

March 10, 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.

Empty and Vacant Lot Surtax

Council voted to direct staff to bring back a report on the feasibility and legalities of implementing an empty/vacant lot surtax on properties deemed or declared empty.

Letter of Support – Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce

Council will write a letter of support for the Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce application to the McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest grant for the Mackenzie Visitors Centre Walking Tours and Activities for the 2025 season.

Hard Drug Full Decriminalization

Council passed a motion to send a letter to Premier Eby stating the law for full decriminalization of hard drugs be repealed.

District of Mackenzie Procurement Practices

Council voted in support that we as a Municipality unilaterally decide to ban purchases from the United State of America for 60 days on products that can also be purchased in Canada or elsewhere. Should an item only be available through the United States of America, it will be up to the Chief Administrations Officer whether to purchase the item.

Mental Health and Addictions Council Liaison Appointment

Council voted to appoint Councillor Wright as the Mental Health and Addictions Liaison for a one-year term.

Visitor Centre Caboose Operations 2025

Council approved the 2025 Visitor Centre Services Agreement with the Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$28,000.

Resolutions of Support – BC Air Access Program

Council voted to support the District's grant applications to the BC Air Access program and South Peace Mackenzie Trust for capital improvements including gates, tree trimming, and new terminal doors.

2025 Provisional Operating and Capital Budgets

Council approved the 2025 Provisional Operating and Capital Budgets. Any changes to the budgets will be reflected in the Final Operating & Capital Budgets which will be presented in a Special Meeting on April 24, 2025 before the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

New Business – NCLGA and UBCM Resolutions

Council voted to submit a resolution to the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of BC Municipalities asking that the Provincial Government should include municipalities and local communities on discussions regarding resource extraction.

Council also voted to submit a resolution to the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of BC Municipalities asking that the Provincial Government include municipalities and local communities on discussions regarding the closure of roads.

Bylaw No. 1521, 2025 Water Rates and Regulations Amendment, Bylaw No. 1522, 2025 Sewer Rates and Regulations Amendment, and Bylaw No. 1523, 2025 Garbage Rates and Regulations Amendment

Council gave these bylaws their first three readings and will be brought to the March 24, 2025 Regular Council meeting for final adoption. If adopted, the rates are to take effect May 1, 2025.

Below is the annual impact of the bylaw rate increases to residential and commercial customers for water, sewer and garbage:

Residential Customers

Water billing increase	\$54.85
Sewer billing increase	\$29.05
Garbage billing increase (weekly service)	\$12.98
Overall annual increase of \$96.88 or \$8.07/month	

*bi-weekly garbage service would see an increase of \$94.90 or \$7.91/month

Commercial Customers (4 billing cycles)

Water billing increase (minimum charges)	\$32.76
Sewer billing increase (minimum charges)	\$23.00
Garbage billing increase (3yrd bin 1 pickup per week)	\$64.00
Overall annual increase of \$119.76 or \$29.94/bi-monthly	

*4yrd bin, 1 pickup/week customers would see an increase of \$133.11 or \$33.28 bi-monthly

Coming Events

March Break for School District No. 57

When: Saturday March 15, 2025 – Sunday March 30, 2025.