

COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Mayor Joan Atkinson

Date: November 27, 2023

Subject: Activity for month of October 2023

Date:	Activity:
October 1	Participated in Community Church Service at Mackenzie Recreation Centre, which was part of a successful "Mackenzie Senior's Week."
October 10	Along with staff and other members of Council, met with Luke Gleeson (member of Tsay Keh Dene Nation) and Karl Mattson (artist) at Mackenzie Tree Crusher Site, regarding opportunity to provide a full and accurate history of the Tree Crusher and impacts on the region including negative effects on Indigenous Nations in the region.
October 11	Participated in Zoom call with Minister Bowinn Ma (Emergency Management) and Anne Kang (Municipal Affairs) regarding ongoing concerns with drought and wildfire in the province.
October 13	Participated in Zombie Walk hosted by Mackenzie Community Arts Centre. Local weather conditions provided the perfect spooky backdrop with more than 40 people of all ages participating.
October 16	As Chairperson of the Fraser-Fort George Regional Hospital Board, I travelled to Prince George to participate in Joint Fall Meeting with the Northern Health Authority and the 6 Regional Hospital Boards located in Northern Health. Ciro Panessa has recently been named Chief Executive Officer for Northern Health following Cathy Ulrich's retirement. The Hospital District's main function is to provide funding for Northern Health capital projects.
October 19	Travelled to Prince George to attend Regional District of Fraser-Fort George monthly meeting. Chief Administrative Officer Jim Martin will be retiring at the end of December, so Board is in process of recruiting a suitable candidate to replace Mr. Martin.
October 20	Participated in phone call with Minister Adrian Dix regarding inadequate paramedic staffing in Mackenzie. Minister Dix indicated the determination of which communities will be upgraded to the

	24/7 Alpha Model will be released in next few weeks.
October 25	Attended Development Permit Areas open house at the Mackenzie Rec Centre.
October 25	Attended the McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest PAG at the Mackenzie Rec Centre. Board chairperson and CF Manager provided an update on Community Forest activities. Mackenzie will host the provincial 2024 Community Forest Conference in June.
October 28	Attended the Mackenzie Community Arts Council Haunted Maze at Ernie Bodin Centre. Very well done!
October 30	Along with CAO Smith, I met with Mackenzie District Hospital Administrator Pam Hengeveld and Greg Marr, Senior Operating Officer for Northern Health who provided us with an update on operations at the Mackenzie hospital. There have been additional nurses hired at the hospital which should reduce the need for diversions.
October 30	Attended Mackenzie Area Radio Society (MARS) Annual General meeting. The meeting was held at MARS' new "radio" station at the Mackenzie Centre Mall. The group is very excited to be housed in a custom-built studio.
October 31	Met with Ryan Bichon, Ministry of Forests District Manager for an update. The local forest service office has been challenged with staffing vacancies, currently more than a dozen vacancies for forest professionals which include vacancies with BC Timber Sales. Tenure transfer/sale of Canfor volume to McLeod Lake Indian Band and Tsay Keh Dene Nation is ongoing. Once transfer notice from Canfor is received by the government, the Bill 22 process will be initiated which will provide the District of Mackenzie the opportunity to weigh in on our position of the transfer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mayor Joan Atkinson