

COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Mayor Joan Atkinson

Date: March 25, 2024

Subject: Activity for month of February 2024

Date:	Activity:
February 5	Met with Cindy Heitman, New President and CEO of College of New Caledonia. Ms. Heitman was interested in identifying training needs for the community. I highlighted the need to train more forest professionals to address the many vacancies in that profession.
February 8	Met with Conifex General Manager Kelly Favron regarding ongoing challenges in the Forest Industry.
February 8	Met with Chief Johnny Pierre and Chief Negotiator Raymond Lamont from the Tsay Keh Dene (TKD) Nation regarding opportunities that may present themselves as a result of the tenure transfer from Canfor to TKD.
February 8	Attended BC Hydro public information session regarding the level of Williston Reservoir and potential challenges with reservoir levels due to ongoing drought conditions. The event was very well attended.
February 12	Chaired Community Awareness Meeting. Participants included Mackenzie & District Hospital, Mackenzie Secondary School, Morfee Elementary, BC Ambulance Service, RCMP, Mackenzie Community Services, Gammies Day Care, District of Mackenzie, Accessibility Committee, Autumn Lodge, New Horizons, Ministry of Children & Family Development and the College of New Caledonia. This provided a venue for stakeholders in the community to get to know each other and identify areas of collaboration
February 15	Attended Chamber Luncheon, Ricky Beaudet and Aaron Mannella from Enbridge were the guest speakers who provided an update on the Sunrise Expansion project.
February 15	Met with Christina Doll and Alanna Lecerf, representatives from Pacific Economic Development Canada.
February 20	Participated in an interview with MNP, who were retained by the

	Ministry of Forests to conduct interviews with stakeholders regarding the province's response to the Spruce Beetle Outbreak (identified in 2014) and offer suggestions on how the province can better respond to the next Bark Beetle Outbreak.
February 20	Along with CAO Smith I met with Management Team from Iris Energy. They have rebranded and have changed their name to IREN. Their Mackenzie facility is doing well, and IREN is currently expanding their data centres. I took the opportunity to thank IREN for their support for WinterQuest 2024.
February 21-22	Participated in monthly Board meetings for Regional District of Fraser Fort-George in Prince George.
February 23	Along with members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band, I participated in the opening ceremony of WinterQuest 2024.
February 28	Attended College of New Caledonia Open House.
February 29	Participated in South Peace Mackenzie Trust Regional Advisory Committee meeting. Funding requests two projects were approved (1) Slab Replacement at the Mackenzie Rec Centre (2) Establishment of a U-brew in the community.
February 29	Participated in an interview with Senior Features Writer with Forbes Magazine, Australia on the positive impact of Iris Energy (IREN) facility in our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mayor Joan Atkinson