

## COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Mayor Joan Atkinson

**Date:** February 26, 2024

**Subject:** Activity for month of January 2024

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Activity:</b>
January 8	CAO Smith and I met with MLA Mike Morris.
January 11	Participated in Zoom Presentation on BC's draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework. This will set the direction for prioritizing biodiversity and ecosystem health across the province.
January 12	Reached out to Conservation Officer Service to inform them of District's decision to purchase new commercial garbage truck and bear resistant bins. News was very well received by both our local CO Hilary Desmarias and Omineca Zone Sergeant Eamon McArthur.
January 15	Met with Ministry of Forests District Manager Ryan Bichon.
January 16	Attended Northern Medical Programs Trust Directors' Meeting in Prince George. For the academic year 2022/2023, 146 awards were given to students pursuing health careers who are studying at the University of Northern British Columbia.
January 16-18	Attended the Natural Resource Forum in Prince George. This year's forum hosted 1,400 participants. It was a great opportunity to chat with MLA's involved in the Natural Resource ministries. I also had the opportunity to meet MLA Andrew Mercier who was recently appointed Minister of State for Sustainable Forestry Innovation. I let Minister Mercier know I would be providing him with a written report on the history of Mackenzie, the state of forestry in Mackenzie, our ongoing challenges and opportunities that require government support, including tenure redistribution.
January 22	Participated in Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) Regional Advisory Committee Meeting. In 2023 a total of 85 projects in the Prince George Region were approved. A total of \$4,112,010 was disbursed across the Region. Mackenzie received \$499,829 which included \$148,077 awarded to the District of Mackenzie.

January 24-25	Participated in Regional District of Fraser-Fort George monthly meetings. I have been re-elected as Chairperson of the Regional Hospital Board. There has been plenty of discussion regarding the increased tax requisitions required to fund the expansion at University Hospital.
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Respectfully Submitted,  
Mayor Joan Atkinson