

Due to the current global pandemic and current Public Health Orders and Ministerial Order 192, Public Participation at the May 11th, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council will be conducted online. Please follow the attached link to join the Regular Council Meeting May 11th, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Click here to join the meeting

For more information contact Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer for the Village of Hazelton at 250-842-5991 or via email at lgasser@hazelton.ca.



Corporation of the Village of Hazelton A G E N D A

Regular Meeting of Council

Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 6:30 pm

Council Chambers, "Riverboat Building" – 4265 Government Street

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

THAT the Agenda be approved.

- 3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES
 - 3.1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held April 13th, 2021

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on April 13, 2021 be adopted.

- 4. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS
 - 4.1. RCMP Update From Staff Sergeant Darren Durnin
- 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
- 6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
 - 6.1. Report to Council Re: Lighting the Hagwilget Bridge

For direction.

6.2. Report to Council Re: Ambulance Service

For direction.

7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

7.1. Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 518, 2021: ADUs

THAT Council give First and Second Reading to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 518, 2021.

7.2. RBC Master Client Agreement Update

THAT Kelsey be removed from the RBC Master Client Agreement.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1. Letter from Minister of Transportation Rob Fleming

THAT Council receive the letter for information.

8.2. Letter From FCM Re: Approval of Green Municipal Fund Grant

THAT Council receive the letter for information.

8.3. Letters from NDIT Re: Grant Reimbursement

THAT Council receive the letters for information.

8.4. Letter from RBA Re: Letters to the Province

THAT Council receive the letter for information.

9. LATE ITEMS

10. COUNCIL REPORTS

11. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

12. CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

Council exercises its authority to close this meeting to the Public to consider matters relative to section 90 (1) (e) of the *Community Charter*.

THAT the meeting be closed to the Public to consider matters relative to sections 90 (1) (e) of the Community Charter.

13. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at TIME.

Corporation of the Village of Hazelton

Regular Council Minutes

April 13, 2021

Council Chambers, "Riverboat Building" - 4265 Government Street

Councillors: Mayor Dennis Sterritt

Councillor Jody Tetreau (Via Teleconference)

Councillor Julie Maitland
Councillor Wendy Blackstock

Councillor Charles (Buddy) Smith (Via Teleconference)

Staff: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer

Brian Doddridge, Deputy Corporate Officer (Via Teleconference)

No members of the public were present.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sterritt called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 6:30 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT the Agenda be approved with the addition of a verbal update from the CAO Re: Wiggins Way Waterline Project as a late item.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held March 9, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Smith SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on March 9, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Report from DCO Re: Draft Zoning Amendment Bylaw to Allow Accessory Dwelling Units

Council discussed the details of the proposed bylaw amendment. MOVED by Councillor Smith SECONDED by Councillor Tetreau

That Council directs Administration to bring forward a bylaw for first reading at the regular meeting of Council in May with an adjustment to maximum floor area.

CARRIED

6.2 Draft Letter of Support to RDKS Re: UBCM Development Approvals Program

MOVED by Councillor Smith SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT Council endorse the letter.

CARRIED

6.3 Draft Letter of Support to RDKS Re: UBCM Strengthening Communities' Services Program

MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT Council endorse the letter.

CARRIED

6.4 Report From CAO Re: Upper Skeena Housing Needs Report 2020

Council agreed to receive the Housing Needs Report as an obligation rather than as an endorsement.

MOVED by Councillor Maitland SECONDED by Councillor Smith

That Council receive the Housing Needs Report 2020 Upper Skeena Region.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

7.1 5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw no. 516, 2021 for Adoption

MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT 5 Year Financial Plan Bylaw no. 516, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED

7.2 Tax Rate Bylaw No. 517, 2021

The Village's tax rate has decreased from last year, while the Regional District's rate has increased, and the Hospital rate has remained the same.

MOVED by Councillor Smith

SECONDED by Councillor Tetreau

THAT Council give first, second and third reading to Tax Rate Bylaw No. 517, 2021.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Maitland SECONDED by Councillor Blackstock

WHEREAS Ministerial Order M192 Section 12(a)(iv) permits Council to adopt an annual property tax bylaw the same day as it has received third reading;

Therefore be it resolved:

THAT Council adopt Tax Rate Bylaw No. 517, 2021.

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Letter from UBCM Re: Gaming Grant Resolution

UBCM will bring forward the resolution to the BC Government. MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Smith

THAT Council receive the letter for information.

CARRIED

8.2 Letter From BC Association of Farmers Markets Re: Coupon Program

Council agreed that a letter of appreciation should be sent due to the positive effect for the Farmers' Market.

MOVED by Councillor Maitland

SECONDED by Councillor Tetreau

THAT Council direct Administration to write a letter of thanks to the Honourable Adrian Dix, BC Minister of Health for his support of the program.

CARRIED

8.3 Letter from SPARC Re: 2020 Housing Needs Report

Council again expressed their dissatisfaction with the SPARC report.

8.4 Email from RDKS CAO Ron Poole Re: Cultural Training

The CAO encouraged Council to attend the event.

8.5 Letter from Prince George Mayor Lyn Hall to BCUC Re: Street Lighting Rate Increase

The CAO provided background, stating that costs for the Village to update streetlights will be low.

8.6 Letter from Prince George Mayor Lyn Hall to Minister of Health Re: 988 Crisis Line

Councillor Tetreau noted the rise in suicide ideation among youth and expressed her support for the crisis line.

MOVED by Councillor Tetreau

SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT Council direct Administration to write a letter to federal Minister of Health Patty Hajdu in support of the 988 Crisis Line.

CARRIED

9. DECISIONS RELEASED FROM IN-CAMERA

9.1 Village Acting as Flow-Through for Agricultural Grant Funding

It was duly MOVED and SECONDED and subsequently ADOPTED,

THAT Council release on the April 13th Regular Meeting of Council that the Village has entered into an agreement with the Province to be a flow-through for Agricultural Grant funding for the Upper Skeena Development Centre.

10. LATE ITEMS

10.1 Verbal Update from the CAO Re: Wiggins Way Water Line

The CAO gave an update on the status of the Wiggins Way water line gate installation. An unexpected break in the line has affected other utility users and temporarily interrupted access to the water in the reservoir. The break is being repaired.

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1 Verbal Report from Councillor Maitland Re: Property Purchase

Councillor Maitland suggested approaching the owners of 2720 Hwy. 62 to consider purchasing the lot. Councillor Smith raised a point about tax base reduction.

MOVED by Councillor Maitland SECONDED by Councillor Tetreau

THAT Council Direct Administration to write a letter of inquiry to the owners of 2720 Hwy. 62 regarding the property.

CARRIED

12. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

13. CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT the meeting be closed to the Public to consider matters relative to sections 90 (1) (c) of the Community Charter.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution Number:

MOVED by Councillor Blackstock SECONDED by Councillor Maitland

THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Lina Gasser	Dennis Sterritt
Chief Administrative Officer	Mayor

Village of Hazelton COUNCIL REPORT

Date: May 11th, 2021 File: **0330-01**

From: Brian Doddridge, Deputy Corporate Officer

SUBJECT: Hagwilget Bridge Christmas Light Display

RECOMMENDATION:

For direction.

REASON FOR REPORT:

To provide Council with background on the process required to light the Hagwilget Bridge.

DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS:

Last Spring Council provided direction to Administration to research the feasibility of placing Christmas lights on Hagwilget Bridge. Due to staff turnover and the global pandemic this project was put on hold. Staff time was allocated in the fall and feasibility was researched. During this time local residents also lobbied the Village to place lights on the bridge. The process to achieve this requires the following:

- 1. Provide an application to The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) for permits. This application is required to contain detailed information on the project's specifications, such as which lights/fasteners will be used, what equipment will be used, project dates, and maps of the project.
- 2. Establish an agreement for the cost of electricity. The Lighting of the Bridge must be on a metered connection. Based on preliminary conversations, MOTI has not expressed interest in providing financial support for the project.
- 3. Fundraise project costs and purchase lights.
- 4. Hire a contractor to update the electrical to a metered tie-in and install the lights.

There is no certainty that MOTI will approve an application for a permit.

There are other factors to consider. MOTI will not allow the project to be done by a local contractor and requires Westcana to perform the electrical and installation work. Since the project is not in the Village of Hazelton's jurisdiction, the Village's responsibility to provide the significant time and resources it will require to manage the project is up for discussion.

Requirements have changed significantly since lights were placed on the bridge 30 years ago.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The most significant financial implications for this project are the electrical and installation work, the cost of the lights, and the staff time required to manage the project. Additionally, the cost of electricity is a substantial and long-term consideration.

A rough cost estimate is as follows:

Trenching/backfilling a conduit from service line: \$4,500

Supplying new services and wiring: \$22,000

Cost of lights and fasteners: \$8,000

Installing the lights: \$12,000 Application Fees to MOTI: \$3,000

Total: \$49,500

The cost of electricity and maintaining the lights will be an ongoing cost.

CONCLUSION:

Administration is looking for direction from Council on how they wish to proceed on this matter. Moving forward with the application to MOTI will require decisions to be made regarding the scope of the project and the extent of the Village of Hazelton's involvement.

Administration sees three options for this project. They are:

THAT the Village of Hazelton contribute 100% of financial and staff resources required for the project;

OR THAT the Village of Hazelton takes the lead on the project by seeking involvement from residents and neighbouring communities, and by contributing resources and staff time to the project as needed;

OR THAT Council resolve not to manage the project.

Village of Hazelton COUNCIL REPORT

Date: May 11 2021 File: **0400-20**

From: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Ambulance Service in the Hazeltons

RECOMMENDATION:

For direction.

REASON FOR REPORT:

To provide Council an overview to proposed changes to the Ambulance Service in the Hazeltons.

DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS:

On April 30, 2021 it was brought to administrations attention that the BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) was planning changes to emergency health delivery in the Hazeltons. After speaking to numerous people in various capacity Administration has found the following information.

- BCEHS is conducting a review of service across the province including the Hazeltons.
- Findings from this review will be announced in June or July.
- BCEHS regional or local representatives are available at that time to provide an update to Council.

It appears that there has been some misinformation on social media surrounding this review. However, the discussions have highlighted the critical need of the Ambulance Service in our area.

Administration does not have a recommendation at this time. Council may choose to write a letter to the Minister of Health regarding the need for the ambulance service as is or may choose to wait for the results of the review.

CONCLUSION:

Administration does not have a recommendation at this time. Administration will continue to stay up to date on this issue as it develops and provide Council with information as it becomes available.

Lina Gasser,

Chief Administrative Officer

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF HAZELTON

BYLAW NO. 518, 2021

A Bylaw to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 478, 2015

WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Hazelton has adopted Zoning Bylaw No. 478, 2015;

AND WHEREAS the Council deems it necessary to amend Bylaw No. 478, 2015 to include Accessory Dwelling Units;

NOW THEREFORE the Council, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. THAT Section **1.0 Definitions** be amended by adding the following:

Accessory Dwelling Unit means a detached structure that contains one dwelling unit as its primary purpose and which is incidental and ancillary to the principal building, structure or use on the lot and is located on the same lot or site as the principal building or structure. Accessory Dwelling units are subject to Section 3.17;

Short Term Rental Unit means any dwelling unit intended to be rented for periods of less than 30 days. These include rentals listed on online platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO.

2. THAT Section **3.0 General Provisions** be amended by adding the following, to immediately follow subsection 3.16:

3.17 Accessory Dwelling Units

Accessory Dwelling Units, where permitted, shall comply with the following:

- (a) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not be strata titled;
- (b) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall have a maximum gross floor area of 90 m2 (968.8 ft2);
- (c) An accessory Dwelling Unit shall not be used as a short-term rental unit;
- (d) No lot shall have more than one Accessory Dwelling Unit;
- (e) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be sited on a permanent foundation;
- (f) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not include a secondary suite;
- (g) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be sited within a required rear yard;
- (h) An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall satisfy the requirements of Building Bylaw no. 501, 2019 and all other associated bylaws, regulations, and codes;
- (i) Primary access for an Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be constructed no farther than 30 m
 (98 ft) from an operational public street or laneway and must have a path to that street or laneway that is lighted and clear of obstructions;
- (j) Operational Accessory Dwelling Units shall be connected to municipal water and sewer systems.
- 3. THAT Section **5.1.1 Residential (R) Zone Permitted Uses** be amended by adding the following:
 - g) Accessory Dwelling Units
- 4. THAT Section **5.1.2 Maximum Building Height** be amended by adding the following:
 - c) Accessory Dwelling Units 5.8 metres (19.0 feet)
- 5. THAT Section **5.2.1 Rural Residential (RR) Zone Permitted Uses** be amended by adding the following:
 - g) Accessory Dwelling Units

 THAT Section 5.2.2 Maximum Building Height be at c) Accessory Dwelling Units 5.8 metres (19.0 fee 	,
7. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "No Dwelling Unit Regulation) Bylaw No. 518, 2021".	Village of Hazelton Zoning Amendment (Accessory
READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF, 202	1.
PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON THE DAY OF, 2	2021.
READ A SECOND TIME THIS DAY OF, 2021	
READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF, 2021.	
ADOPTED THISDAY OF, 2021.	
MAYOR	CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



May 4, 2021

His Worship Mayor Dennis Sterritt Village of Hazelton PO Box 40 4310 Field Street Hazelton BC VOJ 1Y0 Reference: 301754 Your File: 0400-20

Dear Mayor Sterritt:

Re: Hazeltons Road Maintenance

Thank you for your letter regarding road maintenance in the Hazeltons area.

I recognize that potholes on the approaches to the Hagwilget Bridge last summer, and the resulting closures during repairs, posed a concern for the Village and for local residents. Ministry staff have followed up with our local maintenance contractor regarding the time it took to address the road surface conditions and our expectation that potholes be amended more quickly, in line with contract specifications, going forward. The ministry understands the critical importance of access to and from rural communities and we have invested more than \$8 million over the past 10 years to keep the Hagwilget bridge safe and reliable. Our work in fall 2020 included drainage improvements alongside the repaving of the approaches, as mentioned in your letter. Local ministry staff and maintenance contractors will continue to monitor this crossing and its approaches to ensure they remain in safe, drivable condition.

Regarding the recent damage to the Kispiox Bridge, our crews and engineers worked around the clock following the incident to reopen the structure as quickly as possible to passenger vehicle traffic. At the same time, our maintenance contractors began ploughing the Mitten Main Forest Service Road from both directions to provide an alternate, emergency detour route to the Kispiox Valley, in line with our agreement with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), which holds jurisdiction over this road.

When a rock fall was encountered on the Mitten Main during this work, my ministry began arrangements for a geotechnical professional to assess and supervise safe removal of the rock. Repairs to the Kispiox Bridge were completed on February 23 however, allowing traffic to resume before geotechnical work could begin.

I am advised that staff with FLNRORD will be working to clear the rockfall on the Mitten Main in the upcoming spring/summer season. I have asked my local staff to remain engaged with them to ensure the route can continue to be reliably used as an alternate during any future unexpected events.

.../2

I recognize you would like to see Kitwanga Back Road reopened to serve as an alternate route to the Mitten Main. However, the large-scale slide along the route would present significant logistical and environmental challenges to ensure traveller safety. With an estimated volume of more than 35,000 cubic metres of soil - enough to fill approximately 14 Olympic-sized swimming pools - this slide could cost upwards of \$20 million to fix. As such, the ministry remains committed to ensuring that the Mitten Main can continue to meet the needs of area communities during emergencies.

The ministry is meanwhile working towards a long-term solution to address conditions at the China Cut slide area on the Kispiox Valley Road. Over the past two decades, the ministry has closely monitored the China Cut slide area and worked hard to enhance safety along the route. While movement at the site has historically been very slow, the above average rainfall experienced this past summer resulted in increased groundwater saturation. We completed extensive maintenance work in late summer to address this concern, including clearing ditches, improving drainage and reshaping embankments below the road to slow the rate of road degradation. In order to safely maintain two lanes of traffic, we also installed drainage works this fall and infilled the ditch to route motorists away from the slide area.

To ensure continued safety along the route, we have a plan in place to reduce the route to single-lane alternating traffic with 24-hour traffic control should our monitoring indicate concerns with the road surface. Local ministry staff have been working closely with staff at Emergency Management BC to ensure they are kept informed of the evolving situation around the China Cut slide area.

As you know, the ministry has meanwhile completed a study looking more closely at options for the affected section of Kispiox Valley Road. I understand ministry staff met with you and Chief Administrative Officer Lina Gasser this past January to discuss these options in more detail, with continued investigation planned for this year, including geotechnical evaluations and review of alignment options.

You can be sure that local ministry staff and Dawson Roads Maintenance will continue to carry out enhanced monitoring of China Cut to quickly address any concerns that may arise. We also remain committed to continuing to work with First Nations and other local community members as we look at potential long-term solutions for the site.

Your letter also proposed the possibility of a second crossing of the Bulkley River. While ministry staff have started engineering work on a future replacement of the Kispiox River Bridge, we have no plans for another Bulkley River Crossing at this time.

Please do not hesitate to contact Rena Gibson, the ministry's District Manager, should you have any questions regarding these matters. She can be reached at 250 847-7403 or Rena.Gibson@gov.bc.ca and would be pleased to assist you.

.../3

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Rob Fleming Minister

Copy to: Honourable Nathan Cullen

Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations

MLA, Stikine

Darrell Gunn, Executive Director

Northern Region

Rena Gibson, District Manager

Bulkley-Stikine District



President Président

April 22, 2021

Garth Frizzell Councillor City of Prince George, BC

First Vice-President Première vice-présidente

Joanne Vanderheyden Mayor Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, ON

Second Vice-President Deuxième vice-président

> Darren Hill Councillor City of Saskatoon, SK

Third Vice-President Troisième vice-président

> Scott Pearce Maire Municipalité de Canton de Gore, QC

> > Past President Président sortant

Bill Karsten Councillor Halifax Regional Municipality, NS

Chief Executive Officer Cheffe de la direction

> Carole Saab Ottawa, ON

His Worship Mayor Dennis Sterrit and Members of Council Corporation of the Village of Hazelton Box 40, 4310 Field Street Hazelton, British Columbia VOJ 1Y0

Project Title: A new net-zero fire hall and public works shared services

building in Hazelton

Application Number: GMF 17604

Dear Mayor Dennis Sterrit and Members of Council:

On behalf of the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council and FCM's Executive Committee, I would like to congratulate the Corporation of the Village of Hazelton on its successful funding application for the above-noted initiative.

It is my pleasure to confirm that the Corporation of the Village of Hazelton has been approved for a grant in the amount of up to \$42,900.

In the near future, Christian Karanga will contact the Corporation of the Village of Hazelton to finalize the agreement for this funding. FCM's obligation to fund the above-noted initiative will only become binding once the agreement is signed.

FCM, in partnership with the Government of Canada, oversees public announcements regarding GMF-funded initiatives. In the coming weeks, our media relations team will contact the Corporation of the Village of Hazelton to discuss the process for a public announcement. Until that time, before making any public statements related to the status of the application process for GMF funding (with the exception of reporting to Council), please contact the FCM media team at 613-907-6395 or by email at media@fcm.ca.

.../2

24, rue Clarence Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5P3

> T. 613-241-5221 F. 613-241-7440

> > www.fcm.ca



Thank you for your interest in GMF. We look forward to working with you to improve the quality of life in your community, and to sharing the results of your initiative with communities across Canada.

Sincerely,

Ben Henderson

Chair, Green Municipal Fund Council

Byen D While

BH/CK:ck

cc: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer, Corporation of the Village of Hazelton



Village of Hazelton RECEIVED

APR 13 2021

File:

301 - 1268 Fifth Avenue Prince George, BC V2L 3L2 Tel: 250-561-2525

Fax: 250-561-2563

info@northerndevelopment.bc.ca www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca

CONFIDENTIAL

March 31, 2021

Village of Hazelton PO Box 40 Hazelton, BC VOJ 1YO

Attention:

Mayor Dennis Sterritt

Subject:

2020 Business Façade Improvement Program
Northern Development Project Number 6075 50

We are pleased to enclose our cheque in the amount of \$9,378.22 which represents Northern Development's 2020 business façade improvement funding for the Village of Hazelton.

Thank you for participating in the Business Façade Improvement program and please don't hesitate to contact us should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Joel McKay

Chief Executive Officer

c: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Hazelton



Village of Hazelton RECEIVED

APR 13 7021

File:

301 - 1268 Fifth Avenue Prince George, BC V2L 3L2 Tel: 250-561-2525

Fax: 250-561-2563

info@northerndevelopment.bc.ca www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca

CONFIDENTIAL

March 31, 2021

Village of Hazelton PO Box 40 Hazelton, BC VOJ 1YO

Attention:

Mayor Dennis Sterritt

Subject:

Economic Development Capacity Building - 2020

Northern Development Project Number 6776 20

We have received the Village of Hazelton's reporting for funding under the 2020 Economic Development Capacity Building program.

Enclosed is our cheque in the amount of \$34,606.68 which represents the grant towards eligible 2020 expenses.

Please don't hesitate to contact us should you require additional information. Northern Development Initiative Trust is pleased to be able to support your community in its efforts to develop the local and regional economy through increased economic development capacity.

Sincerely,

Joel McKay

Chief Executive Officer

c: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Hazelton



Village of Hazelton RECEIVED

APR 137171

File:

301 - 1268 Fifth Avenue Prince George, BC V2L 3L2 Tel: 250-561-2525

Fax: 250-561-2563

info@northerndevelopment.bc.ca www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca

March 31, 2021

Village of Hazelton PO Box 40 Hazelton, BC VOJ 1YO

CONFIDENTIAL

Attention:

Mayor Dennis Sterritt

Subject:

2020 Grant Writing Support Program

Northern Development Project Number 6750 20

We are pleased to enclose our cheque in the amount of \$8,000.00 which represents Northern Development's 2020 grant writer funding for the Village of Hazelton.

Thank you for participating in the Grant Writing Support program and please don't hesitate to contact us should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Joel McKay

Chief Executive Officer

c: Lina Gasser, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Hazelton



Our file no. 2280 03 06 01

TO: North West BC Resource Benefits Alliance Mayor's and Chairs

FROM: The Resource Benefits Alliance Steering Committee

DATE: April 29, 2021

RE: Letter to the Provincial Government

On April 28, 2021, the RBA Steering Committee met to discuss the concern around the lack of progress with the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance initiative. In particular, the lack of communication coming from the Province. This follows the Steering Committee's virtual meeting at the September 2020 UBCM Convention with the Premier and then cabinet Minister's Selena Robinson, Municipal Affairs and Carol James, Finance, in which the commitment was made by the Premier to "have an agreement in place within the next 6-12 months".

With no progress since this September 16, 2020, meeting, the Steering Committee subsequently met on February 3, 2021, and directed staff to request a meeting with the Premier, Minister Osborne, Municipal Affairs and Minister Robinson, Finance. As of April 28, 2021, we have still not been contacted with a confirmed date for a meeting.

Additionally, staff have requested meetings with Ministry staff since the September 2020 UBCM meeting, and the staff meetings have been scheduled multiple times but cancelled for as many reasons (COVID, provincial election, provincial budget, etc). A meeting is finally scheduled for May 20, 2021, which we hope is not cancelled again. However, with no progress for 7 months, there is a huge concern that our file is being pushed off and not given the due consideration it deserves.

The Steering Committee met again on April 28th and directed staff to write this letter to all Mayor's and Chairs in the Resource Benefits Alliance to seek your strong support in the form of a letter to our provincial government representatives in helping us keep this agreement on track and to encourage the Premier to commit to a meeting with the RBA Steering Committee.

It was decided that a template letter would not be the best method, but instead we would provide bullets in this letter that hopefully assist your CAO or a senior staff member to compile a proper letter that reflects the importance of this initiative to your community or region. Ron Poole, RDKS CAO & RBA Project Manager, will be contacting the CAO Advisory Committee this Friday, to provide some context around these letters. It is hoped that the letters would be sent out early next week. Originals can be sent in the mail with direct emails with the letters attached sent as soon as possible. Please copy your MLA on the letter as well.



Following are some suggested bullet notes when composing your municipality or regional district letter;

- At the 2020 UBCM Convention, the Premier said how can we get to an agreement in the next 6 to 12 months. We are now 7 months into that timeline and there has been no progress.
- Despite our request, we have not been able to meet with the Premier and key ministers to discuss the RBA's request since September 2020
- The importance of an RBA financial agreement to your community
- The impacts your community/RD is seeing because of a lack of revenue
- Other issues due to increased industrial development (ie social issues, industrial traffic on local roads, housing impacts, etc.)

We look forward to your continued support as this initiative helps in building all our communities. Should you have any questions, please contact Ron at 250-615-3694 (cell).

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Lee Brain RBA Co-Chair

North Coast Regional District

Shane Brienen RBA Co-Chair

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Sean Bujtas RBA Co-Chair

Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine