

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

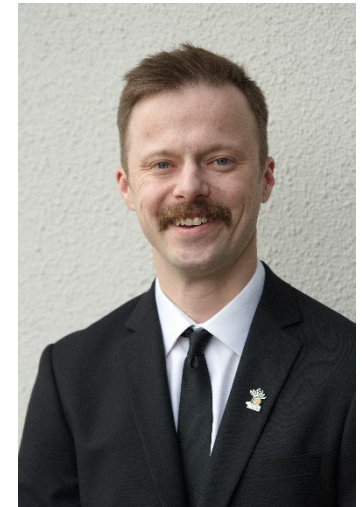
Dated at the District of Barriere, BC

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

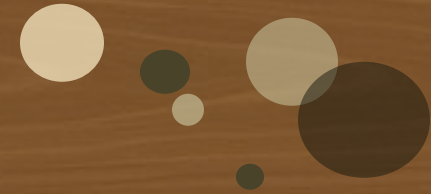
Total Annual Water Consumption 2025 = 460,363 m³

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

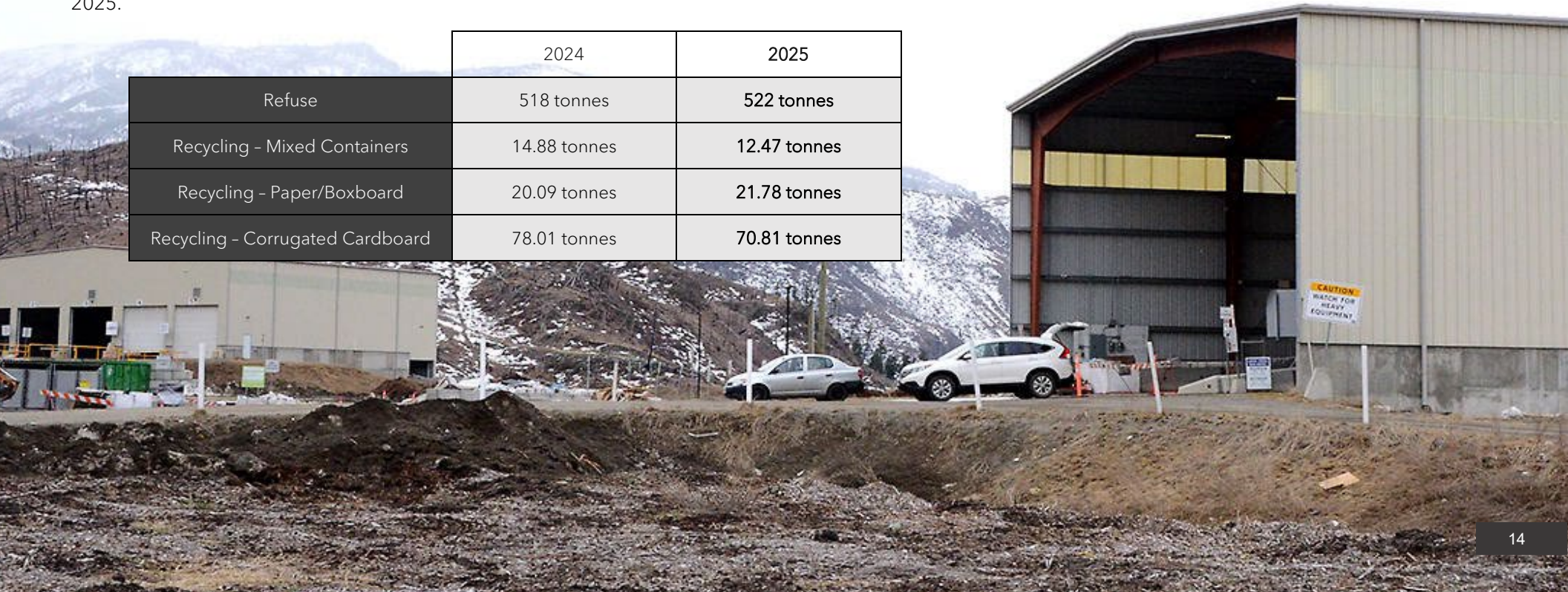
The District of Barriere is committed to our environment and is proud to have been the second community in the area to implement a curbside recycling program. We offer the following services and products to our community members:

- 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



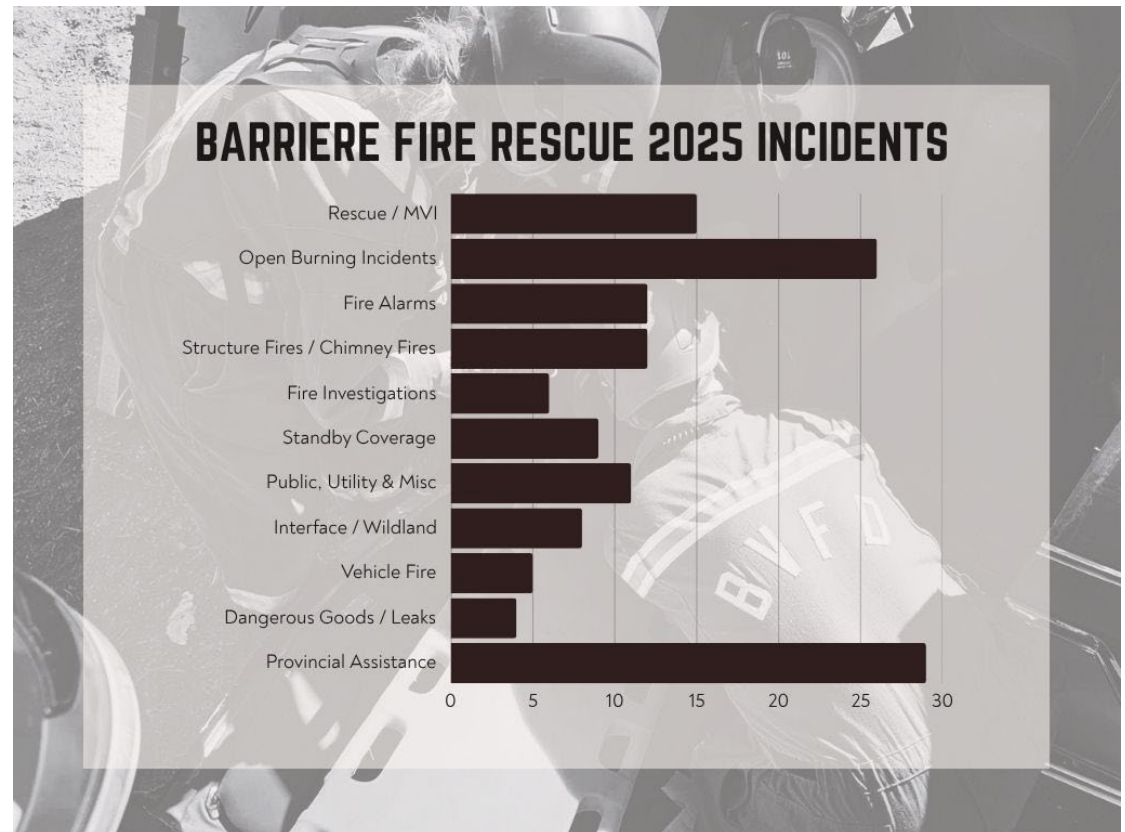
2025 – Barriere Fire Rescue

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.

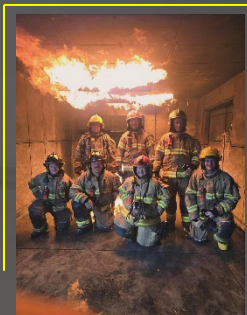
In 2025, Barriere Fire Rescue took on the Emergency Management responsibilities for the District of Barriere. A major focus has been building the department's capacity to support an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during significant emergencies and creating meaningful and impactful partnerships with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

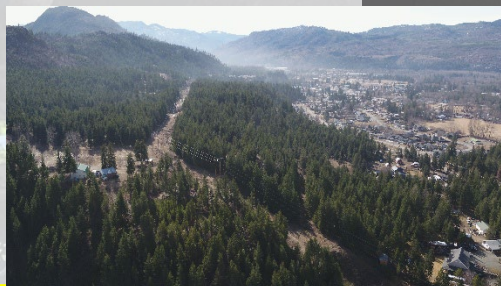
- Developing our volunteer firefighters through continued training and leadership opportunities.
- Strengthening emergency management and EOC capacity.
- Expanding wildfire preparedness and mitigation.
- Maintaining and responsibly managing department assets and infrastructure.
- Building strong partnerships 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

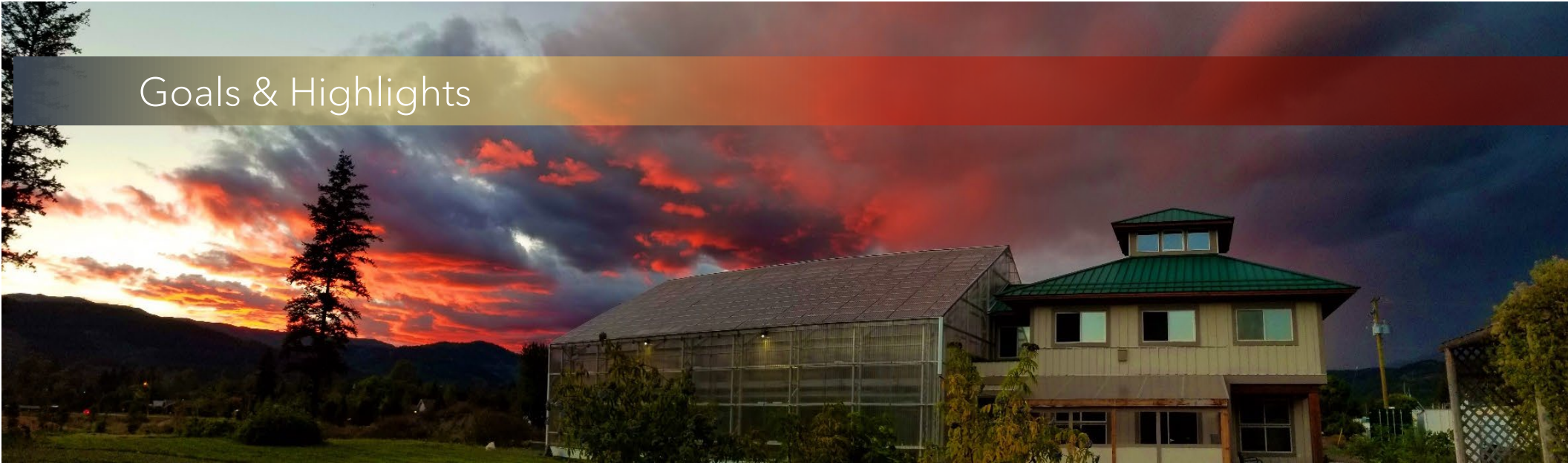
kisco
Water Treatment Company
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

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

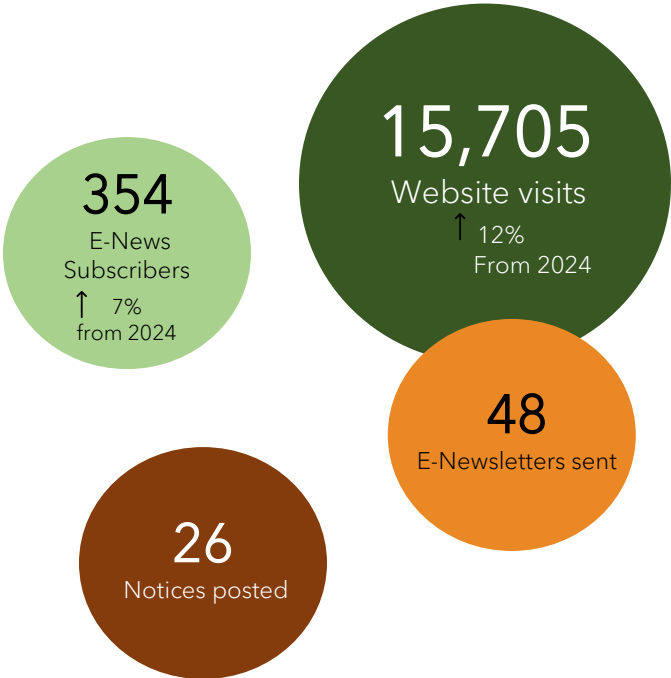
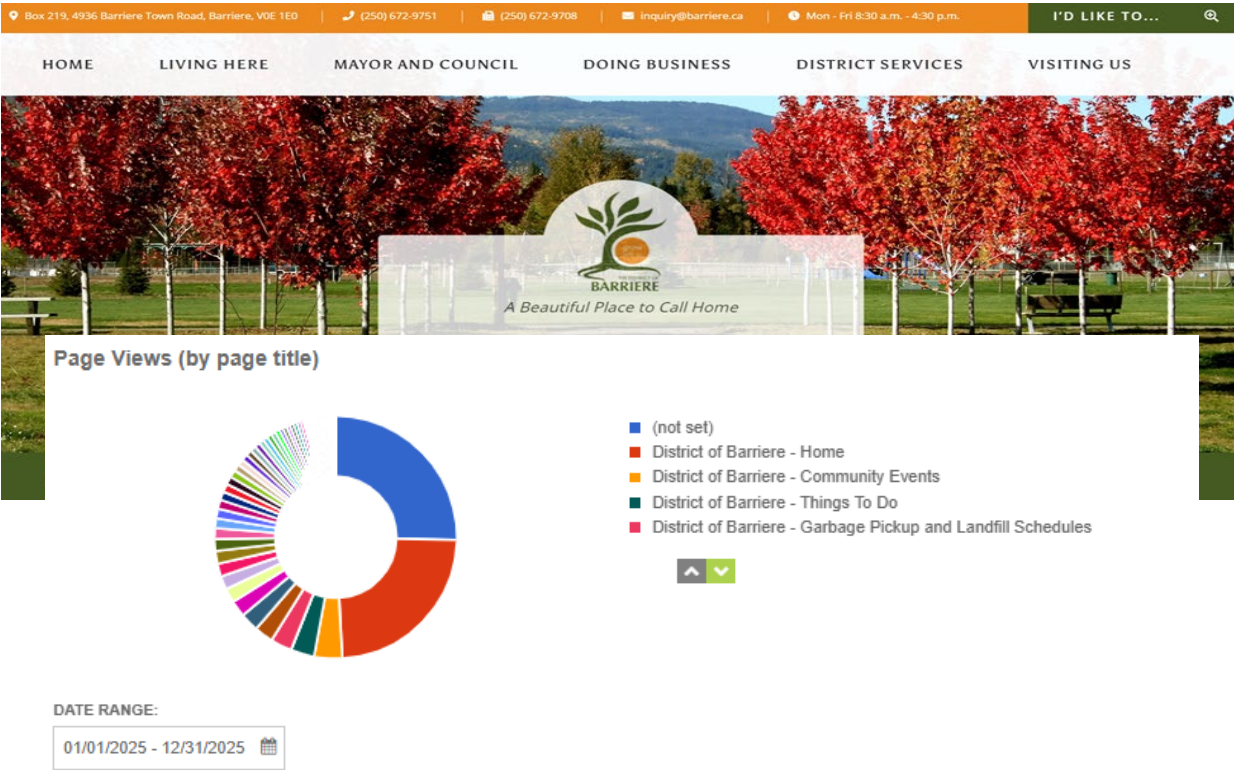
GOOD GOVERNMENT / COMMUNICATION

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