



# DIRECTOR REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: DR-BRD-066

From: Darcy Dober, Director

Date: July 20, 2023

**Subject: Potential Future Use of the Site C Work Camp Facility**

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## **PURPOSE / ISSUE:**

To initiate discussions with BC Hydro, Local First Nations, North Wind Wellness Centre, Northern Health, the First Nations Health Authority, and the Province regarding the possibility of utilizing the Site C Work Camp facility or securing some of the buildings for a treatment center following the completion of the Site C dam.

## **RECOMMENDATION / ACTION: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board authorize staff to contact BC Hydro, Local First Nations, North Wind Wellness Centre, Northern Health, the First Nations Health Authority, and the Province to determine their interest in a regional treatment centre utilizing BC Hydro land located at the Site C Work Camp or some of the decommissioned buildings following the completion of the Site C dam.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

BC Hydro hosted a Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting and Tour on June 7, 2023. The first part of the tour consisted of a walkthrough of the main ATCO lodge and a presentation on the site's decommissioning plans.

The North Wind Wellness Centre (NWWC) currently serves the region, operating an Indigenous-focused 10-bed health and wellness centre in Farmington. They want to expand their program to another site in Pouce Coupe for a 60-unit facility as the first phase and eventually build an expanded facility; Addictions Recovery Community Housing (ARCH). If there was an opportunity to utilize a part of the BC Hydro land to house the expanded treatment centre or utilize some of the decommissioned buildings at the proposed site in Pouce Coupe, it would help offset the project costs, while addressing the need for an additional regional treatment centre.

Since the tour, I have spoken to the Minister of Health, the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, BC Hydro, North Wind Wellness Centre, and Northern Health and raised the idea of the possibility of moving the expanded NWWC program to the BC Hydro lands or having access to some of their decommissioned buildings. All of the groups mentioned above were receptive to the idea.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- Advocacy
- Homelessness/Mental Health and Addictions/Crime