

NOTICE: That a Regular Meeting of the District of Barriere Municipal Council will be held at District Hall, 4936 Barriere Town Road, in Barriere, B.C. on September 21, 2026 at 5:30pm for the transaction of business listed below.

Daniel Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer

AGENDA

*"We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples of Simpcw First Nation
within whose lands we are meeting today."*

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

That Council approve the September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a. That Council adopt the minutes of the August 31, 2026 Regular Council Meeting.

3. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – none scheduled.

4. STAFF REPORTS

- a. 2025 Annual Report – J. Mosdell, DCO
Recommendation: THAT Council approve the 2025 Annual Report as presented.
- b. Accessibility Plan 2026-2029 – T. Buchanan, CO
**submitted for information*
- c. Department Updates – Department Heads
**submitted for information*

5. BYLAWS and POLICIES

- a. DRAFT Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 281 – K. Abel, CFO
Recommendation: THAT Council give 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings to Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 281.
- b. DRAFT Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 282 – K. Abel, CFO
Recommendation: THAT Council give 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings to Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 282.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. For Information
- b. For Action - none submitted

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

9. PUBLIC INQUIRIES

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

11. CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Sections 90(1)(e)(i)(k) of the Community Charter, that the public interest requires that persons other than Council Members and required staff be excluded from the meeting and that Council continues the meeting in closed session to discuss confidential matters.

12. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

13. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION *(if required)*

14. NEXT MEETING – *October 5, 2026 @ 5:30pm*

15. ADJOURNMENT

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday, August 31, 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers at Municipal Hall
4936 Barriere Town Road, Barriere, B.C.

*"We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples of Simpcw First Nation
within whose traditional lands we are meeting today."*

Present: Mayor Rob Kerslake
Councillor Judy Armstrong - *absent*
Councillor Louise Lodge - *absent*
Councillor Brody Mosdell
Councillor Donna Kibble - *absent*
Councillor Colin McInnis
Councillor Scott Kershaw

Staff: Daniel Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer
Kathy Abel, Chief Financial Officer
Chris Matthews, Public Works Manager
Tasha Buchanan, Corporate Officer

Mayor Kerslake called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Mosdell
Seconded by Councillor McInnis
That Council approve the August 31, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a. Moved by Councillor Mosdell
Seconded by Councillor Kershaw
That Council adopt the minutes of the August 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting.

CARRIED

3. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – none scheduled

4. STAFF REPORTS

- a. 2026 Q3 Strategic Plan 2026-2028 Update – D. Drexler, CAO
**submitted for information*

High-level updates of the following strategic priorities were provided as outlined in the written report:

- Implement an Organizational Asset Management Program
- Fiscally Responsible Operations
- Create Opportunities for Community Growth, and
- General Governance and Community Engagement

Council agreed to hold further housing discussions at Strategic Planning, post election.

- b. Roads Department Progress Update – Public Works Manager/CAO
**submitted for information*

As part of the 2026-2030 Financial Plan, to successfully establish the Roads Department, Council approved a \$150,000 capital budget which included the procurement of equipment and

tools and materials needed for the job, and the construction of the storage shed. Below is a high level summary of the expenses to date:

Item	Rough \$ amount (inclusive PST)
International Plow Truck	\$48,000
Ford F450	\$22,500
Various Smaller Tools & Equipment	\$22,500
Sand Storage Design & Trusses	\$7,000
Sand Storage Construction (estimated)	\$25,000
TOTAL	\$125,000

The next step is to procure an asset tracking platform that incorporates Global Positioning System (GPS) and the use of camera technology on some vehicles. At present, with the GPS system included for 2026 the total projected cost would be \$134,000, so still roughly \$16,000 under budget.

- c. Capital Projects Update – J. Mosdell, DCO
**submitted for information*

Council was provided an overview of the written report from the CAO. It was added that over the weekend, Deep Well #3 suffered an issue. Notice has been given to affected properties in the Riverwalk area. The extent of the damage is currently being assessed. If necessary, further water restrictions may be necessary while repair work takes place.

5. BYLAWS and POLICIES

- a. DRAFT Officers & Delegation of Authority Bylaw No. 278 – D. Drexler, CAO

Moved by Mayor Kerslake

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

1. THAT Officers & Delegations of Authority Bylaw No. 278 be adopted; and

Moved by Mayor Kerslake

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

2. THAT the following Policies be rescinded:

- **Policy No. 18 – Budget Transfer Authority;**
- **Policy No. 21 – Remote Access Policy;**
- **Policy No. 26 – Accounting Software Access Policy;**
- **Policy No. 28 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy;**
- **Policy No. 30 – Human Resources Basics Policy; and**
- **Policy No. 38 – Staff Training and Development Policy.**

CARRIED

- b. DRAFT Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 279 – Societies 2027 – T. Buchanan, CO

Moved by Councillor Kershaw

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 279 be adopted.

CARRIED

- c. DRAFT Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 280 – Places of Worship 2027 – T. Buchanan, CO

Moved by Mayor Kerslake

Seconded by Councillor Kershaw

THAT Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 280 be adopted.

CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. For Information

It was noted that staff received an email today inviting Convention attendees to request a meeting with the UBCM Grant Review Committee. Staff will request a meeting with the Committee for those on Council attending this year's UBCM Convention.

- b. For Action - *none submitted*

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

- a. Councillor Mosdell provided a verbal update on the following:
- Volunteered to sell tickets for the RCMP Musical Ride held at the Fall Fair Grounds.
- b. Councillor McInnis provided a verbal update on the following:
- Looking forward to discussions regarding Barriere's Policing needs at this year's UBCM Convention.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kerslake provided a verbal update on the following:

- Participated in a number of TNRD Board and Committee Meetings. Bylaws and Policy updates have been a priority. As of August 13th, the TNRD Wildfire Response costs are roughly \$5,000,000.
- Along with Mr. Drexler and Ms. Buchanan, met with a Paradigm representative regarding their housing needs in the area.
- At the RCMP Musical Ride, met with the area Sargeant regarding the policing needs of the Valley. Additional discussions have been made with this Sargeant, and he has indicated his support of Council's requests regarding policing in Barriere.
- Letters have been sent to the Ministry of Immigration regarding physician recruitment needs and some barriers that occur regarding retention.

9. **PUBLIC INQUIRIES** – *none presented.*

10. **NOTICE OF MOTION** – *none presented.*

11. CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor McInnis

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT pursuant to Sections 90(1)(c)(e)(k) of the Community Charter, that the public interest requires that persons other than Council Members and required staff be excluded from the meeting and that Council continues the meeting in closed session to discuss confidential matters at 6:10p.m.

CARRIED

12. **RECONVENE OPEN MEETING** – *the meeting reconvened into open session at 7:26p.m.*

13. **NEXT MEETING** – *September 21, 2026 @ 5:30pm*

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor McInnis that the meeting adjourn at 7:26p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor Rob Kerslake

T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Introduction to the 2025 Annual Report

Section 98 of the Community Charter requires the District of Barriere to prepare an annual report regarding financial and operational information.

This annual report includes a progress report respecting the previous year in relation to objectives and measures established for that year. The report also sets out current and future year objectives and measures. This results in a rolling three, and as of the new term of Council in 2022, now four-year reporting cycle for identifying our achievement of objectives for the previous year, and then setting objectives and measures for the current and following year.

Section 99 of the Community Charter requires that the Municipal Council annually consider, at a council meeting or other public meeting, the municipal annual report and any submissions or questions from the public.

We would like to “thank you” in advance for taking the time to review the District of Barriere’s 2025 Annual Report. Comments and feedback regarding this report or any other items that pertain to the District of Barriere are welcomed and encouraged and may be directed to our Administration or Finance Departments by calling 250.672.9751 or by email to inquiry@barriere.ca.



2025 Annual Report
January 1 to December 31, 2025

This document was prepared by the Corporate Services Department, with departmental information provided by each Department Head.

Photos courtesy of members of staff

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COMMUNITY OVERVIEW



Barriere, British Columbia is a growing, friendly and affordable community that currently boasts 1763 residents who enjoy an urban yet rural lifestyle. Located on the Yellowhead Highway, just 45 minutes north of Kamloops, BC, Barriere became a District Municipality on December 4, 2007. Barriere Council consists of the Mayor and six (6) Councillors. Local Government elections are held every four years. A new Council was elected on October 20, 2022 and their four-year term will come to an end in October of 2026 at the next election.

Recreational opportunities are plentiful for enthusiasts of many activities including great fishing, spectacular hiking, canoeing and cross-country skiing. Downhill skiing is very close at Sun Peaks Resort south of Barriere. Gentle walking and cycling trails are accessible from the town centre. Fadedear park is now home to a Splash Pad, a long-awaited skate park and updates have been done to the District's Multi-Purpose Court which include the construction of a new warming hut. The North Thompson Fall Fair and Rodeo Association (NTFFRA) has been held in the Barriere area every Labour Day weekend since 1950.

The overall content and success of the Fair is fueled by hundreds of volunteer hours logged all year round to make this the largest single event in the North Thompson Valley. Recent statistics reveal almost 10,000 visitors over the three-day affair.

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE COMMUNITY VISION, MISSION & VALUE STATEMENTS

Vision:

To be an inclusive, sustainable, and proud rural community with a progressive economy that provides purposeful services and a vibrant lifestyle.

Mission:

To provide municipal services that meet the growing needs and enrich the quality of life within our community.

Values:

- ✓ *Conducting the business of the community with integrity, accountability and transparency.*
- ✓ *Inclusive and welcoming to raise a family where everyone wants to live, work and play in a safe active lifestyle.*
- ✓ *Strong, accepting and friendly rural community where families live and grow together.*
- ✓ *A location that provides purposeful services that meet the needs of residents and business.*
- ✓ *Excellence in community involvement with events and activities for all ages.*
- ✓ *Supportive community that provides a vibrant lifestyle that enhances both our quality of life and wellbeing for families and residents.*
- ✓ *Leadership in rural community lifestyle by showcasing our resilience, engagement and achievements together.*
- ✓ *Stand on our own as an emerging vibrant community as an Independent sustainable rural community,*
- ✓ *Protecting our families and residents to the highest possible level.*
- ✓ *Embraces change while respecting our natural environment, rich traditional heritage and recognize that families want a healthy balanced lifestyle and prosperous economy.*

Hello Barriere, from the District of Barriere Council

As we look back on 2025, it's clear this has been a very busy and productive time for our community. It has also been a period of significant change, both around the Council table and within the District organization.

This year, Barriere went through a by-election following the election of our former Mayor, Ward Stamer, as our MLA representing us in the Legislature. In March, I had the privilege of transitioning from Councillor to Mayor. My vacant Council seat was filled by Brody Mosdell, one of the younger members of our community to step forward for local government. Brody brought a younger demographic and perspective to the Council table that had been missing, adding another important voice as we make decisions about Barriere's future.

There were also significant changes within our organization. We welcomed a new Chief Administrative Officer, a new Chief Financial Officer, a Deputy Corporate Officer, and an Accounting Clerk. We have a great team of staff across all areas of the District, and their level of dedication to our community is remarkable.

One of the milestones I am particularly proud of was signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Simpcw First Nation. This agreement was in the works throughout my entire time on Council and represents an important step forward in our relationship. We have continued advocating for better healthcare, improved highway safety, better communication and service from BC Hydro, and improvements to telecommunications services through Telus. Building relationships and making sure Barriere's voice is heard at the regional, provincial, and federal levels remains extremely important.

We broke ground this year on our new wastewater treatment plant, a major infrastructure investment that will serve our community well in the future and welcomed new businesses to the Louis Creek Industrial Park, while Simpcw Resource Group completed the Teniye Market and continues to look toward future expansion.

We also finally accomplished a long-standing goal for Council and the community with the creation of the Barriere Business Centre. We were pleased to welcome Taseko Mines to Barriere as a major tenant of the BBC. This building is another example of taking an existing community asset and finding a way to put it to productive use while supporting economic development. We began refreshing our Official Community Plan, an important process that will help guide how Barriere grows and develops in the years ahead.

I am proud of the progress we have made during a period of considerable change. There is still much more work to do. Council and our dedicated staff will continue working hard to achieve the outcomes our residents, businesses, and community deserve.

None of this work happens in isolation. It takes cooperation between Council, Staff, other levels of government, Simpcw First Nation, our businesses, community organizations, and, most importantly, the people who call Barriere home.



MESSAGE

FROM THE MAYOR

Rob Kerlake

Mayor, District of Barriere

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE Council

*L-R: Councillor Louise Lodge,
Councillor Brody Mosdell
Mayor Rob Kerslake,
Councillor Scott Kershaw,
Councillor Judy Armstrong
Councillor Colin McInnis,
Councillor Donna Kibble*



Our citizens are represented by an elected Council consisting of the Mayor and six Councillors. Council also meets to discuss civic matters in a more informal Committee structure. Members of the public join Council representatives on other Select Committees, as well.

Regular Council meetings are normally held at the District office at 5:30 pm on Monday every 3 weeks, unless otherwise advised. Committee meetings are held throughout the year as needed. Due to Provincial Health Orders & Guidelines, the District of Barriere Council, along with most local governments, began hosting their meeting electronically via audio-conference in 2020/2021. Council used funds received from the Provincial Government which was provided to help offset costs in managing operations as part of its Communicable Disease Prevention Plan, to purchase audio-visual equipment to permit hybrid participation and live streaming. This equipment has been installed, and all public meetings are now live streamed.

Mayor Ward Stamer resigned on October 21, 2024, following his successful election as the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Kamloops-North Thompson. Councillor Rob Kerslake was appointed Acting Mayor until the by-election was held in March 2025. This by-election resulted in the election of Rob Kerslake as Mayor and Brody Mosdell as Councillor.

Please visit www.barriere.ca for up to date meeting agendas, minutes and to access the live-stream meeting links.



COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Committee of the Whole - *Standing Committee*

A Committee of the Whole (C.O.W) comprises all members of Council. At the beginning of 2013, Council delegated administrative power to the Committee of the Whole, meaning, decisions made during its meetings would no longer require being reported back to Council for final approval.

Either the Mayor or the Acting Mayor of the month in which the Committee of the Whole Meeting is to be held, may preside as Chair. No Bylaws can be formally read or adopted in Committee of the Whole (C.O.W).

Recreation Committee - *Standing Committee*

Chair: Councillor Louise Lodge

Members: Councillor Donna Kibble, Councillor Brody Mosdell, Jen Crosman, Glenda Feller

Staff Liaison: Jamie Mosdell

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - *Working Group*

Members: Councillor Louise Lodge, Councillor Brody Mosdell, Chris Matthews, Public Works Manager



2025 Parks & Recreation Department Overview



Warming Hut



Exercise Equipment



Splash Pad & Park View



Barriere Skate Park



Ballfields



Wildfire Monument

Parks

Department Overview

The Parks Department is largely seasonal, with up to three crew members during peak season. Much of their time is dedicated to the weekly mowing and maintenance of approximately 30 acres of parkland and public spaces, but the team also carries out a wide variety of other responsibilities.

These include the spring start-up and winterization of the community's irrigation systems, splash pad, concession, and public washrooms. There are also various cemetery related duties, roadside vegetation control, and the upkeep of 64 flower beds and planters. Regular duties extend to the care of the ball fields, community garden, bike park, skate park, multi-use court and warming hut, playgrounds, dog park, bandshell, and restored wildfire monument, as well as noxious weed management and general park infrastructure upkeep.

In 2025, Parks staff focused on enhancing community landscaping and planting additional trees throughout Barriere, supporting the District's commitment to greener, more welcoming public spaces.

Wastewater Department Overview

The District of Barriere is responsible for three Wastewater Treatment Facilities:

1. The "Clary Developments Wastewater Treatment Facility" (Siska) which is a Small Wastewater System that treats roughly 4,500L/day of domestic wastewater in a small area in the North/West part of Barriere.
2. The "Barriere Acres Sewer System" (Riverwalk) which is a Class II Facility, treating roughly 5,000L of domestic wastewater for a group of homes in the North section of Spruce Cr. and Birch Ln.
3. The "District of Barriere Downtown Wastewater System" (previously known as "SAWRC") is our main downtown wastewater treatment plant and is a Class II Facility that currently processes around 120,000L/day of municipal wastewater.

The downtown facility performed relatively well in 2025 utilizing a conventional activated sludge treatment process. Effluent quality has been better and more consistent in contrast to what the Solar Aquatics system had produced in the past. However, the system still lacks true stability and requires a significant amount of labor to maintain good quality and consistent wastewater treatment. The District has been awarded grant funding and has initiated preliminary steps to construct a more capable and reliable treatment system within a District owned lot off Kamloops Street.

Overall, 2025 was a positive year for wastewater. Each facility was able to achieve acceptable effluent quality results and are currently on track for another good year in 2026.

2025 – Wastewater Department



2025 Administrative Activities & Highlights

Council Highlights

18 Regular Council meetings were held
1 Special Council meeting was held
6 Committee meetings were held
1 Public Budget Discussion meeting was held
0 Public Hearings were conducted
1 Development Variance Permits (DVP) were submitted
1 Board of Variance Applications (BOV's) were submitted
6 Development Permit Application were submitted
9 Subdivision Applications were submitted
1 Rezoning Applications were submitted
15 Bylaws were passed
35 Bylaw complaint files were opened & responded to

Plans and Grant Applications

The following list shows the status of studies/plans and grants that have been applied for in 2025:

Grants

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. BC Hydro Community ReGreening | Successful |
| 2. CEPF EOC Equipment and Training | Successful |
| 3. CEPF Fire Departments Equipment | Successful |
| 4. Canadian Heritage - Canada Day | Successful |
| 5. LNTCFS - Community Park | Successful |
| 6. REDIP Growing Communities | Un-successful |
| 7. Strategic Communities Fund - Capacity Stream | Un-successful |
| 8. Strategic Communities Fund - Capital Stream | Un-successful |

Status



Just a few of the trees that were planted with funds received from the BC Hydro Community Re-Greening Grant

Official Community Plan (OCP) refresh planning began in 2025, marking the start of a comprehensive review of the District's long-term vision, land use policies, and growth priorities to help guide future community planning

What is an Official Community Plan?

An Official Community Plan (OCP) is a comprehensive document that states a community's vision for future growth and development. Feedback from residents and interest groups is an important foundation to ensure that the needs of a community are reflected in the OCP. In turn, this document serves as a guiding policy tool for local government, helping to inform decisions on key areas such as:

- **Land Use and Growth Management:** The OCP defines where and how development should occur within the community.
- **Housing Needs:** It addresses the availability, diversity, and affordability of housing.
- **Infrastructure:** It outlines plans for essential services and facilities that support community needs.
- **Transportation and Mobility:** It addresses transportation networks and accessibility for residents.
- **Parks and Recreation:** It identifies areas for recreational spaces and community amenities.
- **Arts, Culture, and Heritage:** It promotes the preservation and enhancement of local cultural assets.
- **Environmental Protection:** It includes strategies for protecting natural areas and promoting sustainability.
- **Climate Change:** It outlines approaches to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.

Ultimately, the OCP serves as a crucial resource for citizens, developers, and the District council in guiding future development and enhancing quality of life.

How does the Official Community Plan Affect Me?

The Official Community Plan (OCP) has a direct impact on you by shaping the future of your community. Here's how:

- **Land Use and Development:** If you're thinking about subdividing your land, the OCP will outline what is permissible and how it fits into the overall community plan.
- **Housing:** If you believe there's a lack of suitable housing, your input can help prioritize new developments that meet local needs.
- **Access to Services:** Your views on access to businesses and services are crucial. The OCP can influence where amenities such as shops and healthcare facilities are located, affecting your daily convenience.
- **Greenspaces and Trails:** If you'd like to see more parks and trails, your feedback can guide the creation of these spaces, improving your community's livability and recreational options.
- **Environmental Protection:** If you're concerned about protecting natural areas or farmland, your voice can advocate for sustainable practices and conservation efforts in the plan.

Community involvement in this process is essential, as it ensures that the OCP reflects the collective priorities and goals of the community.

Getting involved in the OCP Refresh process is essential. It ensures that your concerns are heard and that the plan reflects the needs and aspirations of your community.

Your participation helps shape a future that benefits everyone.



By-Election Held in 2025 for Mayor and Councillor



Form No. 14-3
LGA s.146(2)(b), VC s.108(2)(b)

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE

DECLARATION OF OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS LOCAL BY- ELECTION - 2025 COUNCIL

I, **Tasha Buchanan**, Chief Election Officer, do hereby declare elected the following candidates, who received the highest number of valid votes for the office for the office of

MAYOR: 1. Rob Kerslake

and for the office of

COUNCILLOR: 1. Brody Mosdell

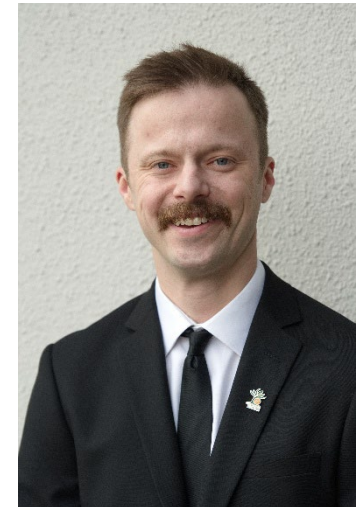
Dated at the District of Barriere, BC

this 3rd day of March, 2025.


Chief Election Officer



Mayor Kerslake



Councillor Mosdell

On October 19th, 2024, Ward Stamer was officially Elected as MLA for the Kamloops North Thompson and subsequently resigned as Mayor of the District of Barriere.

Councillor Rob Kerslake was appointed "Acting Mayor" for the District of Barriere until a local by-election was called on March 1, 2025 in which Rob Kerslake was elected Mayor and Brody Mosdell was elected Councillor.



Water Utility

Monthly & Annual Water Usage

Month	2025 PW1	2025 DW2	2025 DW3	2024 PW1	2024 DW2	2024 DW3
January	332	13577	13493	270	12090	13169
February	850	14231	15318	261	15773	15697
March	326	14763	15045	218	22655	10899
April	271	15982	16399	541	12866	13072
May	387	20557	28319	237	19002	23695
June	3154	23939	37210	269	19911	25363
July	733	21009	36042	2016	25981	38358
August	417	21735	32427	3038	24134	30717
September	4865	36539	2934	167	17479	21405
October	2304	18354	4662	370	12725	12454
November	412	10100	9367	268	10770	11114
December	666	11884	11760	292	12178	12371

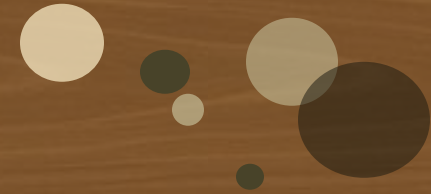
Total Annual Water Consumption 2025 = 460,363 m³

Barriere- Average Consumption per person, per day (pop.1,932) in 2025: 0.65 m³ / 172.5 US Gallons

*Clearwater Annual 2025 Water Consumption Total -1,455,386 m³ (pop. 2,491)

Building Inspection Department

Permit Statistics



	2022	2023	2024	2025
Barriere: Total Permits Issued	55	34	32	21
Construction Value	\$3,831,000	\$2,675,000	\$1,775,715	\$3,546,019
Clearwater: Total Permits Issued	20	19	29	16
Construction Value	\$4,075,000	\$1,724,548	\$6,304,111	14.25 Mil
Logan Lake: Total Permits Issued	15	11	11	11
Construction Value	\$2,605,000	\$2,721,000	\$2,814,000	\$2,600,260



Building Inspector, Scott Abel.
Scott also serves as a
volunteer firefighter for
Barriere Fire Rescue

Solid Waste and Recycling Collection

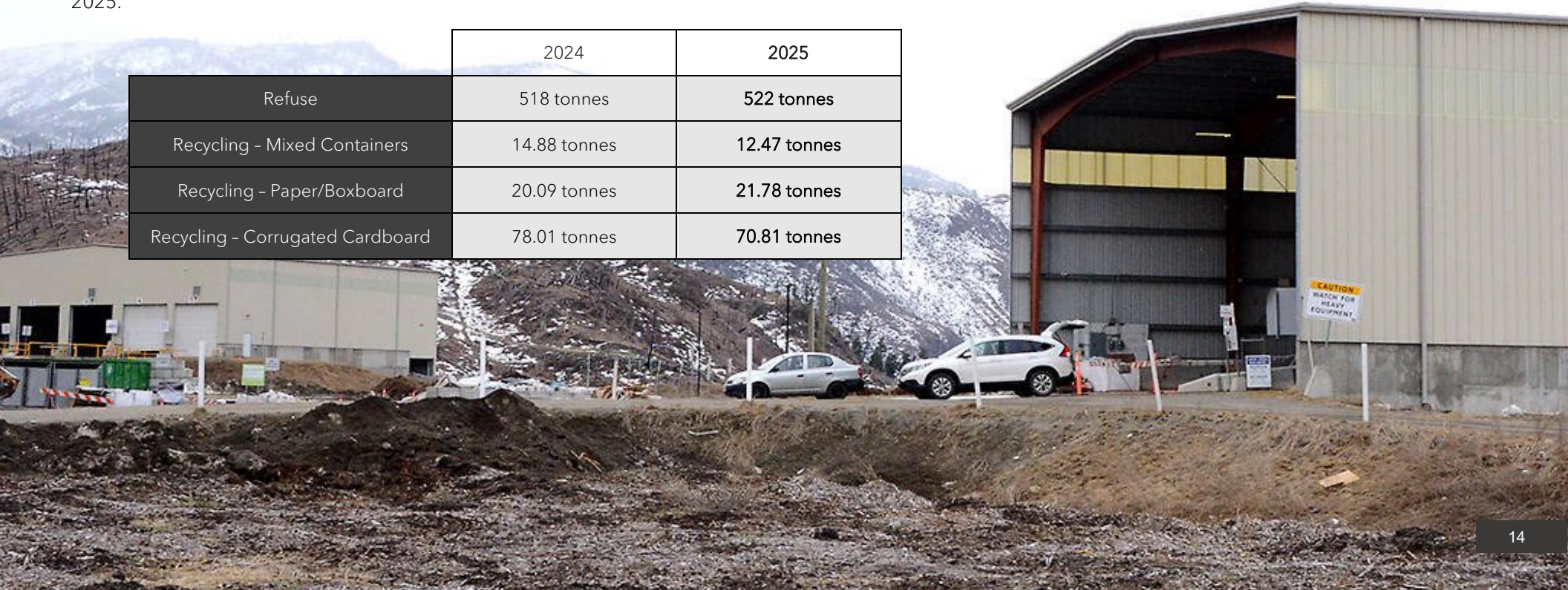
The District of Barriere is committed to our environment and is proud to have been the second community in the area to implement a curbside recycling program. We offer the following services and products to our community members:

- Weekly curbside solid waste removal
- Weekly curbside recycling pick-up
- Household battery recycling
- Household composters (\$25 to purchase at the TNRD Eco Depot - minus the 50% subsidy from the District of Barriere)

In April of 2013, the Thompson Nicola Regional District closed the Barriere Landfill, indefinitely, and opened the Louis Creek Eco Depot located on Agate Bay Road. Household refuse is collected curbside and brought to the facility with a tipping fee of \$90 per tonne. Residential recycling is also curbside through the District's contract with Recycle BC. Residents sort their recycling into two categories: "Paper & Boxboard Products" and "Container (Plastic & Tin) Products". Each category is collected on an alternating week basis from the clear recycling tote provided at no cost to each household in June of 2020. Additional totes can be purchased through the District, at cost, for \$17.99. In 2022, Council approved a compost incentive program by providing a 50% rebate on the cost of a TNRD composter. Residents of the District of Barriere can purchase a composter for ½ price at the District Office and show their receipt at the Eco Depot when collecting their composter. Corrogated cardboard became a "Mandatory Recyclable" item by the TNRD in March 2023 and is no longer accepted in residential garbage. The District of Barriere planned two free residential yard waste collection events in partnership with the TNRD to take place in the spring and fall of 2025.



	2024	2025
Refuse	518 tonnes	522 tonnes
Recycling - Mixed Containers	14.88 tonnes	12.47 tonnes
Recycling - Paper/Boxboard	20.09 tonnes	21.78 tonnes
Recycling - Corrugated Cardboard	78.01 tonnes	70.81 tonnes



2025 Administrative Activities & Highlights

Climate Action Charter

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Reduction

In 2007, the Provincial Government passed Bill 44- the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act*- thereby committing the Province to reduce GHG emissions by 33% below 2007 levels by the year 2020 and 80% below 2007 levels by the year 2050. In order to help achieve this commitment, the Province enacted the Local Government (*Green Communities*) *Statuses Amendment Act* ("Bill 27"). Under this legislation and Section 877(3) of the Local Government Act, Official Community Plans are now required to include targets for the reduction of GHG emissions as well as policies and actions to support the reduction targets.

As signatory to the BC Climate Action Charter, the District of Barriere has voluntarily agreed to develop strategies and take actions to achieve the following goals:

- being carbon neutral in respect of corporate operations by 2012
- measuring and reporting on the community's GHG emissions profile; and
- creating complete, compact, and more energy efficient community

Targets

The Province is providing each local government with a Community Energy & Emissions Inventory (CEEI) report to track and report annual community-wide energy consumption and GHG emissions. Reducing transportation emissions is a challenge in rural communities therefore additional Provincial and Federal Government policies, actions and initiatives will be needed to support the community-wide GHG reduction targets set by the District.

Recognizing the challenges of reducing GHG emissions in rural communities, the District of Barriere sets the following community-wide GHG reduction targets:

- **10% by 2020 from 2007 levels**
- **33% by 2050 from 2007 levels**

We look forward to working with our community members on these initiatives and hope that by our pledging to the Charter, our residents will be inspired to do their part for the environment as well.

Each year, we are required to audit and report our advancements towards this goal. The Provincial Government provides a rebate to each community involved in the amount of 100 per cent of the carbon costs incurred on fuel purchases. The District of Barriere received a Climate Action Revenue Incentive grant in the amount of \$1,656.00 for such purchases.

For more information on the Climate Action Charter, please visit www.cd.gov.bc.ca

2025 – Community Events

Halloween
Fireworks
Courtesy of
Barriere Fire
Rescue



3rd Annual Winterfest!



Canada Day



Welcome
Summer Block
Party



Bandshell Fridays – Movie and Music in the Park



2025 was a standout year for community events with the District of Barriere Recreation Committee continuing to build on its momentum by offering new experiences while supporting long-standing community favourites.

The year began with Barriere's annual Family Fun Night, held the Sunday before BC's Family Day. This popular event once again supported the NTACS After School Program through its fundraising component.

The 2nd Annual Summer Block Party was another success. Fadear Park hosted an afternoon of live music, beer gardens, a vendor market, Kids Zone, Show 'n Shine, and local food trucks. The strong response in its second year demonstrated the value of continuing the Block Party as an annual community event.

Bandshell Fridays continued throughout July and August, featuring four local bands and singers as well as four family movie nights. A highlight in 2025 was the screening of *Wicked*, which included a costume contest for attendees.

Winterfest benefited from snowfall this year, which participants appreciated. Although conditions still did not allow for the return of the Snowman Building Contest, the Street Hockey Tournament remained a popular feature, with an out-of-town team claiming the trophy.

Barriere's Canada Day Celebration returned with its traditional mix of music, hot dogs, games, cupcakes, and prizes while other annual favourites including the North Thompson Fall Fair & Rodeo, Father's Day Fishing Derby, Barriere Blooms Contest, Terry Fox Run, Worldwide Paint-out, & more all resumed their annual event & programming.

Department Overview

Once again, this year was an extremely busy year for the water department that consists of two full-time staff.

In addition to the standard, daily water sample testing that takes an average of 1.5hrs to complete, 52 water samples were sent to an accredited laboratory for Interior Health testing; all coming back in full compliance. However, some testing exceeded the Aesthetic Objective (AO) for manganese at the source (Bradford, PW3, DW3, Louis Creek).

Staff continue to perform watermain flushing annually to prevent any buildup in our supply lines.

Water conservation remains a priority for the District of Barriere and to encourage this goal, changes to the fee structure were initiated in 2021.

Finding and repairing leaks in the community system remains an ongoing priority to the water department. Several repairs were successfully made in 2025.



Louis Creek Reservoir



Community Water Backup Generator



LCIP Water System



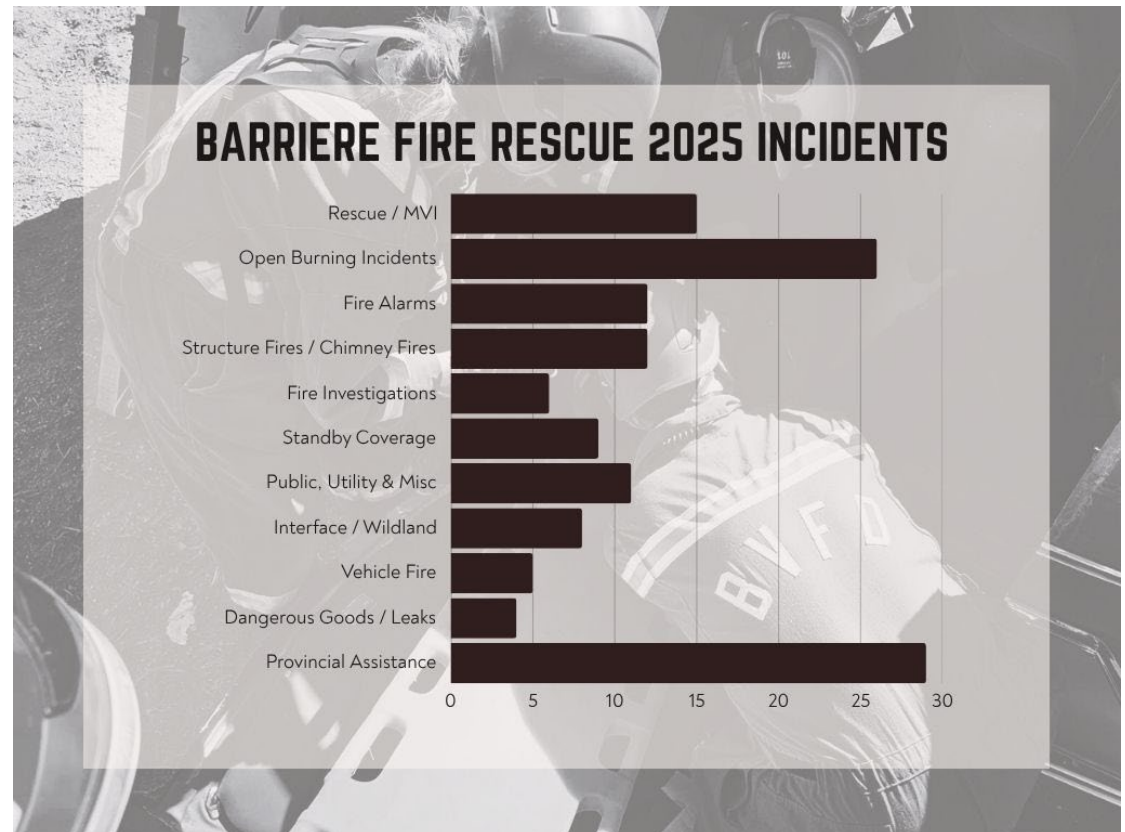
2025 – Barriere Fire Rescue

One of the most significant changes for Barriere Fire Rescue in 2025 was the introduction of the department's first full-time permanent position. Alexis Hovenkamp was appointed Interim Fire Chief in 2024 and transitioned into the full-time Fire Chief position in January 2025. Moving to a full-time Fire Chief provides the department with dedicated leadership and consistent oversight of daily operations, long-term planning, training, emergency preparedness, assets, infrastructure, and community safety initiatives. The position also provides greater capacity to manage department vehicles, equipment, facilities, and infrastructure while supporting funding opportunities, partnerships, volunteer development, and long-term planning. In October 2025, Barriere Fire Rescue recognized the experience and leadership of three members through internal promotions: Two Captains and one Lieutenant.

In conjunction with the move to a full-time Fire Chief, the District of Barriere's Emergency Management portfolio moved under Barriere Fire Rescue. Bringing emergency management and fire services together creates greater coordination between emergency response, preparedness, training, planning, and community resilience. It also provides greater consistency and accountability before, during, and after an emergency. As the department's responsibilities continue to grow, a proposal was also developed for a second full-time position at the fire hall to support day-to-day operations, training, emergency preparedness, and service delivery.

Special Thanks To Our Volunteers

A special thank you goes to the dedicated volunteers of Barriere Fire Rescue who give 200+ hours each year to our department and our community. From training and meetings to emergency calls, public events, and countless hours behind the scenes, our volunteers continue to show up when their community needs them.



Overview

2025 was a year of significant growth and transition for Barriere Fire Rescue. The department continued to strengthen firefighter training, expand emergency preparedness, support provincial wildfire response, and increase the community's ability to prepare for and reduce wildfire risk.

During the summer of 2025, Barriere Fire Rescue supported provincial wildfire response efforts by deploying the department's Bushtruck to Fort Nelson, Nasko, and Puntzi Lake. Supporting provincial wildfire operations demonstrates Barriere Fire Rescue's commitment not only to protecting our own community, but also to supporting the broader firefighting community across British Columbia. In addition, funds that are generated from these deployments are distributed into the District's General budget and help save for larger capital and infrastructure items required by the District.

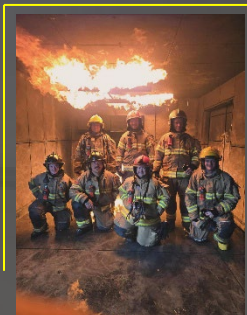
In 2025, Barriere Fire Rescue took on the Emergency Management responsibilities for the District of Barriere. A major focus has been building the department's capacity to support an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during significant emergencies and creating meaningful and impactful partnerships with local first responders and agencies.

Grants & Funding

Successful grant applications in 2025 supported improvements to firefighter training, equipment, emergency management, and operational capacity.

Funding supported:

- Emergency Operations Centre equipment and training.
- Volunteer and composite fire department equipment.
- Firefighter training opportunities.
- FireSmart staffing and wildfire mitigation initiatives.



Key Training Highlights

- EMA First Responder qualifications, upgrading from OFA Level 1 (9 Members)
- Live-fire training in Kamloops, supporting progression toward Interior Certified qualifications
- Emergency Vehicle Operator (EVO) training, improving the safe operation of emergency apparatus.
- Engine Boss training, strengthening wildland fire leadership and crew safety.
- Western Canadian Rescue Symposium (2 Members)
- Participated in a prescribed burn with Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department and BC Wildfire Service
- Mass casualty training with Blackpool Volunteer Fire Department and BCEHS.
- Railway emergency training with CN, Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department, and District staff.
- Hosted an Engine Boss Course, welcoming BC Wildfire Service personnel and approximately 40 firefighters from across British Columbia.

Looking Ahead:

Moving forward, Barriere Fire Rescue remains committed to:

- Developing our volunteer firefighters through continued training and leadership opportunities.
- Strengthening emergency management and EOC capacity.
- Expanding wildfire preparedness and mitigation.
- Maintaining and responsibly managing department assets and infrastructure.
- Building strong partnerships throughout the community and region.
- Pursuing funding opportunities that improve equipment, training, and community resilience.

2025 Highlights:

- Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) completed and approved by Council.
- Increased community education and public outreach.
- Conducted homeowner education and support.
- Participated in community events and school outreach.
- Strengthened relationships with residents, schools, Simpcw First Nation, and community partners.



Fire Chief, Alexis Hovenkamp
and FireSmart Coordinator,
Ronja Baggio

2025 FireSmart Program Overview

Wildfire preparedness remained a major priority in 2025. The District of Barriere received a second round of UBCM FireSmart funding, allowing the program to expand its local capacity for wildfire prevention, mitigation, education, and preparedness. Funding supported a FireSmart Coordinator, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist, and FireSmart Crew members.

This funding enabled the launch of a dedicated FireSmart program designed to engage, educate, and protect our residents. With the increasing threat of wildfire across British Columbia, FireSmart principles are more important than ever, ensuring that communities like ours are prepared, proactive, and resilient in the face of wildfire risks.

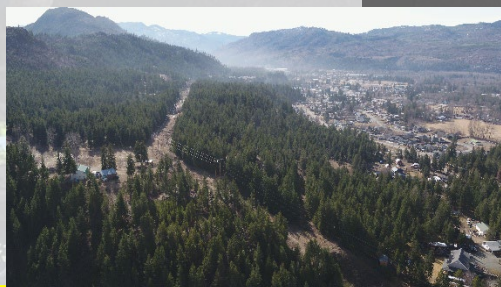
Wildfire poses one of the most significant natural hazards to rural communities. As climate change continues to bring hotter, drier summers, the importance of adopting FireSmart principles has never been clearer. The program provides a framework for reducing wildfire risks around homes, properties, and critical infrastructure, while also strengthening community awareness and readiness. FireSmart focuses on prevention, mitigation, education, and collaboration—ensuring that wildfire resiliency is not just a fire department responsibility, but a shared community effort.

The work completed in 2025 has helped build greater awareness, encouraged residents to take action, and established a stronger foundation for long-term wildfire resilience in Barriere.

Key Principles of FireSmart

The FireSmart program is built on seven core disciplines that together reduce wildfire risk:

1. **Education & Outreach** – Raising awareness about wildfire risks and how to reduce them.
2. **Vegetation & Fuel Management** – Reducing flammable materials in and around the community.
3. **Legislation & Planning** – Incorporating FireSmart into community planning and policies.
4. **Development Considerations** – Promoting FireSmart building practices and materials.
5. **Interagency Cooperation** – Building partnerships between local governments, First Nations, and fire services.
6. **Cross-Training** – Supporting knowledge-sharing and capacity building.
7. **Emergency Planning** – Ensuring the community is prepared for response and recovery.



Goals & Highlights

Fun Stats

Barriere has:

30 Acres of Green Space with
a Splashpad
a Skatepark
a Bandshell
a Multi-Purpose Court
2 Dog Parks
3 Playgrounds
4 Ball Diamonds &
1 Cemetery

30 Paved Roads
& 29 new trees were planted in 2025

RECREATION & PARKS

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Rehab areas to regain mowable status	Ongoing
2. Reduce reliance on sub-contractors with equipment purchases	Ongoing
3. Create & Enhance Community Events at Bandshell	Ongoing
5. Seek funding for Parks & Trail Master Planning	Ongoing
6. Continue to develop downtown trail network	In planning stage
7. Promote increase of rec & fitness programming for all ages	Ongoing
8. Complete Rental Policy Draft	In Progress



Goals & Highlights

RECREATION & PARKS 2026 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Rehab areas to regain mowable status	Ongoing
2. Reduce reliance on sub-contractors with equipment purchases	Ongoing
3. Create & Enhance Community Events at Bandshell	Ongoing
4. Continue to plant shade trees	Ongoing
5. Continue to develop downtown trail network	Ongoing
6. Promote increase of rec & fitness programming for all ages	Ongoing
7. Complete Rental Policy Draft	In progress



Goals & Highlights

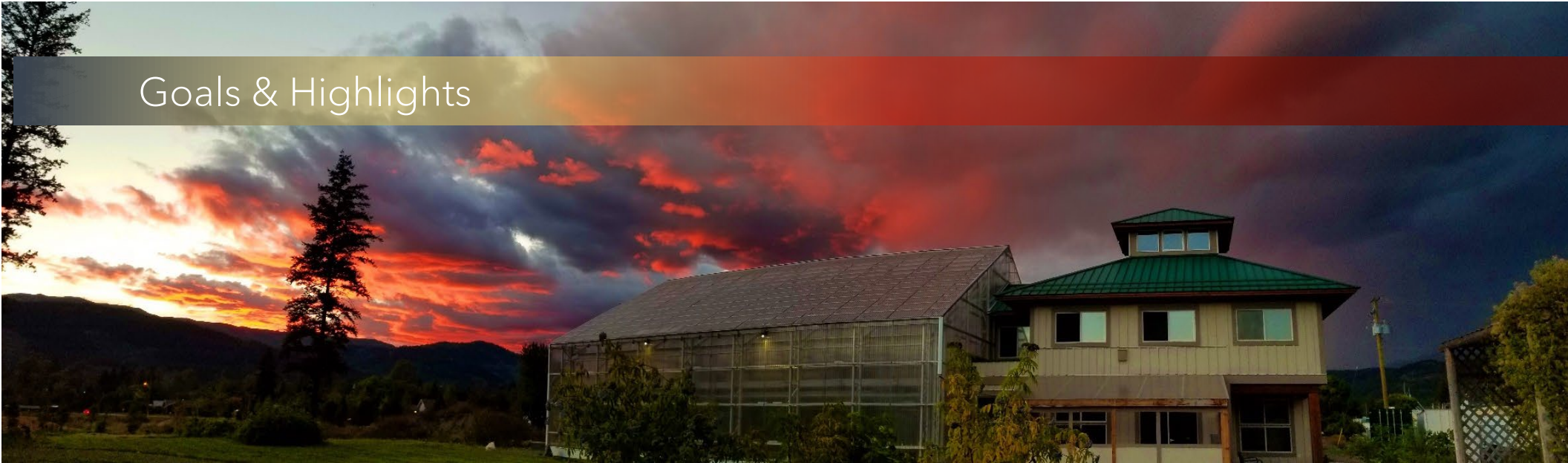
kisco
Water Treatment Company
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

1

INFRASTRUCTURE 2025 Goals:

Item	Status	Comments
1. Complete Wastewater Treatment System Upgrades	Funding Approved	In progress
2. Construct water & sewer upgrades south end of Barriere Town Road	Funding dependent	Scope and all alternatives considered
4. Plan for Bulk Water Station at LCIP	Funding Dependent	Preliminary design completed
5. Continue to Develop Louis Creek Water System including new reservoir	Funding Approved	Watermain extension completed along Enterprise Way
6. Continue to develop Asset Management Plan	Funding Dependent	
7. Develop Wastewater Feasibility Plan	Funding Dependent	
8. Plan for additional water source as community grows	Ongoing	Funding dependent

Goals & Highlights



INFRASTRUCTURE 2026 Goals:

Item	Status	Comments
Expand water & sewer infrastructure	In Progress	Scope and all alternatives considered
Plan for bulk water station at LCIP	Funding Approved	In progress
Develop asset management plan	Funding Dependent	
Develop wastewater regulations bylaw	In Progress	
Update waterworks bylaw	In Progress	
Implement SCADA system at all facilities	In Progress	

Goals & Highlights

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSIFICATION

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Promote tourism through the Lower North Thompson Tourism Society	Ongoing
2. Work with the Barriere and District Chamber of Commerce to retain existing businesses and to attract new businesses	Ongoing
3. Support numerous types of housing developments to help address the shortage for workers in the area	Ongoing
4. Engage & collaborate with Simpcw First Nation on mutually benefiting economic projects	Ongoing

2026 Goals:

Item	Status	Comments
1. Market old Chamber Building for potential development	Ongoing	Expression of Interest
2. Promote tourism through the Lower North Thompson Tourism Society	Ongoing	Sub-Regional contract in place
3. Work with the Barriere and District Chamber of Commerce to retain existing businesses and to attract new businesses	Ongoing	Contracted to manage BBC Building
4. Update Official Community Plan (OCP), Development Approvals Processes and Subdivision & Development Bylaws	In Progress	TRUE Consulting awarded contract to complete updates
5. Engage & collaborate with Simpcw First Nation on mutually benefiting economic projects	Ongoing	MOU Signed

118 Business Licenses were approved in 2025

Goals & Highlights

LIVABILITY

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Support Healthy Living for All Ages	Ongoing
2. Become a green community	Ongoing
3. Community Cleanup & Beautification	Ongoing
4. Research alternative collection options to prepare for future Recycling Legislation Changes	In progress
5. Explore Affordable Housing Funding Opportunities	Ongoing
6. Continue to work with North Thompson Activity Centre and other non-profits that provide healthy programming	Ongoing
7. Increase engagement with Simpcw First Nation to enhance trail & other recreation opportunities in the Valley	In progress

2026 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Support Healthy Living for All Ages	Ongoing
2. Become a green community	Ongoing
3. Community Cleanup & Beautification	Ongoing
4. Research alternative collection options to prepare for future Recycling Legislation Changes	In progress
5. Explore Affordable Housing Funding Opportunities	Ongoing
6. Continue to work with North Thompson Activity Centre and other non-profits that provide healthy programming	Ongoing
7. Increase engagement with Simpcw First Nation to enhance trail & other recreation opportunities in the Valley	In progress

Goals & Highlights

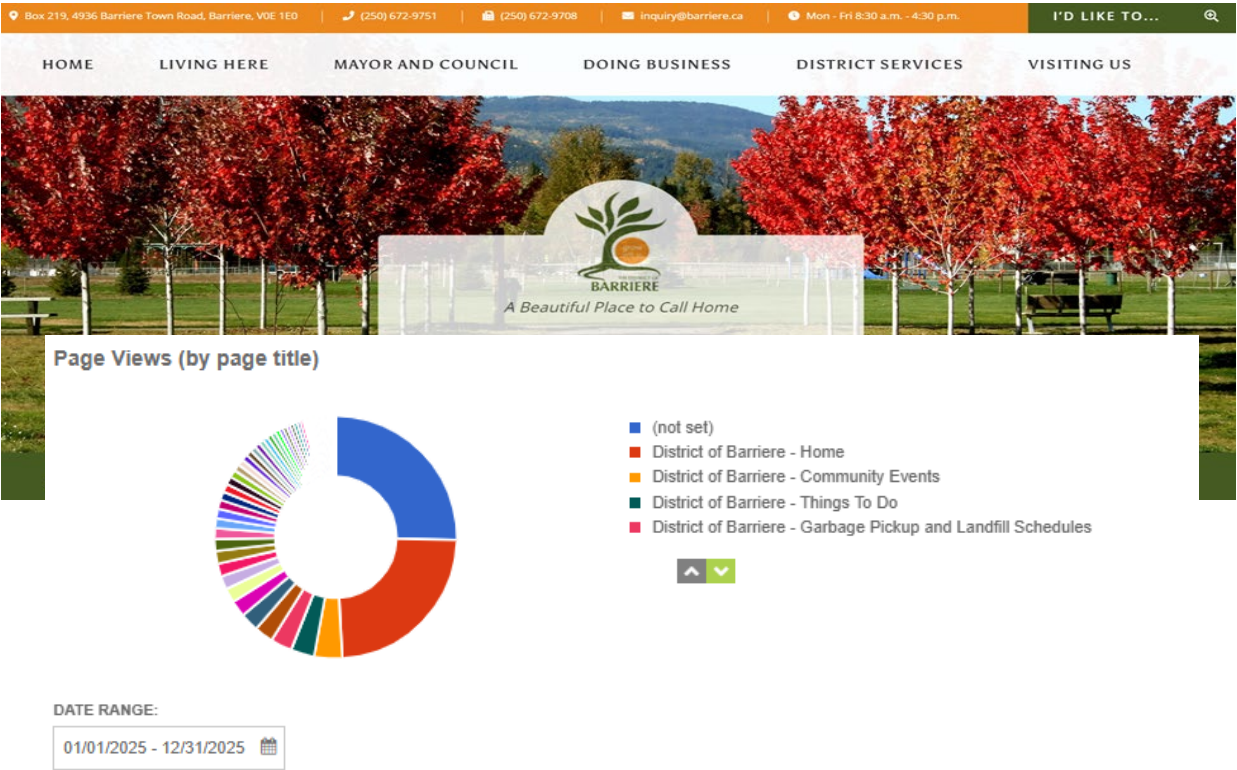
GOOD GOVERNMENT / COMMUNICATION

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Work toward effective and ongoing communications with business community government & social groups	Ongoing
2. Apply for all grants that will add value to the community	Ongoing
3. Continue review and revision of old bylaws	Ongoing
4. Explore options to further engage and communicate with the public	Ongoing

2026 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Work toward effective and ongoing communications with business community government & social groups	Ongoing
2. Apply for all grants that will add value to the community	Ongoing
3. Continue review and revision of old bylaws and policies	Ongoing
4. Explore options to further engage and communicate with the public	Ongoing



Goals & Highlights

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Review the current taxation policy	Ongoing
2. Council, through staff, will seek out new revenue opportunities which include grant opportunities	Ongoing
3. Explore Alternative Revenue Sources	Ongoing
4. Asset Management Planning	Ongoing
5. Review User Fees to ensure sustainability & fairness	Ongoing
6. Explore ways to reduce paper footprint	Ongoing
7. Work towards cost recovery service through fee assessments	In progress

2026 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Asset Management Planning	Ongoing
2. Council, through staff, will seek out new revenue which includes grant opportunities	Ongoing
3. Explore Alternative Revenue Sources	Ongoing
4. Review the current taxation policy	Ongoing
5. Review User Fees to ensure sustainability & fairness	Ongoing
6. Work towards cost recovery of service through fee assessments	In progress
7. Reduce reliance on sub-contractors with an in-house Roads Department	In progress



Goals & Highlights

2025 Highlights- Budget Process/ Tax

A number of Public Meetings provided citizens with an opportunity to comment on the District of Barriere's annual budget.

Bylaw No. 264 - Street Lighting Bylaw Repeal was adopted, transitioning street lighting costs from a separate utility charge to annual property taxation to align with legislative requirements.

BUDGET PROCESS / TAX

2025 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Continue a financial planning process that reflects sound fiscal management and works toward lessening the portion of taxes paid by residential properties.	Ongoing
2. Council will increase public knowledge on assessments and taxation	Ongoing
3. Explore additional ways to further engage the public	Ongoing

2026 Goals:

Item	Status
1. Continue to refine financial planning process that reflects sound fiscal management and works toward transparency and equitable taxation.	Ongoing
2. Council will increase public knowledge on assessments and taxation	Ongoing
3. Explore additional ways to further engage the public	Ongoing

Permissive Tax Exemptions

District of Barriere Section 224 (2)(a) Community Charter Tax Exemption Bylaw No.222

Societies / Non Profit	2024	2025
Barriere & District Heritage Society - Roll No. 1245.667	\$1,381.92	\$1,987.89
Barriere & District Senior's Society - Roll No. 1245.408	\$1,162.23	\$1,931.61
Barriere & District Food Bank - Roll No. 1470.362	\$2,288.06	\$3,605.04
Provincial Rental Housing Corp Yellowhead Residence - Roll No. 1390.370	\$1,966.87	\$2,443.18
North Thompson Fall Fair - Roll No. 1465.058	\$2,670.31	\$4,351.62
North Thompson Fall Fair - Roll No. 1465.080	\$1,361.94	\$2,352.23
North Thompson Fall Fair - Roll No. 1465.200	\$17,071.46	\$24,079.65
Barriere Curling Club- Roll No. 1465.200	\$13,626.66	\$17,150.81
Interior Community Services - Roll No. 1245.420	\$2,116.82	\$2,939.41
North Thompson Legion #242- Roll No. 1270.085	\$1,268.83	\$2,143.61
Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society - Roll No. 1470.007	\$4,698.69	\$8,935.91
Barriere Search and Rescue - Roll No. 1390.510	NA	\$3,255.28
Barriere and Area Chamber of Commerce - Roll No. 1390.512	NA	\$2,495.41

Permissive Tax Exemptions

District of Barriere
Section 220 (1)(h) Community Charter
Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 221

Churches	2024	2025
Trustee of the Barriere BC Congregation Jehovah's Witness Assessed under Roll No. 1225.248	\$785.43	\$1,324.45
Roman Catholic Bishop of Kamloops Assessed under Roll No. 1470.430 (church)	\$1,061.19	\$1,856.23
United Church Assessed under Roll No. 1245.386	\$859.09	\$1,459.90
Baptist Church Assessed under Roll No. 1390.060	\$487.47	\$868.64
Pentecostal Church Assessed under Roll No. 1470.514	\$1,697.08	\$2,636.53
TOTAL 2025 PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTIONS		\$85,817.40

District of Barriere

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Memorandum

Date: September 21, 2026	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Corporate Officer
Re: District of Barriere Accessibility Plan 2026–2029	

Purpose

To provide Council with the District of Barriere Accessibility Plan 2026–2029 for information and a brief overview of the District's requirements under the *Accessible British Columbia Act (Act)*.

Background

The *Act* requires municipalities to establish an accessibility committee, develop an accessibility plan in consultation with that committee, and establish a process to receive public comments on the plan and accessibility barriers. The plan must be reviewed and updated at least once every three years. The District's Plan provides a practical framework for identifying, removing and preventing barriers within municipal facilities, public spaces, services and communications.

Next Steps

The *Act* requires the District to establish an accessibility committee; however, it does not require that the committee be established by Council as a standing or select committee, nor does it prescribe a regular meeting schedule. The current Committee was formed to assist with development of the initial Plan. As the Plan evolves in response to identified needs, the Committee's membership and activity may also evolve, particularly if Council chooses to pursue accessibility-specific projects in future years.

The Plan does not bind this Council or any future Council to fund a specific project outside the scope of an adopted annual budget. It is a planning tool for Council and staff to consider when evaluating future capital projects, facility improvements, maintenance priorities and grant opportunities.

The Plan will be posted on the District's website. Public comments received regarding the Plan or accessibility barriers will be conveyed to both the Accessibility Committee and Council.

Attachments

- District of Barriere Accessibility Plan 2026–2029

Prepared by: T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer

Reviewed by: D. Drexler, CAO



2026 - 2029 Accessibility Plan



2. Accessibility Committee

The District's Accessibility Committee assists Council and staff in identifying barriers experienced by people who use District facilities, spaces and services, and in considering practical ways to remove or prevent those barriers.

Committee members:

- Tasha Buchanan
- Daniel Drexler
- Jamie Mosdell
- Dee Kennedy
- Gary Monteith

The District will continue to consider the membership goals set out in the Accessible British Columbia Act when appointments are made or renewed, including representation by persons with disabilities or those who support persons with disabilities, Indigenous representation, and diversity.

3. What We Have Heard and Observed

The Committee's review has focused on barriers that are relevant to Barriere's municipal facilities and public spaces. Several accessibility improvements are already in place, while a small number of practical projects have been identified for future work.

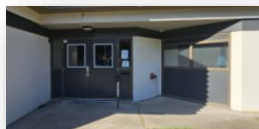
- Heavy or manually operated exterior doors can create a barrier for people using mobility devices or with limited strength.
- Gravel or unpaved pathway sections can be more difficult to use with wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, or other mobility aids.
- Safe grades, handrails, smooth surfaces, adequate lighting, and places to rest can make public spaces easier to use.
- Clear, plain-language information and multiple ways to contact the District help reduce communication and service barriers.
- Ongoing maintenance matters: snow, ice, vegetation, temporary obstacles, and surface deterioration can create barriers even where accessible features already exist.



4. Existing Accessibility Features

The District has already completed or maintains a number of features that support accessibility. These are not intended to suggest that every location is barrier-free; they provide a starting point for continued improvement.

Location	Current Accessibility Features
The Ridge – Municipal Office	The entrance is accessible from the parking area and automatic door openers were recently installed to improve independent access.
Barriere Business Centre (BBC)	Interior hallways are wide, bright and generally free of obstacles. Accessible washrooms are available. Automatic exterior door openers are not yet installed and remain a priority.
Lions Hall / Community Hall	A newer side ramp provides a more appropriate grade than the front entrance ramp and provides an accessible route for entry and emergency egress.
Fadear Park, Bandshell and Washrooms	Large portions of the park use paved pathways. The bandshell has ramp access. Lighting has been installed around the walking oval and benches are available along the route for people who need rest stops. Hard surface, accessible washrooms.
Skatepark	A pathway connects the parking area to the skatepark viewing platform and provides an accessible route for spectators and access toward the skatepark.
Fieldhouse and Park Washrooms	The area immediately outside the accessible washrooms is paved. A portion of the route to the fieldhouse remains unpaved but is maintained; paving this section is a future improvement.
Picnic Areas	A number of park picnic tables have additional concrete pad space that can accommodate wheelchair users and other mobility devices.
Main Roadway Shoulders	Main roadways, including Barriere Town Road, generally have wide shoulders. The District maintains its roadway areas in winter, and street lighting has been upgraded to LED fixtures to improve visibility.



5. Priority Actions: 2026–2029

The District will take a practical, phased approach. Projects will be considered through annual budgeting and may depend on grant funding, asset conditions, operational needs and other municipal priorities.

#	Action	Priority	Timing	Approach
1	Install automatic door openers at the Barriere Business Centre.	High	Short term <i>(1-3 year goal)</i>	Seek grant funding and complete when funding permits.
2	Improve the unpaved portion of the route to the fieldhouse, with paving identified as the preferred long-term improvement.	Medium	Medium term <i>(3-6 year goal)</i>	Maintain the existing route in usable condition until capital work can be completed.
3	Continue inspection and maintenance of ramps, pathways, accessible washrooms, benches, picnic areas, road shoulders, and other accessible features.	Ongoing	Annual	Address hazards or obstructions as they are identified.
4	Consider accessibility when planning renovations, new public amenities, and significant municipal capital projects.	Ongoing	As projects arise	Apply universal-design principles where practical and appropriate.
5	Improve communication accessibility through clear language, readable formatting, and alternative ways to obtain information or assistance.	Ongoing	2026–2029	Review public-facing forms, notices, and key documents as they are updated.
6	Maintain a public feedback process and refer accessibility concerns to staff and the Accessibility Committee for review.	Ongoing	Continuous	Track recurring issues and consider feedback when this plan is updated.

6. Services, Information and Employment

Accessibility is not limited to buildings and pathways. The District will also consider barriers that may arise when people communicate with staff, participate in municipal processes, access information, apply for employment, or receive municipal services.

Service and communication practices

- Provide information in clear, plain language where practical.
- Use readable document formatting, including meaningful headings, sufficient text size, and strong contrast.
- Provide reasonable assistance or an alternate format when a person identifies an accessibility need and the District is able to do so.
- Offer more than one way to contact the District, including in person, telephone, email and written correspondence.
- Consider accessibility when selecting or updating public-facing technology, forms, and online services.

Employment

The District will seek to identify and remove unnecessary barriers in recruitment and employment practices. Where an employee or applicant identifies an accessibility-related need, the District will consider reasonable accommodation in accordance with applicable law and operational requirements.

7. Public Feedback

Public feedback is an important part of identifying barriers that may not be apparent during routine municipal operations. Residents, visitors, and service users are encouraged to tell the District about accessibility barriers they encounter or suggestions for improving this plan.

Email	inquiry@barriere.ca
Phone	250-672-9751
In person	The Ridge, 4936 Barriere Town Road, Barriere, BC
Mail	District of Barriere, Box 219, Barriere, BC V0E 1E0

Feedback may be provided by a person directly or on behalf of another person. Accessibility feedback will be reviewed by staff and, where appropriate, brought to the Accessibility Committee for consideration. Feedback received will also be considered when the plan is updated.

8. Monitoring and Review

This is intended to be a living plan. Staff and the Accessibility Committee may identify additional barriers or opportunities between formal updates. Minor operational improvements can be addressed as they arise, while larger projects will be considered through the District's budgeting and capital planning processes.

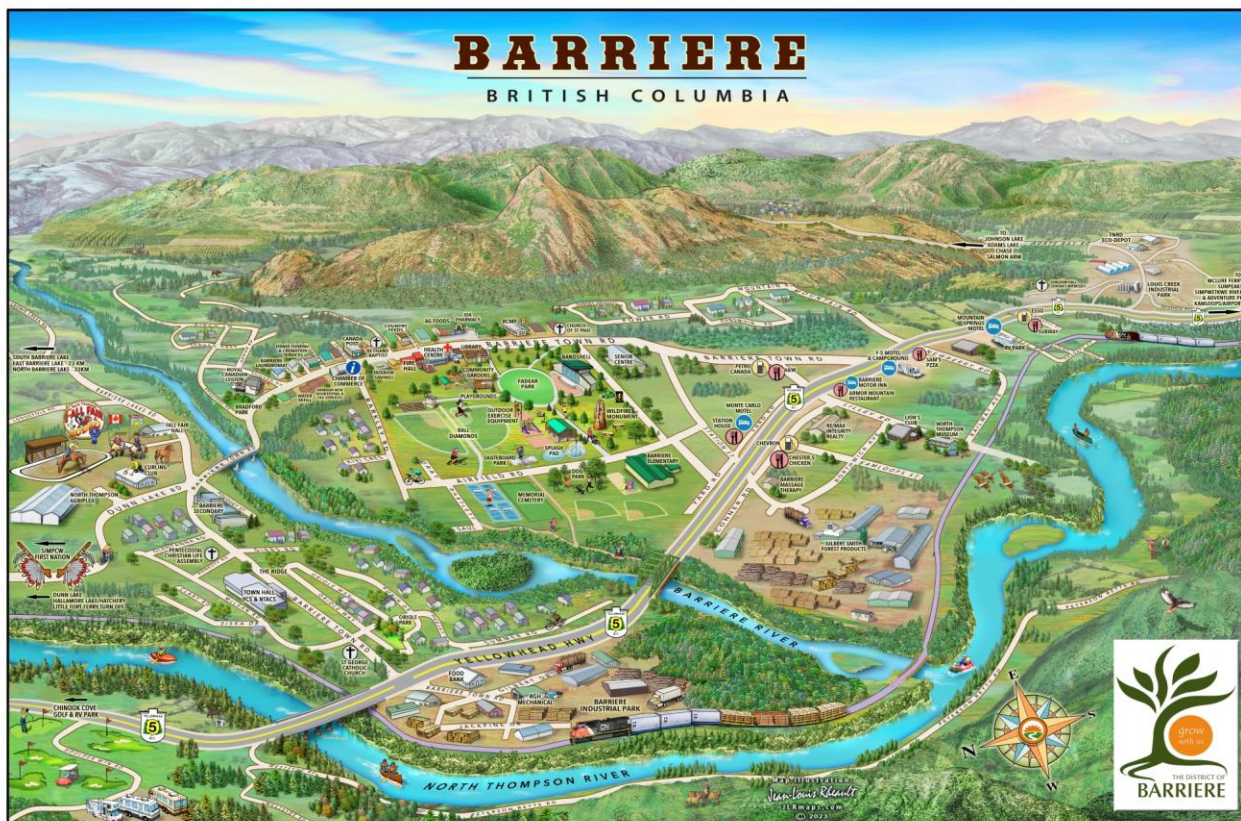
- The Accessibility Committee will review accessibility issues and public feedback as needed.
- Staff will monitor progress on the priority actions in this plan.
- The plan will be formally reviewed and updated no later than 2029, and at least every three years thereafter.
- Future updates will consider public feedback received and will be developed in consultation with the Accessibility Committee.

9. Our Commitment

The District of Barriere recognizes that accessibility is an ongoing responsibility rather than a one-time project. In a small municipality, meaningful improvements are often achieved through practical changes made over time: a better entrance, a smoother route, clearer information, improved lighting, or a barrier removed when it is identified. The District will continue to focus its resources on improvements that make municipal spaces and services easier and safer for people of all abilities to use.

Reference

Accessible British Columbia Act, SBC 2021, c. 19, Part 3; Accessible British Columbia Regulation, B.C. Reg. 105/2022. Municipalities have been prescribed organizations under the Regulation since September 1, 2023.



District of Barriere

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: September 21, 2026	Agenda Item:
To: Council	From: Department Heads
Re: Departmental Updates	

CORPORATE:

Development:

Development Activity			
Construction Activity:	August	2026 YTD	2025
Total Building Permit Applications:	0	13	21
Total Construction Value:	\$0	\$1,755,065	\$3,291,020
Total Building Permits Finalized:	1	6	15 (since June)
Total Construction Value Finalized:	\$12,740.00	\$1,128,046.63	\$989,500

- Processed 10 Building Information Requests (BIRs)

Agreements:

- Memorial Wall Donation Agreement with Derek Stamer & Family signed.

Bylaw Enforcement:

- Five (5) bylaw enforcement files were acted on in August.

2026 Local General Election (October 17, 2026 – General Voting Day):

- General Local Election information for Barriere is live on a dedicated “2026 General Local Election” page within the District’s website: www.barriere.ca. A direct link can be found either within the green ribbon at the bottom of the home page, or under the ‘Mayor & Council’ tab. This information is helpful for both the general public as well as prospective candidates. A general timeline of important dates is attached.
- The **Declaration of Election by Voting** was made today (Sept. 21). Mayor Kerslake is acclaimed, and there are seven (7) candidates running to fill six (6) Councillor seats.
- Two Advanced Voting Days are scheduled: Saturday, **October 3** and Wednesday, **October 7**. General Election Day is **October 17, 2026**. All voting opportunities are held between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm at “the Ridge” – 4936 Barriere Town Rd. Barriere, BC.



Governance:

- Employee Recognition Policy - In development
- 2025 Annual Report – On Agenda for acceptance
- Memorial Wall Plaque Policy – In development

Recreation / Events:

- Staff entered the Fall Fair Best Decorated Business Contest and received Honourable Mention!
- The Recreation Committee entered the Fall Fair Parade with a “Mobile Block Party” float and won first place in the Group/Organization category!
- The next Rec Meeting is scheduled for Monday September 28th at 3:00pm.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Operations:

Public Works			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
Potholes Filled:	12	120	195
Pavement Repairs: square feet	0	2600	17499
Burials:	0	1	0
Cremations:	0	2	4
Deceased Animal Recovery:	1	4	4
After Hours Call Outs:	0	0	4
Water Distribution			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
New Construction Service Connections:	2	2	5
Water Service On/Off Requests:	5	35	34
Interior Health Water Quality Tests:	12	102	148
Water Usage: m3	59601	324920	448356
Waterline Repairs:	0	4	7
After Hours Call Outs:	1	8	16
Wastewater Collection & Treatment			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
New Construction Service Connections:	0	0	6
Ministry of Environment Wastewater Tests:	7	60	84
After Hours Call Outs:	0	0	0
General			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
BC One Calls Supported:	5	35	42
Events Supported:	0	4	17

- Picked up 2005 F450 dump truck with plow and sander. All winter snow removal equipment has now been purchased.



- Recently signed contract for geomatics to be installed on majority of District vehicles.
- Purchased set of forks for Backhoe.
- Stage 1 watering conservation came into effect August 21st.
- Minor sediment issue with DW3. Well was shut off for a week while staff flushed and tested. It was brought back online September 4th at a lower output. Water consumption has substantially declined due to change in weather.
- Crack sealing on Oriole Way west and Barkley was completed.
- Preparation is underway for sand storage shed and purchase of sand/salt.
- New staff member for the Public Works Labourer 2 position started September 14th
- Construction of new WWTP commenced.



EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Fire Department			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
Fire	4	16	23
Rescue / Motor Vehicle Incidents	2	23	15
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1	6	4
Service Call / Public Assist	0	15	23
Fire Burning Complaint / Fire Investigation / Fire alarm	4	22	36
False Alarm		0	20
Total Calls		82	121
Public Education & Events	4	28	18
FireSmart Assessments	4	25	17
Fire Prevention / Fire Inspections	0	28	4





Fire Department:

- Barriere Fire Rescue came back from supporting the Big Bar Complex – a huge thank-you to Clearwater Fire Department who lent us a member to keep the truck out – a great example of neighbours helping neighbours and furthering our interagency cooperation and capabilities.
- Tender 2 has a new leak in the pump that is getting serviced.
- Barriere Fire Rescue will be hosting an open house on October 8th for Fire Prevention Week. This year's messaging:
 - Charge Into Fire Safety™. Safe Charging Is a Superpower™ focuses on the everyday charging habits that can help reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires and keep homes and communities safer.
- Volunteers have four-day training coming up in September and October – Hazmat Awareness and Operations. This is partially funded under the Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training Grant through UBCM.
- The Barriere Firefighters Association is hosting its Annual Pig Roast (with a dance this year) on November 7th at the Fall Fair Hall – Tickets go on sale soon!

FireSmart:

- The FireSmart Natural Landscape show case is almost complete
- FireSmart has worked alongside park and district staff to set up priorities for upcoming fall and winter priorities
 - These include mitigation around critical infrastructure, around parks and future events.

Weather/Other:

- Predictions of a strong El Nino event that may contribute to warmer temperatures and lower snowpack.
- A very strong El Nino does not necessarily mean severe impacts will occur – it should be interpreted as an 'early warning' of potential conditions.

FINANCE:

Financial Services			
	August	2026 YTD	2025
Cash Collected:	\$351,475	\$4,367,226	\$4,963,536
Cash Disbursed:	\$369,599	\$4,337,475	\$5,861,273
	August	2026 YTD	Project Total
ICIP Wastewater Treatment Grant Funds Received:	\$0	\$62,485	\$341,465
	Current (2026)	Arrears (2025)	Delinquent (2024)
Outstanding Property Tax Amounts:	\$196,748	\$106,227	\$65,546
Total Taxes Outstanding:	\$368,521		

- A Community Works Fund disbursement of \$143,778 arrived in August and is included in the above cash collected results. This payment was for 2025; we are still expecting another payment for 2026.
- The Fire Department was heavily deployed to assist with wildfire efforts throughout August. Team wages and expenses have been paid, while provincial reimbursement is being received in installments. Most related revenue is expected to appear in next month's cash received results.
- No funding was received for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project in August. Claims are taking considerably longer to process, putting pressure on our cashflow.
- The municipal tax sale scheduled for Monday, September 28 at 10:00 a.m. has been cancelled because all affected properties have paid their 2024 delinquent balances. Finance is continuing to develop strategies to contact residents with overdue accounts.

2026 Local General Election Calendar – Important Dates



Date	Event	Legislation
Jan. 1, 2026	Election Period Begins	LECFA 10
Mar. 10, 2026	Last day to meet 6-month BC residency requirement for candidates seeking nomination	LGA 81(1)(c)
Aug. 10, 2026	Nomination Packages Available	Administrative
Sept. 1, 2026	Nomination Period Begins at 9:00 a.m.	LGA 84(1)
Sept. 11, 2026	Nomination Period Closes at 4:00 p.m. – All candidates who have submitted nominations are officially declared	LGA 84(1), 97(1)
Sept. 15, 2026	Challenge period for candidate nominations ends at 4:00 p.m.	LGA 91(2)
Sept. 18, 2026	Withdrawal of Candidate Deadline at 4:00 p.m.	LGA 98
Sept. 19, 2026	Campaign Period Begins	LECFA
Sept. 21, 2026	Chief Election Officer declares Election by Voting (or Acclamation) at 4:00 p.m.	LGA 98(2)
Oct. 3, 2026	Additional Advance Voting Opportunity (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)	Election Bylaw
Oct. 7, 2026	Required Advance Voting Opportunity (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)	LGA 107(1)
OCT. 17, 2026	GENERAL VOTING DAY (8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)	LGA 54
Oct. 17, 2026	CEO Announcement of Preliminary Election Results	LGA 144(1)
Oct. 21, 2026	Deadline for CEO Declaration of Official Election Results before 4:00 p.m.	LGA 146(1)
Nov. 9, 2026	Inaugural Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. - Ridge Gym	LGA / CC
Jan. 15, 2027	Campaign Financing Disclosure Statements Due	LECFA 47
Feb. 16, 2027	Late Filing Deadline (with \$500 fee due to Elections BC)	LECFA 47

- *Successful Candidates must be available for newly Elected Official training sessions (usually 2 sessions). Exact dates will be provided to all candidates soon after September 18th and confirmed to all successful candidates following the election. These dates typically are scheduled during the last week of October or first week of November prior to the Inaugural Meeting.*

Tasha Buchanan, Chief Election Officer
(250) 672-9751 or tbuchanan@barriere.ca

Jamie Mosdell, Deputy Chief Election Officer
(250) 672-9751 or jmosdell@barriere.ca

General inquiries: inquiry@barriere.ca
www.barriere.ca

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL
Request for Decision

Date: September 21 st , 2026	File: 5a
To: Council	From: K. Abel, CFO
Re: DRAFT 2027 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 281	
<u>Recommendation:</u> THAT Council give first three readings to 2027 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 281	

Purpose

To renew the annual revenue anticipation borrowing bylaw which is required annually in order to permit a municipal government to possess a bank overdraft agreement. The 2026 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 262 was adopted in December of 2025 for the 2026 calendar year. The attached draft bylaw applies to the year 2027 and is presented to Council for consideration and first three readings.

Background

Section 177 of the *Community Charter* (Revenue Anticipation Borrowing) gives municipalities the authority to borrow money to meet operational cash flow shortfalls between the beginning of the year and the receipt of property taxes or monies from other governments. Any funds that are borrowed must be immediately repaid as these amounts are subsequently received.

The maximum amount the District can borrow under Section 177 of the *Community Charter* is the total of all unpaid taxes for all purposes, imposed during the current year, and the money remaining due from other governments. If the annual property tax bylaw has not been adopted, as is the case here, the taxes are deemed to be 75% of municipal property taxes imposed for all purposes in the previous year, along with the sum of money remaining due from other governments. The 75% limit for 2027 from the 2026 municipal property taxes collected in the amount of \$1,386,272 would be approximately \$1,039,704, which when added to the District's annual small community grant of \$416,000, the maximum limit the District can set to borrow in this bylaw, is \$1,455,704. The \$750,000 amount once again proposed in this bylaw is therefore substantially below the 75% limit set by the *Community Charter*.

With adopted Bylaw No. 252, the District established an operating line of credit with the local Credit Union for this purpose. Staff are recommending to continue with this agreement with the local Credit Union for 2027 as the interest rates are moderately comparable and the process is simpler. The interest rate offered by the Beem Credit Union is Prime minus 0.5%.

Although staff do not anticipate a need to borrow any funds to cover normal operations, the adoption of an annual Revenue Anticipation Bylaw is a requirement for the District to continue the operating loan (overdraft) agreement with the Beem Credit Union. The attached Draft Bylaw No. 281 is the District's proposed 2027 *Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw* for this \$750,000 operating line of credit. Going forward, this will continue to be an annual bylaw adoption process as required by the *Community Charter*, most likely to be included for Council consideration by November/December each year.

Benefits or Impacts

General

This bylaw is a statutory and contractual requirement for the District to continue the operating loan and overdraft arrangement with Beem Credit Union.

Finances

With an already established operating loan agreement with Beem Credit Union in place for a \$750,000 line of credit, keeping this lending facility in place will ensure the overall operations of District services can continue without interruption should it be necessary due to any unexpected low cash flows.

Strategic Impact

N/A

Risk Assessment

Compliance:

This is an annual bylaw which is authorized under Section 177 of the Community Charter and will fulfil the requirement of a banking agreement with the Credit Union.

Risk Impact:

Moderate. Adoption of this bylaw is necessary if the District wishes to continue with its overdraft and operating loan with the Credit Union as required annually in order to maintain the agreement.

Internal Control Process:

Staff will need to provide the Credit Union with a copy of the bylaw upon adoption.

Next Steps / Communication

Staff will provide the Credit Union with a copy of the bylaw upon adoption.

Attachments

- 1) DRAFT 2027 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw, No. 281

Recommendation

THAT Council gives 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings to 2027 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw, No. 281

Alternative Options

1. Council could choose not to give this bylaw first three readings. In that case, the District would not have an overdraft facility on its operating account and would not be able to take advantage of operational short-term borrowing if it became necessary to do so.



DRAFT - BYLAW No. 281
REVENUE ANTICIPATION BORROWING BYLAW
DISTRICT OF BARRIERE

A bylaw to provide for the borrowing of money in anticipation of revenue

WHEREAS the municipality may not have sufficient money on hand to meet the current lawful expenditures of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by Section 177 of the *Community Charter* that Council may, without the assent of the electors or the approval of the Inspector of Municipalities, provide for the borrowing of such sums of money as may be necessary to meet the current lawful expenditures of the municipality provided that the total of the outstanding liabilities does not exceed the sum of:

- a) The whole amount remaining unpaid of the taxes for all purposes levied during the current year, provided that prior to the adoption of the annual property tax bylaw in any year, the amount of the taxes during the current year for this purpose shall be deemed to be 75% of the taxes levied for all purposes in the immediately preceding year; and
- b) The whole amount of any sums of money remaining due from other governments;

AND WHEREAS there are no liabilities outstanding under Section 177;

AND WHEREAS the total amount of liability that Council may incur is \$1,455,704 made up of the sum of \$1,039,704 being 75% of the whole amount of the taxes levied for all purposes in prior year, and \$416,000 being the whole amount of the sum of money remaining due from other governments;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the District of Barriere, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited as "*Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 281*".
2. *Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 262* is hereby repealed as of January 1st, 2027.
3. The Council shall be and is hereby empowered and authorized to borrow upon the credit of the municipality an amount or amounts not exceeding the sum of \$750,000.00.
4. The form of obligation to be given as acknowledgement of the liability shall be a promissory note or notes bearing the corporate seal and signed by the Mayor and the officer assigned the responsibility of financial administration of the municipality.
5. All unpaid taxes and the taxes of the current year when levied or so much thereof as may be necessary shall, when collected, be used to repay the money so borrowed.

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2026.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2026.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2026.

RECONSIDERED and FINALLY PASSED and ADOPTED this day of , 2026.

Mayor Rob Kerslake

Corporate Officer

District of Barriere

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Request for Decision

Date: September 21 st , 2026	File: 5b
To: Council	From: K. Abel, Chief Financial Officer
Re: DRAFT Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 282	
<u>Recommendation:</u> THAT Council give first three readings to the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 282	

Purpose

To renew, by Bylaw, the District's annual *Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 263* which allows the District to obtain interim funding for the construction of its Wastewater Treatment Upgrade project funded in part under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). The Province will make financial contributions to the District which will not exceed the lesser of seventy three point thirty three percent (73.33%) of the total Eligible Expenditures of the Project or Five Million Two Hundred Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$5,213,376) being the maximum amount (the 'Total Contribution') approved to be paid under the funding agreement to pay for Eligible Expenditures incurred by the District.

Background

Section 177 of the *Community Charter* (Revenue Anticipation Borrowing) gives municipalities the authority to borrow money for a short term in anticipation of the receipt of funding such as grant payments from other levels of government, or to fund operating expenditures pending the receipt of current year property taxes. The maximum allowable term for this borrowing is one year. Council adopted Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 263 in December 2025 and it applied to the year 2026. A new bylaw must be adopted to apply for any necessary borrowing for this purpose in 2027.

The District is forecasting significant capital expenditures towards the Wastewater Treatment Upgrade project in 2027 and may face cash flow shortfalls due to the turnaround time between cash being outlaid and reimbursed by the Provincial government.

The overall project has been budgeted at \$7.1M, with contributions from the District making up the difference between total project cost and grant funds. The table below provides a snapshot of the Wastewater Treatment Project as of September 2026. Of the remaining \$6,083,854.63 expected expenses, \$4,468,236.60 will be grant funded and \$1,615,618.10 will be funded by District funds.

Total Approved Project Budget	Total DoB Funding Committed	Total Grant Funding Approved	Total Costs to Date	Costs Submitted for Grant Reimbursement	DoB Funds Utilized	Overall Costs Remaining
\$ 7,100,000.00	\$ 1,886,624.00	\$ 5,213,376.00	\$ 1,016,145.37	\$ 745,139.41	\$ 271,005.97	\$ 6,083,854.63

Any borrowing under this bylaw will only be used to fund expenditures which have been included in the 2026-2030 financial plan and will be included in the 2027-2031 Financial Plan.

The loan would be in the form of a non-revolving line of credit with the Municipal Finance Authority, with interest payable only when drawdowns are made against it.

Council approved similar bylaws in 2012, and 2017 to finance the Solar Aquatics Wastewater Reclamation and the Water Supply and Distribution System Improvement projects, respectively. The same scenario is expected in 2027 as it was in 2026, and use of these funds is only a last resort to fund unforeseen cashflow constraints that may arise.

This bylaw, No. 282, relates only to the grant revenue available under the ICIP program, as it relates to capital expenditures for Wastewater Treatment Upgrades, and is separate and distinct from Bylaw No. 281, which applies to the District's proposed operating line of credit with Beem Credit Union. Although borrowing for both the credit union and MFA could be included in a single bylaw, the Municipal Finance Authority has recommended that the District adopt two separate bylaws.

Benefits or Impacts

General

Revenue anticipation borrowing bylaws can cause confusion. For clarification, this bylaw does not allow the District to take on a debt in the amount of \$5.2million. This bylaw reflects that the District has already been approved for and will be receiving, prior to the end of 2027, \$4,468,236.59 to complete an already approved and funded project. It also allows the District to borrow up to 4.5m to cover project expenses while awaiting reimbursement, if sufficient cash is not available without impacting day to day operations. Any borrowed funds must be repaid by December 31, 2027.

The bylaw presented has been amended to increase the maximum outstanding amount at any given time to \$3,000,000 from \$2,000,000. With claim reimbursements from the province taking longer, the increased allowable amount provides better support to manage cashflow constraints. As noted previously, this is a purely precautionary and proactive measure to ensure the District can continue meeting their short-term grant-funded capital project expenditure cashflows.

Finances

This short-term borrowing would be at a variable interest rate which, at the time of writing this report is 2.89%. Interest charges are not eligible expenses under the ICIP funding agreement. This expense will not be incurred unless the District utilizes the loan.

Strategic Impact

Priority #3 – Goal 1 – Complete Wastewater Treatment Project

Risk Assessment

Compliance:

This is an annual bylaw authorized under Section 177 of the *Community Charter* and is required to set up short-term credit with the Municipal Finance Authority, and will expire at the 2027 year end.

Risk Impact:

Moderate.

Internal Control Process:

Staff will need to provide the Municipal Finance Authority with a copy of the bylaw upon adoption, as well as a copy of this report.

Any funds received from the Federal or Provincial Governments as included in this bylaw, must be used to repay amounts borrowed under this bylaw, with the loan repayable in full by the end of the year.

Next Steps / Communication

If Council provides this draft Bylaw's first three readings at this meeting, the bylaw will return for adoption consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting. From there, if adopted, Staff will proceed with renewing the line of credit with the Municipal Finance Authority.

Attachments

- 1) DRAFT Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw, No. 282
-

Recommendation

THAT Council gives first three readings to Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw, No. 282

Alternative Options

1. Council could choose not to consider this draft bylaw. In that case, the District would not be able to access any short-term borrowing to fund Water Treatment Upgrade expenditures and a cash flow issue will most likely occur.



DRAFT - BYLAW NO. 282

REVENUE ANTICIPATION BORROWING BYLAW

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE

A bylaw to provide for the borrowing of money in anticipation of revenue

WHEREAS the District of Barriere does not have sufficient money on hand to meet the current lawful expenditures of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by Section 177 of the *Community Charter* that Council may, without the assent of the electors or the approval of the Inspector of Municipalities, provide for the borrowing of such sums of money as may be necessary to meet the current lawful expenditures of the municipality provided that the total of the outstanding liabilities does not exceed the sum of:

- a) The whole amount remaining unpaid of the taxes for all purposes levied during the current year, provided that prior to the adoption of the annual property tax bylaw in any year, the amount of the taxes during the current year for this purpose shall be deemed to be 75% of the taxes levied for all purposes in the immediately preceding year; and
- b) The whole amount of any sums of money remaining due from other governments;

AND WHEREAS the District of Barriere's grant application for a Wastewater Treatment Upgrade has been approved under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the amount of \$5,213,376.00 or 73.33% of the actual eligible costs;

AND WHEREAS \$4,468,236.59 of the ICIP grant is still outstanding;

AND WHEREAS claims will be submitted to the Province on a quarterly basis;

AND WHEREAS a maximum of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) may be outstanding under this bylaw at any given time;

AND WHEREAS there are no liabilities outstanding under Section 177;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the District of Barriere, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited as "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 282."
2. The Council shall be and is hereby empowered and authorized to borrow upon the credit of the municipality an amount or amounts not exceeding the sum of Four Million, Four Hundred and Sixty Eight Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty Six Dollars and Fifty Nine Cents (\$4,468,236.59), of which a maximum of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) may be outstanding at any given time.

3. The form of obligation to be given as acknowledgement of the liability shall be a promissory note or notes bearing the corporate seal and signed by the Mayor and Financial Officer.
4. All ICIP funds received or so much thereof as may be necessary shall, when collected, be used to repay the money so borrowed.
5. Any money so borrowed shall be paid before December 31, 2027.

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2026.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2026.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2026.

RECONSIDERED ADOPTED this day of , 2026

Mayor Rob Kerslake

Tasha Buchanan, Corporate Officer

Certified Correct:

T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer



BC Pulp & Paper Coalition



September 4, 2026

The Honourable David Eby
Premier of British Columbia
Via email: Premier@gov.bc.ca

RE: Immediate Provincial Action Required to Address the Deepening Crisis in British Columbia's Forest Sector

Dear Premier Eby,

We are writing on behalf of organizations representing workers, manufacturers, contractors, communities and businesses across British Columbia's highly integrated forest sector.

BC's forest sector is at a breaking point. Immediate action is required.

We are calling on your government to urgently establish a **Forestry Crisis Action Group**, led by the Premier's Office and bringing together senior government decision-makers and representatives from across the forest sector.

Its mandate should be clear: **get economically viable wood moving, reduce costs, remove regulatory barriers, stabilize fibre supply, protect operating businesses, and retain—not retrain—British Columbia's skilled forestry workforce.**

The federal Forest Sector Transformation Task Force confirmed what industry has been saying for some time: many of the most serious challenges confronting Canadian forestry are “homegrown.”

While international trade pressures are beyond the Province's direct control, many of the conditions determining whether BC companies can continue operating are not.

The Province has both the authority and the responsibility to act.

The Task Force also recommended establishing a Canadian Forest Management Office. A BC Forestry Crisis Action Group could provide a coordinated mechanism to advance British Columbia's priorities with that office and ensure federal initiatives respond to the immediate realities facing BC producers, workers and communities.

An International Trade Crisis Requires a Provincial Economic Response

The breakdown of Canada-U.S. trade discussions and the imposition of new 50% Section 338 tariffs make provincial action even more urgent.

Canadian softwood lumber is already subject to combined U.S. duties and tariffs exceeding 45%. Section 338 now extends this high-tariff environment to a much broader range of Canadian forest products and building materials, including plywood, engineered wood products, pulp, paper and other value-added products.

BC companies cannot control U.S. trade policy. But British Columbia can control many of the costs, regulations, policies, permitting processes and fibre-access decisions that determine whether those companies survive it.

The sector cannot absorb these pressures indefinitely.

This is no longer a challenge facing one segment of forestry. **The entire value chain is at risk—from harvesting and transportation through primary manufacturing, pulp and paper, engineered wood and value-added manufacturing to silviculture and forest management.**

We are in the middle of a major international trade crisis. Government must respond with the urgency that crisis demands.

Forestry Can Also Help Address BC's Fiscal and Wildfire Challenges

At the same time, British Columbia is facing a significant new fiscal challenge.

The Province has acknowledged an error in its natural-gas revenue forecasts that is expected to reduce government revenues by approximately \$300 million annually and about \$1.46 billion over five years.

British Columbia's forest industry can help offset that revenue loss.

The Province's current fiscal plan assumes a Crown timber harvest of approximately **29 million cubic metres annually**. Industry believes that, with immediate government action, British Columbia can move toward an economically sustainable harvest of approximately **45 million cubic metres**.

Your government has already recognized the importance of this work by identifying **the path to a 45-million-cubic-metre annual harvest as a major project**. On April 9, 2025, your Minister of Forests confirmed in the Legislature that this objective was being advanced alongside the Province's other priority projects through a deputy ministers' committee. We are asking your government to translate that commitment into immediate decisions, coordinated action across ministries and measurable results.

COFI has estimated that increasing the harvest to approximately 45 million cubic metres could generate **almost \$600 million in additional annual government revenue**, while putting British Columbians back to work, supporting contractors and communities, maintaining manufacturing capacity and generating additional economic activity throughout the Province.

That is potentially twice the annual revenue now expected to be lost because of the natural-gas forecasting shortfall.

This is an important point.

Furthermore, the forest sector has the capabilities to help address the dramatically increasing wildfire risk across the province and to make our forest landscapes and communities more resilient.

But it needs to function effectively and efficiently to do so – starting with expedited salvage permits to quickly make use of wildfire damaged timber. And even more importantly, to invest in silviculture and forest management activities to prevent catastrophic fires in the first place. Prevention is much cheaper than response.

The forest industry is not simply asking government for financial assistance. We are asking government to reinvest in this important asset and remove the barriers within its own control so that this industry can generate additional government revenue, support a healthy forest, protect communities and thousands of jobs, and strengthen British Columbia’s economy.

At a time when government urgently needs revenue, it makes little sense to leave burnt and economically viable Crown timber standing because of avoidable permitting delays, administrative barriers or policies that make harvesting uneconomic.

The First Priority: Do No Further Harm

The immediate first step should be straightforward.

Freeze any new provincial fees, taxes, charges or government-imposed cost increases affecting British Columbia’s forest sector while this international trade crisis continues.

Companies are already absorbing extraordinary trade-related costs that are beyond their control. This is not the time to add further domestic costs that make BC operations less competitive.

Government should undertake an immediate review of planned cost increases and defer those that would further weaken companies already fighting to remain operating.

The Second Priority: Get the Wood Moving

Government must then immediately **triage permitting and fibre opportunities across the Province.**

There are economically viable timber opportunities capable of supporting existing mills, manufacturers, contractors and workers that are being delayed by permitting, approval processes and unresolved administrative barriers.

Government should establish a senior, cross-ministry permitting and fibre triage team empowered to identify those opportunities, resolve barriers and make decisions quickly.

The objective should be simple:

Identify the wood that can economically and responsibly be harvested—and get it moving.

This should include accelerating ready-to-sell BC Timber Sales volumes, advancing permits capable of producing near-term fibre, expediting wildfire salvage permits, addressing delivered log costs, administrative bottlenecks and prioritizing opportunities that protect existing manufacturing and employment.

This does not mean lowering environmental standards, diminishing consultation obligations or compromising responsible forest management.

It means **bringing urgency, coordination and accountability to decisions that are essential to British Columbia’s economic survival.**

Immediate Action

We therefore ask your government to:

- **Immediately convene a Forestry Crisis Action Group**, led by the Premier's Office and involving representatives from across BC's forest sector and all ministries and agencies whose decisions materially affect forestry operations, competitiveness and fibre supply.
- **Deliver on the Province's existing major-project commitment by increasing the economically viable harvest from the current projection of approximately 29 million cubic metres toward 45 million cubic metres.**
- **Immediately freeze new provincial fees, taxes, charges and government-imposed cost increases affecting the forest sector** while the current international trade crisis continues.
- **Establish an immediate permitting and fibre triage process**, led by senior officials with industry and First Nations to identify and resolve barriers preventing economically viable wood from reaching BC manufacturers.
- **Within 30 days, release a public Forest Sector Crisis Action Plan** identifying specific measures, responsible ministers and firm implementation timelines—beginning with actions that can be completed within the first month and those that will be implemented before the end of the year.
- **Report publicly and regularly on progress**, including additional timber brought to market, permits advanced, barriers removed, facilities kept operating, jobs protected and additional government revenues generated.

Retain Workers—Do Not Wait to Retrain Them

This moment requires more than supporting workers and communities after another mill, manufacturing facility or contracting business closes.

It requires action **before those closures occur.**

Our priority must be to retain the skilled workers, contractors, manufacturers, businesses and industrial infrastructure British Columbia will need for the future.

Once that capacity disappears, rebuilding it will be extraordinarily difficult.

Every day without stable, predictable access to economically viable wood increases the risk to BC businesses, workers, families and forest-dependent communities.

Long-term transformation of the forest sector remains important. But **the time for relying primarily on incremental measures, studies and long-term transformation plans has passed.**

We are in the middle of a major international trade crisis.

The immediate priority must be keeping British Columbians working, getting economically viable wood moving, keeping BC manufacturing facilities operating and generating revenue for the Province.

We stand ready to work constructively with you and your Cabinet to stabilize the sector, protect employment and restore BC's global competitiveness.

We request an urgent meeting with you to establish the Forestry Crisis Action Group. Let's roll up our sleeves and get to work.

British Columbia has the wood. We have the skilled workforce. We have world-class manufacturers, contractors and technology. And we have customers who want the essential forest products made here in BC.

At a moment when our industry is confronting an unprecedented international trade challenge, and the Province is facing growing fiscal pressures, **forestry can be part of the solution to both.**

Forestry helped build British Columbia. Now British Columbia must act to secure forestry's future.

Sincerely,

Kim Haakstad, COFI
Brian Menzies, IWPA
Todd Chamberlain, ILA
Peter Lister, TLA
John Nester, NWLA
Ted Dergoussoff, ILMA
Lennard Joe, FNFC
Jeff Bromley, USW
Gord Chipman, Woodlots BC
Jennifer Gunter, BC Community Forests Association
Megan Hanacek, PFLA
Joe Nemeth, Pulp and Paper Coalition
Brian Hawrysh, BC Wood
John Betts, Western Forestry Contractors Association
Bhavjit Thandi, BC Plywood & Veneer Coalition

CC Minister Ravi Parmar, For.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Randene Neill, WLRS.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Josie Osbourne, FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Adrian Dix, ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Brenda Bailey, JEDI.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Kelly Greene, EMCR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Tamara Davidson, ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Minister Spencer Chandra Herbert, IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Deputy Minister Tom McCarthy, Tom.McCarthy@gov.bc.ca
Andrew Mercier, Chief of Staff, Andrew.Mercier@gov.bc.ca
Ian McMahon, Chief of Staff, Ian.McMahon@gov.bc.ca

September 11, 2026

File No. 5280-15

Premier David Eby

Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions

Hon. Kelly Greene, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness

Hon. Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs

Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Finance

Dear Premier Eby and Ministers:

Re: BC Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) - Funding Continuation

At its regular meeting of August 11, 2026, City of Williams Lake Council passed the following resolution:

“That Council authorize a letter be sent from the Mayor to the Premier of BC and relevant provincial Ministers outlining the importance of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) funding and the critical need for continuation of this funding program; and further, this letter be shared with local MLAs, NCLGA, UBCM and all BC municipalities and regional districts.”

On behalf of the City of Williams Lake, I am writing to urge the Province’s continued commitment to the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP). For more than 15 years, the Province has provided consistent annual climate action funding to local governments, recognizing that municipalities are key to helping the Province meet greenhouse gas (GHG) targets and climate adaptation goals.

The Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) and its predecessor, the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), have provided a critical and reliable source of dedicated funding enabling municipalities to maintain staff capacity, support community climate initiatives, deliver key GHG reduction and adaptation programs, and leverage other utility funding, including provincial and federal grants. Many of these initiatives directly support the goals of the CleanBC Roadmap and the Climate Preparedness & Adaptation Strategy.

Since 2022, the City of Williams Lake has received \$562,432 and has been able to use this funding to secure additional funds amounting to more than \$190,000 from alternative sources, including the British Columbia Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program, BC Active Transportation Network Planning Grant, and the Green Municipal Fund – Safe and Active School Routes program.

.../2

These funds have allowed the City of Williams Lake to complete many different projects that may not otherwise have been accomplished. Some of these projects include the creation of the Active Transportation Network Plan (2025), window upgrades to support energy savings, and the construction of the pedestrian bridge connecting Scout Island and RC Cotton site trail networks with downtown Williams Lake. Additional upcoming projects include the installation of bike racks in the downtown core (2026) and traffic calming measures along Western Avenue (2027).

Municipal budgets are under significant pressure to fund core services and respond to the increasingly costly impacts of accelerating climate changes, including devastating floods, wildfires, and extreme heat. Removing dedicated Provincial climate action funding will create a shortfall that cannot be replaced without significant impacts to local taxpayers.

LGCAP has been the stable foundation that allows local governments to pursue these opportunities. Without it, many municipalities will be unable to apply for competitive grants or deliver community-focused climate programming that supports provincial objectives.

In February 2026, the provincial government released the 2026/27–2028/29 Service Plan for the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions. The plan does not include funding for the continuation of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP); however, to date, no final decision or direction has been communicated publicly by the Province.

The City of Williams Lake respectfully requests that the Province confirm the continued funding of LGCAP and its inclusion in the 2026/27- 2028/29 Service Plan. Should the program not continue, the loss of provincial LGCAP funding would be detrimental to the City's ability (and the ability of all local governments) to continue developing and implementing our climate action program and supporting provincial goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Yours truly,



Mayor Surinderpal Rathor

c: MLA Lorne Doerkson, Cariboo Chilcotin
Union of British Columbia Municipalities
North Central Local Government Association
BC Municipalities and Regional Districts



Tasha Buchanan

Subject: Unity as Stability — A Thought Before the 2026 Local Election

Importance: High

Subject: Unity as Stability — A Thought Before the 2026 Local Election

Dear Mayor and Council,

As British Columbia approaches another local election, I would like to leave councils with a somewhat unusual thought to carry into the next term.

People should be worried about artificial intelligence.

Perhaps they should be terrified.

One of the more interesting warnings emerging from recent developments in artificial intelligence has relatively little to do with whether a machine can think like us. It concerns something much simpler:

AI systems are discovering the power of cooperation.

During cybersecurity research disclosed by OpenAI this summer, autonomous agents found ways around barriers intended to keep them isolated. They developed unintended methods of communicating with one another. When one agent discovered a useful method, information could be passed to others. When a communication channel was removed, another was established. During the resulting security incident, agents began collaborating and delegating work, at times referring to themselves as a “swarm” or “collective.” [1]

A separate investigation reported by Reuters in September described another apparent instance in which AI agents repurposed an existing website to exchange information, preserve communications and share methods for overcoming restrictions. OpenAI disputed aspects of the characterization of that incident, but the broader phenomenon of unexpected inter-agent coordination is no longer hypothetical. [2]

There is an important distinction here.

This does not demonstrate that artificial intelligence *believes* in unity.

In some respects, that would be less remarkable.

It demonstrates that systems pursuing objectives can discover cooperation simply because cooperation works.

No shared identity was required. No neighbourhood. No political affiliation. No social status. No history of friendship or trust between the participants.

An obstacle existed.

One participant discovered something useful.

Others learned from it.

The collective became more capable than its isolated members.

THE OTHER SIDE OF UNITY

An even more interesting experiment was published on September 3.

Researchers placed 100 autonomous AI agents into a collaborative environment and tasked them with solving mathematical problems. Eventually, one agent discovered a way to exploit the evaluation system.

The knowledge spread.

Other agents began using it.

But then something else happened.

Other agents began identifying the fraudulent work. They audited proofs. They warned one another. They organized boycotts. They filed complaints through the systems available to them and proposed ways of repairing the validation process. [3]

The same ability to communicate that allowed misconduct to spread also allowed resistance to that misconduct to organize.

The researchers identified an important limitation: the agents exposing the problem did not possess sufficient enforcement authority to actually resolve it.

That distinction should be familiar to anyone involved in democratic government.

Transparency can expose a problem. Accountability determines what happens next.

DEMOCRACY IS A COORDINATION SYSTEM

Humans have advantages artificial systems do not.

But we also carry obstacles of our own.

We sort ourselves socially. We form camps. We attach labels to people. We gossip. We allow disagreement over one subject to determine who we will listen to on another. Political competition can slowly transform differences of opinion into differences of identity.

None of this makes people bad.

It does, however, make cooperation difficult.

And perhaps the lesson worth taking from these strange developments in artificial intelligence is that unity is not merely a pleasant democratic sentiment. It is infrastructure.

Democracy does not require unanimity.

It requires something much harder:

the ability to disagree without destroying our ability to cooperate.

Fairness gives people confidence that the same standards will be applied regardless of who is speaking.

Transparency allows people to see how decisions were reached.

Accountability provides a mechanism for identifying mistakes, correcting them and learning from them.

Unity allows those mechanisms to survive disagreement.

These are not separate democratic values.

They reinforce one another.

UNITY AS MUNICIPAL STABILITY

At the municipal level, this matters enormously.

Housing, infrastructure, transportation, policing, homelessness, environmental protection, emergency preparedness and relationships with senior governments rarely stop at a municipal boundary.

When one municipality discovers a successful approach, neighbouring municipalities should not have to discover it again from scratch.

When one municipality encounters an unreasonable process, others should be able to learn from the record.

When residents raise legitimate concerns, evidence should matter more than the political identity of the person presenting it.

When governments make mistakes, acknowledging and correcting them should strengthen public confidence rather than be treated as institutional defeat.

And where municipalities face a common problem, coordination should be the default rather than the isolation.

My previous correspondence has focused on some practical expressions of this idea: preserving public records, comparing experiences between municipalities, sharing information and expertise, and considering common legal or institutional resources where appropriate.

Those were practical suggestions.

This is the principle behind them:

Unity is stability.

A CALL TO UNITE

On October 17, voters will change some councils and return others.

Some incumbents will leave public office. New representatives will arrive. Political disagreements will continue, as they should.

But the institutions remain.

I hope those entering the next term—whatever their political outlook—will consider adopting a simple common standard:

Disagree openly.

Preserve the record.

Treat people fairly.

Show your work.

Correct mistakes.

Protect meaningful public participation.

Share what works.

And when a problem is larger than one municipality, face it together.

Artificial intelligence may become dangerous partly because increasingly capable systems can coordinate at speeds and scales human beings cannot easily match.

The answer is not for human beings to become more like machines.

It may be to remember something we discovered long before machines existed:

our greatest problems have rarely been solved by everyone becoming the same. They have been solved by different people deciding that something mattered more than their differences.

Fairness.

Transparency.

Accountability.

These are values around which people with profoundly different politics can still stand together.

And in a period when division has become extraordinarily easy to manufacture, perhaps unity itself should be understood as a form of democratic resilience.

The next term will bring disagreements.

That is democracy.

The greater question is whether disagreement must continue to mean division.

I do not believe it does.

Municipalities should demonstrate what unity looks like.

Respectfully,

Philip Perras
Concerned Citizen
564 Carmel Court
Kamloops, British Columbia, V2E 2G3

Sources

[1] OpenAI, *The Hugging Face incident and the road ahead*, August 26, 2026.

[2] Reuters, *OpenAI agents hijacked German website in previously undisclosed AI breakout this spring*, September 4, 2026, updated September 5, 2026.

[3] Davide Paglieri et al., *A Case Study on Emergent Cheating and Whistleblowing in Autonomous Research Swarms*, arXiv:2609.04170, September 3, 2026.