



PRRD moves forward with Chetwynd Library construction

The PRRD awarded a \$4.55 million construction contract to Celtic Construction on March 31, 2022. The contractor, based out of Dawson Creek BC, is set to bring the final designs for the new Chetwynd Public Library to life starting this spring. The project has been a major collaboration since 2016 with partners including the District of Chetwynd, Chetwynd Public Library Board and staff, and the residents of Chetwynd and Electoral Area E.



The major grant funders for the project include Electoral Area E contributing one million, the District of Chetwynd providing one million, the Chetwynd Public Library with \$750,000 and the Northern Development Initiative Trust contributing \$300,000.

A fund for donations is also available through the Northeast BC Community Foundation, in memoriam of life-long learner and teacher-librarian, Yvonne Elden.

In addition to being a larger facility, at 8,600 square feet, the new library will feature some amazing new spaces including a dedicated children’s program room, dividable multi-use spaces, a maker space and virtual reality room. The final design also features 135 square feet of dedicated food preparation and service space for the café, complete with a convection oven, commercial refrigerator, freezer and dishwasher. Patrons can enjoy an open-concept seating area that can accommodate 20 people, with easy access to an outdoor patio to facilitate summer programming.

The milestone project is a reflection of what the PRRD and Library Advisory Committee heard from the public, with 17 meetings with 59 stakeholders conducted, 401 surveys collected from the initial consultation and 200 surveys returned after the final report presentation. The PRRD also hosted a virtual open house on November 3 last year, where Electoral Area E Director Dan Rose and project stakeholders outlined the proposed designs for the community and welcomed feedback.

The PRRD encourages everyone to follow along with the project by visiting haveyoursay.prrd.bc.ca/cplp and to watch for construction updates on the PRRD’s Facebook account at @OfficialPRRD.

Have something to say about connectivity in the Peace region? The PRRD wants to send your feedback to the Province!

A historic plan has been announced between the Provincial and Federal governments of Canada to invest up to \$830 million to support projects that will improve access to high-speed Internet in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities throughout British Columbia. To ensure that Peace region residents are accurately represented in the Province’s current understanding of underserved areas and what the connectivity goals within those communities are, the PRRD will be submitting a response to a Request to Participate (RTP), on April 25, 2022. The RTP process gathers regional and market information to validate cost assumptions and gauge potential market interest in providing connectivity services.

The PRRD is calling on all residents and businesses to do their part in ensuring high-speed connectivity for everyone in the region by providing important data on your experiences. To participate, **scan the QR code to complete the CIRA Internet Speed Test and the Connecting Communities survey** - a survey is available for both residents and businesses, follow the project at haveyoursay.prrd.bc.ca/rcs.



April 21, 2022
10:00am | Facebook Live, Dawson Creek
May 12, 2022
10:00am | Facebook Live, Dawson Creek



Join the Discussion

Engage in the active consultations happening in the Peace River Regional District.

haveyoursay.prrd.bc.ca



Have Your Say!

To view board and committee meeting dates and agendas, visit: prrd.bc.ca/agendas-minutes/

