

AGENDA
Special Meeting of Council



Tuesday
January 19, 2021
Council Chambers
6:00 p.m.

"The Village of Burns Lake is a diverse community where residents enjoy a high quality of life, supported by economic and environmental sustainability, and a vibrant community spirit."

PO Box 570
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0
250 692-7587
www.burnslake.ca

2021 MUNICIPAL OBJECTIVES

1. Undertake initiatives that support the development of a strong and diverse economy, including for industry, commerce, tourism, and a vibrant downtown

- Implement the recommendations in the 'Chart the Course' economic diversification plan that includes tourism
- Host a prosperity clinic regarding wealth building, community building and economic diversification.
- Promote business opportunities and continue to work towards attracting new business from the regional pilot program.
- Village Heights development:
 - i. 'Reaching New Heights'; host a Prosperity Clinic with the development community re: layout and development of land;
 - ii. selective harvesting of conifers (CWPP fuel mitigation) & use revenue generated for clean-up;
 - iii. incorporate a plan for water/sewer ROW in road clearing;
 - iv. explore the acquisition of neighbouring property.
- Begin to implement recommendations of the Tourism Working Group.
- Create a Community Tourism Marketing Strategy.
- Support events for recreation.
- Support developers and business to increase commercial office space

2. Good government that is financially sustainable and invests in infrastructure to serve the community

- Pursue opportunities for servicing Industrial Lands (water and sewer).
- Wastewater Treatment Plant and sewer lagoons (grant dependent; could be phased.)
- Leverage NCPG funds for water and sewer projects, applying for grants and utilizing partnerships where possible.
- Continue to improve amenities at the local campground.
- Host prosperity clinic regarding Anglican Church use, disposition or relocation.
- Priority paving projects ~\$400k
- Phase 2 Active Transportation – Centre Street sidewalk and storm drain (grant dependent).
- Explore and compare sites; develop a plan for upgrading or replacing the Firehall.
- Practice good communication with the public through social media, being approachable, accountable and transparent; provide 'highlights' to the public.
- Support infrastructure developments that encourage diversity and promote Burns Lake as a welcoming community.

3. Exercise social responsibility by supporting housing inventory for the community's diverse population and recreational opportunities that improve quality of life

- Support developers and not-for-profit organizations with new housing for market and subsidized multi-family dwellings, investigate local government incentive tools.
- Work with the Housing Committee to identify and fill gaps in housing inventory.
- Consult with the public regarding a Youth Centre and explore partnerships including FN and SD91.
- Make continuous efforts at reconciliation and respectful dialogue; collaborate, communicate, seek and provide input.
- Annual C2C forum – Cultural Literacy
- Increase communication and social engagement with the public.
- Encourage the dynamic use of the Multiplex.

4. Provide responsible environmental stewardship and mitigate wildfire risk

- Selectively harvest conifers on Village Heights lands and use revenue generated for clean up.
- Prioritize and implement actions proceeding from Community Wildfire Protection Plan to keep our community safe.
- Support the FireSmart Committee, encourage citizen participation and consider resources to do so.
- Promote EV charging stations.
- Encourage recycling.

AGENDA

Special Meeting of Council for the Corporation of the Village of Burns Lake, held in Council Chambers on January 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

TOPIC	PAGE
1. CALL TO ORDER	
<i>“On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the area’s Six First Nations.”</i>	
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
Recommendation:	
THAT the agenda for January 19, 2020, Special Meeting of Council is approved as presented.	
3. PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS AND READINGS OR ADOPTION	
4. PUBLIC COMMENT	
<i>When recognized by the presiding member during the Public Comment portion of any regular or special meeting of Council, and only after giving their names and addresses, persons from the audience may address Council on a matter for not more than 2 minutes. When speaking during the Public Comment or Public Question Period, persons must address their remarks to the presiding member, use respectful language, not use offensive gestures or signs, and only address current agenda items. No person from the audience may address Council more than once during the Public Comment and Public Question Period.</i>	
5. DELEGATIONS AND PETITION - None	
6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - None	
7. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR AND CAO REPORTS - None	
8. REPORTS	
a) School District #91 Update – <i>Superintendent, Manu Madhok</i>	5

- 9. **BUSINESS ARISING - None**

- 10. **ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS ACTION - None**

- 11. **ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION RECEIVED AND FILED - None**

- 12. **NEW BUSINESS - None**

- 13. **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - None**

- 14. **READING FILE - None**

15. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

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16. RELEASE OF CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTIONS – None

17. ADJOURN

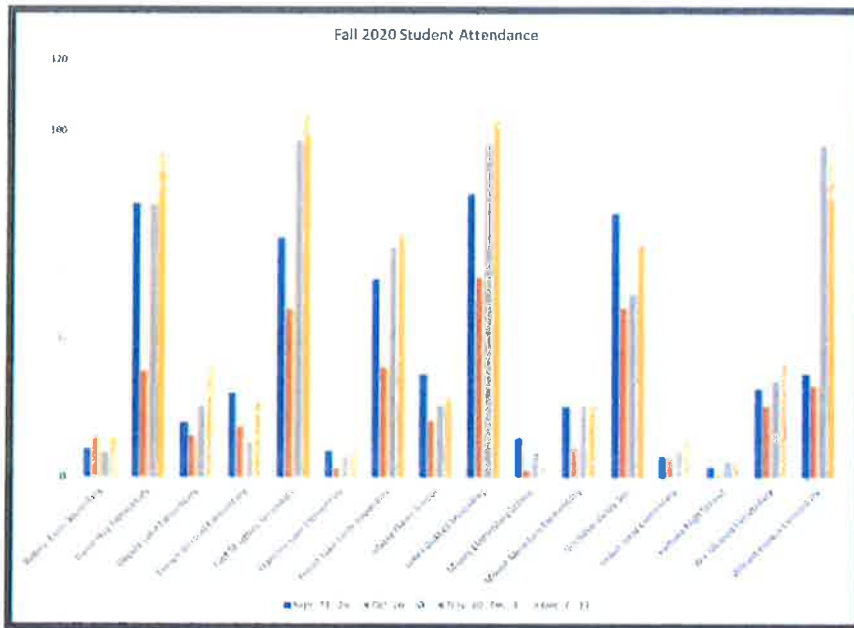


Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Dec. 14th, 2020

2020 – IT'S A WRAP

This final report of the year to the Board is different in format primarily because my sense is that our entire system is in much need of the upcoming winter break. Over the last month we have seen COVID transmission in the north increase; and, this has taken a toll on overall anxiety for families, as evidenced in declining student attendance patterns at many of our schools (*see graph below*). The promise of a vaccine rollout is much needed and promising news; however, we also know that the coming months will require continued attention to health and safety protocols.



With increased community transmission, we know that we will see increased school exposure notices which have occurred for a few of our schools over the last few weeks. The data that has been shared with us from the Provincial Health Officer continues to indicate that, as long as schools are following their safety protocols, they continue to be seen as controlled environments that minimize the risk of COVID transmission. We had hoped to have our Northern Health partners respond to the many questions that are percolating for families and ourselves, but that Town Hall event had to be cancelled due to their shift in priorities with increasing caseloads. We are attempting to come up with a future date as soon as possible.

With the current Provincial Health Order restricting traditional holiday events and gatherings, we know that the continued

stress for families will continue into 2021; and, so we will continue to focus on sharing personal wellness and mental health strategies across our schools. A big thank you to **Barb McLean, Claire McKay** and our **Learner Services team** who did an outstanding job of presenting to our CUPE staff on Personal Wellness during the last professional development day.

Although I will send a personalized holiday email to all in our organization later this week, I want to publicly acknowledge the contributions of every member of our School District over the last nine months. The examples of compassion and caring for students and families have been numerous across our district, and it is difficult to express the level of gratitude that we all have for the many, many contributions. Unlike many jurisdictions across the world, we have been able to safely open schools for our learners and minimize the impact of the pandemic on our youngest and most vulnerable. My knowledge of the Dakelh language is limited to a few phrases and words, but I do know that they have many expressions for gratitude. The most fitting for each of our employees translated as, 'We are so thankful for what you have done' is expressed as **NENACHLUHYA!**





STRATEGIC GOAL - HONOUR DIVERSITY

Rather than speaking to specific examples from our schools or departments around Honouring Diversity, I wanted to use this section of my report to the Board to speak about the partner structures within our organization that help contribute to our focus on diversity.

Our most important governance structure is our Board of Education, comprised of seven elected Trustees. I have had the distinct pleasure and privilege of working with these individuals from when many of them were first elected and have counted on their student-centered perspective to create policies and direction that support our schools. Our current Board has released the 2020 – 2025 Strategic Plan graphic that has created a compelling vision for our School District which includes four goal areas including 'Honouring Diversity.' It is the job of the Board to direct myself and district staff to ensure that schools are equitable and accessible to ALL our students and so have appreciated their attention to outcomes associated with Indigenous, Special Education and Children-in-Care outcomes.

In addition to our Trustees, I also want to ensure that the public is aware of the additional partner structures that guide the work of the district leadership team and our Board.



Trustees: Nadine Frenkel, Rick Pooley, Nyree Hazelton, Cheryl Peterson, Sarah John, Steve Davis, and Dave Christie



Student Voice

- This group of high school students from across our district, supported by Vice Principals **Denise Dowswell, Shelley Leatherdale, Mike Leduc**, and LDSS teacher **Patti Dube**, continue to provide us and our trustees with honest, student focused and informed feedback. The picture is from a few years ago and most of these students have been replaced by new Student Voice representatives.
- Student Voice representatives are invited to every Board meeting to provide Trustees with an update on their activities as a group and to provide insight into emerging student issues. This group is a key advocate and partner in ensuring that all student diversities are considered in Board policy.

District Parent Advisory Council

- Our SD91 DPAC is a relatively new structure, and I want to recognize the hard work of this dedicated, small group of parents in revitalizing our DPAC structure to help advocate for parent issues. Thank you to **Cheryl Work, Carrie Smith, Pam Higginson** and the other members of DPAC who have committed to supporting parents across our district and forwarded to the Board their thoughts, questions and feedback. We look forward to continued opportunities to partner in the coming year.

Aboriginal Education Council (AEC)

- Our school district has the privilege and responsibility of providing educational services to 14 First Nations across our region. Each of these communities is represented on the AEC which meets every two months. I am honoured to attend these meetings with **Leona Prince**, our talented District Principal Aboriginal Education, along with two of our trustees; and, I appreciate the continued respectful dialogue that helps to ensure our system's accountability and responsibility for Indigenous learners.

CUPE and BLNTU

- Our system works with the provisions of collectively bargained contracts, and I am thankful for the leadership of both of our unions. **Florence, Rick, Jennifer** and **Melissa** have excellently represented their members while continuing to help us navigate difficult circumstances and issues. Our health and safety protocols are stronger because of our mutual conversations.



STRATEGIC GOAL – ENGAGE OUR WORKFORCE

As in the introduction to this report, our workforce is completely responsible for all of the incredible activities that occur for our students both prior to the Coronavirus and for the last 9 months. Here is a recap of stories / pictures that show why we are so proud and thankful for our incredible workforce:



NVSS Small Business Market – Jana-Rae Kadonaga



Parent Literacy / Numeracy Workshops – Michelle & Roberta



William Konkin's Sue Martens who has been so essential in helping with food programs for students and families. Sue is referred to as the WKE Angel! Thank-you Sue for all that you do!



Haircutting Potlatch - Nikki Arnold / Sarah John



Moose Hide Campaign - Cheryl Parsons / Brian Cross



Project Trails - Pat & Patti Dube



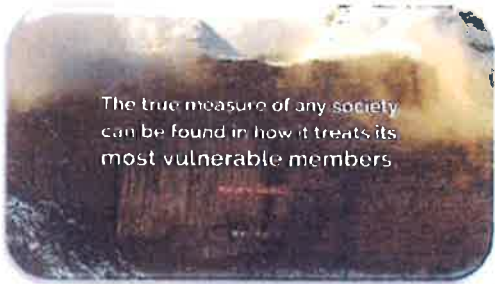
William Konkin Elementary greeter, Bryce McGinnis, who drives in from Topley daily to be at WKE with a smile. Thanks Bryce!



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STRATEGIC GOAL – STUDENT LEARNING



As in most years, many, many of our schools are involved in campaigns to collect toy and food donations to assist community organizations helping families across our region. These initiatives are too numerous to mention school by school, but a very big thank you to our students and their sponsors for the many hours spent on these activities.

With our much-loved holiday concerts and gatherings suspended due to the Covid context, our innovative schools are coming up with alternate ways to share songs and celebrations with their students and families. Here are some pictures / videos from across our schools sharing the holiday spirit.





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SD91 IN THE NEWS AND QUICK FACTS:

- [WL McLeod's Leadership Group donates \\$2000 to Kinette's Club](#)
- [Sinkut View Christmas Tree Silent Auction](#)
- [WKE Eagles Christmas Message of Kindness, Joy and Hope](#) (Facebook Video)