

Chair report up to and including October 2/2019

As always, this report is designed to give Directors an update on my activities as Chair since the last Board meeting. Questions and concerns generated by my report are welcomed.

- Although not strictly a CRD Chair function, there is always interest around NDIT and its functions, so on October 17/19 the Cariboo Chilcotin Lillooet RAC met for its quarterly meeting in 100 Mile House. Due to a decision made by this RAC more than a year ago to set limits as to the amount of funds that will be approved at each RAC meeting, ensuring sufficient funds for an intake that would be approved at the fall meeting, all of the applications brought forward to the September meeting were approved, and will now move to the Board for ratification this month.
- Ravi Kahlon (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister Donaldson) made another visit to 100 Mile house on October 18/19. The purpose was to learn more about the \$69M aid package to the forestry industry, however, there was no mention that some of the funding for this would come from the curtailment of the Rural Dividend Fund. I did ask the question, as to what has happened to unused funds from this year's fire fighting budget, as I was sure that it had not all been spent this summer. Apparently I was not the first to ask the question, and according to Ravi, there is no money left, mainly due to BCWFS being ready with fixed wing aircraft and crews stationed around the Province to enhance the quick response they had hoped to achieve should a severe fire season materialize.
- UBCM was well attended, but extremely busy. I was asked to sit in on other meetings with some Mayors, and Regional Districts, as well as attending the CRD meetings with Ministers and staff. Overall the meetings were well received, and I will be meeting with MOTI in Kamloops in the near future to address some of the other issues that we were unable to get appointments for.

- Whilst in Vancouver, I was invited to meet with a mining company, that has already started drilling for tungsten, in my electoral area. The company feels optimistic that the mine will go ahead, and it is continuing to deal with Caribou issues, but feel that those issues will be resolved soon. Should the mine go ahead, it will provide up to 200 jobs in the area, providing significant economic benefit to the S. Cariboo.
- The presentation from EMBC on the new Emergency Program Act that the Fire & Flood review committee I sit on, has been working towards, appears to have been well received. Apparently SILGA has already committed to a special meeting of their membership to discuss the draft. I did explain to Cameron Lewis from EMBC, that calling a special meeting for NCLGA has many challenges, notwithstanding the massive area it covers and the weather in November. I did commit to talking with NCLGA President Lara Beckett, which I have already done, and I have left it in her capable hands. The option of the LGLA/EA forum is too late for a major discussion, as it will not fit the timeline Govt. has set, to bring this to the Legislature in the fall of 2020.
- Monday September 30 saw Orange shirt day celebrations across Canada. It was my honour to speak at both events in Williams lake, and in 100 Mile House. Every year the number of attendees grows, as the awareness also grows. To see how this has grown world wide, when it all started in Williams lake, is inspiring.

Respectfully submitted,