

## COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Mayor Joan Atkinson  
**Date:** February 13, 2023  
**Subject:** Activity for month of January 2023

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Activity:</b>
January 6	Participated in South Peace Mackenzie Trust Regional Advisory Committee meeting. The application from Mackenzie Counselling Services was approved. To date, four applications from Mackenzie have been received by the Trust and all have been approved.
January 9	Participated in Northern Medical Program Trust meeting. The Trust was established as a result of the Northern Medical Program at UNBC and is supported by municipalities, regional districts, and corporations. The Trust disburses funds to support the education of health care professionals.
January 9	Interview with Caden Fanshaw from CKPG news. Topics included ongoing work to secure high speed internet in the community, challenges with inadequate paramedic staffing and closures at the Mackenzie Hospital.
January 9	CAO Smith and I met with MLA Mike Morris and Legislative Clerk Jesse Wright regarding ongoing challenges in the community.
January 9	Met with Mike Kellet, Manager of Northern Community Relations for BC Hydro regarding forecast of Williston Reservoir levels this spring.
January 9	Along with stakeholders in the community, met with Troy Clifford, Provincial President of Ambulance Paramedics of BC regarding ongoing issues with inadequate staffing of paramedics in the community.
January 10	Participated in interview with Amanda Follett Hosgood of the Tyee News regarding Iris Energy facility in the community.
January 10	Participated in Resource Municipality Coalition monthly meeting.
January 10	Participated in Official Community Plan Public Hearing regarding Public Watershed definition and inconsistency between the OCP and the Bylaw.
January 11	Attended Work BC Open House
January 12	Interviewed by Graham Burrows, Masters Student from UNBC. Graham's research project is about understanding how small rural resource-

	dependent communities can be more resilient in times of economic transition.
January 16	Participated in Northern Development Initiative Trust Regional Advisory Committee first intake meeting. NDIT Funding available for 2023 in the amount of \$1,203,165. First intake is restricted to 50% of available funds (\$601,583). Mackenzie was awarded \$10,717 for our new Tourism Guide and up to \$20,000 to support the Business Façade program.
January 17	Participated in Northern Medical Program Trust meeting at University Hospital of Northern BC.
Jan 17-19	Attended the 20 <sup>th</sup> Natural Resource Forum in Prince George. This was the first Resource Forum since the Pandemic and was very well attended with over 1,200 delegates. This was an excellent opportunity to network with other elected officials, Provincial Ministers, and Industry Leaders.
January 19	I attended Part 1 of a 3-part series "Fostering Connections that Last: Conversations in Civic and Indigenous Relations" facilitated by University of Fraser Valley. This online panel focused on working "Towards Collaborative Governance & Shared Innovation."
January 24	Participated in presentation "BC Goods Movement Strategy" from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. This Zoom presentation was arranged by the Resource Municipalities Coalition. The Movement Strategy is working to develop a plan to move BC Goods, smarter, cleaner and more competitively.
January 25-26	Participated in Regional District of Fraser-Fort George monthly meetings in Prince George. I have been elected the Chairperson of the Regional Hospital District (RHD); Councillor Kyle Sampson from Prince George is the Acting Chair. The RHD shares in the capital funding (40%) for health facilities and medical equipment within the RDFFG boundaries operated by Northern Health & include University Hospital of Northern BC, Mackenzie and District Hospital, McBride Hospital and Valemount Health Centre.
January 26	Attended public presentation from BC Hydro on predicted levels of Williston Lake this spring.
January 30	Participated in public presentation and input session for the District of Mackenzie 2023 Budget.
January 31	Participated in interview with Carolina de Ryk from CBC Daybreak North on the current state of hospital diversions in the community and ongoing challenges with Paramedic shortages.

January 31	CAO Smith and I met with new Conservation Officer Hilary Desmarais. We discussed plans on bringing the community into compliance with a new bylaw regarding wildlife attractants in Mackenzie.
January 31	Met with Ministry of Forests District Manager Ryan Bichon regarding update on Timber Supply Review.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mayor Joan Atkinson