

CHAIR REPORT UP TO AND INCLUDING JUNE 19/18

- **IT WAS MY PLEASURE TO ATTEND THE FCM CONVENTION IN HALIFAX THIS YEAR, ALONG WITH VICE CHAIR MASSIER & CAO MACLEAN. I WAS ABLE TO INCLUDE 3 ADDITIONAL DAYS OF SIGHTSEEING WITH MY DAUGHTER, AND WE DID 2000 KMS IN THOSE 3 DAYS, IN A WHIRLWIND TOUR OF NOVA SCOTIA, CAPE BRETON AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**
- **HOWEVER, IT WAS BACK TO BUSINESS ON MAY 31 WHEN THE CONVENTION STARTED. I TOOK PART IN TWO STUDY TOURS, ONE TO A RURAL SETTING WHERE A SMALL REGIONAL LIBRARY AND A FITNESS CENTRE HAD COME TOGETHER IN A LOCALLY OWNED STRIP MALL. BOTH WERE FUNCTIONS OF THE REGIONAL HALIFAX MUNICIPALITY AND WERE WELL USED BY ALL RESIDENTS.**
- **THAT SAME RURAL AREA HAD ALSO PURCHASED A CLOSED SCHOOL BUILDING FOR \$1, FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD, AND WERE USING THE TWO STOREY BUILDING AS A COMMUNITY CENTRE THAT HOUSED EVERYTHING FROM SENIORS ACTIVITIES TO PRESCHOOL GROUPS. VERY LITTLE HAD CHANGED FROM THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE DAYS, BUT IT WAS REFRESHING TO SEE THESE OLD HERITAGE BUILDINGS UTILIZED BY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY RATHER THAN BEING LEFT TO DETERIORATE.**
- **MY SECOND STUDY TOUR WAS TO THE 911 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE IN HALIFAX. ALL OF THEIR EMERGENCY CALLS OTHER THAN AMBULANCE (THAT IS A PRIVATE FUNCTION) ARE MANAGED OUT OF THIS CALL CENTRE WHICH ALSO ACTS AS THE EOC SHOULD IT NEED TO BE ACTIVATED. IT APPEARED TO OFFER A SEAMLESS FUNCTION DURING WHAT COULD BE VERY STRESSFUL TIMES.**
- **SOME OF THE WORKSHOPS I ATTENDED WERE A RURAL FORUM ON SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CANADA WHICH INCLUDED CONVERSATIONS AROUND BROADBAND AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING; A RURAL PLENARY FOR RURAL INNOVATION THAT INCLUDED AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION ON PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION; AND OPTIMIZING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT.**

- **AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE CARIBOU HERD DISCUSSION MANY LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE INVOLVED IN WHILST IN FT. NELSON AT NCLGA, THERE WAS A SIDEBAR MEETING HOSTED BY DEREK NIGHBOR, CEO OF THE FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, WITH MANY MAYORS AND RD CHAIRS ATTENDING. DELEGATES AT FCM FROM NORTHERN ALBERTA WERE SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING OVERWHELMING SUPPORT ON AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION OFF THE FLOOR, CALLING FOR THE FEDERAL GOVT. TO ENSURE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE AT THE TABLE BEFORE ANY LAND BASED DECISIONS ARE MADE. A DELEGATION FROM THIS GROUP WILL BE GOING TO OTTAWA TO MEET WITH THE FEDERAL MINISTRIES.**
- **I THEN ATTENDED THE BC REGIONAL PANEL FOR THE SELECTION OF A BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND A CHAIR FOR THE BC CAUCUS. IT WAS A VERY QUICK MEETING AS THERE WAS THE CORRECT NUMBER OF CANDIDATES TO FILL THE SLATE OF OFFICERS AND SO NO ELECTIONS WERE REQUIRED.**
- **ON JUNE 7/18, VICE CHAIR MASSIER, CAO MACLEAN AND I MET WITH 2 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BCWFS TO DISCUSS MANY ISSUES, INCLUDING OUR CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION FROM THEM DURING THE WINTER, DESPITE MEDIA RELEASES TO THE CONTRARY. I THINK ALL 3 OF US CAME AWAY WITH THE FEELING THAT VERY LITTLE IS GOING TO CHANGE WITH BCWFS THIS YEAR, OTHER THAN THEY HAVE COMMITTED TO MORE REGULAR AND USEFUL COMMUNICATIONS DURING A FIRE EVENT. THIS WAS EVIDENT IN THE ALLIE LAKE FIRE THIS SPRING IN THE KAMLOOPS FIRE CENTRE AREA.**
- **ON JUNE 12 & 13, CAO MACLEAN AND I HOSTED A 'TRI RD JOINT MEETING' BETWEEN FFGRD CHAIR KAEHN AND HIS CAO JIM MARTIN, & TNRD CHAIR JOHN RANTA AND HIS CAO SUKH GILL, AT SPRING HILLS RANCH. A CONSENSUS AGENDA WAS REACHED, AND THE DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED WAS ENLIGHTENING. WE DISCUSSED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, FIRE DEPT FUNDING, BUILDING INSPECTION, SOLID**

WASTE MGMT, AND BROADBAND AND CELL COVERAGE. OUT OF THIS MEETING THERE WILL BE A COUPLE OF TRI RD MEETING REQUESTS GOING TO MINISTER SIMS AND MINISTER HEYMAN AT UBCM THIS SEPTEMBER, AS WE FEEL THAT WE WILL HAVE MORE IMPACT GOING AS A LIKEMINDED GROUP RATHER THAN MEETING WITH MINISTERS ON SIMILAR ISSUES INDIVIDUALLY. PERSONALLY I CAN ONLY SAY THAT THERE IS A WILLINGNESS ON ALL 3 RD'S TO BUILD A WORKING COHESIVE PARTNERSHIP, BECAUSE AS WE DISCOVERED LAST YEAR, NATURAL DISASTERS DO NOT RESTRICT THEMSELVES TO RD BOUNDARIES.

- **ON JUNE 15 & 16, I TRAVELLED TO BARKERVILLE TO TAKE PART IN THE OFFICIAL OPENING AND TO WELCOME THE NEW CONSUL GENERAL OF CHINA, HER EXCELLENCY MADAME TONG, TO BARKERVILLE, WHERE SHE TOURED MANY OF THE CHINESE BUILDINGS AND ARTIFACTS THAT ARE FOUND THERE. SHE REITERATED HER DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CRD IN MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROJECTS.**

- **JUNE 18, I JOINED THE HERITAGE COMMITTEE IN A TOUR OF THE BRIDGE LAKE ICE CAVES. THE PROJECT IS NEARING COMPLETION, WITH THE TOTEM ENTRY POLES READY TO BE UNVEILED.**

- **AS AN AUXILIARY ITEM, AT THE CARIBOO CHILCOTIN LILLOUET RAC COMMITTEE FOR NDIT, WE HAD A PRESENTATION FROM SUSAN STANFORD, THE ADM FOR INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MINISTRY OF CITIZEN SERVICES. SHE PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON THE PROVINCIAL GOVTS. ASK OF THE FEDERAL GOVT. TO INCREASE FUNDING, AS BC IS BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR COMMUNITIES SERVICED WITH LESS THAN 50 mbps. SHE ENCOURAGED ALL RAC MEMBERS TO MEET WITH MINISTER SIMS AT UBCM TO SHOW A UNITED FRONT.**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,