

Mayor's Report
July 8 - August 12

July 12 **NTAB**

- Since its inception NTAB has built on a consensus model of governance.
- The Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau (NTAB or the 'Alliance') pursues transportation initiatives that support the movement of northern goods, commodities, and services – including, but not limited to: intellectual property, broadband, people, commodities and natural resources– to markets to the benefit of the northern region. The northern region is defined as north of the 55th parallel in North America.
- In May of 2017 we identified the G7G and east-west connections as our priorities
- The transportation Alliance is a subcommittee of the Regional Economic Development Initiative for Northwest Alberta (REDI) and the Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA).
- The purpose of this strategic session in GP was to either re-affirm the group's focus or identify new directions.
- Our facilitator has had over a decade of working directly with businesses and all levels of government as the CEO of the Grande Prairie & Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Dan is very aware of the transportation issues that impact our Region's ability to compete on the national and international markets.
- The group reaffirmed that the top priorities would advocate for either G7G or A2A (Who seems to be getting further ahead in a rail line to Alaska), work on the connector from Wood Buffalo and to Peace River and improved rail for northern communities.

July 18 **NWSAR**

- That NWSAR rescinded the motion for NWSAR to cover the expenses of elected officials, and accepted the Elected Official Expense Claims RFD for information.
- That NWSAR committed to funding the Collaborative Grassroots Caribou Recovery Research Project, within the Caribou Mountains and Chinchaga Caribou Ranges, from NWSAR's 2019 – 2022 operating Budgets.
- NWSAR is sending a letter to all NWSAR member municipalities; outlining the Collaborative Grassroots Caribou Recovery Research Project details, including the budget and commitments from project partners, to request multi-year funding.

Project 2: Collaborative Caribou Recovery Research Project

What is it?

- Collaborating with ABMI, local volunteers and companies, and maybe Alberta Trappers Association (ATA) Federal Environmental Damages Funding (ECCC) which were unsuccessful in securing

5 goals in Chinchaga and Caribou Mountains Caribou Ranges

1. Ground-truth habitat disturbance (human footprint/natural)
2. Ungulate/predator population densities (X No. of species type per X km²) –remote cameras and audio devices
3. Vegetation inventories (height/species type) – blanket coverage via desktop and boots-on-the-ground sub-sample areas for ground-truthing
4. Candidate areas for habitat restoration (after input from local land users)
5. Milestone and final reporting – NWSAR can update project collaborators/local volunteers/communities/others with letters/social media/infographics from ABMI milestone reporting

Updates:

- Environmental Damages Fund Review Committee did not recommend NWSAR's
- project for funding – letter received on June 27, 2019.
- Primary reason given for negative decision was that projects which are completing habitat restoration activities are prioritized over research and development.

July 22 Boreal Housing

- The purpose of the special meeting was to make a motion to repatriate the lodge residents back to Heimstaedt.

July 22 CAO LRRCN

- In-camera discussions

July 25 REDI (CRTC)

The following are a list of questions prepared by REDI and PREDA at our strategy meeting.

- What is CRTC's strategy for northern Alberta?
- Does CRTC have the power to mandate for rural remote communications development?
- What legislation does CRTC fall under.
- What components pertain to rural & remote advocacy for communications.
- Who is responsible for developing an overall communications strategy in Canada? Alberta?
- Fed Gov has 1/3 grants but who is responsible for coordinating the development of a strategy?
- Governments are too uncoordinated - piecemeal approach is old school with too many overlapping decision makers. We need a regional leadership role from CRTC.
- Rural & Remote communities should be subsidized through CRTC / Federal Gov. Need infrastructure funds to build.
- Federal funds need to be focused on rural & remote first to build infrastructure, not service upgrades to large urban centers.
- Northwest Alberta needs a regional communications strategy.
- Leadership, coordination, and resources through the CRTC / Governments
- What is the Telus / Bell mandate with CRTC
- Disruption of Hubs during fires, emergency, evacuations - cell, internet, landlines, etc.
- Landlines are still very important in Rural Remote.
- Federal Gov needs to over-see and pay for a regional strategy
- Supernet / Broadband redundancy. Only 1-way communication. No good during emergencies.
- Need to build off the "last mile" fibre optics already in place
- Take fibre optics to all Northwest Alberta - cell, internet, landlines, hot-spots..
- Services must be functional and cost effective
- Economic development in rural & remote depends on communications
- CRTC rules changing to allow other companies access to towers, fibre.
- Ambulance, fire, industrial safety coverage needs to be ensured by CRTC
- There is a lot of fibre to aboriginal reserves in Northwest. Not sure functioning or costs?
- Who regulates?
- Does CRTC have Broadband report NADC completed in partnership with REDA's.
- If so is CRTC looking at recommendations in that report?

Dr. Linda Vennard was unable to answer our questions because the CRTC is an administrative tribunal (Does not have any teeth)that regulates and supervises broadcasting and telecommunications in the public interest. They are dedicated to advocating and ensuring that Canadians have access to a world-class communication(REALLY)system that promotes innovation and enriches their lives.

July 26 RhPAP (Rural Health Professions Action Plan)

- Cheryl Welke is the new consultant/rep for the Northwest region
- One of the Attraction/Retention areas is recognizing and honoring homegrown talent.
- CAO and I were invited to a potluck honoring 4 Graduates from our community and work at IDA.
- All but one are headed to postsecondary in the health care stream.
- We had a discussion around approaching Northern Lakes College to run a “Pharmacy Technician” course High Level.

August 7 Golden Range Society Meeting

- Delivered the following report about the Facility:

SUMMARY

- A remediation plan was provided for the areas containing char concentrations.
- The remediation plan involved HEPA vacuuming the structure (walls, floor, ceiling) scrubbing with a wire brush, HEPA vacuuming again, and then following up with a smoke seal spray.
- Odors related to fire and smoke were not found during the assessment.
- Upon return to site after the evacuation order, Krawford made it a priority to seal-up the building openings and soffit venting to limit further smoke and soot penetration, they removed all exposed contaminated insulation in the walls and performed general clean-up of debris and materials compromised.
- In July, work scopes shifted to the exterior of the building and site work.
- Site concrete work has begun and Hardie Board, EIFS work continued.

- WSP is currently working on the appliance procurement package for Boreal Housing.
- Boreal Housing requested a contact for an IT Consultant Boreal Housing could use for the set-up of their systems, WSP is awaiting a response to an RFI that establishes the scope with ASHC to understand what Boreal Housing requires.
- Krawford has reviewed the schedule impacts of the evacuation and provided an updated schedule on July 3, 2019.
- Project team is currently reviewing the project schedule for accuracy.
- Currently, the updated schedule is showing a March 30, 2020 interim acceptance and a move-in date of residents for June 1, 2020.

KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN JULY 2019

- Foundations and Basement.
 - M&E rough-in continued
- Internal
 - Cleaning areas impacted by smoke
- Exterior Cladding & Roofing
 - EIFS, Hardie Board
 - exterior insulation started on the south side •
- Site grading and backfill continued on the west and north sides of the site

FORECASTED PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2019

- Foundations and Basement.
 - Drywall to resume
 - M&E rough-in to progress
- Exterior Cladding & Roofing
 - EFIS and siding to continue on south side of building
 - Roof flashings, fascia and soffits at roof level to commence
- Site works
 - Rough grading and backfill to be substantially completed
 - Site concrete will start

The seniors have the following concerns about mainstreet and would like to see some changes for safety sake:

1. Rain Garden
 - They understand the concept, but feel that it looks too messy and there are too many weeds in it
 - They would prefer to see lawn grass and small shrubs and trees.
2. Street in front of Value Drugs
 - People are crossing the solid line to park in front of the Drug Store
 - People are also backing across the solid line to go East and almost caused an accident.
 - Seniors would like to see a centre meridian like in front of the Post Office.
3. Logs piled on the contingency line.
 - Children are playing on them and seniors are afraid they are going to get hurt.
4. Visibility on main street
 - There is a concern about the tree on the (North) McLeods side of the street. There is limited visibility until you are in the street, because the spruce tree blocks the visibility.
 - Concern about the South side visibility. When there are cars parked in front of the Safety building(oxyoron) you have to pull out too far.
 - They would like to see the four-way-stop back in place.

