

## Chair report up to & including May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

I'm sure we have all been surprised that we are dealing with wildfires in April along with spring freshet issues. It's concerning how a wet spring will help the wildfire concerns but could add to landslides and flooding.

- On April 21<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Massier, Acting CAO Johnston, Manager Whitehead and I had a meeting with Gord Keener – Xat'sull Treaty Manager. Gord updated us on the Treaty discussions of NStQ particularly with regard to work with the CRD in understanding our governance and how eventually they may become a fully engaged member of the CRD Board along with other Indigenous communities within the CRD boundaries. This process started pre Covid with previous CAO Bell and Gord, and now will resume.
- April 26<sup>th</sup> was the AGM of NDIT, and I'm honored to announce that I was acclaimed as Chair for another year. Barry Pages (from Haida Gwaii) has filled the vacant Vice-Chair position, and other executive members include Julie Ziebart (from Prince George) and Doug Donaldson (from Hazelton). Each of the 3 Trusts serving the Province received \$10M from Minister Bailey, which according to the Act we function under, has required that the Act be reopened and reviewed now there has been more money allocated. NDIT staff and the Board are now working with the Provincial staff to facilitate this, as there are some changes that NDIT would like to see in the Act, some of

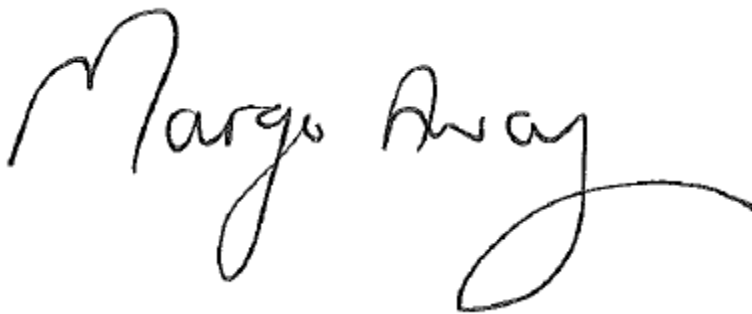
which are suggestions from the Legislative reviews we are obliged to complete every 5 years.

- Mr. Whitehead and I were invited to a zoom meeting with Eric Kristianson, the ADM for Science, Policy & Inspection, to chat about some of the concerns the CRD has with the Agricultural Land Commission Act. Mr. Kristianson, was clear, that although the ALC is an Independent Provincial Tribunal, his Ministry does have a role to play in suggesting changes and expressing concerns with current policies of the ALC. Many of the concerns that we brought forward including soil & fill regulations, the current ALR boundaries, second residential dwellings on ALR land and ALR exclusion applications were all issues that he had heard before from other local Govts. We expressed our strong concerns over the apparent lack of transparency with the ALC in regard to moving towards reconciliation and recognition of the inherent rights of Indigenous peoples under UNDRIP and DriPA. He was able to share with us, that the ALC is aware of this, and is attempting to move towards improvement in this regard.
- Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the S. Cariboo tourism center held an open house which I attended for a while. There are lots of new items for sale and the staff were busy engaging with tourists that had stopped by for information on the area. Staff reported that the center had been busier than this time last year and felt that the S. Cariboo could be rebounding in tourism to pre-Covid days. Fishing is

expected to be a big attraction as apparently many of the lakes in the Kamloops area have experienced a loss of fish due to a harsh winter, this should bode well for the Cariboo.

- UBCM staff have been in contact with me regarding the new Emergency Program Act. I was asked to submit a document outlining our concerns over some of the proposed requirements regarding consultation with our Indigenous partners, which thanks to Ms. Masun and her staff, we were able to do. That document was discussed at length by various Ministry meetings, and I think a clearer understanding of our concerns may have occurred. The introduction of the Act has been delayed until September, and more confidential conversations are occurring at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margo Bray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.