

January 27, 2025

Special Meeting

Kerri Borne, Chief Financial Officer, provided a presentation of the 2025 Provisional Operating and Capital Budget. A copy of the 2025 Provisional Budget and the recording of the presentation is available on the District [website](#) for review.

Mackenzie Public Library Budget Presentation

Alice Pritchett, Director, Mackenzie Public Library, and Camille Ginnever, Chair of the Library Board of Directors, provided a presentation on the proposed 2025 Library budget. The Mackenzie Public Library was seeking an additional \$8432.92 in funding to offset the increase in annual audit services for 2025 staff wages, along with associated benefits and pension adjustments. Council voted to provide the Mackenzie Public Library a partial increase.

Request for Support – Canada Post and CUPW

Council received a request from Canada Post and CUPW seeking written submissions for the 2025 Industrial Inquiry Commission. This inquiry will examine the future of the public post office. Council decided not to send in a written submission on behalf of the District.

2025 Emergency Operations Centre Grant

Council voted to support the Mackenzie Fire Department's application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) of up to \$40,000 for the Emergency Operations Centre Grant.

Infrastructure Planning Grant Application: Sidewalks and Trails Assessment

Council voted to support the District's application to the Provincial Government for the Infrastructure Planning Grant for up to \$15,000 towards sidewalk and trail condition assessments and data collection.

Resolution of Support – Municipal Website

The Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee took the lead in conducting a web review of the District of Mackenzie's website and communication tools as outlined in the Mackenzie Age-Friendly Accessibility and Inclusion Action Plan. The review assessed the website and identified significant barriers that limit usability for individuals with disabilities, seniors, and other residents. The committee recommended to Mayor and Council at the January 8, 2024, Regular meeting that a full redesign and rebuild of the municipal website is necessary to meet accessibility standards, align with the Accessible B.C. Act, and ensure equitable access to information and services for all users. Council provided resolutions of support toward grant applications to the Northern Development Initiative Trust, SparcBC, South Peace Mackenzie Trust, and the Outdoor Recreation Fund to support project costs.

Business Façade Improvement Program 2025

Council approved the applications from Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce, Mackenzie Community Arts Council, and the Purple Bicycle to the Business Façade Improvement Program in the amount of \$9,969.59.

Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee 2024 4th Quarter Report

Council received the 2024 4th Quarter Report from the Mackenzie Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. This and previous reports are available for viewing on the District's Accessibility and Inclusion webpage here: <https://districtofmackenzie.ca/government-town-hall/accessibility-and-inclusion/>

Commemorative Bench and Tree Program

Council approved the amendment of Council Policy 1,16, the Commemorative Bench and Tree Program. The proposed changes are as follows:

- Removal of the \$500 maintenance fee after 10 years.
- Incorporation of Accessibility Measures
- Location
- Additional Plaques – up to 6 per bench

Letter of Support – McLeod Lake Indian Band

The Chief and Council of McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) have indicated they may be sending a letter to the College of New Calendonia (CNC) expressing their concerns with the recent local campus changes and have asked for a letter of support from the District. Council voted to provide the letter in support to MLIB as well as write their own letter on behalf of the District of Mackenzie to CNC.