

## **Mayor's Report**

### **May 25- June 14**

**May 26**

**REDI**

- **REDI** welcomed Johnathon Parenteau representing Paddle Prairie to the board table.
- **A2A** unfortunately has run out of funding, so we are waiting to see what happens next.
- REDI continues to encourage people to fill out their census as it is a critical tool for the Northwest region in securing grants from both the Federal and Provincial governments.

**May 27**

**Boreal Housing**

- Everyone is invited to Mackenzie House Open House in High Level June 8 - 10 with daily tours from 10:30 - 2:00 pm.
- We are promoting the Supportive Living end of Mackenzie House
- We ask that you please book an appointment time for when you would like a tour, as we have to keep our groups small.
- Please stop in for a bite to eat!
- Administration also plans on starting up the kitchen (Mackenzie House Bistro – Bakery & Lunch Counter), Monday – Friday for anyone to stop in to pick up a home cooked meal at lunch time.
- They will be taking orders from the bakery beginning 2 days per week.
- At this time it will be picked up, but once allowed, we will put out the tables & chairs on the patios so the customers can enjoy a relaxing lunch.
- Administration will be tracking this closely... as this venture is to generate some income for the Lodge.
- Mackenzie House currently has 12 independent seniors living in the independent (north) end of the facility.

- Administration working closely with Home Care in High Level to promote the Lodge (south) end of the facility. We currently have 4 - DSL3s on our list to move in once we have the Supportive Living program in place.

**May 27**

**MFTA**

- Nothing new to report

**May 31**

**FCM**

### **Beyond the books: Municipal Public Libraries**

- Visited a living library where people interact with library workers as they demonstrate how libraries have expanded their services, and how those services are being delivered.
- A virtual library saves and/or reduces the physical space taken up by library materials.
- It often adds enhanced searching capabilities in a digital format.
- The library materials are available at the user's desktop, regardless of where the user is physically located.
- The data stored is prone to cyber hacks.
- Costly and Expensive..
- Online Systems require high-speed internet connectivity.

### **Connecting Rural and Remote Canada**

- Discussion centred around Canada's post-pandemic recovery and how it is an opportunity to move our country forward—together.
- For rural and remote communities, that needs to start with closing the digital divide.
- The discussion centred around connecting unserved and underserved rural and remote communities.

- Service providers discussed different solutions—from satellite to wireless to fibre—including the latest such as 5G and next generation Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites.
- It all goes back to cost and how it is necessary and should be a federal platform, not a provider platform

**June 1**

**FCM**

**Opening Ceremonies**

**Guest Speaker - Laurent Duvernay-Tardif**

- Starting offensive lineman for the Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs (2020).
- He's a Montrealer who earned his medical degree from McGill in 2018. He is an advocate for the essential value of frontline community service.
- When the pandemic hit, Laurent worked as an orderly in a long-term care facility near Montreal.
- As conditions intensified in Canada, he put his NFL career on hold to stay on the front lines.
- Spoke about his experience in Long-term care homes.

**Prime Minister Trudeau**

- Talked a lot about green energy...nothing about oil/Gas.

**Pruning Trees Young: A Life-Long Community Investment**

- Discussion on how maintaining trees while they're young reduces costs and increases benefits as trees mature, and over time.

## **Green Municipal Fund: Investing In Your Community**

- For 20 years, FCM's Green Municipal Fund has led the way in helping communities implement innovative sustainability practices faster—growing local economies.
- Discussion around how GMF funding can help adopt more sustainable practices in area

**June 2**

### **Jagmeet Sing Leader of the New Democratic Party**

- Excellent speaker and very articulate.
- Had a tear and choked up when he spoke about the 215 beautiful souls, found in a mass grave in Kamloops. (My respect for him rose ten-fold)
- He spoke about how broadband should be a federal fix for remote and rural communities, and how the pandemic emphasized the disparity.
- Believes there should have been a plan in place to replace Greyhound, because being raised in a rural community, this was the only way people he knew could travel from place - to - place.
- Spoke about how there should be funding in place for community halls and recreation centres.

### **Workshop: Food Security and Community Leadership**

- The workshop centred around how much the pandemic has shown how important local communities are.
- This includes ensuring that we have access to local, year-round, sustainable food production.
- The workshop included a farmer, a food supply and agricultural expert, and the vital role of a strong domestic agriculture system.
- The workshop showed the steps we need to take to protect and strengthen food security and community resilience.

- I think we are going to have to allow more than six chickens in High Level, attract greenhouse production and have a poultry farm/beef farm in our vicinity.

### **Levels of Service and Sustainable Asset Management**

- A very interesting seminar.
- Showed what levels of service mean to sustainable asset management and what they mean to our budgeting over the long term.
- Modeled how a community concentrates their resources, while neglecting other areas and the consequences.

### **Infrastructure Challenges and Solutions for Municipalities and Homeowners**

- Discussed partnership solutions to improve water/sewer infrastructure, help recover lost revenue, educate and protect homeowners and assist low-and moderate-income citizens.

### **June 2 Meeting with Minister McKenna's Staff**

- Meeting went well and we were advised of some grants to apply to one of which: **The Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program**
- The Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program helps to build more community buildings and improve existing ones – in particular in areas with populations experiencing higher needs – while also making the buildings more energy efficient, lower carbon, more resilient, and higher performing.
- This five-year \$1.5 billion program that supports green and accessible retrofits, repairs or upgrades to existing public community buildings and the construction of new publicly-accessible community buildings that serve high-needs, underserved communities across Canada.

- The GICB program supports the first pillar of the Strengthened Climate Plan by making it easier for Canadians to improve the places in which they live and gather.
- Large projects are eligible from \$3 million to \$25 million.
- \$150 million has been set aside for Indigenous applicants undertaking projects that will serve Indigenous populations and communities.

### **June 3      How FCM Programs are Empowering Smaller Communities**

- Rural, remote and northern communities have long been vital to Canada's economy and quality of life and Chief Ahnassay and I were asked to sit on a panel and give an overview of our project, as-well-as how the CEDI toolbox helped in our success.
- FCM's capacity-building programs empowered us through financing, training and partnership.

### **Discussion on the Overview of the Dene' tha and the Town of High Level Project**

The current goals of this collaboration are:

- Extend **potable waterline to the Bushe River community** from the Town of High Level. This has now grown to include a water distribution system and eventually a waste-water system.
- Construct a **Multipurpose Facility/Emergency Reception Centre** to help during evacuations, entice professionals to relocate to our community, provide better education for our children and to provide a space for our communities to come together for cultural events.
- Create and implement a joint **emergency response plan**, so that our communities work in unison if and when an emergency arises.
- What began as working together to improve respectful communication between our two governments, has developed into a Friendship

### **IPL's organic product series for food and yard waste**

- Not realizing that IPL is a company, I thought this presentation would have some earth shattering solutions to yard waste and food waste. That was not to be! It could be a good spring/summer program though??
- Green cart and Yard waste...collected weekly in the spring
- Bins hold up to 60 KG of waste.
- Compostable bags for extra waste.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn. Short clippings break down easily and return nutrients to the grass.

### **Canada's Plan for used Nuclear Fuel**

- This was a very interesting virtual tour and helped me understand that perhaps Nuclear Power is not the best source of power I was always led to believe...even though it is one of the cleanest sources.
- The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is responsible for designing and implementing Canada's plan for the safe, long-term management of used nuclear fuel.
- The plan, known as Adaptive Phased Management, requires used fuel to be contained and isolated in a deep geological repository. It protects people and the environment.
- fuel rods are about 3.65 metres long, and a set of 18 forms a fuel bundle about 8 cm diameter. Two bundles are joined together and capped at either end by a top and bottom nozzle, to form an overall length of about 10 metres, weighing 185 kilograms.

- When used nuclear fuel bundles are removed from a reactor, they are placed in a water-filled pool where their heat and radioactivity decrease.
- After seven to ten years, the bundles are placed in dry storage containers, silos or vaults.
- Dry storage is a proven technology that has been in use around the world since the 1980s.
- Dry storage containers are made of reinforced high-density concrete and are lined inside and outside with a steel plate.
- The thickness of concrete provides an effective barrier against radiation.
- The dry storage containers have a minimum design life of 50 years.
- They are actively monitored, and studies indicate that with ongoing maintenance and inspections these containers can be safely used for much longer periods of time.
- After 50 years the life of the container could be extended, or the used fuel could be repackaged.
- Although the used fuel's radioactivity decreases with time, chemical toxicity persists. The used fuel will remain a potential health risk for many hundreds of thousands of years.
- There are about 3 million used nuclear fuel bundles in Canada.
- At the end of the planned operation of Canada's existing nuclear reactors, the number of used fuel bundles could total about 5.5 million.
- About 90,000 additional used fuel bundles are generated each year.
- For this reason, it requires careful management.
- The implementation of APM (Adaptive Phased Management) will unfold over many decades.
- It will occur over a period of about 40 years or more, depending on the inventory of used fuel to be managed.
- After that, the repository will be monitored for an extended period of time before decommissioning, closure and postclosure monitoring.

**June 5      Regional Service Sharing Agreement with MacKenzie County**

- To be discussed in-camera (pursuant to FOIP, Part 1, Div 2 s. 21 and 24)

**June 8      Mackenzie House Open House**

- An independent living room was staged by the Brick and it was fantastic...I almost moved in!
- There is one room left on the bottom floor for Independent living.
- City Furniture staged an SL4 room and it was tastefully done as well.
- This is a beautiful facility...one that I know when it is my turn to go it will be without kicking and screaming.

**June 11      CEDI Working Group Meeting**

- Our last facilitated meeting by CEDI/CANDO
- Our first meeting on our own will be July 7th...Go Team!

**June 11      NAEL**

- NAEL welcomed the Metis Region 6 (Carol Risdale) as a member
- There is a "Elder's Caring Lodge" (Long-term care) facility being built in Grande Prairie and Metis multi-unit housing in Peace River.
- Most interesting nugget of information is that MLA Dan Williams said he was working with High Level towards an Evacuation Centre.

## **In-Camera**

### **Transition of Heimstead to La Crete Nursing Association**

Local public body confidences and Advice from officials,  
Pursuant to FOIP, Part 1, Division 2, sections 23(1)(b) and 24(1)(b) and  
(c), respectively.