



Date: 30/05/2019

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

To: Chair and Directors, Cariboo Regional District Board

And To: Choose an item.

From: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

Date of Meeting: Cariboo Regional District Board_Jun07_2019

File: 1855-01

Short Summary:

History of the Northern Capital and Planning Grant

Voting:

Corporate Vote - Unweighted

Memorandum:

At the May 24, 2019 meeting the Board requested a report on the Northern Capital and Planning Grant.

Background

In 2014, twenty-one local governments formed the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA). The RBA was formed to “*negotiate a new funding agreement with the Province to ensure that the Northwest benefits from the tremendous level of economic development activity in the region*”.

While the process was started in 2014, the RBA notes that the successful engagement with the Province took place after the 2017 election. The RBA specifically noted the funding agreements in the Columbia Basin (the Columbia Basin Trust) and the Fair Share Agreement in the Northeast.

The Announcement

On February 16, 2019 the Province announced a \$100 million infrastructure funding program for the Regional District of Fraser Fort George, Regional District of Bulkley Nechako, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, and North Coast Regional District and the 22 municipalities in the region.

Of note, Premier Horgan said “*The rich resources and hard-working people of the Northwest have long contributed more than their fair share to the prosperity of our Province....Unfortunately the benefits of success have been slow to flow back to the region,*

leaving communities with aging infrastructure that does not meet their needs or the needs of industry.”

The Province had to make some regulatory changes in order to enact this program. For reference, Burns Lake, population 1800, reportedly received \$3 million. Those funds can be used to construct infrastructure, leverage other funding opportunities, or to place it in reserves for future opportunities.

Attachments:

News Release – Province of British Columbia

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Policy Implications:

Not applicable

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- Ensuring Sufficient and Sustainable Funding
- Building on our Relationships
- Providing Cost Effective High Quality Services
- Focusing on Being Well Governed

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CAO Comments:

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Options:

- 1) Receipt
- 2) Receipt and other action
- 3) Defer

Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from John M. MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer, dated May 30, 2019, regarding the History of the Northern Capital and Planning Grant, be received. *Further action at the discretion of the Board.*