



## PRRD Financial Plan & Hospital District Budget Adopted

The Peace River Regional District's 2019 Five-Year Financial Plan was adopted March 28, 2019, and provides funding for 56 services for residents of the PRRD's four electoral areas and member municipalities: Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Hudson's Hope, Pouce Coupe, Taylor, and Tumbler Ridge.

The PRRD's tax requisition is increasing 5.08% (\$1.37M) from \$26.96M in 2018 to \$28.33M in 2019 with Regional Solid Waste Management accounting for \$1.37M of that increase. One notable decrease in tax requisition is a decrease of \$0.98M for the 911 Emergency Telephone Service. Solid Waste is the largest individual budget in the PRRD's Financial Plan at \$16.76M (25.63% of the overall budget).

Operating and capital expenditures for the Regional District in 2019 will total \$65.38 million. Of that, \$28.33M (43.32%) will be funded through property taxation. Other notable funding sources include grants, reserve funds, borrowing and prior year surplus.

The Peace River Regional Hospital District's 2019 Budget was adopted March 28, 2019, and provides funding for numerous health care facilities and equipment for residents of the PRRD's four electoral areas and member municipalities: Chetwynd, Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Hudson's Hope, Pouce Coupe, Taylor, and Tumbler Ridge.

The PRRD's tax requisition is increasing 3.41% (\$0.6M) from \$17.66M in 2018 to \$18.26M in 2019. This increase in taxation contributed to a \$775,000 increase in transfers to capital reserves for future building projects which increased from \$11.13M in 2018 to \$11.9M in 2019.

Operating and capital expenditures for the Regional Hospital District in 2019 will total \$25.97M. Of that, \$18.26M (70.33%) will be funded through property taxation. Other notable funding sources include reserve funds and investment income.

## ALR Applications

The Regional Board supported the following ALR applications to proceed to the ALC:

The Westgate application for subdivision within the ALR, to provide a residence for the applicant's son.

The Barrett application for subdivision within the ALR, to subdivide the subject property into 2 parcels as the subject property is divided by the Old Edmonton Highway.

The Morton application for subdivision within the ALR, to subdivide the subject property into 2 parcels as the subject property is divided by a road.

The Marston and Garbe non-farm use application to construct a 353 m<sup>2</sup> (+/- 3800 sq. ft.) accessory building to house the applicant's home-based mechanic business.

The Bernadin application for subdivision within the ALR to subdivide into 3 residential lots as the applicants feel the steep slopes are not conducive for agriculture and intend to establish a new dwelling on one of the newly created lots and sell the southernmost lot where they currently reside.

The Kilgour application for subdivision within the ALR, to subdivide into 3 parcels as the designation within this OCP permits parcels with a minimum parcel size of 63 ha (155 acres).

## Farmer's Advocacy Office

The Board authorized that the Farmers' Advocacy Office contract be extended for a 6 month period (April 1 – October 1, 2019) and that it be referred to the Rural Budgets Administration Committee (RBAC) for funding. The Purchasing Policy will be waived and the contract extension is to be direct awarded to Aspen Grove Property Services. The Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources confirmed that they would fund the Farmers' Advocacy Office for three months of the contract extension, from April 1 – July 1, 2019, for the full amount of \$18,040 per month.

## March Delegations

### MLAs

South Peace MLA Mike Bernier and North Peace MLA Dan Davies discussed issues affecting the Regional District with the Board. Both MLAs want to continue to foster a strong relationship with the Board to address issues in the region. They have been advocating to the province on regional issues and initiatives. Regional issues that they have been bringing to the Province's attention is the uncertainty and unreliability of the rail service to move agricultural products to market, Taylor bridge replacement vs. the continual maintenance, the need for a nursing school in the region, Bill 15 Agricultural Land Commission Amendment act, cross border medical transfer and the caribou consultations.

### Dam Safety- Arthur Hadland

Mr. Arthur Hadland shared his concerns regarding potential future safety issues at the Site C dam. His concerns included sedimentary basin risks and past failures of other dams and bridges, risk of loss and damage of property, and recognition of vulnerable people. In response to the presentation, the Board will be forwarding a letter to the Federal and Provincial Ministries and the BC Solicitor General to request written assurances that the Site C Clean Energy Project dam is stable and deemed safe.

### United Way of Northern BC - bc211 Service

Roberta Squire, CEO of United Way of Northern BC provided the Regional Board with information on the bc211 Service and requested funding to bring the service to the region. The vision of the program is to strengthen communities by connecting people with the help they need 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year in over 160 languages. This is done by providing free information and referrals to community, government and social services via phone, text, web chat, email and an online directory. 211 is a confidential, multilingual, telephone, texting and online referral service providing free information. Trained and certified counsellors link callers to services such as mental health supports, shelter and housing, legal aid, addictions treatment, newcomer services, and food banks. The toll-free phone number provides people with information and referral to community, social and government services. Later in the meeting, the Regional Board approved a multi-year grant commitment in the amount of \$26,515 per year for three years starting in 2019 to the United Way of Northern BC to assist with the costs to expand the 'bc211' service to the Peace River Regional District.

### RCMP

The Tumbler Ridge RCMP Detachment, District of Hudson's Hope RCMP Detachment, City of Fort St. John RCMP Detachment, and the City of Dawson Creek RCMP Detachment presented their 2018 year end reports, including statistics from the rural areas and discussion of priorities.

"No call is too small," said Staff Sergeant Steve Perret from the City of Fort St John detachment, encouraging rural residents to call the RCMP when they have an issue or see something suspicious in their community.

The statistics and presentation can be found here- <http://prrd.bc.ca/board/agendas/2019/2019-09-013958391/AGENDA.html>

## Solid Waste

The solid waste department will be reaching out to the Science Department at UNBC to request that a student in a PhD or Master's program be engaged to prepare a research paper on global leading best practices for solid waste management.

The Northern Rockies Regional Municipality (NRRM) will be invited to attend a future Board meeting to present on the vermiculture composting project that the NRRM is using to process organic waste material such as untreated wood, paper/ cardboard fiber, and other green waste.

A Request for Proposal for the operation of the Hudson's Hope Transfer Station will be issued for a two-year term, June 1, 2019 to June 1, 2021.

## Rural Roads Contract Award

The Regional Board waived purchasing policy to direct award a \$130,000 contract to JK Solutions Ltd. for Phase 4 of Rural Roads Strategy in the North Peace. The project will extend from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, and will be funded through Economic Development.

## Zoning Amendments

The Regional Board adopted the following Zoning amendments:

The Irvine application to rezone a 1.81 (4.5 ac) portion of the subject property from R-5 (Residential 5 Zone) to R-4 (Residential 4 Zone) to facilitate a future subdivision of the subject property.

The Yake application to amend the zoning from P "Public Use Zone" to R-2. There used to be a community curling rink and community hall on the subject property, but it has been used for residential purposes for some time now.

The Buckley application to rezone a 43.9 ha (108.4 ac) portion of the subject property from A-2 Large agricultural holding to A-1 (Small agricultural holdings) to facilitate a conditionally approved 2 lot subdivision.

## Are You Prepared for Spring Freshet or Wildfires?

Looks like 'spring has sprung'! Things are melting in the region, which means it's time to get prepared for any spring emergencies like flooding. Look around your property for any potential drainage issues that need to be addressed.

Grass and backyard fires that get out of control can cause serious damage, quickly engulfing fences, power poles and buildings as well as spreading to neighbouring properties and forested areas. Learn how to fire smart your property <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/>

### Do you have a grab-and-go kit?

A grab-and-go kit is prepared and ready to go with you in the event of an emergency if you need to leave your home. Make sure your kit is easy to carry and everyone in the household knows where it is. Keep it in a backpack, duffel bag or suitcase with wheels, in an easy-to-reach place, such as your front hall closet.

Take the time to put together a household emergency plan and a well-stocked emergency kit, with at least 72 hours of supplies including food and water in advance. For ideas on how to build a 72 Hour emergency kit go to <https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/vds/prprng-kt-eng.mp4>.

## Sign Up for North East BC Emergency & Public Alerts

Stay Informed During Emergencies

North East BC Emergency & Public Alerts is a region wide notification system. Residents who subscribe will be alerted about emergencies and other important community news by signing up to the North East BC Emergency & Public Alerts.

This system allows the Peace River Regional District and municipalities in the region to contact thousands of residents in seconds about an emergency right away. Receive the important messages via email, phone, and text!

Please sign up at [nebcalerts.com](http://nebcalerts.com) – it only takes about a minute to register!



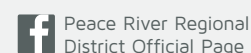
**April 11, 2019**  
10:00 | Dawson Creek

**April 25, 2019**  
10:00 | Dawson Creek

**Dawson Creek Office**  
Tel: 250-784-3200  
Toll Free: 1-800-670-7773  
Email: [prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca)

**Fort St. John Office**  
Tel: 250-785-8084  
Toll Free: 1-800-670-7773  
Email: [prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca)

To view board schedules and minutes visit:  
[prrd.bc.ca](http://prrd.bc.ca)



Peace River Regional District Official Page

