



The Region of BC's Best

The Current



Highlights from the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Board of Directors' Meeting of Sept. 20, 2018

MLA Talks Referendum to Board

Kamloops MLA Todd Stone made a presentation to the Board about the upcoming referendum concerning proportional representation.

The referendum will decide if B.C. keeps the current "First Past the Post" voting system, or if it will change to a proportional representation voting system. British Columbians will receive their voting packages from Elections BC starting October 22 and will have until November 30, 2018, to vote in the referendum.

For more information, visit <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/howwevote/>

Kamloops Arts Council Presents to Board

David Olds, President of the Kamloops Arts Council, provided a presentation to the Board about the Art Exposed exhibition. Art Exposed will showcase work from artists throughout the region from March 8 to 16, 2019.

The TNRD has been a longtime sponsor of the exhibition and was asked to provide \$5,000 towards the event. The funding request will be considered at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

Funding Approved for Provincial Winter Fair

The Board agreed to provide \$2,500 in funding to the Provincial Winter Fair Society. The fair is in its 80th year of operation and continues the tradition of old-time country

fairs including 4-H shows, entertainment, and agricultural education.

The Provincial Winter Fair takes place this year from September 21 to 24 at the Circle Creek Ranch & Equestrian Centre in Kamloops.

Steps Taken to Make Improvements to Blue River Park

The Board voted to authorize staff to take the necessary steps for improvements to be made at Blue River Community Park.

The park has a broken jetty wall and a dock that will need to be reattached to that jetty when repairs are made. To make these improvements, the TNRD must enter into a foreshore lease agreement with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development and then apply to the Province for the proper permits.

The Board's vote will authorize Tim Panko, a local contractor with extensive experience in government applications, to act as an agent for the TNRD to submit the required applications to the relevant ministries for the foreshore lease and the approvals for jetty repairs.

TNRD Commended for Being Carbon Neutral in 2017

The Board received a letter from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' (UBCM) Green Communities Committee acknowledging that the TNRD has successfully achieved the goal of corporate carbon neutrality for 2017.

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Board of Directors

Chair: John Ranta

Village of Cache Creek

Directors

Carol Schaffer

Electoral Area "A"

(Wells Gray Country)

Willow Macdonald

Electoral Area "B"

(Thompson Headwaters)

Sally Watson

Electoral Area "E"

(Bonaparte Plateau)

Steven Rice

Electoral Area "I"

(Blue Sky Country)

Ronaye Elliott

Electoral Area "J"

(Copper Desert Country)

Ken Gillis

Electoral Area "L"

(Grasslands)

Randy Murray

Electoral Area "M"

(Beautiful Nicola Valley — North)

Herb Graham

Electoral Area "N"

(Beautiful Nicola Valley — South)

Bill Kershaw

Electoral Area "O"

(Lower North Thompson)

Mel Rothenburger

Electoral Area "P"

(Rivers and the Peaks)

Jack Jeyes

Village of Ashcroft

Virginia Smith

District of Barriere

Rick Berrigan

Village of Chase

John Harwood

District of Clearwater

Jim Rivett

Village of Clinton

Ken Christian

City of Kamloops

Dieter Dudy

City of Kamloops

Tina Lange

City of Kamloops

Arjun Singh

City of Kamloops

Pat Wallace

City of Kamloops

Denis Walsh

City of Kamloops

Robin Smith

District of Logan Lake

Jessoa Lightfoot

Village of Lytton

Neil Menard

City of Merritt

Al Raine

Sun Peaks Mountain Resort



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The TNRD is a signatory to the Climate Action Charter and has worked with the Province and UBCM to take action on climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The TNRD also achieved carbon neutrality for the years 2013, 2014 and 2016.

Services Agreement with Merritt Extended

A five-year services agreement between the City of Merritt and the TNRD was approved by the Board. The agreement formalizes funding for two financial contribution services — the Nicola Valley Aquatic Centre and other recreation facilities within the City of Merritt.

The current agreement with the City expires at the end of this year, requiring a new five-year agreement to be approved for each of these services.

The agreement also calls for the TNRD to contribute additional Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund money in the amount of \$50,000 towards recreational facilities as a one-time transfer.

Merritt Facilities Get Gas Tax Funds

The Board approved a Federal Gas Tax –

Community Works Fund revenue allocation to Electoral Areas "M" and "N".

The funding will assist the City of Merritt in completing upgrades to eligible projects (i.e. energy efficiency upgrades to public facilities, recreation or tourism related projects, etc.) with a maximum expenditure of \$75,000 for each Electoral Area.

Blackpool Fire Hall Gets Gas Tax Funds

The Board approved a Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund revenue allocation to Electoral "A".

The money will help to fund roof and insulation upgrades for the Blackpool Fire Hall with a maximum expenditure of \$18,000.

Loon Lake Community Hall Gets Gas Tax Funds

The Board approved a Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund revenue allocation to Electoral Area "E".

The money will help fund construction of an auxiliary building for the Loon Lake Community Hall with a maximum expenditure of \$50,000.