

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: June 5, 2023	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Bob Payette, CAO
Re: Administrative Updates	

CAO UPDATE:

Community Relations:

- Doctor Marais provided the following information regarding Barriere’s doctor shortage: *“We are designated to receive a doctor in March of 2024. That is pending him getting his immigration and work permit paperwork all successfully done, as well as a three month observation period and possibly one more exam passed. Then I am in the process of securing another doctor for a start date of September 2024 via the same process. We should know by July if we have been matched with a candidate and then they also have to successfully jump through all the hoops. So it is highly likely that we will have a doctor for March 2024, hopefully all goes well. Then I am cautiously optimistic that we will be designated one doctor for September 2024, but I should know around July for sure. And even then, all has to go well for them to actually show up.”*
- Mayor Stamer and Councillor Lodge attended Community to Community meeting with Simpcw Council on May 19th and the following information was discussed:
 - 23 May 2023 – Valemount Press Release – *Leaders from across the Robson Valley and neighboring regions visited Valemount last week for a round of high-level conversations centered on Old Growth Management, Transportation Corridors, Energy / Electrification the legacy of the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion.*

While many conversations will continue to be built on over the coming weeks, and months, it is already clear that the group aims to take a more collaborative approach in advocating for the region at the 2023 Union of British Columbia Municipalities Annual Meeting, with government on the items identified and during future major projects.



Mayor (Valemount) Owen Torgerson, left, chairs the Council-to-Council meeting with 25 leaders from across the region present.

A host of joint meetings, and action items, have been proposed to further discussions on:

- Memorandums of Understanding between the municipalities and Simpcw First Nation.
- joint letters on highway safety in the region following significant loss of life along the corridors.
- several meeting requests at, or separate from, UBCM to discuss major project impacts and the unique needs of the valley.
- expectations around the close out of the Trans Mountain Expansion projects work in the area.

Clearwater is set to host the groups next formal Council-to-Council session in 2024 with several issue specific sessions targeted between now and that next full meeting.

Recreation & Community Services:

- Next Recreation Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2023 @ 3pm
- Councillor Armstrong has stepped down from the Committee for the time being, and Councillor Kibble has been appointed by the Mayor to fill this vacancy.
- The Volunteer Fair held at the Ridge on May 26th, was very well received, especially by the Barriere Senior Secondary Students with up to 17 interested individuals asking for more information on possibly joining the Youth Fire Department Membership program. Thank you to Mayor Stamer for his BBQ grilling skills.
- The ParticipACTION Kick-off party on June 1st was a success and a lot of fun was had. Everyone is encouraged to check out the promotional video posted on the District website that was produced by Chair Lodge and featuring Mayor Stamer, a number of Simpcw Band Members & staff, as well as many community members.



- Preparation for this year's Canada Day Celebration (Saturday, July 1st, at 2pm) at the Bandshell is underway.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER:

Roads & Parks

- Road restrictions have been rescinded – now at 100%
- Contracted street sweeping is now complete.
- Road repairs are on-going – Hall & Haggard Roads
- Irrigation system repairs and upgrades are on-going
- Wildfire Monument project is on-going – storyboards have been completed, carvings have been refinished.
- EV Charging Station is operational.



Utilities

- Back-up generator project is moving forward – civil work and pad forms completed. Concrete to be poured soon.
- LCIP reservoir contractor is slated to start on-site fabrication in the middle of June.
- Water restrictions remain at Stage 1 for summer 2023 and a reminder and description of this stage is posted on the District website's homepage under "Local Notices". This was also included in the tax mailing insert that is sent out in May.

Facilities

- Leonie Lake Dam outlet valve has been closed. Lake is full.

FINANCE OFFICER:

- Tax Notices have been mailed out and the error in the business billing was swiftly rectified.

CORPORATE OFFICER:

- The 2022 Annual Report will be advertised later this week that is available for public viewing (as per legislation) prior to the June 19th Regular Meeting where it will be presented to Council for approval.
- Have responded to a number of development inquiries as there are some developable properties (both industrial and residential) have recently entered the market.
- In process of drafting a new Mobile Home Park Bylaw as it is the only remaining TNRD bylaw the District of Barriere still currently operates under and it is quite outdated. A first draft will be available for Council's review in the near future.

**submitted for information*

Prepared by: Bob Payette, CAO