

Regular Council Meeting

Minutes

June 23, 2025, 7:15 p.m.

Council Chambers of the Municipal Office

1 Mackenzie Boulevard, Mackenzie, BC

Council Present: Mayor J. Atkinson, Councillor A. Barnes, Councillor V. Brumovsky, Councillor P. Kylo, Councillor R. McMeeken, Councillor K. Tapper, Councillor J. Wright

Staff Present: Chief Administrative Officer D. Smith, Chief Financial Officer K. Borne, Director of Operations J. Murray, Fire Chief J. Guise, Director of Corporate Services E. Kaehn, Legislative Clerk/Executive Assistant, C. Smith

Visitors Present: Luke McDonald, L&M Engineering, Principal Engineer, Seanna McDonald, Enbridge

1. CALL TO ORDER

CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:15 PM.

Mayor Atkinson acknowledged the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Regular Meeting - June 9, 2025

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 9, 2025, were adopted as presented.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

N/A

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution: 33490

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

N/A

6. **PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

N/A

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Resolution: 33491

Moved by: Councillor Tapper

THAT the Correspondence listed on the Agenda be received.

CARRIED

7.1 **For Action:**

7.1.1 Request for Lifeguards Tse'Khene Culture Camp 2025

THAT the District of Mackenzie provide lifeguards for the Tse'Khene Culture Camp at Cut Thumb Bay on August 4th and 5th, 2025.

7.1.2 Request for Support - Mackenzie Autumn Lodge Society
Councillor Barnes left the room to avoid conflict.

Resolution: 33492

Moved by: Councillor Brumovsky

THAT the District of Mackenzie does not waive or reduce the Municipal Campground fees for their hired contractor, Tabor Electrical.

AND THAT the Mackenzie Autumn Lodge Society be allowed to remove the cupboards from their old location at the Ernie Bodin Community Centre, by July 30, 2025.

CARRIED

7.1.3 Resolution in Support of Temporary Workforce Accommodations for Enbridge's Sunrise Expansion Program

Resolution: 33493

Moved by: Councillor Brumovsky

THAT Council postpone their decision until after there has been more community engagement.

CARRIED

- 7.1.4 Request for Support - Williams Lake Elder Society
Councillor Barnes returned after Council voted on item 7.1.3
Councillor McMeeken left the room.

Resolution: 33494

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT the District of Mackenzie supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Willison Lake Elder Society for the Northern Healthy Communities Fund - Capital Stream for the Mackenzie Senior Housing project.

CARRIED

Councillor McMeeken returned after Council voted on 7.1.4

7.2 For Consideration:

- 7.2.1 Letter to Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health

- 7.2.2 Letter to Honourable Tamara Davidson, Minister of Environment and Parks

Resolution: 33495

Moved by: Councillor P. Kylo

THAT The District of Mackenzie send a letter to Jason Olmsted, Bridge Engineer with the Government of Canada, requesting a definitive and detailed list of all the rules and procedures to be followed regarding bridge maintenance on forestry roads.

AND THAT the Minister of Forests, District Manager, and MLA Kiel Giddens are CC'd

CARRIED

- 7.2.3 McLeod Lake Indian Band Annual General Assembly & Corporate Career Fair

Resolution: 33496

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT the District of Mackenzie choose a Bronze Class Sponsorship of \$1000 for the 2025 McLeod Lake Indian Band Annual General Assembly, August 6th - 9th 2025 and provide in-kind support if requested.

CARRIED

- 7.2.4 Letter to Resource Communities from Campbell River

- 7.2.5 Request for Support - Town of Oliver

- 7.2.6 Request for Support - District of Coldstream

- 7.2.7 2025 Union Of BC Municipalities Program at a Glance

7.2.8 World Invitational Class "A" Gold Panning Championships

7.2.9 Social Prescribing Event - MCS

7.3 Centre Table File

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

8.1 Economic Development Staffing – Grant Application Update

Resolution: 33497

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.2 Asphalt and Concrete Work RFP – Contract Award

Resolution: 33498

Moved by: Councillor Kylo

THAT the District make the millings available for contractors to purchase.

CARRIED

Resolution: 33499

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT Council awards the 2025 Asphalt and Concrete Works project to Road King Asphalt & Aggregate Inc. in an amount up to \$1,000,000 including GST; this budget includes engineering.

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the contract and any related documentation.

CARRIED

8.3 Local Government Climate Action Program - Reporting

Resolution: 33500

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council receives this report for information with amendments.

CARRIED

8.4 2024 Annual Report

Resolution: 33501

Moved by: Councillor Brumovsky

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.5 Housing Needs – “What We Heard Report”

Resolution: 33502

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.6 2025 UBCM Meeting Requests – Draft Topics

Resolution: 33503

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT the the following proposed changes to the 2025 UBCM Meeting Requests be made:

Topic #2 to Minister of Finance: Reclassifying cryptocurrency operations from business to industry class for BC Assessment and property tax purposes.

Topic #2 to Minister of Health: Further support for Foundry in rural communities, and extending an invitation to the Town of Smithers, Northern Rockies Regional Municipality, and Village of Daajing Giids to attend the meeting with Mayor and Council.

AND THAT the District of Mackenzie reach out to McLeod Lake Indian Band Chief and Council to extend the invitation to attend UBCM.

8.7 District of Mackenzie Water System Annual Report 2024

Resolution: 33504

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.8 Delegation of Minor Variances

Resolution: 33505

Moved by: Councillor Barnes

THAT Council directs staff to prepare amendments to the Development Procedures Bylaw and Delegation of Authority Bylaw to enable the Director of Corporate Services to issue minor development variance permits, based on the criteria and approach outlined in this report.

CARRIED

8.9 Food Cyler Program Survey Results

Resolution: 33506

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

8.10 Referral 7410367 – Windpower Investigative Licence – Follow-up

Elliot Wiechuła, of the Mackenzie Nordiques Cross-Country Ski Club, spoke to Mayor and Council on the proposed future development of a wind energy project and the implications the current plan would have on the existing ski trails the Nordiques use and maintain.

Resolution: 33507

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council choose option #3 The District of Mackenzie has no objection to approval of application subject to specified conditions and consulting with the Mackenzie Nordique Cross-Country Ski Club and that no potential future structures or construction area equipment be visible from Morfee Lake.

CARRIED

8.11 Land Purchase Policy 1.18 - Review

Resolution: 33508

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council decide whether to sell District-Owned Land adjacent to residential property.

Opposed (4): Mayor Atkinson, Councillor Barnes, Councillor Brumovsky, and Councillor Tapper

DEFEATED (3 to 4)

Resolution: 33509

Moved by: Councillor Tapper

THAT the decision on Land Purchase Policy 1.18 report, be postponed until a future meeting.

CARRIED

8.12 License-to-Use Policy 1.19 - Review

Resolution: 33510

Moved by: Councillor Wright

THAT Council directs staff to look into the best language for adding FireSmart assessments and work a requirement under these agreements.

CARRIED

Resolution: 3511

Moved by: Councillor P. Kylo

THAT Council postpone the decision on License-to-Use Policy 1.19 until a future meeting.

CARRIED

8.13 Building Bylaw Update – Energy Step Code

Resolution: 33512

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT Council receives this report for information.

CARRIED

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

9.1 Mayor's Report

9.2 Council Reports

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

N/A

11. NEW BUSINESS

N/A

12. BYLAWS

13. NOTICE OF MOTION

N/A

14. COMING EVENTS

14.1 National Indigenous Peoples Day

14.2 Official Community Plan Update Drop-in Open House

14.3 Canada Day Celebration at Mackenzie Recreation Centre

15. INQUIRIES

Janice Nelson, the Macktown Buzzette, asked for clarification on the last item voted on by Council. Ms. Nelson also asked for clarification on the Annual Water Report that only one sample was reported on for 2024 and if only one sample was reported on for the year.

Councillor Brumovsky provided clarity that Appendix B was for exceedances and that one sample could have been in exceedance of aesthetic objective, and the redline denotes maximum allowable concentrations. Public Works Director Jody Murray invited Ms. Nelson to submit her comments via email to be communicated to the engineer and provide Ms. Nelson with answers.

Ms. Nelson asked if the District would be basing changes to the Official Community Plan on what she described as statistically incomplete results from the survey rollout and how the District plans to get more community input. Mayor Atkinson responded that you can only report on the information you are provided with. And even though there were not a lot of responses, a lot of the concerns were similar, and provided clear messages from participants. Director of Corporate Services, Emily Kaehn, added that the consultants are not solely basing their recommendations for amendments on this public feedback. They are also conducting research from BC Statistics, Census, other communities, other planning documents, such as the Active Transportation Plan as well as the open house taking place on June 24, 2025, and another survey residents are invited to fill out. Ms. Nelson mentioned that feedback found in current report was reiterating what was found in a 2019 report, and that she did not see anything in the current Official Community Plan that prevents the District from acting on recommendations now, without a second round of consultations. Why is there a need for a second assessment. Ms. Kaehn explained that there has been provincial legislation released in support of housing needs and have asked communities to update to housing needs reports, and incorporate any changes in the Official Community Plan. There may not be much changes from the amendment. Councillor Wright added that this is funded by the Province of BC and that the District is not out of pocket for this.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: 33513

Moved by: Councillor McMeeken

THAT the meeting adjourn at 9:00 pm.

Mayor

Corporate Officer