

COUNCIL MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Councillor Viktor Brumovsky

Date: October 5, 2024

Subject: Report for the Months of August and September 2024

Date:	Activity:
August 6	Attended the monthly Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce Director's meeting.
August 7	Attended the monthly Mackenzie Wildfire Advisory Committee meeting.
August 22	Attended the final Night of Music in the Park at the Community Bike Park.
September 3	Attended the monthly Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce Director's meeting.
September 9	Participated in a guided tour of Mackenzie's new Firehall. It's an impressively well-thought out facility that should serve the community's and the firefighters needs for decades to come.
September 11	Attended the in-person Mackenzie Wildfire Advisory Committee meeting in our new firehall.
September 16	Attended a panel discussion on the rising costs of climate change mitigation. The thrust of the talk was that it is wise to preserve or rehabilitate natural features (e.g. floodplains, mixed forests) that provide some disaster protection in perpetuity at no cost to taxpayers.
September 16	Meeting with the Minister of Health where we discussed recruitment of health care staff, challenges around building senior's housing in our community, and strategies for reducing neurodivergent assessment wait times.
September 17	Attended a press release given by Mayor Atkinson and Mayor Brien (Houston) regarding the state of the forest industry in BC and the north in particular with direct statements about changes that would improve the situation and create/protect jobs and communities.
September 17	Attended a panel discussion for local governments titled "Making the Money you Spend Matter". I had hoped this would be about strategies for getting more value for every tax dollar we spend. Instead it was focused on spending more money to build social initiatives into

	everything we do. Ultimately not very applicable to our local situation.
September 17	Meeting with the Minister of Education where we discussed recent challenges with SD57 budget cuts, communication, and engagement. We also discussed the construction and provision of daycare services that are getting underway in our community at the present time.
September 17	Meeting with the Minister of Forests. We discussed the need to keep the West Parsnip FSR open past 41km. We also discussed options to get more volume for the community forest to increase the benefits we see from that partnership as we see our industrial tax base decrease.
September 17	Meeting with the Minister of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation to discuss our need for funding to have a full-time Economic Development staffer employed in the district to help us build and diversify our economic base.
September 17	Meeting with the Associate Deputy Minister for Mental Health and Addictions. We discussed our continued efforts to open a Foundry facility to provide youth mental health supports, and next steps for our community
September 17	Attended the ‘Small Talk Forum” for communities with fewer than 5,000 people. Topics that were presented included small communities efforts and learnings from making tourism more easy and accessible, improvements to local outdoor recreation facilities, and building below market housing.
September 18	Meeting with BC Hydro staff to discuss bringing back their beautification program to help us bring overhead utilities underground in the downtown core to make it more attractive and less cluttered for residents and visitors alike. We also discussed the need for accessible restrooms at Alexander Mackenzie’s Landing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Councillor Brumovsky