway

We recently announced that the Northern Rockies Regional Airport (NRRRA) will be rehabilitating Runway 04-22, the primary runway, thanks to a Federal contribution from the Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP) that will fund 100% of the total project cost of \$17.7M. This project will not only lead to greater longevity of the airport infrastructure but also allow for an improved experience for stakeholders when using the facilities we offer.

The rehabilitation of Runway 04-22 will be starting soon, and the NRRRA has been actively engaged with airport users/stakeholders such as BC Emergency Health Services (medevacs), forest ministry aircraft and commercial operators, to minimize impacts to the day-to-day operations, and to ensure that short notice flights such as Medevacs will be able to land should the need arise.

Primary Runway 04-22 will be open to air traffic daily between 6 AM - 2 PM. Emergency flights will be accommodated 24/7 with 2 hours prior notice, and there is no impact to scheduled commercial flights.

We remain committed to keeping crucial air service into the NRRRA minimally disrupted during this large-scale project. Should you have any further questions, please contact the Northern Rockies Regional Airport at 250.774.6454.



Tourism Advisory Committee

Regional Council appointed 8 [Tourism Advisory Committee](#) members for between 2-3 year terms, including 3 new members and 5 returning members. Extending thanks to Monique Jacobs and Christian Wood for their efforts over the last two years.

Also of note...

- Regional Council approved the 2020 Statement of Finance Information report. The Financial Information Act requires every local government in British Columbia to submit Statements of Financial Information (SOFI) to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing by June 30th of each year. Under the Financial Information Regulations of SOFI, municipal councils must approve the financial information submitted to the Ministry. • [Attachment](#)
- Regional Council received a thank you letter from Fort Simpson Mayor Whelly regarding the NRRM's donation made to Fort Simpson at the time of the severe flooding. • [Letter of Support](#) • [Letter of Thanks](#)
- Regional Council received correspondence letter to Minister Fleming in addition to the letter written by School District #81 both stating BC Bus North's current service level and how it could be improved. Minister Fleming in turn sent a response letter to Mayor Foster. • [Letter to Minister Fleming](#) • [Letter received from Minister Fleming](#)
- [UBCM - Gas Tax Agreement Community Works Fund Payment](#) was to be

received electronically early June. Funds through the Gas Tax program typically offset capital infrastructure projects.

- Regional Council sent a letter to CRTC in response to Northwestel's response for a delay in the proceedings to review the company's regulatory framework, including rates and infrastructure improvements. • [Attachment](#)
- Regional Council received for information a letter from Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Katrine Conroy regarding Modernizing Forest Policy. • [Attachment](#)
- Council directed staff to contact the local BCEHS Unit to learn how effective the organization's new staffing model for rural and remote communities will be in Fort Nelson. • [Link](#)
- Council directed staff to bring back a report to Council on the incentive/scholarship programs for health professionals to encourage ongoing training, retention and further service in the community.
- Fortis made a [presentation](#) on their upcoming application to the BCUC to move Fort Nelson to a common rate structure. • [watch the meeting here](#)

