

November 14, 2024

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Via email: joan@districtofmackenzie.ca

Their Worship Joan Atkinson and Members of Council District of Mackenzie 1 Mackenzie Blvd, Bag 340 Mackenzie BC V0J2C0

Dear Mayor Atkinson and Councillors:

Thank you to your delegation for meeting with ministry representatives during this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention in Vancouver.

As Acting Deputy Minister, I write to acknowledge the topic you raised about establishing a Foundry within the District of MacKenzie. As discussed, please find the contact information for Acasia Preston, Lead, Service Development at Foundry Central Office. Acasia can be reached at <u>apreston@foundrybc.ca</u>.

Thank you for providing the two reports (Mackenzie Youth Council and Mackenzie Leadership Survey) which were received on September 23, 2024.

I appreciate these important opportunities to exchange ideas and share information. Meetings like this help the Ministry better understand the challenges people and communities across BC face on a daily basis.

The Ministry is working hard across government to create an accessible, robust, and culturally safe system of mental health and addictions care that meets people where they're at. For your convenience and interest, I've attached a list of local and provincial mental health and substance use resources in your community. More information on all the programs and initiatives that the Ministry is working on to ensure all those living in BC have access to mental health and addictions care is available here: <u>Gov.bc.ca/BetterCare</u>

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us as part of the UBCM Convention process for 2024.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Dubé Acting Deputy Minister Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions

Attachment