



COVID-19 Updates & Discussion Meeting Notes

May 13, 2020

Present:

Chair Brad Sperling, PRRD

Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer, PRRD

Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South

Kori Elden, Recording Secretary, PRRD

The meeting commenced 11:10 am

Action Items:

- The Chair will be rescheduling the ministry meetings that were postponed in March 2020.
 - Discuss the abandoned work and mining sites creating pollution in the Tumbler Ridge area with the Ministry of Environment.
 - Recruitment and retention of teachers in Northern BC. The Ministry of Education is aware of the issue.
 - School districts are accepting letters of permissions (LOPs) for non-qualified teachers to instruct. Both South Peace and North Peace areas are having issues.
 - MLAs Mike Bernier and Dan Davies have a video call with the two school boards next week to discuss this issue, which is province wide.
 - Chair Brad Sperling will reach out to the President of Northern Lights College to look at bringing a university degree program to our area, similar to the nursing degree program.
 - Bonus program for rural and remote BC teaching positions.
- Victoria's Parliament will be back in session within the next 6 weeks with less than 50 people.
- At 1:30 pm today Minister Ralston will have an announcement that may be regarding oil and gas activity in the Peace Region.
 - Orphan and abandoned wells will create around 4,000 to 5,000 jobs.
 - BC will receive 125 million of the 1.7 billion in funding from the federal government to clean up orphaned and abandoned wells.
- Re-opening of campgrounds.
 - PRRD day use parks opening tomorrow.
 - Following provincial health officer's orders for overnight campgrounds.
 - Crown land camp fires are an issue.

The meeting finished at 11:35 am