

Chair report up to and including April 10/19

This report is designed to give Directors a brief overview of my activities on your behalf as Chair over the past few weeks. If there are any topics you would like more details on, please feel free to do so either as the report comes up on the Board Agenda, or with me personally.

- On March 26 & 27, CAO MacLean and I attended the Chair & CAO Forum in Victoria. The event was well attended by RD Chairs and CAOs from across the Province. Some of the topics discussed were the Fire Safety Act Working UBCM group presented by Director Richmond, with the issue of RD's doing Fire Safety inspections within their region, front and centre. This issue will continue to be discussed with the Province, and for us, one of the conundrums would be, how can we do Fire safety inspections when we don't have building permits required in all areas of the CRD?**
- Other topics on the agenda included Responsible conduct, Qualifications for Building and Plumbing Officials, Integrated communications, Asset Management, Solid waste, and Affordable housing. Representatives from the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs updated the attendees on Alternate Directors, Housing needs & Planning and Land use. The Nuts & Bolts session hosted by FFGRD Chair Art Kaehn, featured Cannabis legalization impacts, RD's approach to video conferencing & live streaming as it pertains to FOIPPA and Procedural bylaws, Downloading from other levels of Govt., Species at risk discussion, Transportation options since the demise of Greyhound to name a few. Minister Robinson addressed the attendees before the adjournment of the Forum.**
- On Thursday April 4 I attended a session in 100 Mile House hosted by the Tourism Café, that is working with stakeholders across the Province, gathering info and formulating priorities for Destination BC, in moving forward with promoting tourism in BC. I have attended a few of these over the years, and I am hopeful that the final document will provide Destination BC a clear guideline as to where the focus needs to be in the CCCTA area.**

- On Monday April 8 I was invited to a pre-meeting discussion with Darcy Peel, and I took Director Kirby with me. We then attended the Provincial Consultation on the Caribou issue and the proposed sanctuary in the Peace River RD along with Directors Forseth, Cobb & Campsall. Approximately 300 people were in attendance, with several questions arising after the Provincial and Federal presentations. Many are still not convinced that this is merely a formality the Provincial Govt. is conducting as its mandate. However, there has been a severe reaction to the proposed sanctioned area in the Peace River RD area, which appears to have surprised both the Province and Federal Govts. Apparently Ministers Donaldson & Heyman are closely monitoring these consultative meetings.
- I have been asked to sit on a UBCM Flood and Wildfire advisory committee along with other RD Chairs Rolly Russell from the Kootenay Boundary RD and Art Kaehn from the Fraser Fort George RD. The Kelowna Fire Chief Travis Whiting, Ms. Kinneman from the Fraser Valley RD and Arjun Singh UBCM President, round out the committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo A. Wagner