



ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING A G E N D A

Monday, May 27, 2019
in the Regional District Office Boardroom, 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC
Commencing at 10 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Director Goodings to Chair meeting
2. DIRECTOR'S NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS:
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:
M-1 Electoral Area Directors' Committee Minutes of April 18, 2019 (Page 2)
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
6. DELEGATIONS
7. CORRESPONDENCE:
8. REPORTS:
R-1 May 7, 2019 - Development Services Department - Agriculture Land Commission Application Trial Year - Summary of Decisions (Page 5)
9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
DI-1 Prespatou Volunteer Ambulance and Fire Department
DI-2 Wonowon Lighting, Pavement and Possible Sidewalks (through taxation)
DI-3 Greenhouse Growers See Rebound in Acreage - Country Life in BC Article (Page 9)
DI-4 ALC Tour
DI-5 GIA Criteria (Page 10)
DI-6 Groundwater License Requirements for Non-domestic Use (referred by the Regional Board) (Page 19)
10. NEW BUSINESS:
11. COMMUNICATIONS
12. DIARY: (Page 24)
13. ADJOURNMENT:



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, April 18, 2019

PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Directors
 Director Goodings, Meeting Chair
 Director Sperling
 Director Hiebert
 Director Rose

Staff
 Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer
 Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager
 Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer
 Fran Haughian, Communications Manager
 Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community Services
 Deborah Jones-Middleton, Protective Services Manager
 Lyle Smith, Chief Financial Officer
 Naomi Donat, Recording Secretary

Call to Order The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS:

Director Rose Farmington Community Working Group

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

April 18/19 Agenda MOVED by Director Hiebert, SECONDED by Director Rose,
 That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee agenda for the April 18, 2019 meeting,
 including Director's new business, be adopted as amended:

1. CALL TO ORDER - Director Goodings to Chair the Meeting
2. DIRECTORS NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS:
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:
 M-1 Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2019
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
6. DELEGATIONS:
 D-1 (10:30) Jeremy Siggs – Commercial Hemp Decortication and Processing Facility
 D-2 (11:00) Chelsea Mottishaw, Watershed Coordinator, City of Dawson Creek –
 Watershed Stewardship Program
7. CORRESPONDENCE:
8. REPORTS:
 R-1 April 5, 2019 – Report from Deborah Jones-Middleton, Protective Services
 Manager – Peace River Regional District Flood Risk Assessment Report

ADOPTION OF AGENDA (CONTINUED):

April 18/19 Agenda
(continued)

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - DI-1 Agricultural Land Commission: Bill 52 and Bill 15
 - D-2 Farmers' Advocacy Office
 - D-33 PRRD Swag
10. NEW BUSINESS:
 - NB-1 Farmington Community Working Group
11. COMMUNICATIONS:
12. DIARY:
 - DA-1 Diary Items
13. ADJOURNMENT:

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M-1
March 21/19 EADC
Minutes

MOVED by Director Hiebert, SECONDED by Director Rose,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2019 be
adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

BA-1
235 Road Concerns

Director Hiebert has a meeting with the residents next week.

BA-2
Invitation to Telus

MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That staff contact Telus to determine who the best contact is to discuss
improvements to rural services.

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

D-1
Jeremy Siggs

Mr. Siggs discussed SIREWALL (Structural Insulated Rammed Earth) construction and
explained his desire to build a local hemp processing facility. Mr. Siggs was given
contact information for Rick Kantz and Critcher Farms to put him in touch with the BC
Grain Producers Association.

D-2
Chelsea Mottishaw
and Kayla Boyd

Ms. Mottishaw and Ms. Boyd gave a presentation on the 2018/2019 Watershed
Stewardship Program for the City of Dawson Creek.

REPORTS:

R-1
April 5, 2019-Peace
River Regional District
Flood Risk Assessment
Report

MOVED by Director Rose, SECONDED by Director Sperling,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee receive the report titled 'Peace River
Regional District Flood Risk Assessment Report' dated April 5, 2019 for discussion.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

DI-1
Agricultural Land
Commission

MOVED by Director Rose, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That local agricultural producer groups be contacted and asked for their comments
and concerns regarding Bill 52 and proposed Bill 15.

CARRIED.

DI-2
Farmers' Advocacy
Office

The working group has met and new Terms of Reference are being developed.

DI-3
PRRD Swag

Directors are concerned about the perceived quality of the items and the amount of
packaging with some of the items. Staff make efforts to provide items that are
identified as desirable by each department and continue to work with suppliers to
get the most environmentally friendly items.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB-1
Farmington

MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Hiebert
That an email be sent to Corey Jonsson of the OGC, copying Dave Nikolejsin and Paul
Jeakins, thanking her for the invitation to the meeting on April 29th; indicating that all
four regional directors would like to attend the meeting; and that the concerns in the
Farmington area have not been addressed completely.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

Fran Haughian will continue to source quality promotional items. She will also work
with other staff to create a procedure to obtain feedback from producer groups on
Bills 15 and 52.

DIARY:

DIA-1

No changes were made to the Diary.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Karen Goodings, Chair

Naomi Donat, Recording Secretary



REPORT

To: Electoral Area Directors

Date: May 7, 2019

From: Development Services Department

Subject: Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) Applications Trial Year – Summary of Decisions

RECOMMENDATION:

That the May 7, 2019 report titled "Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) Applications Trial Year – Summary of Decisions" be received for discussion.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

On February 21, 2019 the Electoral Area Directors' Committee gave the following direction:

"Staff will develop a report on ALC subdivision applications, to be reviewed by the Directors at the end of the one year trial period, which includes how many times the application was denied by the ALC even though the application met zoning and/or OCP designation."

Summary:

During the trial year beginning on May 3, 2018 and concluding on April 25, 2019, the ALC did not refuse any subdivision applications that were consistent with both the OCP and Zoning regulations.

Also during the trial year, the ALC did not approve any subdivision applications that were inconsistent with the PRRD's OCP's; however, they did approve two applications that met an exception to the PRRD's OCP's. One was for a home-site severance within the PRRD Rural OCP Bylaw No. 1940, 2011, and the other was a property divided by a railway within the South Peace Fringe Area OCP Bylaw No. 2048, 2012.

Comments and Observations:

In general, the ALC appears to approve subdivision applications that are consistent with the PRRD OCP and Zoning regulations but not necessarily those applications that met the stated exceptions to the OCP and Zoning regulations.

A couple of examples of stated exceptions that can be found in all PRRD OCP and Zoning Bylaws are:

- where the parcel is divided by a railway, highway right-of-way or watercourse the minimum parcel size does not apply;
- subdivisions for the purpose of providing a residence for the landowner or a relative of the landowner.

There are times when the ALC has refused some of these applications with the commentary that the railway, highway right-of-way or watercourse was not a sufficient barrier to impact agriculture activities.

There are times when the ALC has refused some of these applications with the commentary: The *Local Government Act* (LGA) is subordinate to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (ALCA) and as such, s. 514 in no way compels the Commission to approve a subdivision involving ALR land.

During the trial year, the PRRD received a total of 51 ALR applications. The results of whether or not the PRRD Board deferred, refused or authorized the application to proceed to the ALC is noted below, along with a summary of the ALC's decision results:

38 ALR Subdivision Applications:

Regional Board results:

- 2 deferred
- 1 refused
- 35 authorized to forward to the ALC

Agricultural Land Commission results:

- 14 No decision as of the date of this report
- 13 refused
- 8 approved

Of the 35 applications authorized to forward to the ALC:

- 6 were consistent with both the OCP and zoning regulations, (Highlighted in yellow on the attachment).
- 11 were inconsistent with both the OCP and zoning regulations, (Highlighted in red on the attachment).
- 13 applications met an exception to the OCP.

11 ALR Non-Farm Use Applications:

Regional Board results:

- 2 refused
- 9 authorized to forward to the ALC

Agricultural Land Commission results:

- No decisions as of the date of this report

2 Exclusion Applications:

Regional Board results:

- 2 authorized to forward to the ALC

Agricultural Land Commission results:

- No decisions as of the date of this report

Attachments:

1. Table of ALR applications and Results

- Note: Subdivision applications that were consistent with both the OCP and Zoning are highlighted in yellow.
- Note: Subdivision application that were inconsistent with both the OCP and Zoning regulations are highlighted in red.

ALR Subdivision Applications April 2018 to April 2019 (Trial year)					
File No.	Name	Zoning	OCP	RB decision	ALC decision
ALR Sub 17-241	Nicholson	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 17-265	Brenton	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Consistent (exception)	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 17-275	Jones	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 17-276	Sweetwater Enterprises	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Deferred	N/A
ALR Sub 18-003	4Sam Ventures	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag/LDR Consistent (exception)	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-070	Bondaroff	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-010	Loewen	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-011	Pekrul	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-013	Litwin/Granville	A-1 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-101	Aitchison	A-2 Inconsistent	MDR Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-112	Friesen	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-113	Friesen	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-129	Isaak	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag-rural Consistent (exception)	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-151	Meek	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-152	Gerber	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-195	Loewen	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-119	Kearns	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-223	Reid	A-2/P Consistent	Ag/Civic Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-228	Moore	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-251	Woloschuk	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Refused	N/A
ALR Sub 18-250	Fortier	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	Refused
ALR Sub 18-253	Kilgour	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-138	Eason	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	Approved	Approved
ALR Sub 18-150	Hargreaves	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 18-264	Kersey	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 18-300	McNary	R-6 Inconsistent	RC Consistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-007	Skaft	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-002	Roberts/Shallow	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-027	Stadler	R-5 Inconsistent	MDR Consistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 18-333	Crantz	R-6 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 18-332	Bassett	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-009	Morton	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag-rural Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-033	Bernardin	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-013	Kilgour	A-2 Consistent	Ag-rural Consistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-030	Westgate	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-015	Barrett	A-2 Consistent (exception)	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision
ALR Sub 19-025	Cleve	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Deferred	N/A
ALR Sub 19-035	Morrone	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent (exception)	Approved	No decision

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ALR Non-farm Use Applications April 2018 to April 2019 (Trial Year)						
File No.	Name	Zoning	OCP	Proposed Use	RB decision	ALC decision
ALR NFU 17-169	Fellers	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	Removal of Soil	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-016	Toews	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Worker Camp	Refused	N/A
ALR NFU 18-176	Wilson	A-2 Consistent	Ag-rural Consistent	Telecommunications Tower	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-194	Pickell	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Storage Facility, culvert manufacturing	Refused	N/A
ALR NFU 18-230	Landsmann/Dyck	A-2 Consistent	Ag Consistent	To add 10,000m ³ of aggregate	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-188	Walter	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Three existing homes	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-306	Hartnell	A-2 Consistent	Ag-rural Consistent	Water reservoir and pump house	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-308	Bowden	A-2 Consistent	Ag-rural Consistent	Water reservoir	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 18-328	Toews	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag-rural Inconsistent	Worker Camp	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 19-010	Marsten	R-3 Inconsistent	LSI (Serviced) Consistent	Accessory building larger than permitted	Approved	No decision
ALR NFU 19-045	Dawson Coop	M-3 Inconsistent	Ag Consistent	fuel cardlock station	Approved	No decision

ALR Exclusion Applications April 2018 to April 2019 (Trial Year)					
File No.	Name	Zoning	OCP	RB decision	ALC decision
ALR Ex 18-021	Hollow Point Contracting	R-6 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision
ALR EX 19-018	Pickell	A-2 Inconsistent	Ag Inconsistent	Approved	No decision

May 27, 2019

Greenhouse growers see rebound in acreage

Potential shortfalls in natural gas capacity an increasing concern for sector

by PETER MITHAM

SURREY – When an Enbridge pipeline that serves as a key source of natural gas to the Lower Mainland exploded near Prince George on October 9, greenhouse growers faced their worst energy crisis in more than a decade.

Natural gas prices were expected to hit \$95 per gigajoule last fall, several times the peak of \$13.50 per GJ seen in 2001. Many growers began rethinking how much crop they would be willing to grow in 2019 if the pipeline wasn't fixed. Some considered scaling back acreage, cutting production to pare input costs.

"We came through okay this winter only because of the incredibly mild winter we had up until February," Armand Vander Meulen of Vander Meulen Greenhouses in Abbotsford and president of the BC Greenhouse Growers Association told association members at their annual general meeting in Surrey on April 17.

But the situation could change at any time. Another pipeline explosion, or a reduction in capacity if another user claims volume, leaves the industry vulnerable to higher prices and disruption.

"What happened this past October made us realize our vulnerability to natural gas," Vander Meulen said. "Our entire industry is held hostage by one single pipe that comes down from the North."

Speaking last fall, Ken Fuhr, sales purchasing consultant at Independent Energy (BC) Consultants, said current flows barely service the Lower Mainland's growing population, let alone industry demand. This could lead to increased supply interruptions in future, and higher energy costs.

This makes new capacity a critical issue for greenhouses. While greenhouses are a highly efficient means of producing food, a lack of energy has capped further expansion in Delta. Public resistance to new pipelines means additional energy supplies aren't likely in the near future, either.

"We have to continue to remind the public of the need for oil and gas to produce our vegetables, and also then to translate that into convincing the government of the day to proceed with pipeline expansion," Vander Meulen said in his president's report. "I think it's the only thing that we have as an option."



Greenhouse growers will be inviting the public to tour their operations, May 4, as part of BC Greenhouse Veggie Days. SEAN HITREC FILE PHOTO

Rebound

A significant piece of good news for the sector is that acreage is rebounding after a sharp decline last year as 96 acres of vegetable greenhouses – primarily sweet bell peppers – shifted to cannabis production.

The shift hurt revenues at both the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission and the greenhouse association, but things are looking up this year as new greenhouse vegetable acreage comes on stream.

Total acreage is set to increase to 766 acres, up from 748 acres last year, while levies are projected to be \$434,232. While this is still short of the \$465,504 received in 2017, it's an improvement from \$423,814 last year.

"The loss in revenue from our reduced area is definitely challenging for the organization," remarked BC Greenhouse Growers Association treasurer Ray Van Marrewyk.

Projections by the BC Vegetable

Marketing Commission indicate further improvement in 2020.

A week earlier, commission general manager Andre Solymosi said the addition of new greenhouse acreage this year should restore levies to levels seen in 2017.

Meanwhile, outreach continues to ensure the public understanding of what happens in greenhouses and the challenges growers face.

Guest speaker Pat Tonn, executive director of the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation, discussed the fruits of the foundation's work with a special thank you to the cooperation of greenhouse growers as both suppliers and partners of the program.

A partnership with the foundation saw school tours initiated last year as part of the BC Greenhouse Veggie Days promotion, which runs through the week ending May 4. This year, a total of 1,200 students will participate, up from 850 last year. Demand was great enough that an extra venue was required to accommodate everyone.

"We need to reach the public through their children," Vander Meulen said.

"Hopefully, together we're making a difference for agriculture," Tonn told growers.

May 27, 2019

POLICY STATEMENT

Rural Recreational & Cultural Grants-in-Aid

1) Introduction

This policy is intended to supplement the operating and/or capital funds of the rural recreation and community associations in the Peace River Regional District (PRRD). Groups are expected to fundraise for alternate sources of funds.

2) Definitions

- a) Debt is defined as an amount owed to a person or organization for services, products or loans funds not yet paid for.
- b) Recreation and community organization is defined as any recreational, sporting, arts, cultural or community association.
- c) Rural organization is defined as any organization located within the boundaries of Electoral Areas B, C, D, and E.
- d) Wages is defined as any payment, stipend or honorarium made for labour or services to an employee or volunteer under the direction of an employer or organization.
- e) Capital improvement is defined as the addition of a permanent structural improvement or the restoration of some aspect of a property that will either enhance the property's overall value or increase its useful life.
- f) Capital equipment is defined as equipment valued at over \$5,000 and has an extended lifetime over more than one year.
- g) New applicant organizations are organizations that have not received Peace River Regional District Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid prior to 2012.
- h) Operation funding is defined as funding provided for costs to ensure the day to day operation of a facility such as insurance, utilities, and supplies.

3) Recreational & Cultural Grants-in-Aid Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, recreation and community associations must meet the following criteria:

- a) Applicant organizations must be rural non-profit registered societies which provide recreation, arts, sports, and/or social activities for the community at large; and
- b) Applications must be submitted directly by the recreation organization or community association/club; and
- c) At least 75% of the applicants' membership must come from the rural areas which they serve.
- d) New applicant organizations located or operating within a municipality must provide proof that at least 75% of their membership comes from the electoral areas of the Regional District.

- e) Organizations who have received Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid prior to 2012 will be grandfathered into the policy and will not be required to maintain a 75% rural membership.

4) Application Process

- a) Applicants must submit a formal application to the Regional District once per year on or before the last calendar day in January; said application to be substantially completed in the form attached hereto as Schedule 'A'.
- b) Applicants must provide year-end financial statements including an income statement and a balance sheet, plus project and operational budgets and quotes for any individual items valued at over \$3,000.
- c) New applicants must provide proof in the form of a membership list that at least 75% of their membership resides in the rural areas which they serve.
- d) At the pleasure of the Electoral Area Directors for the areas, organizations may apply to more than one area for funding if their recreation and/or community association services are provided to residents in more than one community and that their membership is reflective of this.
- e) Failure to provide adequate documentation during the application process and/or comply with the eligibility requirements for funding assistance may jeopardize funding eligibility.
- f) Late applications will not be accepted without the express written permission of the Electoral Area Director for the area in which the organization is making application to.
- g) Applications from new organizations will be accepted by the Regional District for consideration providing they meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in this policy.

5) Eligible Expenses

- a) In Electoral Areas B and C expenses for capital improvements and insurance (for the protection of the public) is permitted.
- b) In Electoral Area E West and the Sub-Regional funding areas, expenses for operations and capital improvements are permitted.
- c) Payment of debt and employee wages is not an eligible expense.
- d) At least three quotes (where available) must be provided for all eligible expenses valued at over \$3,000.

6) Annual Grant Allocations

- a) At the Directors' discretion, grant allocations for each area may be budgeted and provided for youth travel to which the guidelines are attached hereto as Schedule "E".
- b) At the Electoral Area B and C Directors' discretion, grant allocations from Area B and C may be budgeted and provided for the North Peace Regional Gradfest Society for the purpose of hosting safe graduation related events, to which the guidelines are attached hereto as Schedule "F".
- c) At the Electoral Area B Director's discretion grant allocations from Area B may be budgeted and provided for the North Peace 4-H District Council for the purpose of conducting 4-H activities to which the guidelines are attached hereto as Schedule "G".
- d) At the Directors' discretion, grant allocations for each area may be budgeted and provided for post-secondary scholarships and bursaries to which the guidelines are attached hereto as Schedules "H", "I", "J" and "M".
- e) At the Directors' discretion, grant allocations for each area may be budgeted and provided for the rural recreation volunteer banquet to which the guidelines are attached hereto as Schedule "K".

7) Approval Process

- a) The Electoral Area Directors have the sole discretion to accept or reject any application. Applications may be rejected for the following reasons:
 - i. Incomplete or late applications;
 - ii. Failure to maintain society status;
 - iii. Failure to rationalize the need for funding;
 - iv. Failure to prove that the project is in the best interest of the community at large.
- b) Upon approved application by the Electoral Area Director, eligible recreation and community organizations, along with their Electoral Area Directors will meet in the spring of each year to allocate funding to the eligible organizations from the budgeted amount as per the current Financial Plan.
- c) At least one representative from each applicant organization must be in attendance at the adjudication meetings to be eligible to receive a grant-in-aid.
- d) If the total application amount exceeds the annual budget, then the annual budget will be distributed based on consensus of the eligible recreational and community organizations and the Electoral Area Director(s) in attendance at the adjudication meetings.
- e) All organizations that have made an application and have been approved to receive funding by the Regional District will be notified of the meeting date, time and location prior to the meeting.
- f) All applications will be adjudicated based on need and availability of funds in the fiscal year of the established service.

- g) All recommendations of Grant-in-Aid funding allocations must be ratified by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee. The Rural Budgets Administration Committee reserves the right to accept, reject or amend any application at its sole discretion.

8) Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid Budgets

- a) On an annual basis the Directors for each area shall determine the annual budget amount for their area(s) to be included in the Peace River Regional District Financial Plan. This budget amount is subject to Board approval and must be in accordance with tax limitations set forth by bylaw or supplementary letters patent.
- b) A recreational and cultural grants-in-aid budget amount will be provided separately for each area as follows:
 - i. Electoral Area B
 - ii. Electoral Area C
 - iii. Electoral Area E West
 - iv. A defined portion of Electoral Area E and D known as South Peace Sub-Regional as shown on Schedule "L" to this policy and is combined with a service area including the City of Dawson Creek and the Village of Pouce Coupe

9) Unallocated Funds

- a) Any funds that are not allocated from the annual requisition for a funding area shall be utilized to reduce the tax requisition in the next calendar year.

10) Unspent Funds

- a) Organizations must utilize allocated funds within three years of ratification by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee and will not be permitted to carry over funds past three years.
- b) Any funds not claimed by an organization after three years will be returned to the funding area by resolution of the Rural Budgets Administration Committee and utilized to reduce the tax requisition in the next calendar year.

11) Claim Reimbursement

- a) Approved applications will receive funds by claim reimbursement after August 1st of each year once funding allocations are ratified by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee.
- b) Approved applications must provide proof of costs by submitting invoices and a completed claim form attached hereto as Schedule 'B'.
- c) All invoices submitted for expense claim reimbursement must be from the same year or later that funds were approved. Claims may not be made for goods or services incurred in the years previous to the grant's approval.
- d) In exceptional circumstances, organizations may request in advance the total or partial payment of the approved grant from the Regional District. If the funds are approved for release prior to August 1st in any year, Regional District interim financing costs will be charged. Organizations must make this request in writing to the Chief Financial Officer.

12) Sources of Revenue

- a) Organizations shall be responsible to raise supplementary funds for major capital projects and operations by seeking other funding sources including but not limited to donations, corporate sponsorships, applications to other government agencies or general fundraising.
- b) The Peace River Regional District shall not be a sole source of revenue for any recreation or community association.
- c) Organizations must show in their application all sources of revenue.

13) Annual Reports

- a) All organizations that receive Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid must complete an Annual Report as attached hereto as Schedule “C” by the last calendar day in January to be submitted with their Grants-in-Aid application.
- b) Funds for the current year will not be reimbursed to an organization until any outstanding Annual Reports for that organization have been received by the Regional District.
- c) Photos must be provided showing capital projects completed with Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid funds.

14) Funding Amendments

- a) Organizations may apply for funding amendments by completing the Funding Amendment Form attached hereto as Schedule ‘D’, and only in such circumstances that:
 - i. they have completed their project with the funds allocated and they have outstanding funds remaining; or,
 - ii. an emergency has arisen and failure to remediate the problem will result in an inability to operate.
- b) The Rural Budgets Administration Committee will have the sole discretion on whether to approve or deny any funding amendments.
- c) Funds cannot be amended to pay off debt.

15) General

- a) Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid policies can only be made by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee and are subject to Board approval as set forth in Bylaw no. 1166, 1998.
- b) Organizations hosting annual recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid meetings will be paid a hosting stipend.

16) Limitations

- a) Tower Lake Community Association is not eligible to receive Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid as they are outside of the existing service area.

17) Recognition

- a) Grant recipients will recognize the financial contributions of the Regional District by prominently displaying a certificate or plaque.
- b) Associations that maintain websites, social media sites and/or membership newsletters will provide Regional District with recognition in the form of prominently displaying a note of thanks next to the Regional District's logo.
- c) Grant recipients may be requested to issue a joint press release and photo with the Regional District from time to time.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Rural Recreational & Cultural Grants-in-Aid

1) Application Packages:

- a) In December of each year all organizations that have received Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid in the past three years will be mailed the following:
 - i. cover letter with the application deadline and the spring date allocation meeting dates and locations;
 - ii. a “Grants-in-Aid Application Form” and “Application Checklist”;
 - iii. a “Claim Form”;
 - iv. an “Annual Report Form; and
 - v. any additional information that may assist with the application process.
- b) Application information is to be provided on the Regional District’s website at www.prrd.bc.ca.

2) Receipt of Application Packages

- a) All applications will be provided electronically to the Community Services Department when they are received by the Regional District.

3) Review of Application Packages

- a) Applications will be reviewed by the Community Services Department staff to ensure:
 - i. that all documentation has been received;
 - ii. that organizations are current registered non-profit societies;
 - iii. that organizations meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the Grants-in-Aid policy;
 - iv. that organizations have submitted all required annual reports with pictures.
- b) Each director will receive a complete set of applications for their area prior to the spring allocation meetings. It is the directors’ responsibility to advise staff of which applications are approved to attend the spring allocation meetings.
- c) A copy of all applications will be saved electronically on the Regional District server.

4) Incomplete or Late Applications

- a) In the event that an application is incomplete, staff will review the initial application and contact the applicant once to request any missing or incomplete information.
- b) If the outstanding missing information has not been received within 30 days after the application deadline, staff will note what is missing on the front page of the application that is provided to the Electoral Area Directors.

5) Allocation Meetings

- a) Allocation meetings will take place once each year.
- b) At least 15 days prior to the allocation meeting, a letter will be sent to all eligible applicant organizations notifying them of allocation meeting dates and times.
- c) At the allocation meeting all organizations will be provided a document detailing the funding requests of all applicants in their area.
- d) Staff will record meeting minutes, those in attendance and recommended grant allocations.
- e) Staff will liaise with the meeting hosts to ensure that facilities are available and that expectations are clear on what is required for the meetings such as:
 - i. light snacks and beverages;
 - ii. seating requirements; and
 - iii. time and date.

6) Approval of Grant Allocations

- a) Upon ratification of funding recommendations from the spring allocation meetings by the Rural Budgets Administration Committee, all applicant organizations will receive a letter within 30 days confirming their grant amounts and any outstanding funds.

7) Claim Reimbursement

- a) All claims for reimbursement will be provided directly to the Finance Department where they will be coded and provided to the Manager of Community Services for review.
- b) Upon review of the claim and submitted invoices, the Manager of Community Services will approve or deny the claim for payment.
- c) If claim is denied or only partial payment is provided, staff will provide a letter back to the organization explaining the reason for denying their claim or providing a partial payment.

8) Funding Amendments

- a) All funding amendments received will be forwarded to the Rural Budgets Administration Committee for decision.
- b) Staff will provide the Committee with information on the amount of funds remaining, the details of previous projects and any other pertinent information needed for decision making.
- c) Community Services staff will provide organizations that have applied for funding amendments with a letter within 30 days of decision of the Rural Budgets Administration Committee.

9) Unspent Funds

- a) On an annual basis organizations with unspent funds will be notified in writing of any funds remaining.
- b) If funds are remaining after two and a half years a letter will be sent to the subject organization notifying them of three year time limit to utilize their funds.
- c) If the Rural Budgets Administration Committee resolves to reallocate an organization's unspent funds, staff will notify the organization of this decision in writing.

Received DC Office – April 29, 2019

From: Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:09 AM
To: prrd dc <prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca>
Cc: Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX <AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Bernier.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Davies.MLA, Dan LASS:EX <Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Crystal Brown <Crystal.Brown@prrd.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Groundwater License Requirement for Non- domestic Use

Reference: 337836

April 29, 2019

Brad Sperling, Chair
 and Directors
 Peace River Regional District
 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca

Dear Chair Sperling and Directors:

Thank you for your letter of December 24, 2018, addressed to my colleague the Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, regarding the deadline for existing groundwater users to apply for a licence under the *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA). I am also in receipt of your letter of January 21, 2019, on the same topic, that suggests changes to the WSA. As your enquiry falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, I am pleased to respond on behalf of Minister Donaldson. I appreciate that you took the time to express your concerns and recommendations and I apologize for the lengthy delay in responding to them.

While an estimated 20,000 existing non-domestic groundwater users were anticipated to apply for a water licence before March 1, 2019, the public response has been much lower than expected (approximately 15 percent to date). To allow more time for applicants to engage in the licensing system, the provincial government recently [extended the transition period for non-domestic groundwater](#) users to apply for a water licence under the *Water Sustainability Act* by three years to March 1, 2022.

Non-domestic groundwater use is any use other than from a private well supplying water for the well owner's personal household. As domestic groundwater use does not require a licence, well owners are encouraged to [register their wells](#) in the provincial wells database so their use can be considered for potential impact when future applications for water licences are received.

We are aware that recognizing the value of a licence to secure water rights for non-domestic groundwater use represents a significant cultural shift for many BC citizens. This is especially true for people who have used the groundwater for decades for free and without any government oversight. To support groundwater users, a media advertising campaign is planned for this year, in addition to focussed outreach via direct mail to landowners. This will provide groundwater users with information on water licence requirements and options to obtain assistance. Further,

May 27, 2019

government also intends to pursue opportunities for partnerships to assist with *Water Sustainability Act* outreach and to help groundwater users apply for a licence.

You also offered that the definition of a “stream” in the *Water Sustainability Act* be amended to align with the definition found in the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR). The definition of a stream under FPPR is intended to govern forestry related activities and excludes many types of water bodies found under the WSA definition. The broader WSA definition is connected to the purpose of the legislation, specifically to govern water diversion and use which by necessity requires a broad definition to avoid conflict between water users.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

George Heyman
Minister

cc: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture
Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South
Dan Davies, MLA, Peace River North

From: Crystal Brown [<mailto:Crystal.Brown@prrd.bc.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 2:40 PM

To: Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX

Cc: Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX; Bernier.MLA, Mike LASS:EX; Davies.MLA, Dan LASS:EX; PRRD_Internal; Shawn Dahlen; Chair Brad Sperling

Subject: Groundwater License Requirement for Non- domestic Use

Please see the attached letter on behalf of the Peace River Regional District Board.

Crystal Brown | Electoral Area Manager

Direct: 250-784-3233 | Cell: 250-219-5397 | crystal.brown@prrd.bc.ca

PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT | Box 810, 1981 Alaska Highway Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8
Toll Free: (24 hrs): 1-800-670-7773 | Office: 250-784-3200 | Fax: 250-784-3201 | www.prrd.bc.ca



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT



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May 27, 2019



December 24, 2018

Sent via email: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations and Rural Development
Room 248, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Donaldson:

RE: Water Sustainability Act: Licensing Groundwater Use

The new requirements under the Water Sustainability Act require non-domestic groundwater users to obtain a water license, and pay water fees and rentals for the diversion or use of groundwater for non-domestic purposes. This change came into effect on February 29, 2016. Existing non-domestic groundwater users were given a three year transition period to apply for a license and have historical use recognized.

The process of licensing non-domestic groundwater is a very time consuming and complex process. Residents in the Peace Region do not feel that they have the information required to determine if they are required to obtain a water license, nor the resources available to them to obtain a license.

The Peace River Regional District Board is requesting that the March 1, 2019 deadline for licensing of existing non-domestic groundwater use be delayed until the new Water Sustainability Act and it's regulations have been completed, and furthermore, that the Ministry provide clarification on who is required to obtain a license and the requirements around dugouts, agriculture and livestock watering.

Due to the time sensitivity of the matter, I look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

Chair Sperling
Peace River Regional Board

- c. Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy,
ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South, mike.bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Dan Davies, MLA, Peace River North, dan.davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca

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PLEASE REPLY TO:

May 27, 2019

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca



From the Office of Electoral Area 'B', 'C', 'D' and 'E'

January 21, 2019

The Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
PO Box 9047, Stn Prov Gov
Rm 112, Parliament Buildings,
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Minister Heyman:

RE: Water Sustainability Act: Licensing Groundwater Use

In follow up to the December 24, 2018 Regional Board letter, the Electoral Area Directors are concerned that the requirement for non-domestic groundwater users to obtain a water license, and pay water fees and rentals for the diversion or use of groundwater for non-domestic purposes, will be detrimental to farmers and agriculture in the region.

As mentioned in our earlier letter, the process of licensing non-domestic groundwater is a very expensive, time consuming and complex process. Residents in the Peace Region do not have access to all of the information required, nor the tools or resources available to them, to obtain a license. With the regulations not being complete, there remains some confusion around the requirements for livestock and residential water usage, as well as the definition of groundwater. Even staff at Front Counter BC are unable to answer questions regarding licensing from the residents of the region.

Another area of concern for the Electoral Area Directors is the definition of a stream. The definition in the Water Sustainability Act is different than the definition in the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia. Having two different definition creates more confusion and uncertainty among residents.

The Peace River Regional District Electoral Area Directors supports the Regional Boards request that the March 1, 2019 deadline for licensing of existing non-domestic groundwater use be delayed until the new Water Sustainability Act and it's regulations have been completed, and furthermore,

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PLEASE REPLY TO:

May 27, 2019

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca

that the Ministry provide clarification on who is required to obtain a license and the requirements around dugouts, agriculture and livestock watering. In addition, the Electoral Area Directors request that the definition of stream in the Water Sustainability Act be changed to the definition in the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia

Due to the time sensitivity of the matter, I look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,



Karen Goodings
Director Area 'B'



Brad Sperling
Director Area 'C'



Leonard Hiebert
Director Area 'D'



Dan Rose
Director Area 'E'

- c. Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South, mike.bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Dan Davies, MLA, Peace River North, dan.davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca

May 27, 2019

ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE

DIARY ITEMS

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Diarized</u>
1. Water Advisory Committee Members	Arrange a final meeting 3 months after operation begins; to close the loop.	November 16, 2017
	Arrange a tour and ribbon cutting/grand opening event upon completion of the water station	June 21, 2018
2. Cell Towers within the Region	Hold discussion with Alberta counterparts (Interprovincial Meeting scheduled for April 17, 2019)	December 14, 2017
3. Electoral Area D Referendum	Water (service areas) in 2020	October 16, 2018
4. Don Nearhood Museum	As the Peace Canyon building is being closed a new location for the display is needed	November 13, 2018
5. Oil and Gas Working Groups	Provide updates from each meeting	January 18, 2019
6. Caribou Brochure	Director Rose and Communications - update the caribou brochure	February 21, 2019
7. Synergy Alberta Conference	Watch for dates for the fall conference	March 21, 2019