

**COUNCIL MEETING  
AGENDA**

Date: Monday, February 24, 2025, 7:15 p.m.  
Location: Council Chambers of the Municipal Office  
1 Mackenzie Boulevard, Mackenzie, BC

---

Pages

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*We would like to begin by acknowledging the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.*

*We will be livestreaming and recording this meeting. The recordings will be made accessible on the District website.*

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

2.1 Regular Meeting - February 10, 2025

6

2.2 Special Meeting- February 10, 2025

11

**3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

**4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

*Please note that all comments and questions must pertain to items listed on the agenda.*

*Are there any members of the public in attendance this evening who wish to comment on the agenda?*

*Administration are there any members of the public attending through Zoom or Phone that wish to comment on the agenda?*

**6. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

6.1 Rocky Creek Metallurgical Coal Project

CTI Plus will provide a presentation to Council about the Rocky Creek

metallurgical coal project. They are in early stages of exploration and recently placed in early engagement with the BC Environmental Assessment Office and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. Rocky Creek is located approximately halfway between Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

THAT the Correspondence listed on the Agenda be received.

### 7.1 For Action:

- 7.1.1 Letter of Support - Spectrum Support Program 13  
Cassandra Carter, FASD Support Worker, Mackenzie Community Services, is requesting a Letter of Support from Mayor and Council for the Spectrum Supports application to the McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest to support Social Sunday Activities.
- At their bi-monthly meeting, held February 19, 2025, the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee received a similar letter. As letters of support on behalf of the District are approved and provided by Council, they wished to indicate that the Committee is in support of this initiative. Additionally, if Council chooses to provide a letter, they request that a paragraph be added to the letter of support that discusses how the program is supportive of access and inclusion priorities for the District.
- 7.1.2 Letter of Support - Mackenzie & District Museum Society 15  
Amy Coates, President, Mackenzie & District Museum Society, is requesting a letter of support for three different upcoming projects:
1. McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest - Community Benefits Stream for the "Trapped: Living Off the Land" exhibit.
  2. BC Hydro - Broad Impact Grant for the "Building Mackenzie" exhibit.
  3. Telus - Community Boards Grant for the "Technology Through Time" exhibit.
- 7.1.3 Letter of Support - Kimta Transportation 16  
Jacqueline McCulloch, Better at Home Care Program Coordinator, Mackenzie Community Services, is requesting a Letter of Support for the Kimta application towards the Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada - Rural Transfer Solutions Fund, to provide local shuttle services within Mackenzie, with additional runs to and from McLeod Lake.

Similar to Item 7.1.1, at their bi-monthly meeting held February 19, 2025, the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee received a similar letter. As letters of support on behalf of the District are approved and provided by Council, they wished to indicate that the Committee is in support of this initiative. Additionally, if Council chooses to provide a letter, they request that a paragraph be added to the letter of support that discusses how the program is supportive of access and inclusion priorities for the District.

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 7.1.4 | CivicInfo BC 2025 Membership Dues<br>The District of Mackenzie 2025 membership dues for CivicInfo BC are \$268.80.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 17 |
| 7.2   | <u>For Consideration:</u><br><i>Is there anything Council wishes to address in the "For Consideration" or "Centre Table File" correspondence?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |
| 7.2.1 | Thank-you Letter - UBCM 2024<br>A follow up letter from Mark Armitage, Associate Deputy Minister of Health, regarding meeting with Mayor and Council at the 2024 UBCM conference held in September.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 20 |
| 7.2.2 | Thank-you Letter and Certificate - CN Police<br>A thank you letter and Certificate of Recognition from Janet Drysdale, CN Senior Vice-President and Chief Stakeholder Relations Officer, Stephen Covey, CN Chief of Police and Chief Security Officer, and Chris Day, Operation Lifesaver Interim National Director, to the District of Mackenzie for outstanding leadership and support in promoting the importance of rail safety, | 22 |
| 7.2.3 | NCLGA Resolution Submission Guidelines<br>For resolutions to be included in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book, they must be submitted to NCLGA Staff no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, March 14, 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 24 |
| 7.2.4 | World Down Syndrome Day Light Up Request<br>Theresa Preston, Executive Director, Lower Mainland Down Syndrome Society, is asking the District of Mackenzie to "Light Up for World Down Syndrome Day" on March 21, 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 29 |
| 7.2.5 | Northern Energy Dialogues - Mackenzie Community Open House<br>Northern Energy Dialogues is seeking communities and Nations to engage with for Phase One of the Northern Energy Dialogues project, an Accelerating Community Energy Transformation (ACET) initiative led in partnership between UNBC and UVic and                                                                                                                     | 30 |

funded under the Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

- 7.3 Centre Table File
- Connect Rocket Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Contract
  - 2025 Budget Survey Results

## 8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 8.1 2025 Budget Survey – What We Heard 32

THAT Council receives this report for information.

- 8.2 2025 Provisional Budget Scenarios Recommendation 52

THAT Council choose one of the Budget Shortfall scenarios and Recreation Services budget scenarios to be included in the development of the 2025 Provisional Operating Budget.

- 8.3 Public Alerting System (PAS) 57

THAT Council approves a two-year contract with the Regional District of Fraser Fort George (RDFFG) for the use of their Public Alerting System (PAS) in the amount of \$750 per year plus GST;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the contract and any related documentation.

- 8.4 Mental Health and Addictions Liaison 64

THAT Council adds to the roster of Council Liaison Appointments the role of 'Mental Health and Addictions' Liaison, whose role, as a starting place, is to represent the District of Mackenzie in its role as a signatory of the 'Mental Health and Addiction's Accord' signed in November 2024.

- 8.5 NCLGA and UBCM Resolutions – Foundry 65

THAT Council directs staff to submit the following resolution to NCLGA and UBCM:

"Whereas youth in rural and remote British Columbia are facing mental health and wellness challenges just like their peers in urban centers,"

"Whereas Foundry BC in-person Centers are largely located in urban British Columbia and not accessible for youth in rural and remote BC communities,"

"Therefore, be it resolved that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government, commit to establishing in-person Foundry Centre's that meet the needs of rural and remote youth in their home communities, that recognizes the unique challenges of youth living in rural and remote communities."

8.6 2025 Council Travel

66

THAT Council receives this report for information.

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

9.1 Mayor's Report

9.2 Council Reports

68

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

12. BYLAWS

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

In accordance with Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1470, the following will be considered at the March 10, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

13.1 Notice of Motion – DOM Procurement Practices

72

THAT Council directs staff to prepare a report highlighting opportunities to improve the District of Mackenzie's procurement practices on how we can adapt to global/national issues and prioritize Mackenzie/Northern BC/BC/Canadian interests, in the event of American tariffs or other hostile actions from foreign countries, so we can respond with practices that emphasize Local Mackenzie/Northern British Columbia/British Columbian/Canadian interest.

14. COMING EVENTS

15. INQUIRIES

- In-person
- Online (Zoom/phone)
- Written comments received

16. ADJOURNMENT

**Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes**

**February 10, 2025, 7:15 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers of the Municipal Office**  
**1 Mackenzie Boulevard, Mackenzie, BC**

Council Present: Mayor J. Atkinson, Councillor A. Barnes, Councillor V. Brumovsky,  
Councillor P. Kylo, Councillor K. Tapper, Councillor J. Wright

Council Absent: Councillor R. McMeeken

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer D. Smith, Chief Financial Officer K. Borne,  
Director of Operations J. Murray, Fire Chief J. Guise, Director of  
Corporate Services E. Kaehn, Legislative Clerk/Executive Assistant, C.  
Smith, Maintenance Supervisor J. McDonald

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:18pm.

*Mayor Atkinson acknowledged the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.*

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

2.1 Special Meeting- January 27, 2025

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on January 27, 2025 were adopted as presented.

2.2 Committee of the Whole - January 27, 2025

The minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on January 27, 2025 were adopted as presented.

2.3 Regular Meeting - January 27, 2025

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 27, 2025 were adopted as presented.

**3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

N/A

4. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Resolution: 33867**

**Moved by:** Councillor Tapper

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

N/A

6. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

N/A

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Resolution: 33688**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT the Correspondence listed on the Agenda be received.

**CARRIED**

7.1 For Action:

7.1.1 Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo

Councillor Brumovsky left the room to avoid a conflict of interest.

**Resolution: 33689**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT Council approve the request for limited RV parking for the 2025 Spring Expo vendors.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution: 33690**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT Mayor and Council reserve a booth for the 2025 Spring Expo.

**CARRIED**

Councillor Brumovsky returned to the meeting following both votes.

7.1.2 Mackenzie Community Arts Council Special Request

**Resolution: 33691**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT Council approve the request for MCAC to reallocate contributions from the 2024 Haunted Maze to the 2024 Festival of Bells.

**CARRIED**

- 7.1.3 Mackenzie Community Arts Council - Letter of Support  
**Resolution: 33692**  
**Moved by:** Councillor Barnes  
THAT Mayor and Council provide a Letter of Support for the MCAC application to NDIT: Fun and Fabulous Festivals, for the 2025 Rockin' the Ridgeline event.  
**CARRIED**
- 7.1.4 Mackenzie Secondary School Class of 2025 Grad Fundraising  
**Resolution: 33693**  
**Moved by:** Councillor Wright  
THAT the District provide the use of the Community Hall, including set up and take down, for the 2025 MSS Banquet Dinner.  
**CARRIED**
- 7.2 For Consideration:
- 7.2.1 Heritage Week
- 7.2.2 Regional District of Fraser Fort-George 9-1-1 News Release
- 7.2.3 BC Community Bat Program - Press Release  
**Resolution: 33694**  
**Moved by:** Councillor Wright  
THAT Staff share this information with residents on the website and social media.
- 7.2.4 BC Nature Municipal Protected Area Project Webinar
- 7.2.5 February 2025 Northern Health Communities E Brief
- 7.3 Centre Table File

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 8.1 Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee  
**Resolution: 33695**  
**Moved by:** Councillor Barnes  
THAT Council appoints Joy Davy to the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a term ending December 31, 2027.  
**CARRIED**



8.2 Mackenzie Public Library – Board Appointments

**Resolution: 33696**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT Council appoints Camille McPhedran, Lynn Blackmore, and Joy Davy to the Mackenzie Library Board of Directors with a term beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2026.

**CARRIED**

8.3 Resolution of Support – CNC Legacy Fund – Municipal Website

**Resolution: 33697**

**Moved by:** Councillor Barnes

THAT Council supports the District of Mackenzie’s application to the CNC Legacy Fund grant program for up to \$60,000 in funding towards the redevelopment of our municipal website.

**CARRIED**

**9. COUNCIL REPORTS**

9.1 Mayor's Report

N/A

9.2 Council Reports

Councillor Wright provided a written report. Councillor Barnes gave a verbal report.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

N/A

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution: 33698**

**Moved by:** Councillor Wright

THAT staff arrange regularly scheduled quarterly meetings with MLA Kiel Giddens and Mayor and Council.

**CARRIED**

**12. BYLAWS**

N/A

**13. NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following notices will be considered at the February 24, 2025 Regular Council meeting.

13.1 Notice of Motion – NCLGA and UBCM Resolutions - Foundry

13.2 Notice of Motion – Mental Health and Addictions Liaison

**14. COMING EVENTS**

- WinterQuest February 21 – 23, 2025

**15. INQUIRIES**

Janice Nelson, Macktown Buzzette, asked if any members of Council would be attending the February 20, 2025 webinar on the Municipal Protected Areas Project from BC Nature and the Land Trust. Councillors Kylo and Wright indicated they would be looking to register and attend if possible.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: 33670**

**Moved by:** Councillor Barnes

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 pm.

**CARRIED**

---

Mayor

---

Corporate Officer

DRAFT

**Special Council Meeting  
Minutes**

**February 10, 2025, 6:15 p.m.  
Council Chambers of the Municipal Office  
1 Mackenzie Boulevard, Mackenzie, BC**

Council Present: Mayor J. Atkinson, Councillor A. Barnes, Councillor V. Brumovsky,  
Councillor K. Tapper, Councillor J. Wright, Councillor P. Kylo

Council Absent: Councillor R. McMeeken

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer D. Smith, Chief Financial Officer K. Borne,  
Director of Operations J. Murray, Fire Chief J. Guise, Director of  
Corporate Services E. Kaehn, Legislative Clerk/Executive Assistant C.  
Smith, Maintenance Supervisor J. McDonald

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:15pm.

*Mayor Atkinson acknowledged the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.*

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

N/A

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Resolution: 33685**

**Moved by:** Councillor Tapper

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. 2025 BUDGET PRESENTATION - CAPITAL BUDGET**

Kerri Borne, Chief Financial Officer, gave a presentation on the 2025 Capital Budget.

**5. INQUIRIES**

Kevin Joubert, resident, asked if the old 2008 parks truck could be modified to suit the needs of bylaw. Public Works Director Jody Murray said the parks truck was not in good enough shape.

Kevin Joubert also asked what the plan for the old government computers would be and if the District would consider selling them to help offset costs of tech upgrade. Chief Financial Officer Kerri Borne answered that the District typically does recycle them, however, it could be looked at to include them in the annual District Surplus Auction.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: 33686**

**Moved by:** Councillor Barnes

THAT the meeting be adjourn at 7:14 pm.

**CARRIED**

---

Mayor

---

Corporate Officer

DRAFT

Hello Valued Partners!

As many of you already know, Mackenzie Community Services has had a new program launch, Spectrum Supports! I am so excited to be a part of creating exciting and meaningful programming for families living with Autism, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Complex Behaviors. In its infancy, Spectrum Supports identified that it must prioritize Education and Community Building. Many of us can attest to how complex needs can leave families, at times, feeling isolated, overwhelmed and without 'play' in their lives.

Social Sundays is a family focused Social Group that offers caregivers an opportunity to connect with their children while doing activities with the assistance of support staff, as well as build community with other families with lived experience. The value of this cannot be understated; families foster's environments of growth, comradery and build opportunity to learn from each other's wisdom. The Spectrum Support Program hopes to provide opportunities like Sensory and Neurodiverse Aware Skating, Swimming, Beach Days, Picnic in the Park, Guided Trail walks, Father, Mother and Grandparent Day activities... and maybe even a trip to Prince George Museum.

Mackenzie Grant Season has officially kicked off and it is time to request from our community 'Letters of support'. I will be applying with McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest for Funds in order to support the Social Sunday Activities. If you believe this project aligns with your values, we would appreciate if you could provide us with a Letter of Support by February 27<sup>th</sup> in order for us to meet our deadline.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in our programs, and I look forward to speaking to you all with updates!

Cassandra Carter (She/Her)  
FASD Support Worker  
Mackenzie Community Services  
T: (250) 997-6595  
C: (778)582-3675  
[ccarter@mymcs.ca](mailto:ccarter@mymcs.ca)



I am honored to live, work and play on the traditional territory of the McLeod Lake Indian Band. Respecting the beautiful culture and people of Tse'Khene Nation.

*The information in this email, including attachments, is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this email by anyone else is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any other action taken or omitted in reliance upon this communication is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you receive this communication in error or without authorization, please notify us immediately and delete it from your system.*



Mackenzie & District Museum Society  
Unit #1 - 320 Mackenzie Blvd  
Mackenzie, BC  
[museum@mackbc.com](mailto:museum@mackbc.com)  
250-997-3021

January 20, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of The Mackenzie & District Museum Society to respectfully request three letters of support for upcoming projects.

With the limited space of the new museum location, the museum is changing the way we share the memories of Mackenzie. The museum will now be rotating exhibitions in our new learning space. Exhibitions will be on display for approximately 3 months. These exhibitions will include programming for field trips offered to schools and homeschool families, specialized speaker series, and interactive elements that will engage visitors of all ages.

We are requesting a letter of support for our applications to McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest - Community Benefits Stream for the "Trapped: Living Off the Land" exhibition which will showcase forestry, and the flora and fauna of Mackenzie and surrounding area.

We are requesting a letter of support for our application to BC Hydro - Broad Impact Grant for the "Building of Mackenzie" exhibition which will showcase what life was like for the early residents of Mackenzie and the work that was required to create an instant town.

We are requesting a letter of support for our application to Telus - Community Boards Grant for the "Technology Through Time" exhibition which will showcase how technology has changed over the past century.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate the Council's continued support for our mission and dedication to keeping the memories of Mackenzie alive.

Sincerely,  
Amy Coates  
President  
Mackenzie & District Museum Society

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the city council.

I am writing to request a letter of support for the HICC RTSF (rural transit solutions fund) which is being applied for by the Kimta non-profit society. The deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup> 2025. I am requesting \$200,000 in this grant to provide local shuttle services a minimum of twice a week **within** Mackenzie, with additional shuttle runs to and from McLeod Lake. This grant is slated to last 2 years, and I'm hopeful in that time we can secure more consistent funding to support local transportation in collaboration with the District of Mackenzie. The loss of the community taxi service is devastating, and it has been recognized by the Kimta Society that sustainable consistent transportation access is a necessity for the community of Mackenzie. This grant would pilot a new handy-dart style transportation service within Mackenzie, with the ultimate goal of making the service a continuous service for years to come. Thank you for your consideration and support of our project in supporting the citizens of Mackenzie.

Best wishes,

**Jacqueline McCulloch** (She/Her)

Better at Home Program Coordinator

Mackenzie Community Services

**E: [jmcculloch@mymcs.ca](mailto:jmcculloch@mymcs.ca)**

T: (250) 997-6595 ext. 224

C: (778) 582-0741



I am honoured to live, work and play on the unceded traditional territory of the McLeod Lake Indian Band. Respecting the beautiful culture and people of Tse'Khene Nation.

*The information in this email, including attachments, is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this email by anyone else is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any other action taken or omitted in reliance upon this communication is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you receive this communication in error or without authorization, please notify us immediately and delete it from your system.*



January 21, 2025

Attention: Chief Administrative Officer

**Re: CivicInfo BC Membership Renewal, 2025**

Dear Colleagues,

Enclosed, please find your local government's CivicInfo BC membership renewal for 2025.

This year, we are celebrating a significant milestone: CivicInfo BC ([www.civicinfo.bc.ca](http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca)) has been proudly serving British Columbia's local government sector for 25 years. And thanks to your ongoing support, CivicInfo BC continues to be an invaluable resource for municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, improvement districts, and other public bodies, providing a wide range of data and information services used daily by thousands of employees and elected officials.

Highlights from the past year include:

**NEW WEBSITE.** In the fall, we completed a significant website refresh, including the addition of a new dashboard where people can access valuable services for members. Details about the dashboard and its tools can be found on the enclosed information sheet.

**NEARLY 11,000 JOB POSTINGS.** The BC Local Government Job Board, in partnership with the Local Government Management Association of BC, continues to be the "go to" source for local government job seekers in British Columbia. New feature: site visitors can log in and save jobs for later viewing while they continue to browse.

**NEW HOME FOR OUR HEADLINE NEWS FEED.** Our popular @BCHeadlines local government news clipping service, on Twitter since 2010, has found a new home on the Mastodon social network. The feed can be openly viewed on our site under the "News" or at <https://mastodon.social/@BCHeadlines>.

**SIMPLIFIED SURVEY & DATA ARCHIVE.** Past CivicInfo BC surveys, along with open local government datasets from the Province and elsewhere, are now housed in a simple archive on our main website. Additional high-value and sensitive datasets, like our annual salary surveys, are available to members through the new dashboard.

**DIRECTORY IMPROVEMENTS.** Our local government and First Nation directories look better than ever, with logos appearing in search results, and with an updated data visualization tool at the bottom of each directory page. Additional security measures have also been implemented to block the latest automatic scrapers and AI bots.


**LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR UPDATES.** Pulled from 42 different statutes and regulations, the deadlines for 2025 have been reviewed and uploaded. A full-text search feature, specific to the calendar, has been added. An export tool still exists for those who wish to import the calendar's data into Outlook or Google Calendar.

**PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CANOE PROCUREMENT OF CANADA.** CivicInfo BC's partnership with Canoe Procurement is now in its third year. For our local government members, this represents a significant money-saving opportunity during times when cost pressures are growing. A collaboration between municipal associations in 9 provinces and 3 territories, Canoe Procurement tenders trade-compliant, standing-offer contracts on behalf of members. With over 350 approved suppliers, chances are high that Canoe can help you find savings on items that your local government is already purchasing.

All of the services we provide – whether they're on our public website, or behind a login on our dashboard – are possible only because over 200 local governments and related organizations belong to the CivicInfo BC Society. We sincerely thank all our members for 25 years of support.

If you have any questions at all about your membership renewal, please contact our staff at 250-383-4898 or email [info@civicinfo.bc.ca](mailto:info@civicinfo.bc.ca). We look forward to serving you again in 2025.

Sincerely,



Todd D. Pugh

Executive Director, CivicInfo BC Society

Enclosures

cc: Corporate Administrator  
Financial Administrator

**CivicInfo BC Directors (Alphabetical by Last Name)**

Mark Boysen – Chief Administrative Officer, North Salt Spring Waterworks District

Ross Coupé – Corporate Officer, City of Williams Lake

Paul Gipps – Chief Administrative Officer, District of Lake Country

Andrew Hicik – Chief Financial Officer, Town of Sidney

Samantha Piper – Manager of Communications, Fraser Valley Regional District

Todd Pugh – Executive Director, CivicInfo BC (Ex-Officio)

Nicole Trevethan – Director of Insurance Services, Municipal Insurance Association of BC

Josh Van Loon – Senior Policy Analyst, Union of BC Municipalities

Sandy Webster – Former Director of Corporate Initiatives (Retired), City of West Kelowna



**CivicInfo BC**

203-4475 Viewmont Ave  
Victoria BC V8Z 6L8  
+12503834898  
www.civicinfo.bc.ca  
GST Registration No.: 864403191RT0001

**INVOICE**

BILL TO  
District of Mackenzie  
1 Mackenzie Blvd  
Bag 340  
Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0

INVOICE 2025-0066  
DATE 01/01/2025  
TERMS Due on receipt  
DUE DATE 01/01/2025

| DESCRIPTION             | AMOUNT                      |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Membership 2025         | 256.00                      |
| -----                   |                             |
| Rate 2025               | SUBTOTAL 256.00             |
| Minimum \$153           |                             |
| First 5,000 0.077907006 | GST @ 5% 12.80              |
| Next 10,000 0.055182942 | TOTAL 268.80                |
| Next 15,000 0.034789246 | -----                       |
| Remaining 0.007101567   | BALANCE DUE <b>\$268.80</b> |



February 12, 2025

1299588

Via email: [info@districtofmackenzie.ca](mailto:info@districtofmackenzie.ca)

Their Worship Joan Atkinson  
Mayor of the District of Mackenzie  
1 Mackenzie Blvd  
Mackenzie BC V0J 2C0

Dear Mayor Joan Atkinson and Council:

Thank you to you and your delegation for meeting with the Minister and me at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention on September 16, 2024. It was a pleasure to hear from you. Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing a response to your queries. As a matter of procedure, government moves into an interregnum period during the election process, which places a pause in normal government operations until the election is complete and new government is formed. Unfortunately, this has contributed to my delay in responding.

The issues your delegation brought forward were of great interest to me. During the meeting we discussed hospital diversions, and the Minister noted that the Ministry and Northern Health Authority are implementing targeted strategies to fill emergency department shifts and mitigate diversions at Mackenzie District Hospital.

The District of Mackenzie is eligible for a range of health workforce supports through BC's Health Human Resources Strategy, including the Provincial Rural Retention Incentive (which provides up to \$2,000 per quarter for eligible healthcare workers), travel nursing support through GoHealth BC, prototype housing supports for healthcare workers, and Student Loan Forgiveness.

Healthcare workers who take eligible positions in Mackenzie may also be eligible for the Northern Rural and Remote Recruitment Incentive, which provides up to \$30,000 with a 2-year return of service. Additionally, through the Rural Practice Subsidiary Agreement, Mackenzie is also eligible to receive physician and community support.

...2

You raised the need for Seniors Housing in Mackenzie. The Ministry is significantly expanding seniors care across the province. Addressing this challenge will require tailored solutions to meet the scale and specific needs of the local population. Health Authorities are accountable for the planning and delivery of healthcare services, including planning associated with the continuum of housing and care services (e.g., Home Health, Assisted Living, and Long-Term Care). Given the rural nature of much of Northern Health, the planning and development of housing and care resources is complex, often requiring innovation to meet the specific needs of a community. I would encourage you to link directly with Northern Health, and have provided contact information for Greg Marr, Senior Operating Officer, Northern Interior Rural region, and for Ciro Panessa, President and Chief Executive Officer, Northern Health.

Ciro Panessa, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Northern Health Authority  
600-299 Victoria St  
Prince George, BC V2L 5B8  
[Ciro.panessa@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Ciro.panessa@northernhealth.ca)

Greg Marr, Senior Operator Officer  
Northern Interior Rural Region  
[Greg.marr@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Greg.marr@northernhealth.ca)

Thank you for your advocacy with respect to addressing wait times for neurodevelopmental assessments. While considerable efforts have been made to increase the number of assessments provided and decrease wait times, we recognize there is still work to be done. Please be assured that the Ministry of Health is engaged in ongoing collaboration with the Provincial Health Services Authority and the Ministries of Education and Child Care, and Children and Family Development to address the needs of neurodiverse children and youth, and their families.

Thank you for your leadership. I appreciate these important opportunities to exchange ideas and share information.

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with me.

Sincerely,



Mark Armitage  
Associate Deputy Minister



**Corporate Headquarters**  
**Siège Social Corporatif**  
935 de La Gauchetière St. W  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor/étage  
Montreal, Quebec  
H3B 2M9, Canada

**Regional Headquarters**  
**Siège Social Regional**  
17641 South Ashland Ave  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor/étage  
Homewood, Illinois  
60430, United States

**DIVISIONS:**

**Pacific/Pacifique**  
11717 – 138th Street  
Surrey, British Columbia  
V3R 6T5, Canada

**Mountain/Montagne**  
10229 – 127th Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5E 0B9, Canada

**Prairie**  
821 Lagimodiere Blvd  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R2J 0T8, Canada

**Great Lakes/Grands Lacs**  
1 Administration Road  
Vaughan, Ontario  
L4K 1B9, Canada

**Champlain**  
4500 Hickmore Street  
Montreal, Quebec  
H4T 1K2, Canada

**North/Nord**  
700 Pershing Avenue  
Pontiac, Michigan  
48340, United States

**Central/Centrale**  
15840 West Avenue  
Harvey, Illinois  
60426, United States

**South/Sud**  
2921 Old Horn Lake Road  
Memphis, Tennessee  
38109, United States

**CN Emergency Communication**  
**Centre / Centre de**  
**Communication D'urgence du CN**

1-800-465-9239 (option 3)



www.cn.ca

Chief of Police – North America  
Chef de la police – Amérique du Nord  
**CN**  
935 de La Gauchetière Street West/Ouest  
Montréal, Québec, H3B 2M9  
Canada  
T 514-399-6220

January 22, 2025

Dear Mayor Joan Atkinson,

On behalf of CN and Operation Lifesaver Canada (OL Canada), we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to you and your community for officially proclaiming Rail Safety Week in 2024 and recognizing its significance.

We are pleased to enclose a **Rail Safety Ambassador Certificate** to acknowledge your commitment. We hope that you will display it proudly!

At CN, safety is a core value and it is only by working together that we will be able to achieve our ambition of eliminating incidents and accidents in the communities across North America where we live, work, and play.

Working with OL Canada, which is also dedicated to getting to zero rail-related crossing and trespassing incidents, partners like you play a critical role in further enhancing rail safety in Canada.

We are truly grateful for your support and look forward to continuing our partnership into 2025 and beyond.

For additional information about rail safety in your community, please contact our Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909. For general rail safety information and resources, we welcome you to visit [cn.ca/railsafety](http://cn.ca/railsafety) or [operationlifesaver.ca](http://operationlifesaver.ca).

Wishing you a happy and safe New Year,

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

Stephen Covey  
CN Chief of Police and  
Chief Security Officer

Chris Day  
Operation Lifesaver  
Interim National Director

Leading CN to be the safest and most secure railway in North America.

Faire du CN le chemin de fer le plus sûr et le plus sécuritaire en Amérique du Nord.

# RAIL SAFETY AMBASSADOR

THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO THE

# District of Mackenzie



*for outstanding leadership and support in promoting the importance of rail safety in your community. Congratulations for your commitment to rail safety!*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Covey'.

**Stephen Covey**  
Chief of Police and Chief Security Officer

January 22, 2025

Date

## Resolution Submission Guidelines

### 2025 Deadline for Submitting Resolutions

For resolutions to be included in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book, they must be submitted to NCLGA Staff no later than **5:00 PM on Friday, March 14, 2025**.

### Resolutions Submitted After the Deadline

Resolutions received after the submission deadline might not be printed in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book and may only be admitted for debate by special motion during the AGM & Convention. The process for handling resolutions received after the deadline is outlined below:

#### Late Resolutions

- Late resolutions will be accepted until **noon on April 18, 2025** but the topic must have arisen since the March 14, 2025 deadline.
- 2/3 majority of voting delegates in attendance must vote in favour of considering late resolutions. These resolutions will not be considered until all emergency and regular resolutions have been considered.
- NCLGA will ensure that copies of late resolution(s) are circulated to all delegates.

#### Emergency Resolutions

- A resolution may be deemed emergency in nature only if the topic has arisen since the March 14, 2025 deadline. Emergency resolutions will be accepted until **noon on April 18, 2025**.
- The Board has the ability to ensure it is considered with the regular resolution session.
- NCLGA will ensure that copies of emergency resolution(s) are circulated to all delegates.

#### Off-the-Floor Resolutions

- A sponsor may put forth resolutions from the floor during the Resolutions Debate; however, they will only be discussed after all regular, late, and emergency resolutions have been debated.
- It is the responsibility of the sponsor to ensure that a copy of the resolution is sent to NCLGA staff prior to debating the resolution.
- 2/3 majority of voting delegates in attendance must vote in favour of considering off-the-floor resolutions.

### How to Submit Your Resolutions

Please submit your resolutions via email in a Word document to [admin@nclga.ca](mailto:admin@nclga.ca). You will receive a confirmation email that your resolution was received. NCLGA staff are available to answer any questions about the resolution process.



## Resolutions Electronic Submission Checklist

- ✓ Does the resolution address a **local government/provincial issue** and clearly identify a **lead agency** for whom action should be directed? (i.e. NCLGA/UBCM/Province of BC)
- ✓ Does the operative clause state a **specific action** for NCLGA to take? (i.e. “Be it resolved that NCLGA urge/endorse/petition/lobby....”)
- ✓ Does the submission include **endorsement** from the sponsoring local government?
- ✓ Does the resolution have a **title**?
- ✓ Optional: Does the submission include **background information** (2 pages max.), such as a Council or Board report that explains the rationale for the resolution?
- ✓ Is it ready to submit **electronically** to [admin@nclga.ca](mailto:admin@nclga.ca)?

**Resolutions that do not meet the above criteria may not be admitted for debate at the Annual General Meeting.**

## Resolution Writing Guidelines

### The Structure of a Resolution

All resolutions contain a preamble and enactment clause. The **preamble** *describes the issue* and the **enactment** clause *outlines the action* being requested. A resolution should answer three questions:

- (a) What is the problem?
- (b) What is causing the problem?
- (c) What is the best way to solve the problem?

#### **The Preamble:**

The **preamble** commences with a recital, or "WHEREAS", clause. This is a concise paragraph about the nature of the problem or the reason for the request. It should clearly and briefly outline the reasons for the resolution.

The preamble should contain **no more than two** "WHEREAS" clauses. If explaining the problem requires more than two preliminary clauses, then provide supporting documents to describe the problem more fully. Do not add extra clauses.

#### **Enactment Clause:**

The **enactment clause** begins with the words "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED". It must convey the resolution's intent, and should propose a **specific action** for the NCLGA that is within our jurisdiction.

Keep the enactment clause as short as possible and clearly describe the action being requested. Please limit the enactment clause to **one** "THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED" and state which organization is responsible for taking action (e.g. NCLGA and/or UBCM).

### Tips for Writing a Resolution

#### **1. Address one specific subject in the text of the resolution**

Since your community seeks to influence attitudes and inspire action, limit the scope of a resolution to one specific subject or issue. Delegates will not support a resolution if the issues it addresses are too complex for them to understand quickly.

#### **2. Use simple, action-oriented language and avoid ambiguous terms.**

Explain the background briefly and state the desired action clearly. Delegates can then consider the resolution without having to analyze complicated text or vague concepts.

## Resolution Writing Guidelines, Continued

### **3. Construct a brief, descriptive title.**

A title assists to identify the intent of the resolution and eliminates the possibility of misinterpretation. It is usually drawn from the "enactment clause" of the resolution.

For ease of printing in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book and for clarity of intent, a title should be no more than three or four words.

### **4. Check legislative references for accuracy.**

Where necessary, identify:

- the correct jurisdictional responsibility (e.g. Ministry or department within the provincial or federal government)
- the correct legislation, including the name of the Act.

### **5. Focus on issues that are province-wide.**

The issue identified in the resolution should be relevant to other local governments across the province. This will support proper debate on the issue and assist the NCLGA in representing your concern effectively to the provincial or federal government on behalf of the municipalities and regional districts.

### **6. Recommendation: Provide factual background information.**

Even a carefully constructed resolution may not clearly indicate the problem or the action being requested. Where possible, provide factual background information to ensure that the "intent" of the resolution is understood. The background information should be two pages maximum.

Two types of background information help to clarify the "intent" of a resolution:

**i. Supplementary Memo:**

A brief, one-page memo from the author, which outlines the background that led to the presentation and adoption of the resolution by the local government.

**ii. Council/Board Report:**

A report on the subject matter, presented to council or board in conjunction with the resolution. If it is not possible to send the entire report, then extract the essential background information and submit it with the resolution.

## Examples of Well-written Resolutions

### Medical Transportation in Rural BC

### District of Stewart

WHEREAS the current lack of adequate medical transportation for people who need access to regular specialized medical services located in hub communities throughout the NCLGA Region;

AND WHEREAS accessible transportation is key to the effective treatment and recovery of British Columbians in small rural and remote communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government to further support the development of medical transportation services that meet the needs of all rural British Columbians.

### Wireless High Speed Internet

### District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS the lack of access to high-speed internet adversely affects the economic wellbeing of communities;

AND WHEREAS the unused spectrum formerly needed by stations transmitting analog television signals could be used to transmit internet service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the federal government (Industry Canada) to approve a portion of the unlicensed spectrum for use as wireless regional area networks at the earliest possible date.



**Lower Mainland Down Syndrome Society**  
**#108-17828-65A Ave, Surrey, B.C. V3S 1Z3**  
**Phone: 604-591-2722 / Toll free: 866-464-6114**  
**Email: [info@lmdss.com](mailto:info@lmdss.com) / Website: [www.lmdss.com](http://www.lmdss.com)**  
**Registered Charity CCRA BN 89162 1666 RR 0001**

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Hello,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to introduce you to the Lower Mainland Down Syndrome Society (LMDSS) and to invite you to join us at a special event on March 21<sup>st</sup> for World Down Syndrome Day.

LMDSS is dedicated to supporting individuals with Down syndrome and their families in British Columbia. Our mission is to provide resources, support, and advocacy to ensure that individuals with Down syndrome can lead fulfilling lives and reach their full potential.

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be celebrating World Down Syndrome Day with our "Lights Up for World Down Syndrome Day" event. These global initiatives aim to raise awareness and show support for individuals with Down syndrome by lighting up landmarks and buildings in blue and yellow, the colors associated with Down syndrome awareness.

We would be honored if you could join us in this meaningful event. By participating, you will help shine a light on the abilities and contributions of individuals with Down syndrome, fostering an inclusive and supportive community.

The benefits of participating in "Light Up for World Down Syndrome Day" are numerous. It not only raises awareness but also promotes acceptance and understanding. For individuals with Down syndrome, this visibility can lead to increased opportunities, better support systems, and a stronger sense of belonging. Your involvement will make a significant impact on their lives and help us advocate for their rights and inclusion.

We look forward to your positive response and hope to see your support in lighting up our community for this important cause. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Theresa Preston  
Executive Director  
Lower Mainland Down Syndrome Society



## Community Energy Transitions in Northern BC: Regional Energy Dialogues

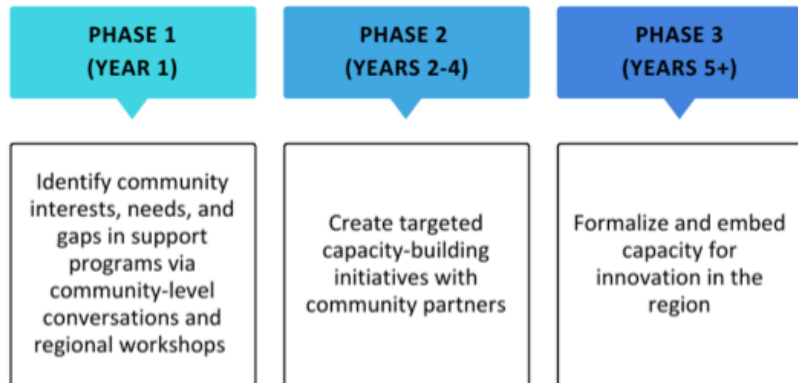
**Lead Researchers:** Dr. Sinead Earley (University of Northern British Columbia), Dr. Tamara Krawchenko (University of Victoria), and Dr. Karena Shaw (University of Victoria)

*Working with communities and Nations to identify their interests, needs, and opportunities in support of energy transitions.*

We are seeking communities and Nations to engage with for Phase One of the *Northern Energy Dialogues* project, an [Accelerating Community Energy Transformation](#) (ACET) initiative led in partnership between UNBC and UVic and funded under the [Canada First Research Excellence Fund](#). We seek to work alongside communities and Nations across northern BC to identify place-based interests, needs, and opportunities in support of energy system transformation. The project builds upon and extends relationships developed through the [Northern BC Climate Action Network](#).

The research team will guide virtual and in-person community-level conversations through Fall 2024 and Winter 2025, which will feed into regional workshops throughout 2025. The goal of the **community-level conversations** is to amplify the voices of northern, rural, and remote communities and Nations by identifying the unique energy priorities, barriers, and potential pathways for community energy transformation. The **regional workshops** will facilitate peer learning between project partners, build collective regional action, and strengthen community capacity.

This multiyear project will be co-designed with partnering communities. To get involved or to learn more, **please contact Sarah Korn, Community Coordinator at:** [sarah.korn@alumni.unbc.ca](mailto:sarah.korn@alumni.unbc.ca)



NORTHERN REGIONAL ENERGY DIALOGUES RESEARCH PROJECT

# MACKENZIE COMMUNITY ENERGY OPEN HOUSE

Are you interested in helping your community explore its energy future? Join us and share your ideas, identify priorities and challenges, and help shape the future of energy in Mackenzie. Everyone is invited to attend, we hope to see you there!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
TO LEARN MORE



FOOD AND  
REFRESHMENTS  
WILL BE  
PROVIDED

TUESDAY APRIL 15, 2025

5:30 - 7:30PM

CALLAHAN ROOM

MACKENZIE RECREATION CENTRE

400 SKEENA DRIVE, MACKENZIE, BC

For more information, contact Sarah Korn, Community  
Coordinator at [sarah.korn@alumni.unbc.ca](mailto:sarah.korn@alumni.unbc.ca)

## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Corporate Services  
**Date:** February 18, 2025  
**Subject:** 2025 Budget Survey – What We Heard

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council receives this report for information.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Following the Budget Open House held on February 5, 2025, the District opened a survey from February 6 – 18, 2025 to gather feedback on the presented shortfall funding scenarios and options. 309 responses were received. A summary of the results has been attached to this report.

There were over 250 comments and questions resulting from the survey, as such they were not included in the summary in full detail. However, there were several themes among the comments which are discussed below.

A full copy of the survey results, list of comments, and questions are available in the Centre Table File for Council's review.

This report will be made available for public review on Let's Chat Mackenzie and in paper format at the Municipal Office. A copy may also be requested by email to [info@districtofmackenzie.ca](mailto:info@districtofmackenzie.ca).

### **Comments and Questions Summary**

It was clear that the respondents value the level of service currently provided and there was a division in which service areas they would accept reductions, if necessary. It was also noted throughout that respondents felt there could be District operational efficiencies made before the need to increase taxes or use reserves to fund the shortfall. The following list summarizes the suggested efficiency and cost savings measures, in no rank order:

- Prioritize and focus on the essentials in developing department workplans, training, and capital purchase/project requests.
- Delay unneeded projects and equipment purchases to future years where possible.



- Consider selling vehicles and other no longer usable assets to gain revenue.
- Consider reducing staffing at all levels across departments and/or look at creative work-share arrangements, seasonal positions, or shifting work hours to reduce overtime.
- Change snow removal policies to reduce the number of call outs and overtime.
- Change to a bi-weekly garbage service.
- Change parks/green space maintenance to reduce the amount of mowing and other maintenance (ie. rock gardens or plant wildflowers in some areas of town instead).
- Increase user fees at the Recreation Centre and elsewhere.
- Consider closing the pool during the summer months.
- Reduce airport services, including snow removal and the terminal/fuel service contract.
- Reduce visitor services at the Caboose.
- Stop purchasing flowers/hanging baskets.
- Close Little Mac Ski Hill.
- Delay demolition of the EBCC and any other buildings to a future year.
- Look for volunteers to provide select programs and services.
- Reduce the community grants program.
- Apply for Provincial relief or other grants where possible to help with the current shortfall and support future service delivery and projects.

Further themes repeated in the comments:

- There was concern expressed about the long-term use and availability of reserves.
- There was concern about the proposed reduction in recreation services and events as respondents felt not having these services would detract from resident quality of life, health, as well as any resident or investment attraction efforts.
- The District should be looking at more ways to support current business and attract new investment to Mackenzie, as well as encourage diversification into other industries such as tourism, data/tech, remote work, etc.
- The District should focus on current service sustainability prior to offering new services.

Lastly, the survey provided an opportunity for respondents to ask questions about the 2025 Budget. Staff have included answers to as many questions as they could and attached them to this report. Please note that there were some repeat/similar questions that were answered in one.

**COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

**Strong Governance and Finances**

As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Emily Kaehn, Director of Corporate Services

**Reviewed By:** Corporate and Financial Services

**Approved By:** Chief Administrative Officer

Closed

2025 Budget Survey  
2025 Budget

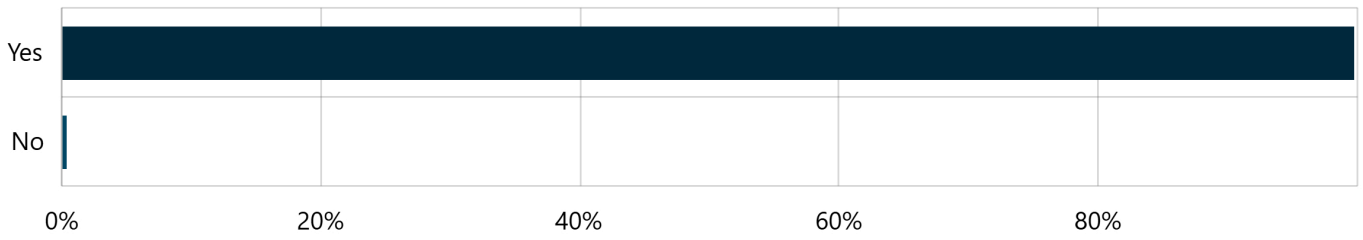
267  
Contributors

309  
Contributions

## Contribution Summary

### Are you a resident of Mackenzie? Required

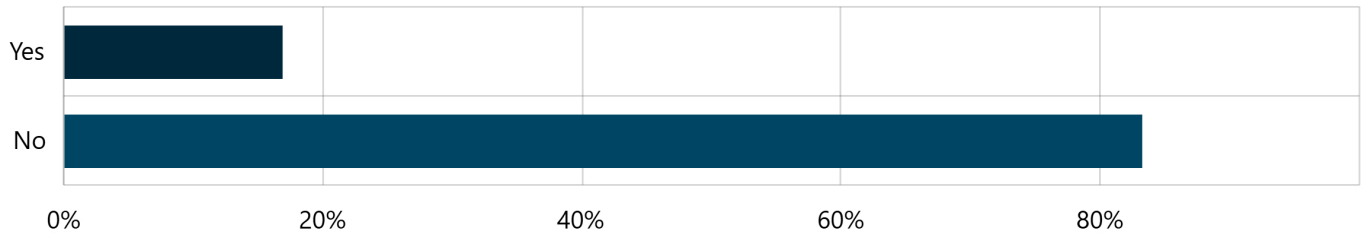
Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)



| Answer choices | Percent        | Count      |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Yes            | 99.68%         | 308        |
| No             | 0.32%          | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |

### Do you own or operate a business in Mackenzie? Required

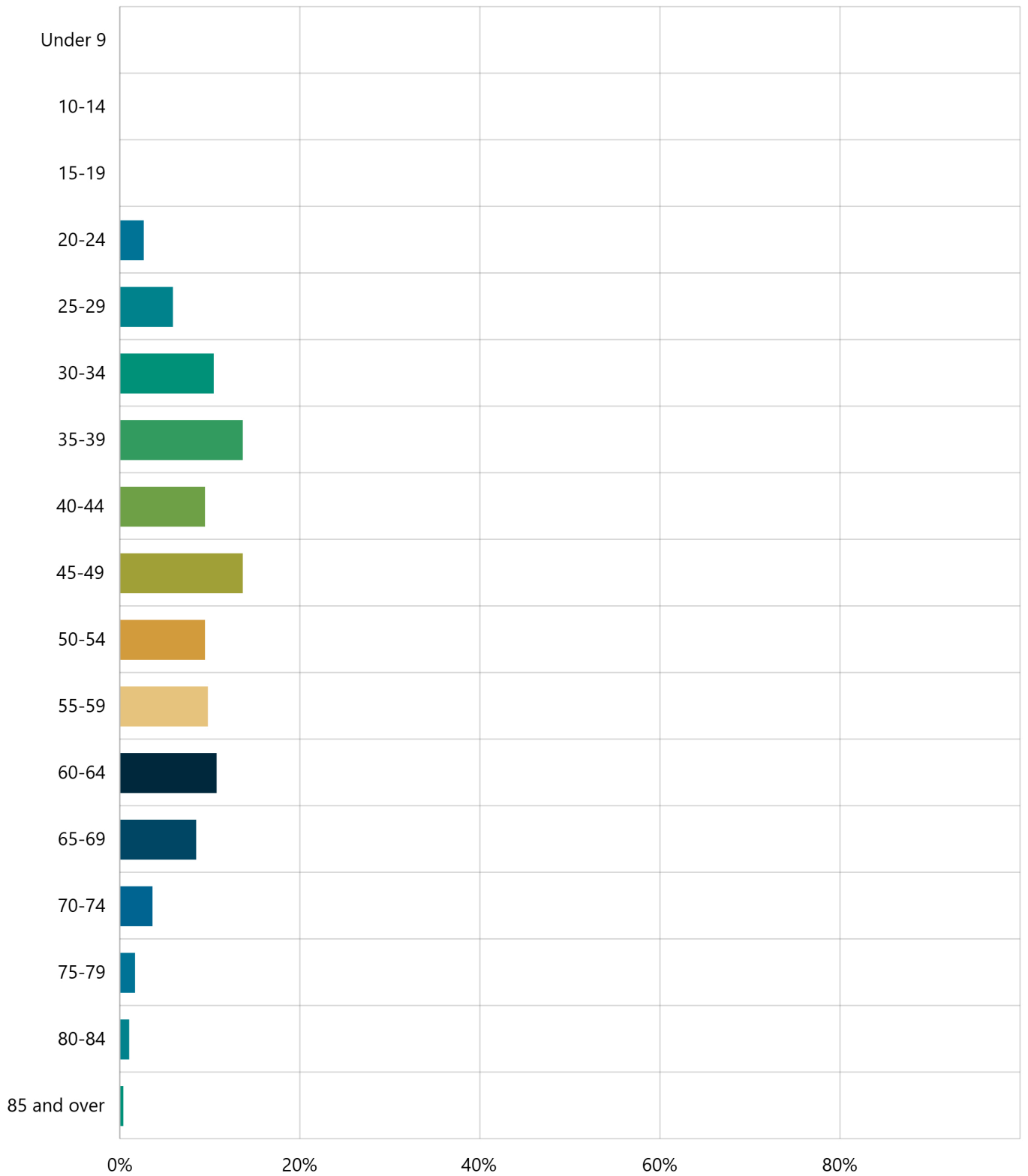
Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)



| Answer choices | Percent        | Count      |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Yes            | 16.83%         | 52         |
| No             | 83.17%         | 257        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |

### Age Group Required

Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)

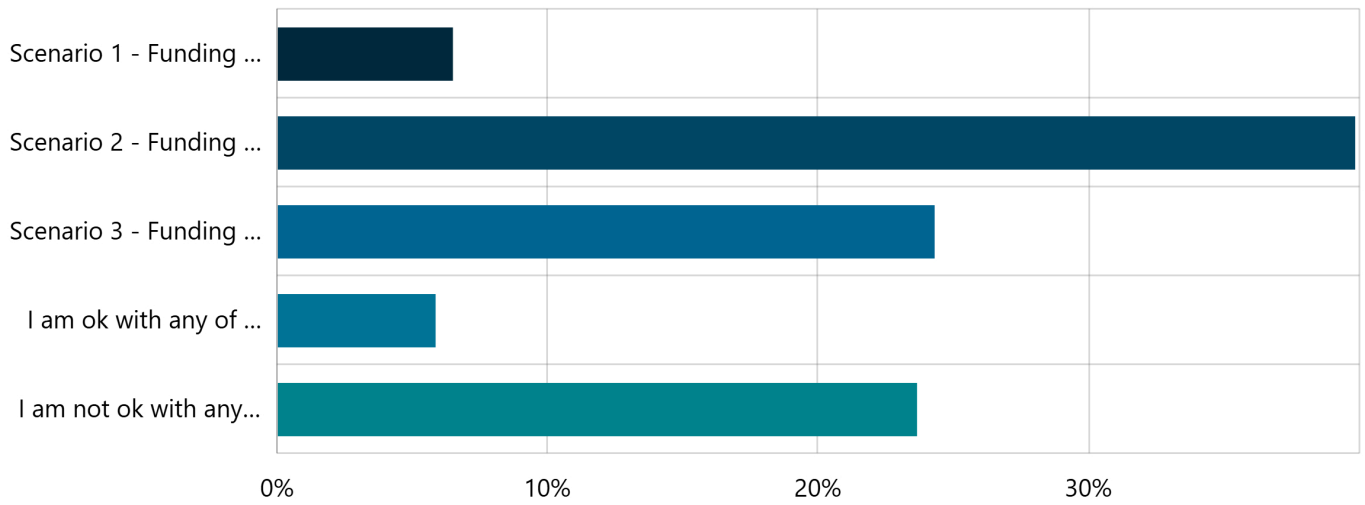


| Answer choices | Percent | Count |
|----------------|---------|-------|
| Under 9        | 0%      | 0     |

|              |                |            |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| 10-14        | 0%             | 0          |
| 15-19        | 0%             | 0          |
| 20-24        | 2.59%          | 8          |
| 25-29        | 5.83%          | 18         |
| 30-34        | 10.36%         | 32         |
| 35-39        | 13.59%         | 42         |
| 40-44        | 9.39%          | 29         |
| 45-49        | 13.59%         | 42         |
| 50-54        | 9.39%          | 29         |
| 55-59        | 9.71%          | 30         |
| 60-64        | 10.68%         | 33         |
| 65-69        | 8.41%          | 26         |
| 70-74        | 3.56%          | 11         |
| 75-79        | 1.62%          | 5          |
| 80-84        | 0.97%          | 3          |
| 85 and over  | 0.32%          | 1          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |

**Which of the funding shortfall scenarios shared in the above presentation are you most in favour?** Required

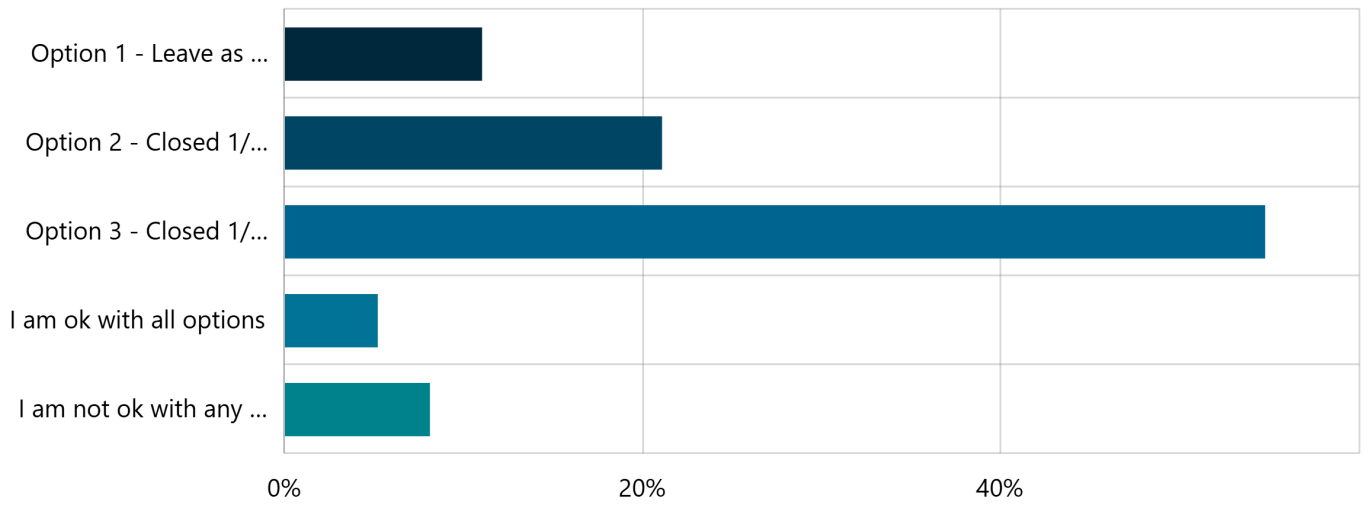
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)



| Answer choices                                                                                                                       | Percent        | Count      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Scenario 1 - Funding the entire shortfall through property tax increase (~28% tax rate increase in most property classes)            | 6.47%          | 20         |
| Scenario 2 - Funding the shortfall with a combination of reserves and property tax (~10% tax rate increase in most property classes) | 39.81%         | 123        |
| Scenario 3 - Funding the shortfall with a combination of reserves and property tax (~12% tax rate increase in most property classes) | 24.27%         | 75         |
| I am ok with any of the scenarios                                                                                                    | 5.83%          | 18         |
| I am not ok with any of the proposed scenarios                                                                                       | 23.62%         | 73         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |

### Which of the Recreation Services budget options are you most comfortable with? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)

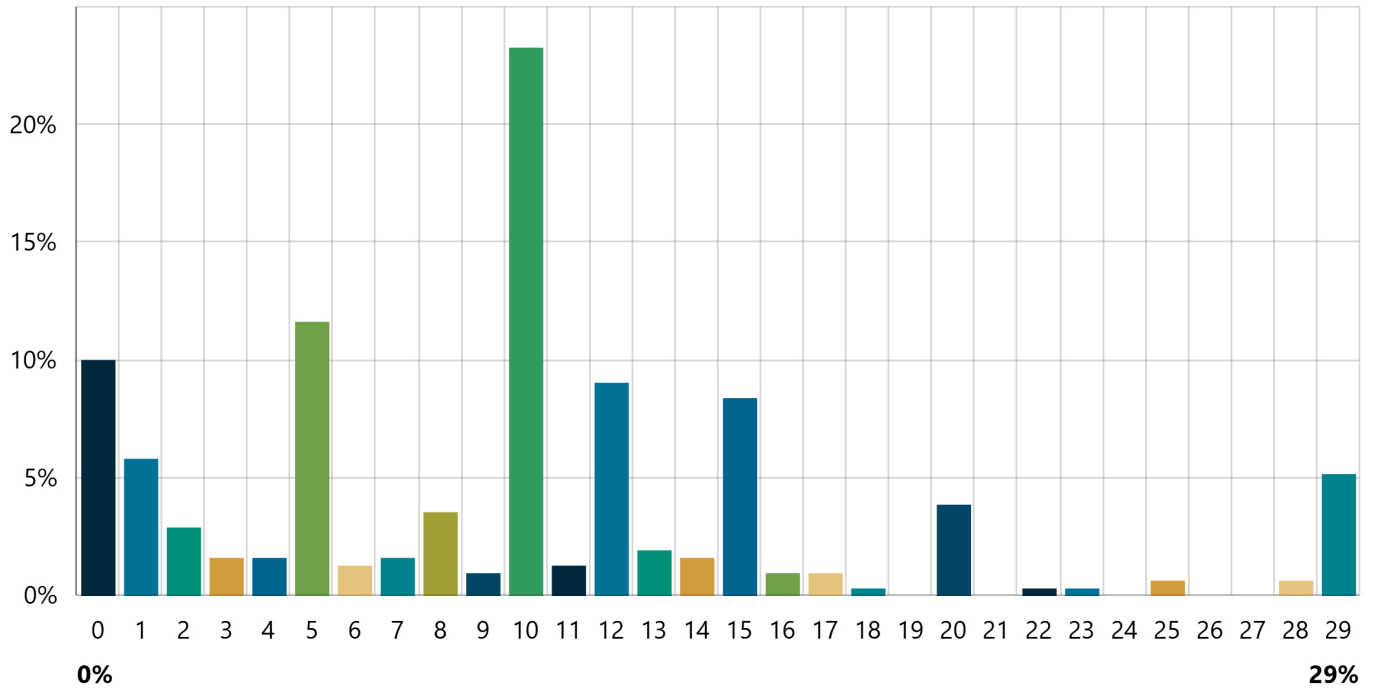


| Answer choices                                                                                                     | Percent        | Count      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Option 1 - Leave as proposed. Minimal disruption to services and no change in facility hours                       | 11.00%         | 34         |
| Option 2 - Closed 1/2 day Monday year-round (additional \$60,000 in savings)                                       | 21.04%         | 65         |
| Option 3 - Closed 1/2 day Monday year-round and Closed Sundays (April - October) (additional \$180,000 in savings) | 54.69%         | 169        |
| I am ok with all options                                                                                           | 5.18%          | 16         |
| I am not ok with any of the options                                                                                | 8.09%          | 25         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                       | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |



**If we were to create a new shortfall funding scenario, how high of a property tax rate increase would you be comfortable to help fund the shortfall?** Required

Slider | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 309 (100%)



| Count | Average | Median | Min | Max |
|-------|---------|--------|-----|-----|
| 309   | 9.82    | 10.00  | 0   | 29  |

| Range        | Percent        | Count      |
|--------------|----------------|------------|
| [0, 2.9)     | 18.77%         | 58         |
| [2.9, 5.8)   | 14.89%         | 46         |
| [5.8, 8.7)   | 6.47%          | 20         |
| [8.7, 11.6)  | 25.57%         | 79         |
| [11.6, 14.5) | 12.62%         | 39         |
| [14.5, 17.4) | 10.36%         | 32         |
| [17.4, 20.3) | 4.21%          | 13         |
| [20.3, 23.2) | 0.65%          | 2          |
| [23.2, 26.1) | 0.65%          | 2          |
| [26.1, 29]   | 5.83%          | 18         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>309</b> |

## Questions & Answers

The District opened a survey from February 6 – 18, 2025 that provided an opportunity for respondents to submit questions. Staff committed to answer as many questions as they could and attached them to this report. Please note that there were some similar questions that have been answered in one.

### List of Questions:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>The Shortfall and Budget Scenarios .....</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>2</b> |
| 1. Why is there a Shortfall?.....                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3        |
| 2. Why didn't we know about this or start planning for this sooner? .....                                                                                                                                                              | 3        |
| 3. How much money comes out of each source in Option 2 and Option 3 from MLMCF Dividends, Prior Years Surplus and the Financial Stability Reserve? Are there other options to consider? .....                                          | 3        |
| 4. Can we please get a quarterly update and posted on your website.....                                                                                                                                                                | 4        |
| 5. What does the reduction of operating expenses look like in real numbers per department?.....                                                                                                                                        | 4        |
| 6. Why are we just hearing about this issue now? .....                                                                                                                                                                                 | 4        |
| 7. Why not hold another forum on the results of the survey? Could it be held during the daytime to reduce overtime?.....                                                                                                               | 5        |
| 8. How long will the "Other Sources of Funding" last before they are depleted? .....                                                                                                                                                   | 5        |
| 9. Are there grants available to help fund the shortfall? Is there funding from the Province available for relief? .....                                                                                                               | 5        |
| <b>Services and Staffing .....</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>6</b> |
| 10. Is the District considering staff reduction at all levels and in every department? .....                                                                                                                                           | 6        |
| 11. What would a reduction in staffing levels look like?.....                                                                                                                                                                          | 6        |
| 12. Were raises factored into the shortfall?.....                                                                                                                                                                                      | 6        |
| 13. Have there been considerations about reducing the amount of grant-in-aid the District provides, including providing less subsidy for rec passes (or a higher threshold for those to qualify) until we have more tax revenue? ..... | 6        |
| 14. Do you need to spend time and sanding the cow paths? .....                                                                                                                                                                         | 6        |
| 15. I would like to know what reductions have been made by the Public Works department and how those savings are contributing to budget shortfall.....                                                                                 | 7        |
| 16. When can we add sidewalks and crosswalks around the school?.....                                                                                                                                                                   | 7        |
| 17. What is the cost for upkeep/operational for the Water Treatment Plant? .....                                                                                                                                                       | 7        |

- 18. Have you done assessments of when the Recreation Centre is most used- and open to serve the most people possible?.....7
- 19. Can the Recreation Centre be closed during the week instead of the weekend?.....9
- 20. Why is Winter Quest happening if your down \$1.5 million?.....9
- 21. Why is the ski hill still running and the lights are always on up there? .....9
- 22. How many people working in (or attached to) the Recreation Centre will be adversely impacted by cutting hours of access?.....9
- 23. How many people work at the Municipal Office? .....9
- 24. What projects can be put off for future years (3-5 yrs).....9

**The Future & Other ..... 10**

- 25. What are the plans to help move Mackenzie forward and encourage business to come to town?..... 10
- 26. What happens to the Administration Fee on the Fortis BC Bills that is noted as being collected for the District of Mackenzie..... 10

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

## The Shortfall and Budget Scenarios

### 1. Why is there a Shortfall?

The majority of the shortfall is due to two major industrial properties that were granted closure allowances from BC Assessment. This removed their properties out of Class 4 Major Industrial to Class 6 Business and Other. Due to Class 4 having a tax rate per \$1000 assessed value of 51.0069 and Class 6 having a tax rate per \$1000 of assessed value of 9.0941 this resulted in a tax revenue loss of ~\$1.5 million.

More information can be found on BC Assessment’s website at <https://info.bccassessment.ca/Services-products/property-classes-and-exemptions/major-industry-property-mip-classification-in-british-columbia/closure-allowances-for-major-closure-allowances-for-major-industrial-and-electrical-properties>

For a breakdown of the impacts to revenue and expenses, please view the Feb. 5, 2025 Budget Presentation available on Let’s Chat Mackenzie here: <https://www.letschatmackenzie.ca/2025-budget>

### 2. Why didn’t we know about this or start planning for this sooner?

In 2020, when the Reserve and Surplus Policy 3.18 was created, \$2 million was put into the Financial Stability Reserve to offset potential reduction of property tax revenue due to economic downturn and mill closures. This reserve has been used over the last three years.

Since 2022, when a major industrial property owner was granted a level 1 closure allowance by BC Assessment, departments have been finding efficiencies and reducing budgets where possible, while still providing the same level of services. The District is only made aware of closure allowance applications when they are received by BC Assessment which is usually close to the deadline of November 30<sup>th</sup>, to take effect the following year.

### 3. How much money comes out of each source in Option 2 and Option 3 from MLMCF Dividends, Prior Years Surplus and the Financial Stability Reserve? Are there other options to consider?

#### Option 2

| MLMCF Dividends | Financial Stability Reserve | Prior Year Surplus | Property Tax Increase | Total       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| \$100,000       | \$200,000                   | \$321,588          | \$437,062             | \$1,058,650 |

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

## Option 3

| MLMCF Dividends | Financial Stability Reserve | Prior Year Surplus | Property Tax Increase | Total       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| \$100,000       | \$180,764                   | \$271,588          | \$506,298             | \$1,058,650 |

There are currently no other new options being offered at this time.

### **4. Can we please get a quarterly update and posted on your website?**

Yes, the District prepares and publishes a monthly financial report to Council which includes revenue and expense reports, payments listing, and a summary of the capital expenditures. These reports are available in the Committee of the Whole Council Meeting agendas - which can be found on our website here: <https://districtofmackenzie.ca/government-town-hall/council/council-meetings/>

### **5. Why are we just hearing about this issue now?**

The District held a public open house on November 7, 2024 to share with the community about the estimated \$800,000 shortfall that was expected in 2025. A month later, the District was informed of an additional revenue loss of \$700,000. Prior to sharing the information with the public at the January 27, 2025 Council Meeting and further at the February 5, 2025 Open House, staff and Council required time to make adjustments to the budget and consider options to account for the additional \$700,000 in revenue loss.

### **6. What does the reduction of operating expenses look like in real numbers per department?**

We are unable to provide further breakdowns at this time. In total, departments have found \$296,824 in operational budget savings without changing service levels.

It should be noted that although there are departments with individual budgets – in many cases the budget of one department does not solely represent the work they do just for their department or services. All departments, sometimes in big ways and sometimes small, use their budgets, staff, equipment to support all services to community members, even if they appear outwardly to be provided by only one department.

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

**7. Why not hold another forum on the results of the survey? Could it be held during the daytime to reduce overtime?**

The survey results are being presented at the Feb. 24, 2025 Council Meeting. Holding another forum will be at the discretion of Council. There was no overtime paid for staff attending the Open Houses on February 5<sup>th</sup> or November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**8. How long will the “Other Sources of Funding” last before they are depleted?**

Based on the same withdrawals made each year, the current values in the “Other Sources of Funding” include:

|                             |              |           |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| MLMCF Dividends             | \$468,100    | ~ 4 years |
| Financial Stability Reserve | \$1,368,167  | ~ 7 years |
| Prior Year Surplus          | ~\$2,000,000 | ~6 years  |

These are estimates based on currently proposed withdrawals. The amount being withdrawn from reserves could change each year.

**9. Are there grants available to help fund the shortfall? Is there funding from the Province available for relief?**

There are limited relief grants from the Province, however we did receive one-time funding, along with other communities, when the mills first shut down in 2019/2020. Otherwise, there are many grants available to the District and we have been successful in receiving over \$17 million in grant funding towards capital projects, operational activities, and staff positions in the last 10 years – which equates to about \$1.7 million in grants funding per year.

The District reports on the results of its grant applications in a Quarterly Workplan Report in January, April, July, and October, during the Committee of the Whole Meetings which can be found here: <https://districtofmackenzie.ca/government-town-hall/council/council-meetings/>

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

## Services and Staffing

**10. Is the District considering staff reduction at all levels and in every department?**

All departments have carefully considered their staffing needs to support current service levels. Yes, there are service changes being proposed that will result in staffing reduction in some departments. If further service reduction is required, then all departments will be looking at whether a reduction in staffing is necessary, or other combinations (full-time to part-time, seasonal, work-share etc.)

**11. What would a reduction in staffing levels look like?**

Depending on the level of service reductions, with consideration of labour laws and contractual obligations, this could mean cutting positions entirely, reducing hours from full-time to part-time, or looking at offering seasonal or work-share opportunities instead.

**12. Were raises factored into the shortfall?**

Yes, CPI and contractual salary increases have been included in the shortfall calculation.

**13. Have there been considerations about reducing the amount of grant-in-aid the District provides, including providing less subsidy for rec passes (or a higher threshold for those to qualify) until we have more tax revenue?**

Yes, these have been taken into consideration and require further research prior to implementing any changes to the policies and funding agreements at this time.

**14. Do you need to spend time and sanding the cow paths?**

For safety and to support both accessibility and active transportation priorities for the District and the community, we believe it is necessary to provide safe pedestrian walkways, which includes sanding sidewalks and neighbourhood pathways.

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

**15. I would like to know what reductions have been made by the Public Works department and how those savings are contributing to budget shortfall.**

Public Works have found savings in operational supplies, reducing staff hours when there isn't essential work to do, reducing reliance on contracted services, and a decrease in telephone and internet services. Overall, due to external influences such as inflation, increases in insurance, and contractual obligations, the Public Works budget has not seen a decrease.

**16. When can we add sidewalks and crosswalks around the school?**

A new sidewalk in front of Morfee Elementary School was identified as a priority project in the District's Active Transportation Plan adopted last year. Staff have been looking at grant opportunities to help fund this project, however, with consideration that it may not be something we can do right away due to the budget situation we are in right now. Timing on this project cannot be determined at this time due to the budget.

**17. What is the cost for upkeep/operational for the Water Treatment Plant?**

The only anticipated additional expense at this time would be for filters. Current staff will continue to take water samples.

**18. Have you done assessments of when the Recreation Centre is most used- and open to serve the most people possible?**

Yes, here are the statistics from 2024 and 2025. Mondays and Sundays are generally our slowest days, especially in the summer.

| Month & Days       | 6AM-12PM   | 12PM-5PM   | 5PM-CLOSE     |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| <b>July-- 2024</b> |            |            |               |
| Monday's           | 45         | 34         | 18            |
| Tuesday's          | 117        | 59         | 42            |
| Wednesday's        | 181        | 151        | 175           |
| Thursday's         | 144        | 117        | 111           |
| Friday's           | 134        | 118        | 84            |
| Saturday's         | 109        | 99         | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| Sunday's           | 25         | 60         | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>755</b> | <b>638</b> | <b>430</b>    |



## 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

|                        |             |             |               |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>August-- 2024</b>   |             |             |               |
| Monday's               | 41          | 42          | 80            |
| Tuesday's              | 136         | 74          | 77            |
| Wednesdays             | 144         | 177         | 110           |
| Thursdays              | 119         | 165         | 83            |
| Fridays                | 127         | 151         | 153           |
| Saturdays              | 133         | 142         | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| Sundays                | 31          | 37          | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>731</b>  | <b>788</b>  | <b>503</b>    |
| <b>December --2024</b> |             |             |               |
| Monday's               | 125         | 140         | 33            |
| Tuesdays               | 310         | 139         | 32            |
| Wednesday's            | 135         | 122         | 91            |
| Thursday's             | 126         | 120         | 73            |
| Friday's               | 120         | 223         | 39            |
| Saturday's             | 76          | 135         | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| Sunday's               | 85          | 103         | CLOSED AT 5PM |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>892</b>  | <b>879</b>  | <b>268</b>    |
| <b>January -- 2025</b> |             |             |               |
| Monday's               | 71          | 205         | 17            |
| Tuesday's              | 262         | 143         | 40            |
| Wednesday's            | 244         | 247         | 177           |
| Thursday's             | 241         | 217         | 101           |
| Friday's               | 217         | 306         | 282           |
| Saturday's             | 180         | 266         | 19            |
| Sunday's               | 18          | 50          | 1             |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>1233</b> | <b>1434</b> | <b>637</b>    |

### Statistic Notes:

- The stats are for programming, gym, pool visits and court bookings. It excludes hockey, lacrosse and general visitors as we do not track those numbers.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> – Stat Holiday - Drop-in open for partial day, No CSR July 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Closed August 5<sup>th</sup> – Statutory Holidays
- Closed August 18<sup>th</sup>
- Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> was shortened facility hours. nothing opened past 4:30pm
- Closed December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> – Statutory Holidays
- Friday Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> – stat counts are all grouped together, no specific times available
- Saturday Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> - stat counts are all grouped together, no specific times available
- Sunday Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - stat counts are all grouped together, no specific times available

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

**19. Can the Recreation Centre be closed during the week instead of the weekend?**

Yes, it could be, but Mondays and Sundays are generally our slowest days, especially in the summer.

**20. Why is Winter Quest happening if your down \$1.5 million?**

Winter Quest is planned about six months in advance and has been a very well supported event in the community. We can look at adjusting or cancelling the event in the future.

**21. Why is the ski hill still running and the lights are always on up there?**

There are many benefits to recreation such as social, mental, physical, and economic. We require power to the bottom chalet for a motor so it doesn't freeze and the lights are on the same breaker/power cable. We investigated adding a sperate power cable and it was around \$80,000, so instead we switched to low drawing LED lights.

**22. How many people working in (or attached to) the Recreation Centre will be adversely impacted by cutting hours of access?**

Depending on the final service reductions chosen, it could result in anywhere from 3 to 10 staff being adversely impacted by reducing the hours of access at the facility.

**23. How many people work at the Municipal Office?**

- 9 full-time employees
- 1 part time employee
- 1 vacancy (full-time)

**24. What projects can be put off for future years (3-5 yrs).**

The full list of capital projects and which have been removed or delayed to future years are listed in the Feb. 10, 2025 Budget Meeting Presentation available here:

<https://www.letschatmackenzie.ca/2025-budget>

# 2025 Budget – Questions and Answers

---

## The Future & Other

### **25. What are the plans to help move Mackenzie forward and encourage business to come to town?**

The District adopted both a Community Economic Development Plan and Tourism Development Plan in 2021 that outline a number of recommendations and priority areas, based on best practice and local community input, that the District should be focusing on to support current business retention and expansion along with encouraging diversification/investment into new sectors. These plans are reviewed annually in developing departmental workplans and actions are added to the District's workplans to align with current community priorities and industry trends.

Mayor and Council play an integral role in this also through their liaison roles, professional networks, and lobbying efforts to ensure Mackenzie is top of mind when policy decisions are being made. The District also has dedicated staff that are points of contact for business and investors and are regularly sharing community information, discussing available lands and tax incentives, and advertising Mackenzie as open for business.

District staff and Council meet regularly with the Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce, investors, local business owners, as well as participate in industry networks to stay informed of current trends, align and support one another's initiatives, and connect with other regional, Provincial, and Federal economic development agencies to help keep Mackenzie top of mind for new investment opportunities.

Lastly, Mayor and Council has made Economic Vitality a priority overall for the District and as a result, staff across the organization are contributing to achieving the plan objectives and goals through upgrades and maintenance of infrastructure, reviewing and updating procurement, permitting, and land use policies, continuing community safety efforts, and supporting a high quality of life and work-life balance in Mackenzie with new events, recreational assets, and funding other community projects and programming.

Further information can be found in the Economic Development section of the District Website here: <https://districtofmackenzie.ca/business-development/economic-development-2/>

### **26. What happens to the Administration Fee on the Fortis BC Bills that is noted as being collected for the District of Mackenzie.**

The Administration Fee contributes to the operating fee payment received from Fortis BC to the District and is used for to cover general operating expenses.

**COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Finance

**Date:** February 20, 2025

**Subject:** 2025 Provisional Budget Scenarios Recommendation

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council choose one of the Budget Shortfall scenarios and Recreation Services budget scenarios to be included in the development of the 2025 Provisional Operating Budget.

**BACKGROUND:**

The District of Mackenzie is currently recognizing a \$1.5 million dollar tax revenue loss, and an overall estimated \$1 million dollar budget shortfall for 2025. Presentations were provided to the public during the January 27, 2025 Regular Council meeting and during the February 5, 2025 Budget Open House. Within the presentations there were various scenarios on how to fund the expected shortfall, as well as additional saving opportunities for Recreation Services.

**Budget Shortfall Scenarios:**

Scenario 1

Covering the \$1,058,650 shortfall entirely through increase of property taxes

Class 1 Residential Tax Rate increase of 28.69%

- 2025 Tax Rate 9.2848
- 2024 Tax Rate 7.2148 (Incorrectly noted as 7.2708 in survey document)

Impact on the average assessed single-family residence (\$164,900)

| Rate Increase         | 2025            | 2024            | Revenue Increase |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Property Tax (28.69%) | 1,531.06        | 1,191.88        | 339.18           |
| Water*(12%)           | 511.96          | 457.11          | 54.85            |
| Sewer*(9%)            | 316.69          | 290.54          | 26.15            |
| Garbage*(6.5%)        | 212.73          | 199.75          | 12.98            |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>2,572.44</b> | <b>2,139.28</b> | <b>433.16</b>    |

\*rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

**Approximate increase of \$36.10/month**

Class 6 Business & other Tax Rate increase of 27.50%

- 2025 Tax Rate 11.595
- 2024 Tax Rate 9.0941

Impact on the average assessed small business (\$318,635)

| Rate Increase         | 2025            | 2024            | Revenue Increase |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Property Tax (27.50%) | 3,694.57        | 2,771.65        | 922.92           |
| Water* (12%)          | 458.57          | 409.44          | 49.13            |
| Sewer* (9%)           | 376.31          | 345.24          | 31.07            |
| Garbage** (7%)        | 1,579.71        | 1,476.36        | 103.35           |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>6,109.16</b> | <b>5,002.69</b> | <b>1,106.47</b>  |

water, sewer, and garbage are billed bi-monthly  
rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

\* based on minimum usage

\*\* based on 1 - 3yard bin, 1 pickup per week

**Approximate increase of \$92.21/month**

### Scenario 2

Covering the \$1,058,650 shortfall through a combination of other sources of funding and property tax increase

| MLMCF Dividends | Financial Stability Reserve | Surplus | Property Tax Increase | Total     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 100,000         | 200,000                     | 321,588 | 437,062               | 1,058,650 |

Class 1 - Residential

Impact on the average assessed single-family residence (\$164,900)

| Rate Increase         | 2025            | 2024            | Revenue Increase |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Property Tax (10.85%) | 1,318.84        | 1,191.88        | 126.96           |
| Water* (12%)          | 511.96          | 457.11          | 54.85            |
| Sewer* (9%)           | 316.69          | 290.54          | 26.15            |
| Garbage* (6.5%)       | 212.73          | 199.75          | 12.98            |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>2,360.22</b> | <b>2,139.28</b> | <b>220.94</b>    |

\*rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

**Approximate increase of \$18.41/month**

Class 6 – Business & Other

Impact on the average assessed small business (\$318,635)

|                    | 2025            | 2024            | Increase      |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Property Tax (10%) | 3,187.47        | 2,771.65        | 415.82        |
| Water* (12%)       | 458.57          | 409.44          | 49.13         |
| Sewer* (9%)        | 376.31          | 345.24          | 31.07         |
| Garbage** (7%)     | 1,579.71        | 1,476.36        | 103.35        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>5,602.06</b> | <b>5,002.69</b> | <b>599.37</b> |

water, sewer, and garbage are billed bi-monthly  
rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

\* based on minimum usage

\*\* based on 1 - 3yard bin, 1 pickup per week

**Approximate increase of \$49.95/month**

Scenario 3

Covering the \$1,058,650 shortfall through a combination of other sources of funding and a higher property tax increase

| MLMCF Dividends | Financial Stability Reserve | Surplus | Property Tax Increase | Total     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 100,000         | 180,764                     | 271,588 | 506,298               | 1,058,650 |

Class 1 - Residential

Impact on the average assessed single-family residence (\$164,900)

|                       | 2025            | 2024            | Increase      |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Property Tax (12.87%) | 1,342.83        | 1,191.88        | 150.95        |
| Water* (12%)          | 511.96          | 457.11          | 54.85         |
| Sewer* (9%)           | 316.69          | 290.54          | 26.15         |
| Garbage* (6.5%)       | 212.73          | 199.75          | 12.98         |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>2,384.21</b> | <b>2,139.28</b> | <b>244.93</b> |

\*rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

**Approximate increase of \$20.41/month**

Class 6 – Business & Other

Impact on the average assessed small business (\$318,635)

|                    | 2025            | 2024            | Increase      |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Property Tax (12%) | 3,245.42        | 2,771.65        | 473.77        |
| Water* (12%)       | 458.57          | 409.44          | 49.13         |
| Sewer* (9%)        | 376.31          | 345.24          | 31.07         |
| Garbage** (7%)     | 1,579.71        | 1,476.36        | 103.35        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>5,660.01</b> | <b>5,002.69</b> | <b>657.32</b> |

water, sewer, and garbage are billed bi-monthly  
rate increase same as 2024 for calculation purposes only

\* based on minimum usage

\*\* based on 1 - 3yard bin, 1 pickup per week

**Approximate increase of \$54.78/month**

**Recreation Services Budget Scenarios:**

In addition to the above scenarios, there were additional options to consider for additional savings through Recreation Services.

Option 1

The current savings already built into the shortfall is an estimated \$220,000. This included reduction of natural gas and hydro by a modest 10% with the installation of the new heat recovery system, reduction of operating expenses, reduction of staffing levels, and focusing on major events and reducing summer programs.

Option 2

Additional reduction above the \$220,000 of an estimated \$60,000 would include closing the facility for ½ day on Mondays year round as well as possible other overall changes to facility hours.

Option 3

Additional reduction above the \$220,000 of an estimated \$180,000 which would include closing the facility for ½ day on Mondays year round and on Sunday between April and October as well as possible other overall changes to facility hours.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The 2025 Provisional Operating Budget will be based on the scenario(s) chosen above.

**COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

**Strong Governance and Finances**

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Kerri Borne, Chief Financial Officer

**Reviewed By:** Corporate Services

**Approved By:** Chief Administrative Officer



## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Fire Department

**Date:** February 7, 2025

**Subject:** Public Alerting System (PAS)

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council approves a two-year contract with the Regional District of Fraser Fort George (RDFFG) for the use of their Public Alerting System (PAS) in the amount of \$750 per year plus GST;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the contract and any related documentation.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The District of Mackenzie is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents. Considering recent natural disasters and emergencies, such as wildfires, it is important to have a reliable way to communicate with the community during an emergency. Implementing a Public Alerting System will significantly enhance our ability to respond to emergencies and protect our residents.

### **Importance of a Public Alerting System (PAS)**

1. **Timely Communication:** A PAS allows for quick distribution of critical information to residents, providing them with timely updates on emergencies such as wildfires, floods, severe weather, and other threats. This can help residents take necessary precautions and evacuate if needed.
2. **Multi-Channel Delivery:** An effective PAS can send alerts through multiple channels, including text messages, emails, phone calls, and App notifications. This ensures that residents receive the message through their preferred communication method.
3. **Community Engagement:** A PAS can also be used to engage with the community during non-emergency situations, such as public service announcements, local events, and community programs. This fosters a sense of community and keeps residents informed about important local activities.

4. **Building Trust:** Consistent and accurate communication during emergencies helps build trust between the local government and residents. Knowing that they will receive timely and reliable information can reassure residents and enhance their confidence in local authorities.

The Mackenzie Fire Rescue Department Staff have looked at multiple options for an Emergency Alerting System and feel that Connect Rocket, which is used by the RDFFG, is the most effective option at this time. Some of the benefits include lower annual subscription costs than other service providers and ease of use. Since the RDFFG uses Connect Rocket, residents of Mackenzie would be able to sign up for alerts in area "G" surrounding Mackenzie without requiring an additional system. Additionally, this also allows the Regional District to assist the District of Mackenzie Staff with emergency alerting if requested by the Emergency Operations Center in the event of an Activation.

A copy of the Contract from the RDFFG will be included in the Center Table File.

#### **BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

\$750 per year would be allocated from the Protective Services budget to support the recommendation.

#### **COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

##### **Community and Social Development**

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

##### **Strong Governance and Finances**

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

#### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Micaiah Taylor, Assistant Emergency Program Coordinator

**Reviewed By:** Corporate and Financial Services

**Approved By:** Chief Administrative Officer

# WILL YOU GET THE MESSAGE?

## Be Connected & Informed

Receive emergency alerts via text, landline and email about threats to public safety like severe weather, wildfire or floods.

Register today at  
[rdffg.bc.ca](http://rdffg.bc.ca)



**REGIONAL DISTRICT**  
of Fraser-Fort George





May 7, 2019

## WILL YOU GET THE MESSAGE?

### Regional District urging rural residents to sign up for its public alerting system

It's Emergency Preparedness Week and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George wants to ensure residents in rural electoral areas get the message when it comes to emergency notifications.

The Regional District's Public Alerting System is an emergency notification system that enables the Regional District to communicate important information quickly in the event of emergencies in the electoral areas.

The system provides emergency notifications via text, text to landline or email regarding significant or imminent threats to public safety including severe weather, wildfire, floods, and other events that may impact residents. The system also provides notification of any evacuation alerts or orders that may be in effect for a certain area.

Registration is simple and free. Click the link on the Regional District homepage at [www.rdffg.bc.ca](http://www.rdffg.bc.ca) and follow these simple steps:

1. Resident or Visitor: The system will ask you to select if you are a permanent resident of the area, or if you are visiting for a limited time.
2. Name and email: Enter your name and email. Your email address becomes your account user name.
3. Phone number: Register your phone number (or numbers if you have multiple phones you'd like to receive notifications to). These are the numbers the system will use to communicate with you via text for mobile phones or voice recorded notification for land line phones.
4. Set your password: Remember to keep this secure.
5. Select the zone(s) you wish to receive notifications for: You may select one or more areas.
  - **Zone 1** includes Area G (Summit Lake, Bear Lake, McLeod Lake, north of Mackenzie);
  - **Zone 2** includes Areas A,C,D, E and F (Ness Lake, Salmon Valley, Miworth, Beverly, Buckhorn, West Lake, Pineview, Red Rock, Hixon, Shelley, Penny, Willow River)
  - **Zone 3** includes Area H (Dome Creek, McBride, Dunster, Tete Jaune, Valemount)
6. Once all the information has been entered, click 'finished.'

The system does not provide alerts or notifications for events within the City of Prince George, Village of McBride, Village of Valemount or District of Mackenzie. The system provides notifications for events within the electoral areas of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George only.

The Regional District is pleased to provide this service for electoral area residents. In an emergency, time is of the essence. This system allows the Regional District to reach impacted residents to share critical information faster than ever before.

While the Public Alerting System is another tool to help respond to emergencies, it does not replace the need for personal preparedness. For tips and ideas on what you can do to prepare yourself, your family and your property for emergencies, go to [www.rdffg.bc.ca](http://www.rdffg.bc.ca) and click the link for Emergency Management information.

#### Media Contact

Anita deDreu  
Emergency Services Coordinator  
250-960-4450



**REGIONAL DISTRICT**  
of Fraser-Fort George



# Public Alerting System Frequently Asked Questions

## ***What is the Public Alerting System (PAS)?***

The PAS is an emergency notification system that enables the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) and City of Prince George (CPG) to communicate important information quickly in the event of emergencies that require evacuation alerts or orders. Emergency notifications regarding significant or imminent threats to public safety are sent to the most people possible in the shortest time.

It's like a really big, really smart bullhorn!

## ***Who can sign up?***

Everyone! In the event of an emergency, we want to be able to get ahold of you and those important to you! It's FREE to all families living, recreating and/or working within the electoral areas of the CPG and RDFFG. Register today to have the up-to-date information you need during an emergency.

## ***How do I sign up?***

Registration is simple and free. Click the link on our homepage at [www.rdffg.bc.ca](http://www.rdffg.bc.ca) or go direct to <https://rdffg.connectrocket.com> and follow these simple steps:

1. **Resident or Visitor:** The system will ask you to select if you are a permanent resident of the area, or if you are visiting for a limited time. Note: those who sign up as a visitor will get all the same alerts as a permanent resident, but only for the length of time they indicate they are in the area.
2. **Name and email:** Enter your name and email. Your email address becomes your account user name.
3. **Phone number:** Register your phone number (or numbers if you have multiple phones you'd like to receive notifications to). These are the numbers the system will use to communicate with you via text for mobile phones or voice recorded notification for land line phones.
4. **Set your password:** Remember to keep this secure.
5. **Select the zone(s)** you wish to receive notifications for: You may select one or more areas.
  - Zone A includes all of Electoral Area A (Ness Lake and area, Salmon Valley)
  - Zone C includes all of Electoral Area C (Beaverly, Miworth, West Lake, Bednesti & Norman Lake area);
  - Zone D includes Electoral Area D (Buckhorn, Pineview,)
  - Zone E includes all of Electoral Area E (Red Rock, Hixon)
  - Zone F includes Electoral Electoral Area F (Shelley, Sinclair Mills, Longworth, Penny, Willow River)
  - Zone G includes all of Electoral Area G (Summit Lake, Bear Lake, McLeod Lake, north of Mackenzie)
  - Zone H includes all of Electoral Area H (Dome Creek, McBride, Dunster, Tete Jaune, Valemount)
6. Once all the information has been entered, click **'finished.'**

## ***How do I sign up if I don't have access to a computer and don't have a cell phone?***

Call us at (250) 960-4450, we will sign up your land line to receive notifications via recorded message sent to land line.

## ***What will I be notified about?***

When an emergency occurs, a text, voice recorded message to landline, or email message will be sent to all registered contacts in the impacted area. The system enables us to provide you with critical information in a

variety of situations, such as severe weather, wildfire, floods, debris flows, unexpected road closures and any other emergency events that could impact you, your family and your community.

***How will I be notified?***

You will receive a text, voice recorded message to landline, or email notification message.

***Can I receive notifications about multiple areas within the City and/or the Regional District?***

Absolutely! You can select one zone, or you can select all zones.

***Can I sign up other members of my family?***

Yes. There is no limit to the individuals you can register under your account.

***Why isn't Mackenzie, McBride & Valemout included?***

This system is provided for the safety of residents of the Electoral Areas of the RDFFG. We are currently onboarding the municipalities of Mackenzie and McBride in a joint program, with the possibility of Valemout joining the system in the future.

***Isn't there a national notification system that sends text alerts? Why do I need this too?***

At this time, the national alerting system (Alert Ready) is only being used in the event of Amber Alerts, national security and tsunamis. It does not provide information or alerts about local emergencies in our region. If you are interested in receiving notifications about emergencies happening within electoral areas of the Regional District, **and the City of Prince George**, you must sign up for our Public Alerting System.

***What if I move or change my phone number, can I edit or delete my information?***

You self-administer your account, so you just have to log in and update your information, or delete your account if you no longer wish to receive notifications. Once you choose delete, you are instantly removed from the system.

***Are you using my information for any other purpose?***

No. You own your account and information in the system.

***How are you protecting my information?***

The Public Alerting System has security standards that meet those of online banks and your information is never shared without your permission. Please contact the Regional District's General Manager of Corporate and Legislative Services (FOI Head) at FOI@rdffg.bc.ca or by phone 250-960-4400 regarding any questions pertaining to the collection, use and disclosure of personal information for the Public Alerting System.

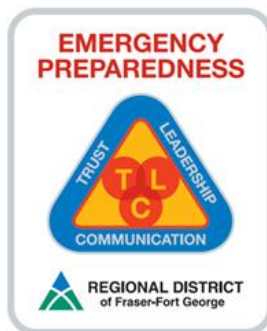
***What else do I need to know in an emergency?***

Preparedness is king. Take the time now to ensure you, your family and your property are prepared should disaster strike. For further information and resources, visit the emergency management section of our website.

<http://www.rdffg.bc.ca/services/public-safety/emergency-management-program/EM-faqs-links>

***Who can I call for further information?***

Call the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George during regular office hours at 250-960-4450 or toll-free 1-800-667-1959 and ask for the Emergency Services Coordinator.



**COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Councillor Wright  
**Date:** February 4, 2025  
**Subject:** Mental Health and Addictions Liaison

---

*The date for this motion to be considered is at the February 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council adds to the roster of Council Liaison Appointments the role of 'Mental Health and Addictions' Liaison, whose role, as a starting place, is to represent the District of Mackenzie in its role as a signatory of the 'Mental Health and Addiction's Accord' signed in November 2024.

**RATIONALE:**

1. Meetings have been planned to be held bi-monthly of signatories of the accord. With this time commitment, having a formal role of a Mayor/Councilor to do this work will provide predictability and stability to the District's role in the group.
2. The Accord is a 'living document,' which means edits are expected to meet the current issues of the day and changing political landscape. Having the District of Mackenzie's voice in these discussions is essential, as our name is on the document.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

1. Nothing, all this motion requires is staff/council time.
2. The Mental Health and Addictions Symposium held last year is intended to be an annual/bi-annual event. A consideration of a budget to assure the District of Mackenzie has in-person representation at this event could be added at a later date.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Councillor Jesse Wright



**COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Councillor Wright  
**Date:** February 4, 2025  
**Subject:** NCLGA and UBCM Resolutions – Foundry

---

*The date for this motion to be considered is at the February 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council directs staff to submit the following resolution to NCLGA and UBCM:

“Whereas youth in rural and remote British Columbia are facing mental health and wellness challenges just like their peers in urban centers,”

“Whereas Foundry BC in-person Centers are largely located in urban British Columbia and not accessible for youth in rural and remote BC communities,”

“Therefore, be it resolved that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government, commit to establishing in-person Foundry Centre's that meet the needs of rural and remote youth in their home communities, that recognizes the unique challenges of youth living in rural and remote communities.”

**RATIONALE:**

1. The services offered by Foundry BC are needed by the youth in Mackenzie.
2. Currently, the only option for Mackenzie youth is Foundry Virtual, which does not work for all youth.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Nothing, all this motion requires is staff/council time.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Councillor Jesse Wright

## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** February 4, 2025  
**Subject:** 2025 Council Travel

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council receives this report for information.

### **BACKGROUND:**

This report is to assist Council in planning their 2025 travel and professional development schedule. In 2025, each Councillor has been allocated a budget of \$5,000 (\$10,000 for the Mayor) to spend at their discretion to attend conventions and webinars throughout the year.

The following table provides estimated costs for each convention coming up. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities and North Central Local Government Association conference registrations have not opened, so any fees unavailable have been based on 2024. There are also certain factors to take into consideration such as the locations of events, the cost of airfare/travel, hotel block rates, and additional costs such as workshops, ticketed events including banquets, luncheons and breakfasts as well as per diems.

### **COUNCIL PRIORITIES:**

#### **Strong Governance and Finances**

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Cat Smith, Executive Assistant/Legislative Clerk

**Reviewed By:** Corporate and Financial Services

**Approved By:** Chief Administrative Officer

|                                                                                                           |                  | <b>Estimated 2025 Expenses</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>BC Natural Resources Forum</b><br><i>January 14-16, 2025</i><br><i>Prince George, BC</i>               | Registration     | \$489.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$358.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Travel (mileage) | \$259.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Per Diem         | \$300.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$1,406.00 + taxes</b>      |
| <b>Local Government Leadership Academy</b><br><i>March 12 – 14, 2025</i><br><i>Vancouver, BC</i>          | Registration     | \$495.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$657.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Mileage          | \$280.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Travel (Flight)  | \$323.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Per Diem         | \$300.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$2,183.37 + taxes</b>      |
| <b>Council of Forest Industries Conference</b><br><i>April 2 – 4, 2025</i><br><i>Prince George, BC</i>    | Registration     | \$675.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$720.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Mileage          | \$259.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Per Diem         | \$400.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$2,054.00 + taxes</b>      |
| <b>North Central Local Government Association</b><br><i>May 12 – 15, 2025</i><br><i>Prince Rupert, BC</i> | Registration     | \$832.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$845.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Mileage          | \$1,260.00                     |
|                                                                                                           | Per diem         | \$300.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$3,237.00 + taxes</b>      |
| <b>Federation of Canadian Municipalities</b><br><i>May 29 – June 1, 2025</i><br><i>Ottawa, ON</i>         | Registration     | \$1,195.00                     |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$1,756.00                     |
|                                                                                                           | Mileage          | \$280.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Travel (Flight)  | \$634.62                       |
|                                                                                                           | Per Diem         | \$400.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$4,265.62+ taxes</b>       |
| <b>Union of BC Municipalities</b><br><i>Sept. 22 – 26, 2025</i><br><i>Victoria, BC</i>                    | Registration     | \$811.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Hotel            | \$1940.00                      |
|                                                                                                           | Mileage          | \$280.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Travel (Flight)  | \$840.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | Per Diem         | \$400.00                       |
|                                                                                                           | <b>Total</b>     | <b>\$4,271.00 + taxes</b>      |

**COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Councilor Wright  
**Date:** **February 2025**  
**Subject:** Report for February 2025

---

**Note to Council:** I was elected President of the 'Youth Wellness Society of Mackenzie', a new non-profit in Mackenzie.

**Councilor Wright Council Appointments:**

Education and Youth Liaison  
Williston Lake Elders Society Liaison  
Climate Action Liaison  
Deputy Mayor (August 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025)

**Alternate For:**

Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Liaison  
Chamber of Commerce Liaison  
Alternate Director for Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG)  
Alternate for Prince George Treaty Advisory Committee  
Alternate Member of Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

**Activities:**

| Date:             | Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Council Appointment:                  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| February 5, 2025  | Attended the public Budget Consultation meeting at the Rec Centre.                                                                                                                                                                                      | N/A                                   |
| February 6, 2025  | Attended the monthly Climate Caucus Elected Only Zoom Call. This month's guest speaker was on UNDRIP and how it impacts municipalities.                                                                                                                 | Climate Liaison                       |
| February 6, 2025  | Hosted an online 'Ask Me Anything' session. Summary will be attached below.                                                                                                                                                                             | N/A                                   |
| February 6, 2025  | Attended a board meeting of the Mackenzie Rainbows Swim Club.                                                                                                                                                                                           | N/A                                   |
| February 7, 2025  | Had a meeting with MLA Kiel Giddens, and talked about education in Mackenzie.                                                                                                                                                                           | Education and Youth Liaison           |
| February 7, 2025  | Met with a professor from UNBC who is hosting a series on talks across Northern BC regarding energy opinions. Started planning to have one of these sessions in Mackenzie in April.                                                                     | Climate Liaison                       |
| February 11, 2025 | Participated in a community consultation hosted by Enbridge to talk about their proposed Sunrise Project                                                                                                                                                | N/A                                   |
| February 11, 2025 | Participated in the local Primary Care Network Steering Committee meeting.                                                                                                                                                                              | N/A                                   |
| February 12, 2025 | Participated in the inaugural board meeting of the new non-profit, the 'Youth Wellness Society of Mackenzie'.                                                                                                                                           | Youth and Education Liaison           |
| February 13, 2025 | Attended the first half of a special Elected Only Climate Caucus meeting, where the attendees talked about what their municipalities are doing to prepare for potential new tariffs between Canada and USA. I had to leave early for a personal matter. | Climate Liaison                       |
| February 18, 2025 | Participated in a board meeting of the Williston Lake Elders Society                                                                                                                                                                                    | Williston Lake Elders Society Liaison |
| February 19, 2025 | Attended a special webinar put on by the Climate Caucus, where experts from the Columbia Institute presented on Climate Governance considering all the changing political context around us.                                                            | Climate Liaison                       |
| February 20, 2025 | Attended the monthly Chamber of Commerce luncheon, this month's guest speaker was Anna Duff, the General Manager of Community Futures Fraser-Fort George                                                                                                | Chamber of Commerce Alternate         |

Respectfully Submitted,

Councilor Wright

## Summary of Feedback/Questions from Public Engagement



1. I'm curious if the idea of the biweekly garbage pick up was considered? [As a budget saving measure].
2. Is there any information on the availability of hydro infrastructure in the industrial area to welcome or push for new industry to open up shop?
3. What is the District's plan for more tourism?
4. I think the idea of wild flowers planted through out town would be beneficial. Less maintenance [as you would not have to cut the grass/weed as often] and help the bees and what not.
5. I worry about raising property taxes as we have many seniors on fixed income and can not afford an increase.
6. Has council noticed more public engagement with the livestreaming of council meetings? Hopefully it will increase with it being accessible to more people.
7. How has the road closure [issue] been developing [north of town]?
8. Have you heard of the Williston Lake Trout Project?
9. It really bothers me [why] do those girls get paid overtime or banked time to water those flowers on the main drag when they could put up artificial flowers.
10. Can the town get Windmills for income like Tumbler Ridge has done?
11. Who is our one economic developer [officer]? And [should/could] they ... inform the community quarterly about what they have done?
12. Back in the day, roughly late '80, the town did have public forums twice a year for question and to let the citizens know what was happening like how the Morfee Lake Road was to be paved.

13. Has the district ever thought about approaching the CBC show Still Standing to help encourage tourism.
14. Be nice to open trail from Mountain road to shooting range for biathlon. Then we can host for training.
15. Has a hiring freeze been thought about too?
16. Also, the rec centre is missing a revenue by not having aqua fit in the evening.
17. Let me buy a lot on Lions Lake. Win/win. Property tax for you, lake front property for me. Economically, it makes sense.
18. Is the Ernie Bodin centre not being torn down? I thought it was being turned into an outdoor space.
19. Has the district reached out to/made space for film companies to come and film in town? They are always looking for scenes/sets in sometimes surprising places....
20. Were you a part of the community consultation with CNC in regards to the restructuring and now reduction of staff at Mackenzie Campus? If you were, what was the information conveyed?
21. What would you suggest or recommend that CNC staff or community members could do? This reduction in staff and capacity to offer programming will be a loss to our community.
22. I want to amend bylaw for chickens out in Gantahaz.

**COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Councillor Wright  
**Date:** February 18, 2025  
**Subject:** Notice of Motion – DOM Procurement Practices

---

*The date for this motion to be considered is the March 10, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council directs staff to prepare a report highlighting opportunities to improve the District of Mackenzie's procurement practices on how we can adapt to global/national issues and prioritize Mackenzie/Northern BC/BC/Canadian interests, in the event of American tariffs or other hostile actions from foreign countries, so we can respond with practices that emphasize Local Mackenzie/Northern British Columbia/British Columbian/Canadian interest.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. Other municipalities in BC have passed similar motions in the last month, considering threats of tariffs from the United States. A motion from the February 3, 2025 City of Prince George Council meeting was used as a model for this motion.
2. Both federal and provincial governments have been employing an 'all hands-on deck' mentality to prepare for potential tariffs and other hostilities from the USA. We as a municipal government need to look at what we can do to support these efforts.
3. Prime Minister Trudeau recently said we as Canadians need to take seriously the threats of US annexation of Canada, this motion would be the first step of we as a municipality taking it seriously.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The report itself has no budgetary impact other than staff time.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Councillor Jesse Wright