



PEACE RIVER  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

# 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

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## Staff Update #3

October 17, 2024

2023 Update #1 – April 20, 2023 Meeting

2023 Update #2 – August 17, 2023 Meeting

2023 Update #3 – September 14, 2023 Meeting

2023 Update #4 – December 8, 2023 Meeting

2024 Update #1 – April 4, 2024 Meeting

2024 Update #2 – July 18, 2024 Meeting

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# 1. Asset and Infrastructure Management

## Goal

To effectively plan for and manage the PRRDs assets and infrastructure to ensure they provide the desired levels of service to our residents, now, and in the future.

## Strategies

- 1.1 Undertake condition assessments for all PRRD Owned Assets.
- 1.2 Determine Service Expectations for all Assets.
- 1.3 Identify Funding and Investment Strategies
- 1.4 Implement Asset Management Software Program

<b>Strategy 1.1: Undertake Condition Assessments for all PRRD Owned Assets</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<p>North Peace Fall Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Condition Assessment presented to the Regional Board June 29, 2023.</li> <li>• Critical repairs completed by August 16, 2023 for NPFF event to occur</li> <li>• Approval of contract to perform feasibility study approved by the Board on Oct. 26. The contract to be finalized mid-November 2023 is now complete.</li> <li>• Feasibility Study contract finalized</li> <li>• Feasibility Study engagement complete, interviews with staff complete, preliminary engagement results presented to staff on May 2, 2024.</li> <li>• Draft master plan presentation to Area B, Chair, and Society in October 2024.</li> <li>• North Peace Fall Fair Society-led project to upgrade Pineview Hall to Public Occupancy Standard.</li> <li>• Based on results of the North Peace Regional Park Master Plan, architectural and engineering assessment may be completed on the Adeline Kelly Building to determine costs and plan to upgrade to Public Occupancy Standard. Developed scope to work for Adeline Kelly building improvements. Plan to issue procurement by October 2024.</li> </ul>	CS	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Q4 2024</p> <p>Q3 2024</p> <p>Q4 2024</p>
<p>Community Hall and Recreation Facility Condition Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed and presented to the Regional Board in 2019 and 2021</li> </ul>	CS	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid Waste Sites – Lifespan Analysis of Assets</li> </ul>	ES	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area B Water Stations – Lifespan Analysis of Assets</li> </ul>	ES	Completed
Osborn Community Hall	CS	Q4 2024

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site visit complete, condition assessment report received for hall in 2019. The hall was advised not to be used in 2020, and since this time, the Community was engaged to determine what the scope and feasibility of a new facility on the ground would be. A floor plan was created, cost estimate obtained, and service area contemplated. Waiting BC Assessment data to finish evaluation of service area prior to bringing this project back to the Community for possible referendum for capital and operating funding. Will require consultation input prior to proceeding on potential new community hall facility, planned for September 2024 if assessment data received.</li> <li>Contract in place or church assessment. Church is a heritage building with community value but may require upgrades.</li> </ul>		
<p>Halfway Graham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility condition assessment completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Engineering report received in 2023. Cost estimates completed to upgrade building. Further discussions with community to take place in 2024 to determine feasibility and desire to continue to use hall. Partial funding allocated through Area 'B' for repairs.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 2024
<p>Cache Creek</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility condition assessment and engineering studies completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Engineering report received in 2023.</li> </ul>	CS	Completed
<p>Golata Creek Facility Feasibility Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility condition assessment and engineering studies completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Facility was subsequently closed.</li> </ul>	CS	Completed
<b>Strategy 1.2: Determine Service Expectations for all Assets</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Consultant presented to Staff – “Framework for Setting Service Level Expectations”	FN	Q1 2025
<p>Lifecycle Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data collection complete and provided to consultant for incorporation into financial strategy</li> </ul>	FN	Completed
<p>Risk Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data collection complete and provided to consultant for incorporation into financial strategy</li> </ul>	FN	Completed
Service level framework	FN	Q1 2025
Financial Strategy	FN	Q4 2024
Asset Management Strategy	FN	Q2 2025
Asset Management Plan	FN	Q4 2024
<b>Strategy 1.3: Identify Funding and Investment Strategies</b>		

Actions	Department	Timeline
<p>Osborn Property – Church and Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site visit complete, condition assessment report received for hall in 2019. The hall was advised not to be used in 2020, and since this time, the Community was engaged to determine what the scope and feasibility of a new facility on the ground would be. A floor plan was created, cost estimate obtained, and service area contemplated. Waiting BC Assessment data to finish evaluation of service area prior to bringing this project back to the Community for possible referendum for capital and operating funding. Will require consultation input prior to proceeding on potential new community hall facility, planned for September 2024 if assessment data received. Consultation timeline and plan set for November 2024.</li> <li>• Contract in place or church assessment. Church is a heritage building with community value but may require upgrades.</li> <li>• Staff currently in discussion with BC Assessment to determine accurate property assessment for taxation purposes.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 2024
<p>Halfway Graham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility condition assessment completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Engineering report received in 2023. Cost estimates completed to upgrade building.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 2024
<p>Cache Creek</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility condition assessment and engineering studies completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Engineering report received in 2023. Cost estimates completed to upgrade building.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 2024
<p>Golata Creek Facility Feasibility Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility condition assessment and engineering studies completed in 2021, which resulted in a structural needs assessment in 2022. Facility was subsequently closed. Staff plan to meet with community Q2 2024 to discuss options for repair/replacement. Partial funding allocated through Area 'B' for repairs.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 - 2024
<p>Kelly Lake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding allocated for community hall update. Facility may need a new roof and updates to the kitchen.</li> <li>• Updated Facility Condition Assessment contracted to occur to evaluate facility condition.</li> <li>• Our understanding that there is current community process for Federal reserve recognition underway. Staff conducting research to determine service level impacts. Future report to Board re: authorization to complete facility upgrades in Q4</li> </ul>	CS	Q4 2024  Completed
<p>North Peace Regional Park (also known as North Peace Fall Fairgrounds) Master Plan Study</p>	CS	Q3/Q4 - 2024

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Results from the North Peace Regional Park Master Plan will determine next steps for future development and recommendation for future investment. Draft report received in July 2024. Final report to be presented to Area 'B' Director, Board Chair, North Peace Fall Fair Society in September 2024 and to the Board in November 2024.</li> </ul>		
<p>Jackfish Community Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding allocated from Area 'E' for some repairs to the facility.</li> <li>Evaluation of facility completed resulting in a report detailing repairs and upgrades required for the facility to meet BC Building Code including accessibility, fire and emergency systems, building utilities, and water provision.</li> <li>Prior to completing repairs, a community meeting needs to be authorized by the Board to ensure support exists for the ongoing operations and capital improvements to the facility, with evaluation of sustainable funding being provided through a local service area.</li> <li>Board authorized community meeting scheduled for Q2 2025.</li> </ul>	CS	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Q4 2024</p>
<p>Moberly Lake Community Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding allocated from Area 'E' for some repairs to the facility in 2022. Repairs largely completed in 2023.</li> </ul>	CS	Completed
<b>Strategy 1.4: Identify Funding and Investment Strategies</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<p>Investigate Asset Management Software</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset Management (Maintenance) Software for operations procured and in the implementation phase</li> <li>Researching add-on software for Asset Management Planning (long-term Financial Planning)</li> </ul>	FN	Q4 2024
<p>Procure Asset Management (2024Maintenance) Software</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract signed February</li> </ul>	FN	Completed
<p>Implement Asset Management (Maintenance) Software</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion October 2024</li> </ul>	FN	Q4 2024

## 2. Human Resource Management

### Goal

To enhance our human resource management practices and programs to ensure our employees are motivated, engaged, and supported in the work they do.

### Strategies

- 2.1 Establish a corporate employee development program.
- 2.2 Review and update performance review process.
- 2.3 Develop an employee retention and recruitment strategy.

<b>Strategy 2.1: Establish a Corporate Employee Development Program</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Hire an HR Manager Recruiter engaged	ADM	Completed
Develop Policies and Procedures re: training and development	ADM/HR	Q4
<b>Strategy 2.2: Review and Update Performance Review Process</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Exempt Staff Review Process	ADM/HR	Q4
Union Staff Review Process	ADM/HR	Q4
360 Review Process	ADM/HR	Q4
<b>Strategy 2.3: Develop an Employee Retention and Recruitment Strategy</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Survey	ADM/HR	Q4
Firefighter Honorarium Policy April 20, 2023 Regional Board Meeting Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <i>MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>That the Regional Board set the firefighter honorariums for the Charlie Lake Fire Department at the following rates, effective January 1, 2023: \$40 per fire call plus an additional \$13.33 per hour after the first three hours, and \$20 per fire training session.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li> <i>MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>That the Regional Board authorize the development of a Volunteer Firefighter Honorarium Policy for the Regional Board's consideration that establishes a formal system of honorarium pay for all PRRD-operated fire departments.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CS	Completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Policy prepared and will be finalized for presentation to the Board on Dec 8, 2023.</li> <li>• Complete. Firefighter Honorarium Policy approved and implemented late 2023.</li> </ul>		
Review Health and Wellness Program	ADM/HR	Q4
Establish annual Volunteer Fire Fighter Engagement Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft survey prepared. Next steps are to finalize and distribute. Discussions with Fire Chiefs to occur beforehand, to determine timing of survey distribution in Q4 2024.</li> </ul>	CS	Q4
Develop a Department Feedback Opportunity	ADM/HR	Q4
Development and Implement a Fire Fighter Recruitment Plan for Moberly Lake and Charlie Lake	CS	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2023 recruitment drive complete. Planning and roll-out of 2024 recruitment plan set to begin March 2024.</li> <li>• CLFD recruitment campaign set to launch March 2024.</li> <li>• CLFD recruitment campaign rolled out on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Completed May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Recruitment drive very successful with 13 recruits.</li> </ul>	CS	Ongoing
Complete the Examination of the Fire Training Centre – Presented to Board July 20, 2023, no action required	CS	Completed
Create Full-time positions for the Health and Safety Officer and Moberly Lake Fire Chief <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job advertisement for FT Moberly Lake Fire Chief position closes Nov. 15.</li> <li>• FT Health and Safety Officer in place since Q3 2023.</li> <li>• Successful MLFD Chief candidate in place and onboarding – May 7, 2024</li> </ul>	CS	Completed

### 3. Collaboration and Cooperation with First Nations

#### Goal

To further our relationships with the First Nations governments and pursue opportunities for partnerships and governance participation.

#### Strategies

- 3.1 Advance the development of individual MOUs.
- 3.2 Share PRRD strategic goals with First Nations to identify opportunities for cooperation and collaboration.
- 3.3 Investigate governance participation models under *Local Government Act*.

<b>Strategy 3.1: Advance the Development of Individual MOUs</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Doig River FN Draft MOU	ADM	Q4
Saulteau FN MOU – signed March 25, 2021		
Saulteau FN MOU Renewal	ADM	2024
West Moberly FN MOU – signed June 10, 2021		
West Moberly FN MOU Renewal	ADM	2024
C2C Meetings – Multiple requests sent out to determine interest. County of Grande Prairie Saddle Hills joined us for lunch on August 11, 2023. Doodle poll sent out on May 10, 2023 - no response. Proposed meeting date sent out for November 2, 2023 – no response.	ADM	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report to the Board on June 29, 2023 – Resolution to send an Interprovincial date for April 2023.</li> <li>• Doig River – Cross Cultural Training with Garry Oker</li> <li>• C2C with Halfway First Nation – March 20, 2024</li> <li>• C2C With Doig River First Nations – April 16, 2024</li> <li>• C2C with Saulteau First Nation – April 30, 2024</li> </ul>		Q3
<b>Strategy 3.2: Share PRRD Strategic Goals with First Nations to Identify Opportunities for Cooperation and Collaboration.</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Chair and Vice Chair authorized to consult with Treaty 8 and Scion re: Land acknowledge statement	ADM	Ongoing
Enhance Emergency Management Plan with FN Communities	CS	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FN partners invited to regional emergency program coordinator meetings. Engagement completed for Community Wildfire Resiliency</li> </ul>	CS	Ongoing



<p>Plan Q4 2023. Also have invited Nations to participate in CWR Committee. New legislation received Crown assent. Plan is to work with all partners on consultation and planning in early 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff attended the First Nations Partnership Table in Fort Nelson the week of March 18, 2024. Consulted with several nations on what the future engagement might look like.</li> <li>• Consultation &amp; Engagement invites to FN's &amp; Member Municipalities to reimplement collaborated opportunities with Emergency Management - April 18, 2024.</li> <li>• Ongoing communication and collaboration with all member municipalities and First Nations partners. Discussion around information-sharing, challenges, opportunities, and communication expectations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kwadacha First Nations – June 10, 2024</li> <li>○ Village of Pouce Coupe June 26, 2024</li> <li>○ Saulneau First Nations – July 16, 2024</li> <li>○ City of Dawson Creek – July 24, 2024</li> <li>○ Doig River First Nations – July 30, 2024</li> <li>○ District of Hudson's Hope – August 7, 2024</li> <li>○ District of Tumbler Ridge – August 12, 2024</li> <li>○ City of Fort St. John – August 13, 2024</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Invitation letters distributed to all member municipalities and First Nation partners for collaboration and involvement in Agricultural Emergency Response Planning.</li> </ul>		
<p>Seek to Understand the level of consultation and Engagement with FN Communities re: Planning Matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FN partners invited to Regional Emergency Program Coordinator Meetings. Engagement completed for Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Q4 2023. Also have invited Nations to participate in CWR Committee. New Legislation received Crown assent. Plan is to work with all partners on consultation and planning in early 2024.</li> <li>• Staff attended the First Nations Partnership Table in Fort Nelson the week of March 18, 2024. Consulted with several nations on what the future engagement might look like.</li> <li>• Consultation &amp; Engagement invites to FN's &amp; Member Municipalities to reimplement collaborated opportunities with Emergency Management – April 18, 2024.</li> <li>• Staff engaged with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during</li> </ul>	CS	Ongoing

<p>emergencies with Saulteau First Nations – July 16, 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff engaged with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Doig river First Nations – July 30, 2024.</li> </ul>	CS	
<b>Strategy 3.3: Investigate Governance Participation Models under <i>Local Government Act</i></b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<p>Meeting with Brent Mueller, Director Governance Relations, Ministry of Municipal Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial Structure needs to be in place.</li> <li>Structure is inconsistent at this time.</li> <li>Regional District Indigenous Relations Community of practice – Lauren Farmer – March 19, 2024 and June 3, 2024</li> </ul>	CAO	Completed
Investigate Models – City of Westbank, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Metro Vancouver Regional District & Strathcona Regional District	CAO	Completed
Identify Potential Participants through Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)	CAO	Ongoing
Educational Campaign – Election (C2C)	ADM	2024
<p>Invite Blueberry FN to Meet and Greet with Chief Dejarlais – May 8, 2024 and May 13, 2024</p> <p>Meeting with Doig River FN on MOU – April 3, 2024</p> <p>Meeting with Greg Sauter, consultant for Doig River FN regarding financial contributions for Naache Commons – June 19, 2024</p>		
Committee/Commission Participation Opportunities	ALL DEPTS	Ongoing
Update Procedure Bylaw	ADM	TBD

## 4. Inter-Provincial Collaboration

### Goal

To explore and realize opportunities and advantages through cooperation and collaboration with neighbouring local governments in Alberta.

### Strategies

4.1 Coordinate the re-establishment of Inter-Provincial meetings.

Strategy 4.1: Coordinate the re-establishment of Inter-Provincial meetings		
Actions	Department	Timeline
Neighbouring Alberta Governments – Topics to Engage – Rural Government Initiatives	ADM	Ongoing
Coordinate Date – Spring date to be set in conjunction with 2024 Board Meeting Schedule	ADM/EA	Q4
Establish Meeting Structure – Collaboration with Alberta Partners. Resolution to meet in April 2024.	Participants	Q2 2024
<p>The Regional Board authorize that staff no longer pursue setting up Interprovincial Meetings with Clear Hills County, Saddle Hills County, and the County of Grande Prairie at this time. - April 4, 2024</p> <p>That the PRRD invite Clear Hills County, Saddle Hills County, and the County of Grande Prairie to a meeting with the Board after the Parade on August 9, 2024. – April 4, 2024</p>	ADM	Completed
<p>The Regional Board requested written support from fire service partner jurisdictions for pursuit of an inter-provincial mutual aid agreement between the PRRD and the County of Grande Prairie. – April 4, 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED</i> That the Regional Board authorize that staff no longer pursue setting up Interprovincial Meetings with Clear Hills County, Saddle Hills County and the County of Grande Prairie at this time; further, that the Board’s Strategic Plan be updated in alignment with this resolution.</li> </ul>	ADM	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED</i></li> </ul>		

<i>That the Peace River Regional District take part in the Dawson Creek Fall Fair parade festivities and invitations be sent out to Clear Hills County, Saddle Hills County and the County of Grande Prairie.</i>		
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# 5. Emergency Management

## Goal

To ensure the PRRD’s interests are articulated and considered in response to proposed amendments to the *Emergency Program Act and Fire Services Act*.

## Strategies

5.1 Engage in Emergency Program Act and Fire Services Act amendment processes.

5.2 Explore Opportunities for New or Enhanced Mutual Aid Agreements.

Strategy 5.1: Engage in Emergency Program Act and Fire Services Act amendment processes.		
Actions	Department	Timeline
Spring Readiness – In Person Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete.</li> <li>2024 Meeting scheduled for April 9, in DC - Completed</li> </ul>	CS	Annual
EMCR & First Nation Meeting (Victoria) – EAF (Expense Authorization Form) Re: ESS	CAO	Q1
Participate in Engagement Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protective Services staff have participated in a Regulations engagement session, as well as provincial ESS engagement session Q4 2023.</li> <li>Staff participated in the First Nations Partnership Table held in Fort Nelson in March 2024.</li> <li>Staff engaged with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Kwadacha Nation – June 10.</li> <li>Staff engaged with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Pouce Coupe – June 26.</li> <li>Staff will engage with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Saulneau First Nations – scheduled for July 16,</li> <li>Staff will engage with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Dawson Creek scheduled for – July 24,</li> <li>Staff will engage with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Fort St. John scheduled for – July 26,</li> </ul>	CS	Completed  Completed  Completed  Completed  Completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff will engage with community partners in engagement sessions to establish clear lines of communication and expectations during emergencies with Doig River First Nations scheduled for – July 30.</li> </ul>		<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>Develop an Implementation Plan to Address the new Act and Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently awaiting regulations. Staff preparing implementation plan related to Act starting Q4.</li> <li>Board approval for 2 new Emergency Management positions to implement EDMA regulations Q1 2024.</li> <li>Emergency Management Coordinator – Solidified July 15, 2024</li> <li>Staff engaging with member Nations at regional emergency meetings. Partners have expressed a willingness to engage in a multi-jurisdictional emergency management organization.</li> <li>Regulations expected to be developed and implemented late 2024 to early 2025 for initial new regulations.</li> </ul>	<p>CS</p>	<p>Q4</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>Strategy 5.2: Explore opportunities for new or enhanced mutual aid agreements</p>		
<p>Actions</p>	<p>Department</p>	<p>Timeline</p>
<p>Establish Service Agreements with Municipal ESS Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff currently investigating partnership with Red Cross. Draft partnership agreement in progress Q4.</li> </ul>	<p>CS</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Investigate Interest in Regional Fire Mutual Aid Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion at Regional Fire Chiefs meeting in Q4 and have determined a willingness to engage.</li> </ul>	<p>CS</p>	<p>Q4</p>
<p>Investigate Opportunities Regionalization and Collaboration of Emergency Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion at Regional Emergency Coordinators Program meeting. Talks to continue into 2024, as new legislation rolls out and dictates direction.</li> <li>Discussion at the Regional Emergency Coordinators meeting discussed collaborative opportunities, and it was strongly voiced by attending coordinators that they would like to investigate a collaborative approach to emergency management in the region.</li> <li>Investigating regional Emergency Management Models. Discussions with regional leadership and EPC partners regarding the benefits of a regional multi-jurisdictional emergency management organization.</li> <li>Investigate Interprovincial Mutual Aid Agreement</li> </ul>	<p>CS</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire letters of support from municipal and rural fire departments to pursue a Ministerial Order for the Purposes of establishing an inter-provincial mutual aid agreement.</li> <li>• Request authorization from the Regional Board to continue to process of establishing inter-provincial mutual aid agreement</li> <li>• If a Ministerial Order is approved, collaborate with municipal and rural fire departments and the County of Grande Prairie to determine an inter-provincial mutual aid agreement.</li> </ul>		Q4
<p>Chair &amp; CAO met with Minister Ma Minster of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in Victoria – March 26, 2024</p> <p>CAO &amp; Chair - Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture and Food – Via Teams - April 29, 2024</p> <p>Meeting with Ministry of Lands, Water and Natural Resources regarding opportunity for GIS map sharing – June 18, 2024</p>		

# 6. Advocacy

## Goal

To represent and advance the interests of the region with other levels of government and agencies responsible for providing governance and services in our region.

## Focus Areas

- 6.1 Emergency Program Act/ Fire Services Act Amendments
- 6.2 Agriculture/Food Security
- 6.3 Seniors Housing
- 6.4 Blueberry River FN
- 6.5 Homelessness/Mental Health and Addictions/Crime
- 6.6 Aggregate Security

<b>Strategy 6.1: Emergency Program Act/ Fire Services Act Amendments</b>		
<b>Recognition and consideration of financial and operational impacts to regional districts resulting from proposed changes to Emergency and Fire Services legislation.</b>	Ministry	Timeline
	Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness NCLGA UBCM	
<b>Actions</b>		
The County of Grande Prairie attended the Regional Chiefs meeting on March 6, 2024. A Discussion on Cross-jurisdictional regional mutual aid occurred, and staff drafted a letter to bring to the board for approval to share with regional fire departments on May 30, 2024		
<b>Strategy 6.2: Agriculture/Food Security</b>		
<b>Importance of investment and support for local growers and producers to ensure sustainable food supply for the region.</b> <b>*Check – Province released new funding opportunity re drought</b>	Ministry	Timeline
	Ministry of Agriculture and Food	
<b>Actions</b>		
Minister Meeting during the September 2023 UBCM Conference  Explore federal and provincial funding supports re: drought assistance and helping disaster impacted farmers through 2 funding streams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Security Emergency Planning &amp; Preparedness Fund</li> <li>• 2023 Canada - British Columbia Wildfire and Drought Recovery Initiative – Agri Recovery Program</li> </ul>	Directors	Ongoing



<p>Chair &amp; CAO met with Minister Ma Minster of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in Victoria – March 26, 2024</p> <p>CAO &amp; Chair - Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture and Food – Via Teams - April 29, 2024</p> <p>Meeting with Ministry of Lands, Water and Natural Resources regarding opportunity for GIS map sharing – June 18, 2024</p>		
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<b>Strategy 6.3: Seniors Housing</b>		
<p>Potential opportunity to meet with staff at UBCM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial Housing Legislation Update and Funding Announcement report to the Board – January 11, 2024</li> <li>Request for Housing needs Assessment Methodology Report to the Board – June 20, 2024</li> </ul>	<p>Ministry</p> <p>Northern Health Ministry of Housing Community Partners and Agencies Developers</p>	<p>Timeline</p> <p>Completed</p>
<b>Actions</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister Meeting with the Honourable Adrian Dix March 2023</li> <li>Minister Meeting requested during the September 2023 UBCM Conference – Meeting refused</li> <li>Chair &amp; CAO met with Minister Ma Minster of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in Victoria – March 26, 2024</li> <li>Chair &amp; CAO - Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture and Food – Via Teams - April 29, 2024</li> <li>Meeting with Ministry of Lands, Water and Natural Resources regarding opportunity for GIS map sharing – June 18, 2024</li> </ul>	<p>Directors</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<b>Strategy 6.4: Blueberry River FN</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness of the economic impacts of resource permit suspensions and encouraging and supporting the completion of a final agreement for a regulatory framework that will address the findings in Yahey v. British Columbia.</li> </ul>	<p>Ministry</p> <p>Province of BC Blueberry River First Nation</p>	<p>Timeline</p>
<b>Actions</b>		
<p>Meeting in Victoria with Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.</p> <p>Chair and Vice Chair met with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, May 17, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reached out to Blueberry FN for a Meet and Greet with Chief Dejarlais – May 8, 2024 and May 13, 2024.</li> </ul>	<p>Province of BC Blueberry River First Nation</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Strategy 6.5: Homelessness/Mental Health and Addictions/Crime</b>		
Continued awareness of the impacts of mental health and addictions on communities and the need for appropriate supports and services for those suffering from mental health and addictions.	Ministry	Timeline
	Directors	
<b>Actions</b>		
Victoria Meeting – Rural Crime  Minister Meeting during the September 2023 UBCM Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair &amp; CAO met with Minister Ma Minster of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in Victoria – March 26, 2024</li> </ul>	Directors	Ongoing
<b>Strategy 6.6: Aggregate Security</b>		
Importance of securing and enhancing aggregate supply to support construction activity and long-term maintenance of roads in the region.	Ministry	Timeline
	Agricultural Land Commission Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	
<b>Actions</b>		
To be determined at this time.		