

DISTRICT OF WELLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020 at 7:00PM
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) – COVID-19

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AGENDA

Please Note: Protocols and procedures are in place to keep the peace during a Council meeting. Public Gallery will only be given a chance to speak at the end of the meeting prior to closing, at the Mayor's discretion. Anyone who applauds, speaks out of turn, jurors or encourages inappropriate behaviors will be requested to leave the meeting.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Agenda for Regular Council meeting of Tuesday August 11, 2020

Recommendation/s: THAT Council approves the Agenda for the Regular Council meeting of August 11, 2020, as circulated.

2.0 MINUTES

- 2.1 Minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020

Recommendation/s: THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020, as circulated.

- 2.2 Minutes for the Special Council meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020

Recommendation/s: THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020, as circulated.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

- 3.1 Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee update

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives an update from the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee.

4.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 4.1 Letter to Mayor and Council from Nori Cirotto regarding the potential renaming of the Wells-Barkerville Elementary School

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives the letter from Nori Cirotto regarding the potential renaming of the Wells- Barkerville Elementary School.

4.2 Letter to Mayor and Council from John Aitken regarding permission to access the lane at the end of Bowman Crescent

Recommendation/s: THAT

1. Council receives the letter from John Aitken regarding his request to temporarily utilize the lane located on Bowman Crescent to conduct renovations to his property; and
2. Council approves Mr. Aitken's request.

4.3 Letter to Mayor and Council from Jillian Merrick regarding the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives the letter from Jillian Merrick regarding her concerns relating to the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines.

4.4 Letter to Mayor and Council from Judy Campbell regarding the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives the letter from Judy Campbell regarding her concerns relating to the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines.

4.5 Letter to Mayor and Council from Lindsay Kay regarding the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives the letter from Lindsay Kay regarding her concerns relating to the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines.

4.6 Letter to Mayor and Council from Dave Jorgenson regarding the recent proposed project with Barkerville Gold Mines

Recommendation/s: THAT Council receives the letter from Dave Jorgenson regarding his concerns relating to the recent proposed project for Barkerville Gold Mines.

4.7 Letter to Mayor and Council from MIABC regarding this year voting delegate and alternates

Recommendation/s: THAT Council

1. Receives the letter from MIABC in request to update the appointments of voting delegates and their alternate(s); and
2. Appoints Mayor Fourchalk as voting delegate and Councillors' _____ and _____ as his alternates.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Proposed grant application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Recommendation/s: THAT Council

1. Receives the verbal report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the proposed grant application to the Federal Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for funding to conduct a Municipal Asset Management Program for Wells.
2. Approves the grant application for up to 90% of the \$50,000.00 maximum to the Federal Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for funding to conduct a Municipal Asset Management Program for Wells complete with GIS Software to help ensure the program is updated by District staff regularly with an understanding the District Staff must have the support of a partner for the other 10% (if needed) of the costs associated with completing this grant application.

5.2 Appointment of the District of Wells Approving Officer

Recommendation/s: THAT Council

1. Receives the verbal report from the Chief Administrative Officer regarding the Approving Officer's appointment; and
2. Appoints Donna Forseille, Chief Administrative Officer as the Approving Officer for the District of Wells.

6.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed here are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be received by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered either separately under another heading of the regular Agenda or immediately after the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

- 6.1 UBCM- Resolution sessions schedule
- 6.2 Letter of Support to the District of Wells from MLA Oakes
- 6.3 Letter from Minister Robinson
- 6.4 Letter from Premier Horgan

7.0 INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7.1 Council
- 7.2 Staff
- 7.3 Public Gallery

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

- 8.1 Adjournment of the Regular Council meeting of August 11, 2020
Recommendation/s: THAT Council at _____ PM adjourns the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday August 11, 2020

DISTRICT OF WELLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020 AT 7:00PM
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) – COVID-19

—
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL: Mayor Gabe Fourchalk, Councillors Jordan Rohatynski, Chris Cooley, Ksenya Dorwart and Mandy Kilsby

STAFF: Donna Forseille, Chief Administrative Officer and Tyler Burnson, District Clerk

PUBLIC GALLERY: 3

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER AT 7:04PM**

1.1 Agenda for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020

20-71 **MOVED** Chris Cooley, seconded Mandy Kilsby THAT Council approves the agenda for Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020.

Carried unanimously

2.0 **MINUTES**

2.1 Minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday June 9, 2020

20-72 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Ksenya Dorwart THAT Council approves the minutes for the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday June 9, 2020, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3.0 **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

3.1 Presentation to Mayor and Council on behalf of the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski read through the two meeting notes and only had one slight concern that the green infrastructure grant has to have a job creation attached to it. The retro fitting for the school building might not be feasible as opposed to the year-round greenhouse that was recommended that would allow for a part time worker.

Council invited Judy Campbell to speak on behalf of the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee. Judy Campbell said that she has not heard if they can re-purpose that money yet. There would be job creation during the

construction phase of the project. As well as the indirect jobs that are created through the Barkerville School program that allows schools to rent the facility. There would also be jobs attached to Arts Wells. Judy has not done a thorough analysis of that information yet. There will be significant job creation.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski commented that this is definitely something to be considered. It's all indirect as this point, all though construction is more direct, its only temporary and would not be a year-round position.

Judy Campbell confirmed Councillor Jordan Rohatynski's comment was true.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski looks forward to the report and said everything is looking amazing and is very glad about what the tax force is doing.

Judy Campbell thinks the notes are complete and had nothing further to add.

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk apologizes for missing the last two meetings. The first meeting was missed due to days being crossed and the second meeting was missed because the eye doctor scheduled him that day for an appointment. Mayor Fourchalk looks forward to the Wells Community Facility Building Select Committee meeting tomorrow, July 8, 2020.

20-73 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, seconded Chris Cooley THAT Council receives the presentation.

Carried Unanimously

4.0 INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Council

Councillor Ksenya Dorwart would like to thank everyone for attending or listening to the recording. She hopes everyone is staying safe, healthy and sane at this time. She would like to remind people to continue to make good decisions for their family, while we move into a time where more tourists are coming into town. She would like to remind people to be respectful to others who are practicing social distancing and taking extra precautions for themselves. She would like to thank Shannon and Curtis at the Jack O Clubs who are taking on managing the Nugget Hill RV Park. The Nugget Hill RV Park is a much-needed amenity in the community. Nugget Hill RV Park has just launched a new website and Facebook page. Barkerville Historic Town and Park is now in their phase 2 of re-opening. Open 7 days a week from 9AM to 5PM. The shops and restaurants are now open with some interpretation. The interpretation program looks a little different this year due to COVID-19. It's

more of a discovery style than a scheduled tour style. The interpreters will be stationed around Barkerville, they will be taking one family or house hold at a time. Lowhee and Forest Rose are the campsites open at Barkerville Historic Site and Town this year. Make sure to buy tickets in advance online. There will be a 200 head count in the park at any given time.

Councillor Jordan Rohatynski would like to thank everyone for showing up to the meeting. He would like to remind everyone to be safe as we enter a new phase of re-opening. He also would like to thank Mark Dawson at the Jack O Taco stand for being open on Canada Day. He said “it’s always amazing to have food celebration”. Personal thanks to Mark Dawson.

Councillor Mandy Kilsby said that Councillor Dorwart covered it all and would like to thank everyone for their patience with the weather and for tuning in.

Councillor Chris Cooley would like to thank everyone for coming out and wants to remind people to stay safe.

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk would like to echo everything that was said. He would also like to give an update on his eye. He has been struggling with his left eye and was scheduled to go see the eye doctor before COVID-19 hit. But due to COVID-19, he was not able to see the eye doctor. The good news is that the liquid that developed behind his left eye has gone down to almost nothing. The bad news is, due to the prolonged part of that, he has now been removed from the surgery list, which is good. Due to the lack of blood flow to that area, his vision (particularly his colored vision) may be permanently affected. The doctor did say that the color may come back but he’s not sure. He hopes for the best but otherwise, it is what it is. He said “life always takes its course the way it does”, he will deal with it as it goes. It’s a touch blurry in the left eye, but has 2020 vision in the right eye. He hopes everyone is staying safe and barring with us during the lovely weather. He said “we will be boating from our yards soon enough and if the fish come up through the water, it will be nice easy fishing”.

4.2 Staff

Chief Administrative Officer, Donna Forseille has no comments at this time.

District Clerk, Tyler Burnson has no comments at this time.

4.3 Public Gallery

No comments from the public gallery.

5.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

5.1 Adjournment of the Regular Council meeting of July 7, 2020

20-75 **MOVED** Ksenya Dorwart, seconded Chris Cooley THAT at 7:16PM Council adjourns the Regular Council meeting of Tuesday July 7, 2020.

Carried Unanimously

Donna Forseille, CAO

Gabe Fourchalk, Mayor

DISTRICT OF WELLS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 5:30PM
Council Chambers, 4243 Sanders Avenue, Wells, BC V0K 2R0

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL: Mayor Gabe Fourchalk; Councillors Jordan Rohatynski, Chris Cooley (via Zoom online), Ksenya Dorwart and Mandy Kilsby

STAFF: Donna Forseille, Chief Administrative Officer and Carrie Chard, Fire Chief.
Constable DSW (Dennis) Engel #50774 (Peace Officer)

PUBLIC GALLERY: 0

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 6:07PM

1.1. Agenda for the Special Council Meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020

SC 20-01 **MOVED** Jordan Rohatynski, Seconded Mandy Kilsby **THAT** Council approves the agenda for the Special Council meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020, as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

2. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Island Mountain Arts request to Council for support in application for funding through the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association (CCCTA)

SC 20-02 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, Seconded Jordan Rohatynski **THAT** Council receives the request from Island Mountain Arts regarding District of Wells support in the application for funding to the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association (CCCTA).

Carried Unanimously

SC20-03 **MOVED** Mandy Kilsby, Seconded Ksenya Dorwart **THAT** Council approves the request for support from Island Mountain Arts regarding their application for funding to the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association (CCCTA).

Carried Unanimously

3. CLOSED MEETING

THAT, pursuant to Section 90 (a), (c), (g), (l), (m), (n) and (o) of the Community Charter, the following portion of this meeting is closed to the public to discuss matters related to:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
- (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 *[annual municipal report]*;
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting;
- n) the consideration of whether a council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2);
- (o) the consideration of whether the authority under section 91 *[other persons attending closed meetings]* should be exercised in relation to a council meeting.

SC20-04

MOVED Ksenya Dorwart, Seconded Mandy Kilsby **THAT** Council moved into the Special In-Camera Council meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020 at 6:08 PM.

Carried Unanimously

4. RECALL TO ORDER AND ADJOURN

SC20-05

MOVED Mandy Kilsby, Seconded Ksenya Dorwart **THAT** At 8:29PM Council adjourned the Special In-Camera Council meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020 and recalled to order the Special Council meeting of Wednesday July 29,2020 reporting out the following:

SIC20-11 MOVED Mandy Kilsby, Seconded Ksenya Dorwart **THAT** Council directs staff to contact Ms. Kayla Hellstrom directly to let her know that her concerns have been addressed and they are being actioned on with occupational guidance.

Carried Unanimously

SIC20-12 MOVED Ksenya Dorwart, Seconded Jordan Rohatynski **THAT** Council directs staff to make a statement for public within the minutes to be reported out which ensures the public that Council has received information regarding the incident of July 14, 2020 wherein it directly involved Councillor Rohatynski. Discussions have been had and Council will be taking actions with occupational guidance. *(Refer to attached Statement).*

Carried Unanimously

SIC20-13 MOVED Mandy Kilsby, Seconded Ksenya Dorwart **THAT** Council releases resolutions **SIC20-11** through **SIC20-13** along with the statement from the Special In-

Camera Council Meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020 in the next Regular Council meeting of Tuesday August 11, 2020.

Carried Unanimously

Donna Forseille, CAO

Gabe Fourchalk, Mayor

Attachment A:



Public Statement

July 29, 2020

To the Community of Wells,

At a Special In-Camera Council Meeting on Wednesday July 29, 2020, Mayor and Council received information regarding an incident which occurred at a private residence in our Community on the evening of July 14, 2020. This incident involved Councillor Rohatynski. During the Special In-Camera meeting Mayor and Council were joined by Carrie Chard, Fire Chief and Constable (DSW) Dennis Engel (Peace Officer). Discussions and a review of the District of Wells Council Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy were had. Actions are being taken with occupational guidance for Councillor Rohatynski in supporting his role as elected official in the performance of his duties.

Part of the Discussions involved Staff explaining the following:

The legislative framework for local governments, under the Community Charter, focuses on the authorities and responsibilities of elected officials in carrying out their duties of office.

There are no provisions in the local government legislation (or any other legislation) that allow for a petition to Mayor and Council to recall an elected officials Seat. The disqualification provisions are really about missing more than four council meetings without leave from council.

Under s.133 [Expulsion from meetings] of the Community Charter if the Mayor feels that another person at the meeting is acting improperly, the Mayor can order that the person be expelled from the meeting. If the person who is expelled from the meeting does not leave, a peace officer may enforce the order as if it were a court order.

Alleged criminal actions by an individual are a very serious matter. Suggestions that any person, including a locally elected official, have acted contrary to legislation such as the Criminal Code are decided by the courts. The decision of whether to prosecute an alleged offence is ultimately made by Crown Counsel, based on evidence brought to them by the police.

If as a last resort, a council decides to censure and sanction a council member, legal counsel should be sought before taking any action to ensure the correct process is followed and minimum requirements of procedural fairness are met. This includes providing an opportunity for the member to hear or receive a copy of the allegations, consider and respond to them in an open council meeting.

Such sanctions that may be placed as per BC Legislation for conduct unbecoming of a member of Council include the following:

- *(a) a motion of censure on Councillor Rohatynski;*
- *(b) removal of Councillor as the District's representative on any external boards or committees*
- *(c) removal of Councillor's District appointed designation/s;*
- *(d) removal of Councillor from the Acting Mayor rotation;*

- *(e) alternate procedures for Councillor Rohatynski's access to confidential materials; and*
- *(f) public notification of sanctions.*

Councillor Rohatynski must be given the opportunity to personally, or via their legal counsel, make submissions to the rest of Council regarding their conduct in this matter;

Council must consider all the submissions made by Councillor Rohatynski and/or their legal counsel;

Council must unanimously agree upon the appropriate action;

Council must provide written reasons so that Councillor Rohatynski understands the basis for the decision to address his conduct.

Alternatively, as per Section 121 of the Community Charter an elected official may resign by way of written notice.

During the Special In-Camera meeting of Wednesday July 29, 2020, Councillor Rohatynski received advice and should his actions and conduct continue to place him in a negative light within the community, Council may choose to action on the above noted sanctions.

Councillor Rohatynski was requested to sign in acknowledgement of receiving the District of Wells Council Code of Conduct and Ethics (see attached).



DISTRICT OF WELLS COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS POLICY

Preamble

The residents and businesses of the District of Wells are entitled to have fair, honest and open local government that has earned the public's full confidence for integrity. The District seeks to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all local residents through effective, responsible and responsive government. To help achieve this goal, members have committed to strive to ensure that:

- public business is conducted with integrity, in a fair, honest and open manner;
- members respect one another, the public and staff and recognize the unique role and contribution each person has in making the District a better place to work and live;
- their conduct in the performance of their duties and responsibilities with the District be above reproach; and
- the decision-making processes be accessible, participatory, understandable, timely and just, in addition to the requirements of applicable enactments.

Application of the Code

To this end, the Council of the District of Wells has adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to members of Council and to any person appointed by Council to boards, committees, commissions, panels or task forces. Unless otherwise specified, "members" is intended to include both members of Council and committees. The bodies which Council can appoint members to are referred to collectively as "committees" in the Code.

1. Act in the Public Interest

Recognizing that the District seeks to maintain and enhance the quality of life for all District residents through effective, responsive and responsible government, members will conduct their business with integrity, in a fair, honest and open manner and will not use their position within the organization for personal gain or benefit.

2. Comply with the Laws

Members shall comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and local laws in the performance of their public duties.

3. Conduct of Members

The conduct of members in the performance of their duties and responsibilities with the District must be fair, open and honest. Members shall refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges or verbal attacks upon the character or motives of other members of Council, committees, the staff or the public.

4. Respect for Process

Members shall perform their duties in accordance with the policies and procedures and rules of order established by the District Council governing the deliberation of public policy issues, meaningful involvement of the public, and implementation of policy decisions of the Council by District staff. Members of committees shall be aware of the mandate of their respective committee, and act in accordance with it.

5. Conduct of Public Meetings

Members shall prepare themselves for public meetings; listen courteously and attentively to all public discussions before the body; and focus on the business at hand. They shall not interrupt other speakers; make personal comments not germane to the business of the body; or otherwise disturb a meeting.

6. Decisions Based on Merit

Members shall base their decisions on the merits and substance of the matter at hand, rather than on unrelated considerations.

7. Conflict of Interest

The Mayor and Councillors shall be aware of and act in accordance with Division 6 of the *Community Charter* and shall fulfil part (c) of their *Oath of Office*.

8. Gifts and Favours

Members shall not accept any money, property, position or favour of any kind whether to be received at the present or in the future, from a person having, or seeking to have dealings with the District, save for appropriate refreshments or meals, except where such a gift or favour is authorized by law, or where such gifts or favours are received as an incident of the protocol, social obligation or common business hospitality that accompany the duties and responsibilities of the member. A member may participate in District programs open to the public and may purchase District property or goods offered for public sale.

9. Confidential Information

Members shall respect the confidentiality of information concerning the property, personnel or legal affairs of the District. They shall neither disclose confidential information without proper authorization, nor use such information to advance their personal, financial or other private interests.

10. Advocacy

Members shall represent the official policies or positions of the District Council or committee to the best of their ability when designated as delegates for this purpose. When presenting their individual opinions and positions, members shall explicitly state they do not represent Council, their committee or the District of Wells, nor will they allow

the inference that they do.

11. Policy Role of Members

Members shall respect and adhere to the Council-Chief Administrative Officer structure of government as practiced in the District of Wells. In this structure, the Council determines the policies of the District with the advice, information and analysis provided by the public, committees, and District staff. Members, therefore, shall not interfere with the administrative functions of the District or with the professional duties of District staff; nor shall they impair the ability of staff to implement Council policy decisions.

12. Positive Work Place Environment

Members shall treat other members, the public and District staff with respect and shall be supportive of the personal dignity, self-esteem and well being of those with whom they come in contact with during the course of their professional duties.

13. Implementation

The District of Wells Code of Conduct and Ethics is intended to be self-enforcing. Members should view the Code as a set of guidelines that express collectively the standards of conduct expected of them. It, therefore, becomes most effective when members are thoroughly familiar with the Code and embrace its provisions. For this reason, the Code of Ethics will be provided to candidates for Council and applicants to committees.

14. Member Questions/Inquiries to District Staff

Member's request for information from staff shall be directed to the Chief Administrative Officer or Corporate Officer, if the response constitutes more than a technical clarification, then the response shall be provided to all Members so that all Members have access to the same information.

15. DRESS CODE

Being clean and presentable at all times shows respect for colleagues and the public as their elected officials representing their Community.

Council Members may not promote/further personal political issues, or wear or display any material for any political or pressure group (without compromising their political neutrality, being respectful of other's perceptions)

Removal of hats during all Council meetings and functions. Not carrying any illegal substance or weapon on their person. Removal of District paraphernalia during personal outings, especially to Bars, pubs, and clubs.

16. Implementation

As an expression of the standards of conduct for Members expected by the District, this Code is intended to be self-enforcing. This Code therefore becomes most effective when Members thoroughly familiar with it and embrace its provisions. For this reason, this Code shall be provided as information to candidates for Council. Members elected

to Council shall be requested to sign a member statement affirming they have read and understand this code and that they agree to conduct themselves in accordance with it.

17. Compliance and Enforcement

The District of Wells Code of Conduct and Ethics expresses standards of ethical conduct expected for members of the District Council and committees. Members themselves have the primary responsibility to assure that these ethical standards are understood and met, and that the public can continue to have full confidence in the integrity of the governance of the District of Wells.

The District will not retaliate against Members or District Staff who, in good faith, report a known or suspected violation of this code. No reprisals or threat of reprisals shall be made against such a complainant, or against anyone providing relevant information in connection with a suspected violation of this Code. Members shall respect the integrity of this code and the enforcement of it.


District Council may impose sanctions on Members whose conduct does not comply with this code, including but not limited to a motion of censure.

To ensure procedural fairness, a member who is accused of violating any provision of this code shall have a minimum of two weeks, or the time between two consecutive Council meetings, whichever is greater, to prepare his or her response to these allegations.

Specifically, before considering a sanction, Council must ensure that a member is provided with:

1. a copy of a written report setting out the alleged breach of this code, and possible sanctions that may be considered against him or her;
2. a minimum of two weeks, or the time between two consecutive Council meetings, whichever is greater, to prepare a response against any allegations and possible sanctions; and
3. an opportunity to make representations and be heard by Council.

A violation of this Code and Ethics Policy shall not be considered a basis for challenging the validity of a Council decision.


Signature of Elected Official


Chief Administrative Officer

July 29th/2020
Date

July 29 2020
Date

WELLS COMMUNITY FACILITY BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 10:00 am, Zoom Meeting

Attending: Donna Forseille (CAO), Mayor Gabe Fourchalk, Councillor Ksenya Dorwart, Hayley Archer, Dawn Leroy, Josh Trotter-Wanner, Judy Campbell, Anne Laing

Update from Dawn:

- Dawn has made a good start on the business plan. The main topics presented at the community meeting will help to structure the plan. The plan will be a well-rounded support document that covers all the bases relevant to potential funding, including foreseeable job creation, revenues, and impact on community. Dawn has developed a draft Vision that she'll send to committee members to review.
- Anne will provide written historical context as required. Jillian may be able to help with specific areas related to the plan.
- We need to look at the agreement for the gas account to see what is involved in releasing the funds. (Up to \$11,000.) NDIT was involved in the project. Dawn and Judy will try to locate the Barkerville files.
- Any plans to make the school building more energy efficient will be included in the plan. This will help with applying for energy grants in the future and assist in our request to repurpose the existing Green Infrastructure money to install a solar system and improve the building envelope.
- Hayley will need more solar-related info in order to get a quote from Ron. Judy and Anne will meet with Rod before the next meeting to pick his brain about solar systems.
- Remember to include BGM as a partner and highlight their plans for the next 12 to 15 years.
- Dawn's goal is to have a draft business plan by the end of July. We don't want to miss out on any funding opportunities, particularly this one:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/investing-in-canada-infrastructure-program/rural-northern-communities> (Deadline is Oct 22/20)
Dawn may approach the intake officer for more information regarding this grant.

Rebranding of the School Building:

- The District has decided to pull back from rebranding the facility for the time being, but will soon be asking the community for ideas regarding a new name for the building. Any suggestions they've already received will be included. The committee feels that it's important to have a new name for the business plan before it is submitted to funders.

Josh's Report Regarding the Geo-Thermal Monitoring:

- Josh has done some research into how we could best monitor the geo-thermal system. It looks like it would cost about \$6000 to install equipment to monitor the system for a year. It's possible that there may already be a sensor built into the system but Josh would have to look at it to find out. He will coordinate getting into the school with Donna.
- Here are Josh's notes: **AALTO Inc**, 65 HARBOUR SQUARE UNIT 1202, TORONTO, ONTARIO M5J 2L4
PHONE: (416) 360-8300 FAX: (416) 867-1760 E-Mail: info@aalto.ca Web Site: www.aalto.ca

416-360-8300 lisa@aalto.ca Need: Pipe size, max/min temp, max flow rate, 30% is max glycol percent for mechanical flow meter, 0% is max for ultrasonic flow meter, \$500 to 600 for data cable, probably \$2000 plus for meter system

James and Sons (250) 992-2875, \$300 HYDRO revue meter, \$2000 meter with data logger, short period of time \$300 per two weeks, get wattage x hours on, energy rating, here might be historic info

- Judy thinks some monitoring has been done in the past and will look into it. She also said that, going forward, a DOW staff person really needs to understand the system and keep good records of any work or changes to it.

BC Hydro:

- Gabe has tried to contact Dave Mozer from BC Hydro but no luck yet. He will continue to try to reach him. Josh suggested that Gabe ask him if there are currently any net-metering programs. Josh will send Gabe some info.

Check in with DOW Regarding Committee's Involvement to Date:

- Dawn asked if Council members and Donna are comfortable with the committee's current level of involvement with dealing with the school building's issues. They said that they're very happy with the work to date.

Cost Saving Measures (From Last Meeting):

- The upstairs of the building used to be blocked off and not heated when not in use. Did it save money? Judy will check.
- What would be involved in putting separate heating systems in each upstairs room? Josh will check and also look at the as-built boiler upgrade manual.
- Are there grants through BC Hydro and/or ?? that we could apply for to make the building more energy efficient? If the roof needs to be insulated, could that be an eligible project?
- We could look for funding to insulate and re-side the exterior of the building along with sealing the windows. Dawn will ask Grant for a ballpark estimate to do this.
- Josh suggested that we look into solar panels using a ground-mounted tracking system. Hayley will ask Ron Young about this.
- Does Hydro still have grants to upgrade lighting. The old fluorescent tubes could be changed out for the new energy efficient tubes. Gabe will follow up with BC Hydro.
- Donna will ask Public Works how much it would cost to hook up the water line from the portable to the sink in the gym's kitchen. This would provide lead-free drinking water in the school.

Items to Remember:

- **Status of the Gym:** If the gym moves back to the school building, there may some financial assistance through the Legion for projects that support senior and/or youth activities. The gym could be better utilized by upgrading equipment and hiring a youth co-ordinator. Donna says there may be a grant through Rural Dividend for new equipment – climbing wall? – and birthday parties and other events could be promoted.

- **Building Accessibility:** Granting possibilities may be contingent on improved access to the basement and main floor. Dawn says she has looked into a chair elevator and there isn't enough room on the stairway, although it may be possible on the Dawson St. side of the building. New washrooms could be built off the gym end of the building. We will continue to investigate this issue.
- **Funding Ideas and Options:**
 - a. Look into these funding possibilities for next year:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/investing-in-canada-infrastructure-program/community-culture-recreation>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/investing-in-canada-infrastructure-program/rural-northern-communities>
 - b. New funding opportunities that encourage economic stimulus may be made available in the wake of the Covid-19 virus. We should make sure that we're prepared to apply for any funding for which we qualify. We need to prepare a good business case and think outside the box to come up with creative ideas that are financially sustainable and economically benefit the community.
 - c. In preparation, we can begin to talk with program coordinators about how our project fits with their funding opportunities. We can also look at increases to the current rental fee schedule and other ways to make the facility more self-sufficient. To what degree (percentage) should the district's tax base be supporting building maintenance etc.? If we start to think of the building as a recreation facility we can investigate how similar facilities operate.

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 23 at 2:00 pm via Zoom

(Thank you to IMA for allowing this committee to use their Zoom account for these meetings!)

June 24th, 2020

District of Wells
4243 Sanders Ave
Wells, BC
V0K 2R0

To Mayor and Council,

I was informed of the request to help re-brand/re-name the Wells-Barkerville School for the purpose of obtaining grants. I attended the Wells-Barkerville School for my elementary education, and it will always hold a place in my heart. Throughout my own schooling and into the present day, I have witnessed the selfless contributions of so many to provide a one-of-a-kind education to the students as well as to visitors from all over during Island Mountain Arts. The passion and dedication of the residents of Wells was especially present when the entire community came together to save the school from closure in 2002. As there have been so many wonderful members of our community that have worked tirelessly to ensure the school and building remain functional and lively, I do not believe it would be appropriate to name it after any one person. The spirit of all the residents of Wells- past and present- pulse through the walls.

I sincerely feel that the current name carries a lot of significance for people in the community. The name and building not only hold great historical importance, but easily invoke feelings of nostalgia for many. I believe the current name could be adjusted to be more inclusive of the present multipurpose use of the building, while still staying true to its roots. Therefore, I passionately propose the name be, "The Wells-Barkerville Arts & Education Center." I feel this name respectfully pays homage to the history of the Wells-Barkerville school and area while acknowledging the impact the artistic community has had in revitalizing Wells. Like Wells itself, it will be a beautiful blending of history and art.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my submission.

Sincerely,

Nori Cirotto

July 11, 2020

Dear District of Wells; Attention CAO Donna Forseille:

We are full time residents of Wells, living at 2314 Bowman Crescent. We are hoping to do some improvements to our property including moving our shed over to keep it within our property lines as well as moving/reinstalling the chain link fence along side our property lines.

We would like the CAO to consider allowing us to reopen and have access to the existing ally between ourselves and the neighboring property (Allan Tipman), to be able to access with a cement truck and building supplies to complete a project under our deck.

We feel that the ally way should be reopened for access as it would take any unnecessary traffic off of Bowman during this construction and would make this job much easier, less time consuming and less costly in the long run.

We would like to acknowledge that we have come before council in the past requesting temporary access to this ally to store a Sea Can for construction use and we were very appreciative with their support at that time giving us a three month access.

We are committed to keeping the cost to the District at zero, John having highways as well as public works experience will keep the entire process within all your guidelines, secure and professional.

We are aware our seasonal neighbor is opposing this as he feels we are infringing on his property. We have (as had the previous owner) tried to reason and offer to share the space but he is unwilling to co-operate in any way, so unfortunately we have to ask your permission to open and use the district property.

Respectfully yours,

John and Janet Aitken

2314 Bowman Cres.

Wells, BC

250-994-3535

Letter re: June 11 updates to BGM's proposal and public comment period



Flag for follow up.

JM

Jillian Merrick <newjillennium@gmail.com>

Mon 7/20/2020 6:55 AM



Forward



To:

- Gabe Fourchalk;
- Councillor Ksenya Dorwart;
- mandy kilsby <mandykilsby@gmail.com>;
- Councillor Jordan Rohatynski;
- Chris Cooley <cooleyniner@gmail.com>

+1 other

2 attachments (3 MB)Download all

Dear Mayor and Council,

The following comments were submitted to the Environmental Assessment Office as part of the Initial Public Comment Period on the Cariboo Gold Project. I am sending them to you as well for your reference and consideration:

This project represents a significant net loss to the community health and economic opportunities in Wells. The environmental impacts of the proposed change to construct a northern transmission versus a highway transmission line are also significant.

Mine site and concentrator: Earlier October 2019 community presentations did not include sketches or visuals of what the mine site surface infrastructure would look like, but promises were made that most of that infrastructure would mostly be below ground. Visuals provided for the first time in a community meeting on July 13, 2020 (after the EAO open houses) depicted a massive multi-story above-ground concentrator plant that would significantly damage key community viewsapes and soundscapes, most notably the entrance to the community. It would also my own destroy my own personal viewscape and soundscape from my property and negatively impact my property. This concentrator will be associated with light and noise pollution that BGM has not yet quantified nor provided any indication on how they will mitigate. It will destroy my own personal peace and quiet and significantly detract from the overall aesthetic of a tourism-driven community. See attached photos for visual reference. 1st photo is of draft viewscape provided by BGM. Second photo is the view from my living room window.

Island Mountain Portal and highway crossing: Earlier October 2019 community presentations also included promises that the conveyance of ore from Island Mountain to the mine site would be done underground. The information provided in the June 11, 2020 supplement now shows a surface portal and truck crossing at Hwy 26, equidistant from the community visitor centre and community museum. This change represents a significant dust, noise, and traffic impact on the community. This site is also within the viewscape and soundscape of my personal property.

Transmission line: Earlier October 2019 presentations showed a transmission line construction adjacent to the existing BC Hydro transmission to Wells. The June 11, 2020 supplement now proposes a new northern route that would have significantly greater environmental impact, notably more greenspace development and infringement on critical caribou habitat. It will also have a significant health impact on the residents along its path.

Economic development: the community of Wells is built on a history of mining and a history of legacy investments. Theatres, communities halls, businesses and housing all stand today that were part of earlier histories of mining investment. BGM's proposal does not include a community investment. Previously, the primary incentive for the community to support this project was the potential opportunity to connect Wells to three-phase power in conjunction with mine's new transmission line construction. In the July 13, 2020 meeting, it was made clear that the opportunity for three-power connection for the community in conjunction with this project was virtually nil.

Furthermore, the job creation of the project stands to have only marginal benefit to the community. The limited housing capacity in Wells is already well below the current demand for housing by existing residents. As an employer in the region, I struggle to recruit workers to well-paying jobs because they are unable to relocate to the community. The majority of current residents in Wells who want a job, have one. The jobs created by this project will benefit the broader provincial economy but have little benefit to the local community. Instead, this project is likely to create a net economic loss to the community given its potential negative impact on tourism. Tourism has outpaced mining as the primary economic driver in the community for several decades now and represents long-term, sustainable, and low-impact jobs. Given the changes to the community environment this project represents, tourism will be negatively impacted. It already has been.

Engagement process: what was presented to the community in October 2019 has changed dramatically in the June 11, 2020 supplements. Because of COVID, engagement processes have been done online, which drives down participation and prevents community members from talking to one another. There are many members of the community who have little to no internet access. A virtual engagement process has many shortcomings.

This project represents a significant net loss to the community health and economic opportunities in Wells.

Sincerely,

Jillian Merrick

H: 778-763-0641 C: 250-255-2446

Judy Campbell
Box 181
Well, BC,
V0K 2R0

July 30, 2020

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached please find the comments that I recently submitted to the Environment Assessment Office regarding Barkerville Gold Mine's application.

As we all know, BGM has had many positive impacts on our community, especially in providing jobs for several households and revenues for local businesses. However, we are also all aware that there have been some negative impacts as well, and that some businesses have suffered because of them.

Now, with a much larger project proposal on the table, I am writing to request that Council take a proactive role in engaging the community to develop a vision of how we would like to move forward both during the life of this mine and afterwards.

The community needs to conduct an impact assessment to fully understand all the impacts on the economic and social fabric of our community. Will there be stresses put on our policing, Cfire brigade and our ambulance services? Will crime rates rise? Will the development impact our taxes in a positive or negative way? Will property values go up or down? Many of these aspects may not be covered during the EA process. This study would provide more community engagement and would supplement the EA process.

Based on the results of this work, the community, led by the District of Wells, needs to negotiate a benefit agreement with Barkerville Gold Mines that will ensure the equitable distribution of the burdens and benefits associated with mine development and its related activities.

Mining and tourism have lived side by side in our area and worked symbiotically for over 100 years. But if we are to ensure that this relationship continues in a positive direction, we need strong leadership from the District of Wells.

I urge Council to move forward to find the ways and means to engage the community and conduct this study. It may be possible to repurpose existing grant monies for this purpose, or it may be possible to work with the Environmental Assessment Office to ensure the correct data is gathered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Judy Campbell'.

Judy Campbell

CARIBOO GOLD PROJECT – EA ENGAGEMENT STAGE -- COMMENTS

Background and Context

It is important to understand the context into which this mining proposal has been placed.

Although it is often said that Wells' history is in mining, the roots of tourism in the area are much older than many people realize. The first tourists to the area are generally considered to be Milton and Cheadle in the summer of 1862¹. Barkerville received its first National Historic designation (of several) in 1924. Bowron Lakes became a provincial game preserve in 1925. Barkerville became a Provincial Park in 1958. Island Mountain Arts began operations in 1977. Tourism was well established in the area by the time the hard-rock mines closed in 1967. Since that time Wells has essentially had a tourism-driven economy, with periodic inputs from placer mining, mining exploration and hard-rock mining.

Wells' tourism economy has three prongs – 'arts, history and adventure' that have worked symbiotically to produce a rich and diverse set of products; just to name a few – a year-round heritage attraction, week-long courses in the arts (including music), a nationally recognized music festival, day and overnight wilderness trips, a cross-country ski network accessible from the townsite with early and late snow and a mountain bike trail network also directly assessable from the townsite.

There is definitely an opportunity for current-day mining and tourism to work symbiotically. The Heritage Tourism product has been based on the history of the first Cariboo Gold Rush in the 1860s and the second Cariboo Gold Rush in the 1930s. The allure of gold is an incentive for people to travel to the area, and the fact that gold mining is still going on is fascinating to the visitor. In the 1990s the Wells Museum was given permission to give tours of the abandoned Cariboo Gold Quartz mine site, and these were very popular.

However, I am sad to say that in recent years this potential has not been realized, in fact, quite the opposite is true. The negative impacts began under International Wayside but have continued under Barkerville Gold Mines.

- Cornish Mountain Tours, which gave very popular guided day hikes through historic Lowhee Gulch, could no longer continue, as access was blocked to Stout's and Lowhee Gulches.
- The Wells and Area Trails Society (WATS) invested over \$45,000 in the Barkerville Mountain snowmobile trail which connected Wells accommodations directly to the Mt. Agnes trail network, only to be barred access by BGM mining activities. No compensation was paid, and no study was done to quantify the loss of revenue to Wells businesses.
- The District of Wells invested several thousand dollars in the construction of a mountain bike/hiking trail on Cow Mountain that would link to the historic Cariboo Wagon Road and create a loop trail. Access to this trail has been blocked by BGM activities. No compensation has been given, nor alternatives suggested.

¹ The North-west Passage by land. Being the narrative of an expedition from the Atlantic to the Pacific, *Milton, William Fitzwilliam, Viscount, 1839-1877; Cheadle, Walter B. (Walter Butler), 1835-1910* 1865. Available on-line at <https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcbooks/items/1.0222200>

- BGM purchased a block of apartments normally used as 'affordable' housing by locals and as summer tourism staff accommodation. This caused difficulties for many local businesses in hiring seasonal staff as accommodation was not available.
- Sims Group (or one of their sub-companies), a subcontractor to BGM, purchased the largest motel and campground in the community (the Whitecaps Motor Inn), to use as a 'camp' greatly diminishing the accommodation available for tourists and resulting in less overnight stays in the community, and a loss of revenue to local businesses. Although not a direct action by BGM, it is an indirect result of their activity.
- BGM purchased the second largest motel (The Hubs Motel) in the community, again to use as a 'camp'. Even though they were well aware of the negative community response to the purchase of the White Caps for use as a camp, and also aware of the negative impact this would have on tourism in the community, they proceeded with the purchase.

To date the activities of BGM have had serious negative impacts on local tourism and on an already stressed local accommodation situation. On the plus side BGM has created incomes for several Wells families. However, the bulk of BGM employees do not permanently live in Wells, do not volunteer for local groups, or contribute to the community significantly.

It is in this context of already existing negative impacts, that BGM now proposes a much larger project.

Location and Scale of the Concentrator Building

Although the placement of the concentrator and general purpose building on the already disturbed ground of the old mine site is sound from an environmental perspective, the scale and appearance of the building and its location adjacent to a residential area are extremely problematic for so many reasons.

Obviously, this location is most convenient and probably most economical for BGM, but is it the best location when all factors are considered? The cost and difficulties in mitigating light, noise and dust to meet standards acceptable to the community may make an alternative location more feasible, e.g. a location on the west side of Cow Mountain using the Jack O' Clubs Creek road network or in the Bonanza Ledge area. It is not clear in the project description if other location alternatives have been adequately explored.

Noise Levels

It is difficult to imagine how acceptable noise levels will be achieved from the building's position above the narrow valley. Even low noise levels will resonate out over the valley and the residential areas. Currently sounds from the camp, machinery idling, trucks on the mine road and drilling can be heard clearly in town and from the recreational trails on the Meadows and Cornish Mountain. Recently there has been a piece of equipment running that I can hear inside my house, even in the basement, with all the doors and windows shut, and I am not in a prime area for sound travel and probably a kilometer away. I was out on the ski trails this winter, just before Christmas, wondering why things seemed so particularly lovely that day, and I realized it was the silence. The noise had stopped! It was like it used to be. It is the type of noise that you don't realize is gnawing at your consciousness and putting you on edge – until it stops.

To this will now be added the constant noise of trucks travelling to Bonanza Ledge, to the Island Mountain Portal and travelling Highway 26. Trucks will be backing up (beepers are mandatory) and dumping loads of rock. During the construction phase there will be heavy equipment, truck back up signals, hammering and who knows what other noise. Even if the building itself is sound- proofed and the concentrator can not be heard, the location will ensure that every extraneous sound, even outdoor conversations, will be amplified over the entire town.

How is it possible to mitigate this? Statements such as “we will make every effort...”, “we’re using the latest technology...” are not sufficient.

There will need to be an acceptable decibel level agreed upon by the community that is regularly monitored at set locations, and penalties for exceeding these levels.

Dust

For many of the reasons listed above, dust is also a serious problem. Dust can be a safety hazard by limiting visibility and it is also a health hazard. The proposed road leading from the concentrator building to the Island Mountain Portal crosses Highway 26 very close to the Visitor Centre. The potential for dust to obscure the highway or to cause unpleasant clouds around the Visitor Centre and beach area, or to blow into the community are great. Recently, a cyclist on Highway 26 had to dismount and wait for dust to clear as two trucks turned out of the existing mine road onto Highway 26, and this was less than 24 hours after a full day of rain.

There will need to studies conducted for base-line levels of particulate matter in at the air, safe levels established and adhered to as shown by constant monitoring, and penalties for exceeding limits.

Light

Light pollution has been shown to have impacts on human health including contributing to sleep disorders as well upsetting melatonin levels (which increases cancer risk).

The lighting around the building will need to be designed to be task-focused as opposed to broad. It must not impact drivers’ visibility along highway 26 and not have a negative impact on nearby residents, particularly those along Bowman Crescent who look directly out on the building site.

Town Entrance

An ongoing project for Wells for many years is to make the entrance to the community attractive and enticing. The view which starts near the west end of Jack O' Clubs Lake has been the subject of 100s of photos and has been painted by many well-known artists including Marie Nagel, Edward Epp, Suzanne Bessette and Lindsay Kay. In fact, it is probably one of the best recognized views in the Cariboo.



Almost Home – Lindsay Kay

Consider how the BGM proposal will change the approach to Wells:





Concentrator View Coming into Wells



The building will be clearly visible from over 3 kilometers away.



The building will cut above the line of the hills and dominate the skyline



The building will dominate the Visitor Centre and beach area



Concentrator from Highway 26 Eastbound



The District of Wells, the Wells Chamber of Commerce, the Wells Historical Society and other community groups have made a considerable investment in both money and volunteer time to reclaim what was an abandoned mining brownfield into an attractive entrance into the community. These efforts stretch back to the 1990s when the community lobbied for reclamation work of old tailings. At that time the ball diamond area and the beach area were created. Since then the Visitor Centre and washrooms have been built, a picnic area and children's games area have been created. A dock has been built and paddle boats are available for visitors and locals to enjoy the peace and quiet of the lake. The nearby Wells Museum has been restored.

It is hard to envision how this popular public use area can co-exist with the proposed concentrator building and associated structures as well as the increased traffic on Highway 26 and the connector road to the Island Mountain Portal.

It may be argued that of course there were originally mine buildings on this location, and the original tailings pile is still visible. However, the scale and shape of the original buildings was much different and fit much more organically into the landscape. They were wood-framed buildings with windows and interesting rooflines.



Tregillus Photos

Acc. #999.8 2060
Canbo Gold Quartz Mine Buildings under construction

P 5172



Penticton Museum Donation

Acc. #2005.0059.0015 Cariboo Gold Quartz, Wells, B.C., Oct. 1941

P6072

If all of the above concerns – noise, dust, light – could be mitigated to the satisfaction of the community and health and safety authorities, there would be an opportunity to redesign the proposed building to resemble the original structures, perhaps mimicking some of the rooflines. The ‘tower’ could be designed to resemble a shafthouse. In addition, because the building is a multi-use facility and contains other components besides the concentrator there is the opportunity to move functions around to reshape the building to be more in tune with the existing landscape, perhaps a larger footprint and less height.

In summary, the preferred solution would be to relocate this facility. I would like to see a detailed analysis of alternative locations that considers the community’s perspectives in addition to what is convenient and economical for the company. If the community then agrees that the current location is the best option, than mitigation must ensure that the well-being of local residents is not negatively affected and that the local tourism product – which includes the aesthetic appeal of the community – is not negatively impacted.

Transmission Line

Recently the community received the news that the 3-phase power being brought in for the mine would not be available for the community. This was a shock for many as this had been one of the chief ‘carrots’

that had been presented as a benefit of mine development. It is unclear how this misunderstanding developed, and community members have received very different stories from BGM officials than from BC Hydro officials. BC Hydro officials have told us that it is common for mining companies to build a line to BC Hydro standards and then when the mine's life is over, sell the line to BC Hydro. BGM personnel indicate that BC Hydro would actually not pay (or only pay \$1) to take over the line once the mine finishes with it. Is BGM required to decommission the line at that time and what does that entail? BGM also refuses to consider the idea of building the line to BC Hydro standards and selling power to Wells (e.g. West Kootenay Power). They do not wish to have side ventures. Their current route built only to industrial standard is cheaper for BGM, so it is easy to see why they prefer it. However, given the hopeful language which was originally used, this reversal has served to somewhat undermine their credibility in the community. To be clear no promises were made, but the language used led people to believe that 3 phase power would be one of the benefits of mine development.

The proposed northern route, while providing significant savings and less private property negotiations appears to cross important caribou habitat. Although in BGM's recent presentation they indicate the northern route "avoids critical caribou habitat", local biologists have told community members that it does intersect with important caribou habitat.

More specific data is needed about this transmission line. In a recent meeting, BGM could not say what proportion of the proposed northern route would be using existing right-of-way or how many kilometers of right-of-way would need to be constructed through undisturbed areas. New right-of-ways open up additional routes for wolves to access caribou populations, and disturb other natural values.

Will there be an Environmental Assessment Process on the transmission line itself? I would like to see more accurate mapping overlaid with the most recent data on caribou use areas, critical habitats, and protected areas. I would like to see the details of how they will negotiate the Tregillus Lake area. And again, I would like to see a report from credible biologists indicating the impacts of this project on caribou populations. I would like to see accurate mapping that shows where the line follows existing right-of-ways and when it cuts through undisturbed areas. I would like to see their decommissioning plan which an indication of how this impacts the overall cost of the project.

The Camps

There will be additional impacts on the community that are not strictly 'environmental'. The 139 person 'camp' will be located immediately adjacent to residential areas. Camp A and Camp B are embedded within the town itself. This is an unusual situation and raises many questions:

- How many of the 333 construction phase workers will be located in Wells at any given time?
- How many of the 245 operation phase workers will be located in Wells at any given time?
- Will the camp facilities be sufficient or will additional housing be required?
- What facilities within the town will workers utilize or frequent?
- What will be the shift pattern of the workers?
- What, if any, proportion of the operational phase workers are expected to relocate to Wells and become part of the community?
- By what road will workers access the new camp?

- Where will the sewage disposal facilities be located and will it be secondary or tertiary treatment?

Immediate concerns are:

- Increased demand on RCMP, BC Ambulance and Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Increased crime rate
- Increased influx of illegal substances into the community
- Negative impacts of noise from camp
- Negative impacts of proximity to sewage treatment facility

Can alternative locations be explored for the camp? Can Camp B (which was formerly a motel) be returned to its original function (thereby reducing one of the negative impacts on tourism)? How will BGM mitigate the negative social aspects of having a camp so close to a community?

Community Impact Statement and Benefit Agreement

There will be many impacts on the community both direct and indirect that are not immediately obvious.

Will the tax impact of the project be positive or negative? Will the District of Wells have to increase its public works budget? Will the Wells Volunteer Fire Brigade be expected to provide fire protection and will they need special training? Will there be a need for an increase in the snow removal budget?

The District of Wells needs a qualified consultant to complete a community impact statement that analyses Wells' specific situation as well as looks at impacts on and mitigations used by other communities. This document should include the community's vision (based on a broad engagement process) for itself both during the mine's lifetime and after the mine has left. It should also quantify base levels of acceptable disturbance and disruption.

Unfortunately, the District of Wells can not afford to conduct such a study. Is there intervenor funding and/or advice available through the Environmental Assessment Office or other agency?

BGM personnel have been in the community for several years and in general have a good relationship with community members. They have partnered with the Northern Development Initiative Trust to start the Wells Community Foundation endowment fund (housed in the Prince George Community Foundation) which will eventually provide \$5,000 - \$6,000 annually in local grants. Unfortunately this project seems to have been put on a back burner, and there has been no follow through. They have also provided occasional financial support for some local non-profits.

It should be noted that in the scale of the proposed project and the expected profits to be made by BGM these are small offerings. In meetings with local individuals and groups other larger projects have been discussed, always in the context of "if the mine goes ahead". Understandably no promises have been made, although many have been hinted.

However, it needs to be remembered that personnel may change. The ideas of site staff may be overruled by the head office in Quebec. The only thing that can be relied on is a signed agreement.

The District of Wells needs to develop a benefit agreement based on the community impact assessment that ensures that the District does not incur any negative externalities as a result of the project. This agreement can and should be developed in advance of the project and can be conditional on the project going ahead.

The District of Wells needs to be provided with the resources to conduct the impact assessment and develop the benefit agreement as part of the Environment Assessment Process.

Barkerville Gold Mines
Re: Cariboo Gold Project

July 26, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

(Please note this is the comment I made on the EAO site and therefore I'm speaking about the mine in third person terms.)

I have several concerns about this project. As a community member who has been involved at several levels over the past 14 years I have heard many claims made by the mine and have seen very few of them actually followed through with. Several times I witnessed them present a plan at a public meeting and then at the next meeting present something completely different, which has unfortunately made it difficult to trust much of what they say. For example, a couple of years ago they stated at a meeting that they would be investing in building housing in Wells (of which there is a shortage) and they would be attracting families to move to the community, both of which would have been a major benefit to the community. At the next meeting they informed us that they would not be investing in housing and would instead be building a camp. This is *one small example* of the confusing messages I have witnessed from BGM.

My main issue with BGM's newest incarnation of their plan is the giant monolithic concentrator plant that they are planning on building at the beautiful entrance to our community. This plant will create a horrible "eye sore" and detract from the natural beauty and quaint facade of our community which relies heavily on tourism as (what I would consider) it's most important industry. The mine operation is a finite project, one which may or may not bring jobs for local people for a period of time and which will eventually cease to operate (as admitted by BGM itself). After the mine is gone we are going to rely even more on our ability to attract tourists to the area and in my opinion it is a short sighted solution to put the concentrator plant where they are proposing. Additionally, as per my previous paragraph, the information of where they want to put the plant and what it would look like was not given to the public until July 13 even though there was another public presentation a month earlier.

My secondary concerns include the transmission line that they are planning to cut which apparently (I have not seen this for myself but have heard from several reliable sources) is planned to go through Caribou habitat. I have heard that the mine is arguing that it doesn't go through Caribou habitat and I would like to see this confirmed by an objective third party. This transmission line also represents a negative legacy that will live on past the mine's operations and will provide no benefit to the community whatsoever.

I am also concerned about the amount of traffic that will be a result of the new operations. For a while BGM was stating a plan to build a tunnel underneath the Jack of Clubs Lake (which honestly seems a little crazy in itself) but it is my understanding that now they plan to have their trucks crossing the highway near the Pooley Street turn off. It's hard to even imagine what this would look like and what the implications would be for dust, noise and traffic disruptions. It seems to me that this was a choice born out of a desire to cut costs and with disregard for the needs and wants of the community and the people that own houses and businesses here.

Additionally I have general concern for the amount of light and noise pollution that will result from this project moving forward. I am concerned about having another camp of transient workers which has

been shown to increase crime and will most certainly change the “feel” of the community. By opting for a camp rather than investing in long term housing, BGM is showing us that they are only interested in short term gain for their share holders and they are not interested in leaving a positive and viable legacy for the community.

I moved to Wells 14 years ago because it was a beautiful, quite, creative and quirky little community that was quite and peaceful. Frankly I find this whole project depressing and it makes me question whether this is the place that I want to continue to call my home. Let me be clear that I have no animosity toward the folks that work at the mine. To me it is a double edged sword, I don't like what is happening to the community because of the mine's growing influence and I am also happy for my friends and neighbours that now have full time, well-paying employment. I totally understand that we all have to feed our families and I have absolutely no desire to alienate or shame anyone that works at the mine. That said, I think the corporation and the higher ups have a moral imperative to work with the community to mitigate potential negative side effects and impact that this new plan holds.

In short, I do not support this project. I do not see how it could possibly have any long term benefits for the community and only see very limited short term benefits for a few local folks who may get some employment out of it.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Kay

Attention Mayor and Councillors of the District of Wells.
Chris Pharness, Barkerville Gold Mine.
Karen St. James, EAO

I understand that this submission falls outside of the normal EAO process, but I would like to raise these opportunities for BGM's considerations before they travel too far down a planning road to their next phase of consultation. I believe that these three cornerstones would alleviate the many issues articulated in recent EAO submissions and benefit Barkerville Gold, the District of Wells, and the environment, in an economical and expedient manner.

With regard to the proposed Transmission Line,

The significant stumbling blocks seem to be that BCHydro is slow and expensive, that both routes have significant visual, wildlife and environmental impacts, that they have a finite life before they are junked at the end of mine production, and that because they are not to a standard, they don't have external benefit to other groups.

The VP of Barkerville Gold(Chris Pharness) recently commented that the construction of the 3 phase transmission line was focused on cost and time-to-implementation and that working with B.C. Hydro was affecting both. As a result, BGM's plan currently doesn't include the opportunity to engage other users now or in the future(Wingdam Mine, Troll Ski Resort, District of Wells, Barkerville Historic Site, First Nations, Wells Community Forest, West Fraser Mills). However, he raised the option of becoming a Utility as a possible work-around.

Becoming an electrical utility would allow BGM to sell excess power, create a positive environment impact and promote tourism and Industrial diversification, and it would offer Osisko shareholders an opportunity to recoup additional revenue from their investment in the power cycle of the mine development. Many private electrical utilities have been constructed by mining companies in BC, and sold power to other users. West Kootenay Power(Fortis since 2003) is the longest running example of a profitable private power company that successfully operates in the framework of the BC Utility Commission. They have supported the settling and responsible development of an entire corner of British Columbia. Ocean Falls power and light(now Boralex) is another continuously operating regional power supplier in B.C built by industry. In out case, BGM has an opportunity to fill a market gap that B.C. hydro is ignoring and satisfy BGM's own requirements for power in a sustainable and profitable manner. In the process they will follow the lead of existing industrial development in B.C. in supporting the development of our region. BGM could either apply to the BCUC to be a producer or partner with an internationally renowned company such as Boralex to handle or take over power distribution at any point in the mine development cycle. I think our community would fully support BGM;s suggestion that they could become a utility as well as a mining company, like so many other mines in BC's past.

Southern Route:

Both the Northern Route and the Highway have developed snags related to environmental footprint and visual qualities. Currently both routes meet at Cottonwood, and that is a perfect location for the beginning of a much more effective 'Southern Route' (see attachments)

If BGM used the Swift river drainage, or, preferably, the Peter's Creek drainage to reach Cow Mountain(See attached kmz and photo) there are many advantages.

- Peter's Creek would bring 3 phase past Wingdam and Troll Mtn.(both eager customers of the proposed Utility)
- Both the Swift and Peter's Creek drainages preceed the Visual Quality Corridor described in the Land Use Plan for the Quesnel Highlands to Wells and Barkerville.
- Both valleys have existing and extensive road construction already, as well as extensive linked logging and mining disturbed sites, which would not further disrupt wildlife objectives.
- As the map shows, approaching the headwaters of the Swift, or even shorter via Peter's Creek,

existing recently harvested logging sites lead to the upper Lightning creek watershed, where you pass into current and historical placer hydraulic operations, also on highly disturbed sites.

- After crossing upper Lightning creek, the line can follow existing harvested blocks or the adjacent valley to enter the middle of Jack of Clubs Creek watershed. From here existing recent logging blocks, and existing and in-use haul roads lead directly to the minesite at Cow Mountain.

Throughout this section of the route,

- no private property exists,
- there is no travel within OGMA's or viewscales,
- there is minimal disturbance of potential Cariboo Habitat, and
- after Coldspring or Troll, only a very small section will be remotely visible from the hwy, preserving the viewscale objectives of the land use plan. No other route does this.
- The route crosses the National Historic Cariboo Waggon Road, and a Cariboo migration route, once, above Stanley, but it crosses on a 'lost' section of the Waggon road, at a location with a high degree of logging disturbance. It crosses these routes perpendicularly, minimizing impact, and possibly as a opportunity to support redevelopment, and historical interpretation.
- The sub-station could be on the south side of Cow Mountain, which would conveniently allow BGM to run power in both directions, into the mine adit, and/or Wells, and also up to Bonanza Ledge. If 3 phase was extended to Barkerville it would also lie as an extension to the Bonanza Ledge route, and be hidden in Stout's Gulch, at the headwaters of Lowhee. This would maintain zero visual impact on publicly viewable landscapes, and confine all operations to recently previously disturbed landscapes.

Move the Concentrator to the south side of Cow Mountain.

The current proposal with amendments creates a scenario where 2.5 Km of roadway will be developed to move waste rock, most of it elevated, and also directly adjacent to the west and south perimeter of the community.

The first 600 metres of road would truck rock from the Aurum to the CGQ site. The next 2 km will be trucking waste rock from the concentrator to the Bonanza ledge via the B road on Barkerville Mountain. This 2 km of elevated industrial traffic shifting gears as it travels uphill, over the nose of the concentrator site, then parallel to Lowhee Creek along a residential area, over Lowhee creek and then turning 90 degrees to climb above the next residential area on the B road which is all exposed to Wells until its intersection with the A road on the way to Bonanza. This will require significant gearing up and down as they negotiate the mountain terrain, and the whole 2.5 km is inside a bowl that projects directly into Wells until the B road intersects with the A road. (see route on map)

This whole route should be abandoned in favour of a conveyor, and ideally, moving the mine portal to location C on the attached Map.

Besides the noise from truck traffic, there will be a significant carbon footprint from the burning of fossil fuels using truck transportation, over a conveyor, and besides the ore trucks, the 10 m snowfall will require significant additional snow clearing and sanding equipment, road maintenance and expense. All of this will result in lower safety, as trucks will have to be managed to avoid meeting on the hillsides, will create a biohazard at a sensitive river crossings and there will be an elevated risk of accidents.

These problems would evaporate in the case of conveyor transport. Covered conveyor can operate year round, require no investment in trucks, or road maintenance, have a lower environmental footprint on the landscape, could utilize the proposed 3 phase power, instead of diesel, will be quieter, and require

less manpower.

Portal advantages

So long as BGM proposes to store rock either above ground or underground at the Bonanza Ledge, the logical location for an adit is actually on the south side of Cow Mountain at the area marked C on the attached map.

Moving the portal to area C would put the mine on a previously disturbed site, on similar terrain to Wells, and, more importantly, shield mining activities from the townsite. The current mining operation at nearby Bonanza Ledge for instance, has almost zero light, noise or visual impact on the townsite, and locating the mine at the back slope of Cow Mountain would achieve a similar goal. In addition, the aspect of a site C mine provides better solar exposure than the currently proposed location in addition to being lower in elevation than the existing mine at Bonanza.

Waste Rock management will be one of the largest issues faced by BGM. Putting the adit on the south side of Cow Mountain would also provide a direct short straight conveyor shot for waste rock to be transported to the Bonanza site with zero impact on the community (except for potential spill exposures at the headwaters of Lowhee Creek. Even if trucking was favoured the upper portion of the C road (which goes through site C) is geologically stable, shorter transportation route, pre-existing and behind the existing near-surface adits that endanger other portions of that road.

Meanwhile, the ore concentrate could also exit the site on the pre-existing all-season haul road built for B Trains load already, by West Fraser Mills, and which exits to the hwy 5 km outside of Wells and which is also designed with thought to the visual quality objectives of the current Quesnel Highlands Land Use Plan. Such a proposal would continue to integrate the mine with the community but bypass all heavy industrial activity completely outside the confines of the community.

Relative to BGM's proposal to open two mine tunnels at once:

At a recent public meeting, BGM VP Chris Pharness suggested that tunnelling at both the Aurum and the CGQ for two years would be economic because it would bring the mine into production faster and yield returns sooner. This objective could also be met by drilling from both sides of Cow Mountain, and such a design would also achieve another positive goal. If a temporary tunnel was begun at the CGQ bench (point A) instead of the Aurum adit (point D), and a second tunnel was begun from the new concentrator site on the south side of Cow (Point C), then double the drilling effort would also be achieved and the tunnels could both join inside the Cow mountain gold deposit. Like the Aurum adit suggestion, this would also net a faster return on investment, while exponentially reducing the negative impacts on the community.

Having constructed the second adit at the CGQ site, if the existing industrial logging road over Cow Mountain was deemed seasonally unsuitable, (for instance because of 'breakup') then the Adit at CGQ could be used as a temporary, emergency, or seasonal exit to deliver ore that had been concentrated at the concentrator site at point C and then conveyed or underground transported to be loaded lakeside, at point A. This would avoid all rain and snow affected transportation uphill or downhill, while achieving significant environmental, greenhouse, and social mitigation. (A recent submission by West Fraser demonstrates that the 500 road will also require significant upgrades to sustain all season mine traffic, and seasonal or breakup transportation issues may also be limited anyway, by similar travel inhibitions and restrictions on the 500 road to QR.)

Combining these three concepts, becoming a utility or contracting with a utility manager, routing the

line up Peter's Creek and putting the concentrator on the south side of Cow Mountain would create a proposal that had a lower environmental footprint, increased revenue stream for investors, and higher acceptance by the communities affected. These ideas would integrate mining without negatively impacting the tourism values we've developed in Wells and Barkerville, while keeping the mine in proximity to the town for mutual benefit. If revenues from initially developing the Cow Mtn deposit instead of the Island Mountain deposit were lower, the difference will be off-set by the support such a development will receive, and the legacy revenue streams that Osisko shareholders would continue to reap, after mine end-of-life.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me. Dave Jorgenson 250-994-2345

Clarification on my recent email "Barkerville Gold EAO developments in Wells"

H

Historic Stays - Wells, BC <info@stayinwells.ca>

Tue 8/4/2020 6:05 PM

[?](#)

[?](#)

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Forward

[?](#)

More actions

To:

- chris pharness <Cpharness@barkervillegold.com>;
- Chief Administrative Officer;
- Gabe Fourchalk;
- Office Assistant

Cc:

- eaoinfo@gov.bc.ca;
- Katherine.StJames@gov.bc.ca;
- Community Feedback Office <feedback@barkervillegold.com>

To Mayor and Council of District of Wells,
Chris Pharness, Barkerville Gold,
Katherine St. James EAO British Columbia.

I have been asked to clarify my comments in my recent submission to you about BGM becoming an electrical utility company so they could sell power to other users.

While discussing with with VP Pharness of Barkerville Gold, the impacts of power line installations, and the opportunity to provide a legacy to the Cariboo region of British Columbia it appeared that the opportunity to work in a timely manner with BC Hydro was a non-starter. No doubt, facetiously, BGM VP Chris Pharness, asked or suggested something to the effect "...if I thought BGM should become a utility?"(so they could sell us power instead of BC hydro). Although we both laughed at the apparent absurdity of the idea at the time, I see that the humour came from what may be our mutual naivety about the nature of electrical production in BC.

Like most British Columbians, I thought that the crown corporation called BC Hydro was controlled by some nebulous utility commission and that was the end of that. We all get a bill from BC Hydro, and we pay it. However, Mine companies and their electrical power lines/generation are actually the reason we have a BC Utility Commission. In fact, the BCUC was created in the 50's specifically to regulate the safety of electrical generation built by private industry, (typically mines and their offshoot companies), and protect consumers and control electrical rates. BC hydro was just one private industrial company amongst many, and, as the largest, was simply expropriated by the Province in 1961. In British Columbia there are other successful independent power utility, West Kootenay Power may be the most famous, and built

by a mine, and there are still 5 other independent electrical utilities in BC that send bills to their customers. These are as diverse as in the urban center of New Westminster, and the small town of Grand Forks. These are all profitably run, industrial enterprises, controlled by the BCUC and independent of BC Hydro. In addition there are a wide variety of national and international companies that buy electrical assets from micro turbines to large dam complexes for electrical generation in BC and then buy and resell power to licensed utilities.

Chris Pharness has asked me to clarify that he did not 'raise the option of BGM becoming a utility'. Although I firmly believe that Chris' comment was clearly facetious at the time, it also shows that every idea can be the seed to a solution. In this case, it sparked the interest that demonstrates the fact that mining, electrical power grids, profit, and consumer electricity are ALREADY intimately and economically linked in BC. What seemed completely 'outside-the-box' in our meeting, has been proved to be a reasonable option. I hope it helps us to find creative solutions that are acceptable to BGM stockholders and protect the interests of Wells and all British Columbians. It's my desire that BGM, council and others also see this as an opportunity to add to what we all want to be a successful submission.

Dave Jorgenson,
Wells, BC

MIABC Voting Delegate

CC

Claudia Chan <cchan@miabc.org>
Tue 7/21/2020 4:00 PM

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To:

- Chief Administrative Officer

Hi Donna,

The Municipal Insurance Association of BC (MIABC) 33rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to take place on Monday September 21st from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This will be a virtual event held in conjunction with the UBCM Convention.

In accordance with Article 6.13 of the Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement, the following delegate and two alternates have been registered with the MIABC to vote your interests at this year's AGM. If you would like to change the delegate and/or two alternates, please forward a resolution of your Council/Board directing these changes to the MIABC by September 4th, 2020.

The AGM Booklet with further voting information will be distributed on August 21, 2020.

Voting Delegate: Mayor Robin Sharpe
Email address: rsharpe@netbistro.com

Alternate #1: Councillor Lorraine Kozar
Email address: admin1@wells.ca

Alternate #2: Councillor Birch Kuch
Email address: admin1@wells.ca

Regards,
Claudia Chan

☐Schedule a meetingSchedule a meeting

☐

Are the suggestions above helpful?YesNo

Council Resolution—District of Wells

Be it resolved that Council directs staff to apply for a grant opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program for XXXX in Wells.

Be it therefore resolved that the District of Wells commits to conducting the following activities in its proposed project submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Municipal Asset Management Program to advance our asset management program:

- XXXX
- XXXX
- XXXX

Be it further resolved that the District of Wells commits \$xxx from its budget toward the costs of this initiative.



July 21, 2019

UBCM Convention Committee
Suite 60-10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond BC V6X 2W9

Dear Convention Committee Members:

Re: Designated Time for Resolution Discussions

On behalf of our respective Board and Councils, we would like to express concerns regarding the lack of time designated for proper engagement in the discussion of resolutions at the annual UBCM convention. Understanding that this year's convention is being held virtually and under unprecedented circumstances, we are writing in reference to the planning of future conventions when we are once again able to meet in person.

We feel that the UBCM membership would be better served if the convention schedule could be changed to allow for two uninterrupted days to be set aside at the beginning of the convention to deal with resolutions. While the tours and other events are much enjoyed by convention attendees, they are secondary to the important and necessary business of the Annual General Meeting.

It has been noted that, at past conventions the membership has been forced to stifle discussion and debate of resolutions. We have also noted the increased use of voting on resolutions as a block. We are concerned that this has watered down the impact of our resolutions, allowing the Province to dismiss them as unimportant. We feel that we must ensure that our resolutions truly represent the will of the membership, and that they are duly debated and formatted before we can expect the Province to take them seriously.

We appreciate all that the Convention Committee does to organize the annual convention, and we thank you for taking the time to consider our concerns as you plan future conventions.

Chair Margo Wagner
Cariboo Regional District

Mayor Mitch Campsall
District of 100 Mile House

Mayor Walt Cobb
City of Williams Lake

Mayor Gabe Fourchalk
District of Wells

Mayor Bob Simpson
City of Quesnel



July 21, 2020

To: Mayor Fourchalk and Council

Re: Offer of support

Dear: Mayor Fourchalk and Council,

The B.C. Legislature returned for what will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the most historic sessions of parliament our province has ever seen. For the first time since being abruptly suspended because of the pandemic, MLAs from all corners of our province have come together -- some in-person and others virtually -- to tackle the daunting challenges of reopening our province and restarting our economy.

These are stressful times, and it is important for me to recognize the incredible work each of you are doing for our communities. I hope that you are staying healthy, and please, look after yourself.

If there is anything you would like me to raise in the house while it is sitting, do not hesitate to contact me.

I also want to offer all of you my support, both personally, and through my Cariboo North constituency office. Do not hesitate to contact us, if there is anything you need, we are here to help.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes,
MLA Cariboo North

Cariboo North Constituency Office

#401 - 410 Kinchant Street
Quesnel, B.C. V2J 7J5
T 250.991.0296 | F 250.992.5629
Coralee.Oakes.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Legislative Office

Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
www.coraleeoakesmla.ca



July 2, 2020

Ref: 255149

Dear Mayors and Regional District Chairs:

In this unprecedented time, I believe it is more important than ever that we continue to connect and work together. I have deeply appreciated our calls throughout the pandemic and hearing directly from you about how you are supporting your communities, and how we can support you. Your feedback has been invaluable and has informed our government's responses to COVID-19 as we all work together to keep the people of British Columbia safe.

While this year's UBCM Convention will be different in many ways, I am looking forward to the opportunity for all of us to come together and to spend time discussing the needs of your community.

I am writing to provide you with some initial information regarding the process for requesting a meeting with me during the UBCM Convention, taking place this year from September 22 to 24, 2020.

As the UBCM Convention for 2020 will be held in a virtual and abbreviated format, Provincial Government meetings will be held by conference call and will likely occur outside of the shortened program to allow delegates to fully focus and participate in the Convention.

You will receive a separate letter from the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, containing information about the online process for requesting a meeting with the Premier or other Cabinet Ministers.

If you would like to indicate your interest in meeting with me around Convention time, please complete the online request form at: [MAH Minister's Meeting](#) and submit it to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing before **August 4, 2020**. Meeting times and dates will be confirmed by early September. In the event that I am unable to meet with you, arrangements may be made for a meeting post-Convention.

To get the most out of your delegation's meeting with me, it continues to be helpful for you to provide as much detail as possible on the topic you wish to discuss in the online form. Providing this information in advance gives me a better understanding of your delegation's interests and helps us to make progress on delivering for the people of your community.

Regarding staff meetings, ministry staff will email you shortly with the Provincial Appointment Book. This document lists all government, agency, commission and corporation staff expected to be available to meet with delegates around Convention time, as well as details on how to submit an online staff meeting request.

.../2

This year's UBCM will be my fourth Convention as Minister responsible for local government, after four years attending as the opposition spokesperson for local government and four years of attending as a City Councillor, and I believe this will be the most important Convention yet. The pandemic has shown how important governments are in keeping people healthy and safe, and all of the work that local governments do for the benefit of British Columbians. As we move forward with restarting B.C., I am looking forward to hearing more about your communities and exploring ways we can continue to work together to make life better for British Columbians, now and for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Honourable John Horgan, Premier
Her Worship Mayor Maja Tait, President, Union of BC Municipalities



July 2, 2020

Dear Mayors and Regional District Chairs:

My caucus colleagues and I are looking forward to connecting with you all again at this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention, being held virtually from September 22-24.

UBCM provides a wonderful opportunity to listen to one another, share ideas, and find new approaches to ensure our communities thrive. With local, provincial, federal, and First Nations governments working together, we can continue to build a better BC.

If you would like to request a meeting with a Cabinet Minister or with me as part of the convention, please note that due to the abbreviated format this year, these meetings will likely be scheduled outside of the regular program dates. To make your request, please register online at <https://ubcmreg.gov.bc.ca/> (live, as of today). Please note that this year's invitation code is **MeetingRequest2020** and it is case sensitive. If you have any questions, please contact UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca or phone 250-213-3856.

I look forward to being part of your convention, meeting with many of you, and exploring ways that we can partner together to address common issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John J. Horgan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Horgan
Premier