

Chair report up to & including February 26/24

These past few weeks have centered on dealing with phone calls of concern from many regions of BC, regarding the proposed Land Management Act changes – now cancelled by the Province. Also phone calls complimenting the EA specific flyer regarding taxation that was sent out to every property owner within the Regional District. I have also had a few calls, concerned about what the potential property taxes could be once the Province has completed their assessment.

The new EDMA regulations pertaining to the new act continue to be a source of concern for Regional Districts, and the majority of the RD Chairs are in constant communication with each other, the Province and UBCM, hoping that a separate RD working group will be struck, to work with the Province and UBCM to ensure sustainable funding and assistance in complying with the new Act, particularly in regards to First Nation engagement.

It was my honour to volunteer and speak on behalf of the RD at the BC Lhtako Quesnel Winter Games. The event was well attended by athletes and spectators that were able to watch some excellent events for free. As always, events such as this, are impossible to host without hundreds of volunteers – 1460 to be precise, and they did respond to the request for help – young and older came out, local and non local, and the pride in their community showed at every event I attended. Although I was unable to attend the cross country ski events that were

moved to Barkerville due to lack of snow, watching the racers on TV fly through the streets of Barkerville was magic, and I am sure will go down as a forever memory for the young athletes.

On Friday evening February 23rd, the S. Cariboo Chamber hosted a meet and greet for businesses in the S. Cariboo at the 100 Mile Bowling lanes. It was a pleasure to attend along with MLA Doerkson and Mayor Pinkney. We all had an opportunity to give a welcome and short speech, and although the majority of the Chamber members operate within the District, there are many businesses in the rural area around 100 Mile, some of them enjoy the benefits of Chamber membership. It was an enjoyable evening meeting several of these business owners.

The UBCM EA representative Jeri-Lyn Kirk, held the first zoom call open to EA Directors across the Province. Unfortunately I was driving to Prince George during the call and kept losing the connection, but what I did hear was useful and I think beneficial to be able to have these conversations more often. It is refreshing to have an EA rep that engages throughout the year, not just at conventions.

Respectfully submitted,

