

Chair report up to & including November 10/20

Along with many of my fellow directors, I have been involved in numerous conference calls with Government agencies & staff regarding the serious issues we are currently experiencing in the CRD, including road closures due to land slippage, household flooding from culverts, and the concern that we have regarding the freshet of 2021. Most creeks and lakes within the CRD are currently at a moderate spring freshet level, and yet we are in the late fall. I feel that the Governmental agencies are realizing that with a normal snowpack and normal spring rains, this region is going to be severely impacted with flooding, causing more land slippage and road closures.

This pressing issue was front and centre during my recent conversation with MLA Elect Doerkson. CAO MacLean and I gave him an overview of where we are currently at with the flooding issues that are prevalent in his riding, along with the impact of saturated ground, normal snowfall and rain that may produce some serious issues in the spring of 2021. MLA Elect Doerkson was frank about his steep learning curve, but I feel our discussion was productive and I feel confident that the CRD will continue to foster a good working relationship with him over the next 4 years. I have extended a personal invite to MLA Oakes to have a similar discussion regarding the road closures and land slippage that is predominant in her riding, but have yet to hear back from her.

On Friday October 30/20, Director Massier & I took part in a conference call with Artemis Gold, updating us on their progress since acquiring Blackwater Mine, south of Vanderhoof. The mine is projected to have a 15-23 year lifespan, and the Environmental Assessment that was completed in 2019 has not been impacted, even though there has been some change to the positioning of some of the ore stockpile location. Start of construction of the mine itself, is slated to begin in the 2nd quarter of 2022, but drilling operations were scheduled to begin November 2/20, with the Blackwater camp now being fully operational for employees. The office in Vanderhoof will continue with Val Erickson, who has been the stakeholder liaison for years, continuing in that position.

As always if there are any questions or concerns about my report, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo A. Wagner