

## CHAIR REPORT UP TO & INCLUDING JULY 8/20

This report is designed to keep you apprised of some of my activities over the past few weeks. As always if there are any questions or concerns arising from it, please don't hesitate to contact me,

I hope that many of you took part in the NCLGA virtual AGM that was held over the past few weeks. Although it was very different from what we are used to, it achieved the necessary requirements of an AGM, and congratulations to Director Steve Forseth who was elected as Second Vice President. I'm sure he will do a great job.

Conference calls are continuing with MP Todd Doherty about every 3 – 4 weeks. They continue to be informative, both for local Govt. officials on the calls, but also for Todd. I am hopeful that he will have a better understanding of some of the frustration that we in local Govt. tend to experience when dealing with Federal programs. I continue to question the amount of time it is taking to get connectivity Federal dollars out the door in a timely manner. This lag time is slowing down several local projects that are being funded by the Connecting BC program.

Our calls with Minister Robinson have slowed to every 4 weeks, but they continue to be well attended, with several questions and concerns around the re-opening of the Province during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Leaders Moving Forward meetings chaired by Mayor Cobb, are continuing every month, but have gone to a Zoom format, and seem to be working well, with more participants. It is always a varied group around the table that leads to some engaging conversation and discussion.

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, it was my honour, along with CAO MacLean & Director Delainey, to attend the ground breaking ceremony of the Williams Lake First Nation Cannabis Production Facility on Reserve land, next to the Indigenous Bloom Cannabis store. The event was well attended, and the facility will offer construction jobs, and full time employment within the facility that will benefit the region as a whole.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, CAO MacLean, Vice Chair Massier and I attended the roundtable discussion of potential stakeholders in a Community Forest in the Quesnel area that included 4 First Nations, the CRD & the city of Quesnel. The discussion was

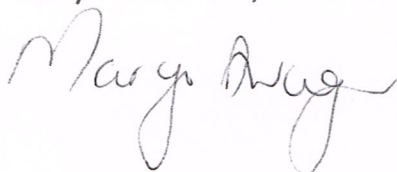
facilitated by Mike Simpson from Fraser Basin, and it was certainly a good first step. The synopsis of the day will go back to FLNROD for further discussion and engagement.

On June 25<sup>th</sup> I took part in a Zoom meeting hosted by Simon Fraser University, who have been hired by the District of 100 mile House to facilitate meetings with stakeholders, local Govt. & First Nations in the S. Cariboo, that have been severely impacted by the Forestry down turn, Covid-19 & the forest fires of 2017.

The Northern Medical Program Trust held its AGM via Zoom on June 26<sup>th</sup>. The CCRHD donates funds every year to this program to assist healthcare students attending UNBC with costs associated with their courses. The travelling medical roadshow that was through the Cariboo a couple of years ago, is one of the programs funded by NMPT. I would be happy to send the agenda out, with all of the items discussed, to any of you that are interested. Directors are only allowed to serve 4 years at one time on the Board (comprising of 2 x 2 year terms), and this meant that the President for the past 2 years, Mayor Lyn Hall had to step down. It was an honour for me to be acclaimed as President, along with Brad Sperling as Vice President. It should be noted that this is an honorary position with no remuneration or expenses, as the meetings are usually held at conventions local Govt officials attend.

Due to the pandemic, Mr. Keam did a great job of doing video messages from the CRD Board for both National Indigenous Day & Canada Day celebrations. It seemed strange not going to the events in person, but I have heard from many that the videos were well received.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Margy Mugg".