



## PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

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**LOCATION** Peace River Regional District Office, Dawson Creek, BC

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Directors

Chair Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'  
Vice-Chair Rose, Electoral Area 'E'  
Director Ackerman, City of Fort St. John  
Director Bertrand, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Director Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek  
Director Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd  
Director Fraser District of Taylor  
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'  
(via teleconference)  
Director Heiberg, District of Hudson's Hope  
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D'  
Director Smith, Village of Pouce Coupe  
Director Zabinsky, City of Fort St. John

##### Staff

Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer  
Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer  
Tab Young, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Trish Morgan, GM of Community Services  
Kathy Suggitt, GM of Development Services  
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager  
Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Services Manager  
Jeff McDonald, Communications Manager  
(via teleconference)  
Trevor Ouellette, IT Manager  
Brenda Deliman, Recorder  
(via teleconference)

##### Delegations (via Zoom)

4.1 MDB Insight  
Paul Blais, Jordan Tidey, and Schaun Goodeve

##### 4.2 (via teleconference)

Honourable Fazil Mihar, Deputy Minister of Energy,  
Mines & Low Carbon Innovation  
Paul Jeakins, BC Oil & Gas Commissioner

**1. CALL TO ORDER** The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Adoption of Agenda CW/21/06/01  
MOVED Director Hiebert, SECONDED Director Smith,  
That the Committee of the Whole adopt the June 10, 2021 Meeting Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Gallery Comments or Questions
4. Delegations

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2.1 Adoption of Agenda  
(Cont'd)

- 4.1 MDB Insight – PRRD Economic Model
- 4.2 Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and the BC Oil and Gas Commission – Quarterly Update

- 5. Reports
- 6. Media Questions
- 7. Adjournment

**CARRIED**

**3. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

4.1  
PRRD Ec Dev Model

The Committee of the Whole was provided with an overview of the PRRD Economic Development Model project by MDB Insight. Topics included:

- Project Phase 1 (project launch meeting, Charter, communications / consultation plan)
- Project Phase 2 (background review, situational analysis, regional / local policy context, project task force workshop, mapping service delivery)
- Project Phase 3 (interviews, workshops, 'What We Heard' report)
- Project Phase 4 (economic development model, action plan)
- Planned engagements (interview / workshops)

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Experience working with Electoral Areas
- Definition of economic development and creation of structure
- Clarification of strategies that benefit the region (benefits to both the municipalities and Electoral Areas)
- History of letters patent and economic development commissions
- Funding of economic development strategies (flexibility in decision to participate, Federal/Provincial responsibilities)
- Planned engagement with municipalities (functions, initiatives, ie. North Peace Community Foundation, Resource Municipalities Coalition)
- Successes (Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark / Museum Foundation, Gotta Go, North Peace Rural Roads, North Peace Regional Airport)
- Economic development impact analysis (hockey events, Dawson Creek rodeo)
- Symbiotic relationship of needs (connectivity, recruitment / retention of professionals, local training / education opportunities, health care, public safety, diversification of economies)
- Collaboration with First Nations
- Participant interviews – expand scope to include the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, Council of Forest Industries, Northern BC Tourism Association, and mining associations.
- Workshop participants – expand scope to include the North Pine Farmers Institute, Prespatou Farmers Institute, School Districts No. 59 and 60, Northern Environmental Action Team (horticultural group), North Peace Airport Society, and the North Peace Non-Profit Network of Professionals (NP3).

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4.1 PRRD Ec Dev Model  
(Cont'd)

- Remove the Fort Nelson Chamber of Commerce and Fort Nelson Employment Centre as participants due to differing economies.
- Project timelines

Recess

The Chair recessed the Committee of the Whole meeting to a Regional Board meeting at 11:34 a.m.

Reconvene

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

4.2  
Quarterly Update on Oil &  
Gas Activities in the PRRD

The Committee of the Whole was provided with a quarterly update on oil and gas activities in the PRRD by the Honourable Fazil Mihar, Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, and Paul Jeakins, BC Oil and Gas Commissioner. Topics included:

- Industry activity during COVID-19
- Orphan sites
- Industry reclamation
- Industry activity / scenarios
- Stakeholder survey results
- Community engagement
- Indigenous relations partnerships
- Key regulatory initiatives
- Royalty regime review (environmental protection, competitiveness, fair return to taxpayer)

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- Management and reclamation of abandoned work camps
- Production of dry natural gas
- Drilling permits (Crown vs. private land)
- South Peace Synergy Group
- Royalty regime review

**5. REPORT**

**6. MEDIA QUESTIONS**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 10, 2021 in the Regional District Office Board Room, Dawson Creek, BC.

Brad Sperling, Chair

Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer