

AGENDA
Special Meeting of Council



Tuesday
March 16, 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
March 16, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

TOPIC PAGE

1. CALL TO ORDER

"On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the area's Six First Nations."

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

THAT the agenda for March 16, 2021, Special Meeting of Council is approved as presented.

3. PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS AND READINGS OR ADOPTION

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

*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.*

5. DELEGATIONS AND PETITION - None

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - None

7. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR AND CAO REPORTS - None

8. REPORTS

a) CN Rail

Tyler Banick, Manager, Public Affairs
John Nicoletti, Officer, Dangerous Goods, BC North
Suzanne Carlson, Coordinator, Environment Field Operations BC North
Steven Santelli, Officer Sr Dangerous Goods
Mike Linder, Officer Environment Field Operations

- Letter of February 2021 for reference

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- 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**



02/04/2021

Canadian National Railway
Public Affairs, Western Canada
10229-127Ave
Edmonton, AB T5E 0B9

Attention: Tyler W. Banick

via email: tyler.banick@cn.ca

In reply to your November 12, 2020 email to me, council is extending an invitation to attend a special meeting to discuss various questions and concerns as detailed in this letter. We suggest these options for the meeting:

- February 23 at 6:00 pm PST
- March 16 at 6:00 pm PST

If neither of these dates work for you, please send options for council to consider. Our staff will forward a meeting invitation to you once the date is set.

Council and staff have compiled the following list of questions/concerns:

1. Burns Lake is working to diversify the local economy, and the first step is to develop the tourism industry. The unsightly CN works yard (in the middle of town) does not support our efforts. Council would like to see the area fenced and privacy screening in place.
2. Mud from the work yard creates a mess during the spring and fall on Highway 35. Council would like to see the yard gravelled to reduce this problem.
3. Further to our diversification efforts, council would like to understand why CN is unwilling to stop in small communities to ensure our imports and exports are delivered expediently and cost-effectively.
4. Is there a way to eliminate the whistling as the train goes through town? The line runs directly through the community, and the sound is deafening. For example, when we are attending a virtual meeting, we wait until the whistling stops to continue the meeting.

5. The increase in rail traffic and the amount of dangerous goods being shipped is of great concern. We want to be provided with a clear understanding of the response times and process should a train derail carrying hazardous cargo. We know our local volunteer fire department is not qualified to respond to a disaster of many of the items being shipped through our community. If a significant disaster were to occur, it is important to note that the Village Office and Volunteer Fire Department, the RDBN office and emergency services would be rendered incapable of responding.
6. Council would like to be notified of rail incidents within at least 50 km east and west of the community. A disaster on either side of our community could seriously impact our community. How can we put the process to notify us in place?
7. What is the speed that trains travel through the community?

Thank you for your attention to our concerns, and we are looking forward to discussing the items outlined in this letter. Should you require additional information, contact Sheryl Worthing, CAO, at sworthing@burnslake.ca or 250-692-7587.

Sincerely,

for 

Dolores Funk, Mayor

mayor@burnslake.ca