

# Site C Clean Energy Project

## Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

*Meeting Summary*  
*March 17, 2021, 1:00 to 4:00 pm*  
*Conference Call*

<p><b>ATTENDEES</b></p> <p><i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i></p>	<p>Ranish Shakya, Blueberry River First Nations            Mayor Allan Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd            Mayor Dave Heiberg, District of Hudson's Hope            Mokles Rahman, CAO, District of Hudson's Hope            Blair Lekstrom, CAO, City of Dawson Creek            Naomi McKinnon, McLeod Lake Indian Band            Director Karen Goodings, Area B, Peace River Regional District            Director Brad Sperling, Area C, Peace River Regional District            Director Dan Rose, Area E, Peace River Regional District            Chief Justin Napoleon, Sauteau First Nation            Councillor Ken Cameron, Sauteau First Nation            Mayor Rob Fraser, District of Taylor            Dave Conway, BC Hydro            Shanna Mason, BC Hydro            Nancy Pepper, BC Hydro            Chris Waite, BC Hydro            Matt Drown, BC Hydro            Kate O'Neil, BC Hydro            Wendy Laluk, BC Hydro            Molly Brewis, BC Hydro            Greg Scarborough, BC Hydro            Karen Von Muehldorfer, BC Hydro</p>
<p><b>ABSENT WITH REGRET</b></p>	<p>Carol Newsom, CAO, District of Chetwynd            Mayor Dale Bumstead, City of Dawson Creek            Jennifer McCracken, Doig River First Nation            Milo McDonald, CAO, City of Fort St. John            Stephanie Rocheleau, Land &amp; Stewardship Director, McLeod Lake Indian Band            MLA Dan Davies, Peace River North            Tamara Wilkinson, MLA Assistant, for MLA Dan Davies            Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South            Terri Paulovich, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South            Director Leonard Hiebert, Area D, Peace River Regional District            Mayor Lorraine Michetti, Pouce Coupe</p>

	Christopher Leggett, CAO, Pouce Coupe Tyla Pennell, Acting CAO, District of Taylor Mayor Lori Ackerman, City of Fort St. John Mayor Keith Bertrand, District of Tumbler Ridge Jennifer Thomas, CAO, District of Tumbler Ridge
<b>INVITED GUESTS</b>	
<b>ATTENDED</b>	Troy Van Bostelen, AFDE Jim Morgan, ATCO Jamie Bodnarchuk, PRHP
<b>ABSENT WITH REGRET</b>	Danny Fortin, Voith Cory Cooper, PRHP Brian Hussein, ATCO Erica Hitzroth, PRHP Craig Cornell, PRHP Stephane Giroux, Voith Sebastien Setticasi, Voith Adrianna DaCosta, MoTI

**Documents Distributed (on March 16, 2021)**

RCLC Meeting Agenda  
RCLC Presentation Slides  
RCLC Action item log  
RCLC November, December and January Workforce Report  
RCLC Q4 Business Report  
RCLC Enquiries & FAQs Report November, December, January  
RCLC November 25 Meeting Notes  
Site C Indigenous Traditional Use Fund

**Opening / Welcome / Agenda**

- a) Dave welcomed all attendees.
- b) Acknowledgement of Indigenous Treaty 8 traditional territories.

**Review of Agenda & Action Items**

- a) Dave reviewed agenda and action items.
  - a. Karen Goodings – Several meetings ago Karen requested that BC Hydro send out the quarterly BCUC reports and it doesn't seem to be happening.
    - i. Dave Conway confirmed that item 2019-031 is on the action log. Dave will send out links to reports as they are available however the last report was

posted August 3, 2020. Dave confirmed that a report will be released in the next few days and he will send the link out to the report.

- b. Director Sperling – regarding item 2018-001 regarding 85<sup>th</sup> Ave lands. Is a response from MOTI still pending? Is there further information on this?
  - i. Nancy – MoTI advised last year that they were working on a study related to this question they expected to discuss this directly with the PRRD in fall 2020. BC Hydro will follow-up with MoTI about the timing of this report and a discussion with the PRRD.

**Action:**

- 1. Item 2019-031 regarding BC Hydro sending BCUC report links when they are posted to be moved to the top of the on-going list for ease of reference.

**Site C COVID-19 Update**

Shanna Mason provided a Site C COVID-19 Update

- a. There have been two positive cases in March the count currently sits at 51 COVID-19 cases since the start of the pandemic. There were 12 positive cases in January and 4 in February so BC Hydro is definitely on a downward trend. BC Hydro continues to manage COVID protocols such as social distancing, enhanced hygiene as well as PPE to protect workers. BC Hydro's pre-screening program also prevents workers from traveling to BC if they are ill.
- b. Dr. Bonnie Henry recently held a press conference explaining that vaccines will be targeted at specific employers for Phase 3 rollout. Its still in the early stages and there are limited details, but Site C is very fortunate to have the ISOS Medical Clinic on site and they are able to do this for us. Plans are well underway by BC Hydro and the Clinic so that everyone is fully prepared when the vaccines arrive.
- c. Shanna confirmed that BC Hydro did not lobby or request vaccines, this decision was made by Northern Health.
  - i. Chair Sperling asked if out of province workers would also be vaccinated.
    - a) Shanna confirmed that all employees would be eligible, and more details would be coming soon.
  - ii. Director Rose stated that the vaccine is a little controversial and he's wondering who will explain why some areas are not getting a vaccine while industry is provided access.
    - a) Shanna confirmed that BC Hydro is cautious at this time when speaking about the vaccine. It is important that Northern Health or BCCDC speak to the reasons for specific employers being selected for the vaccine. BC Hydro can speak to the logistics however the health authority will need to take the lead on the rationale.

## BC Hydro Project Update

### Dam On-site Construction Update

Chris Waite provided updates on on-site construction activities (slides 2-

- a) Chris reviewed a photo of site and briefly reoriented everyone as well as provided an overview of the main civil work activities.
- b) In February PRHP was able to complete the work on both the upstream and downstream coffer dams to get a water tight seal to allow dewatering to be done.
- c) Excavation work is underway now that the area has been dewatered.
- d) The water trapped between the two coffer dams contained a variety of fish. During the watering process it was vital to ensure all areas of remaining water were joined to eventually get a single area of water. This allowed the fish to be concentrated. It was very sensitive work.
- e) Fish salvage began by the environmental team. Over 400 fish were relocated downstream by collecting them and trucking them to the Peace River.
- f) Bar Island, which is located just downstream of construction bridge, has had over 300,000 cubic meters of material excavated from it and looks very different today.
- g) Work continues on the approach channel. When the dam is complete water will be traveling around the dam structure into the approach channel to the intakes which are concrete structures. Extensive excavations are underway to complete the approach channel to get it down to the grade required.
- h) The dam buttress on the right bank (south bank) is being prepared for fill placement this spring.
- i) Work is advancing well on the powerhouse, penstocks, intakes and spillway. The powerhouse building is now closed in over unit 3 and steel has been placed on units four and five. Unit one penstock is in place and joined, penstocks are in place for unit two with welding yet to be done. Units three, five and six are all advancing well. Intakes and penstocks are coming along very well and are 50% complete. Unit one is largely complete with number three close to finished.
- j) All penstock fabrication at the off-site shop is now complete. All pieces are awaiting delivery and installation
- k) Right Bank Stability Enhancements: During the construction of the powerhouse and spillway buttresses BC Hydro installed sensitive instruments to monitor the bedrock foundation below the buttresses to look for small movements, this is best practice when building dams or large facilities. The monitoring identified some small movements along a bedding plane located below the bottom of the concrete buttresses and the sheer key. The sheer key was meant to intercept the bedding plane which was the deepest bedding plane however instrumentation found a deeper bedding plane. There was concern there could be more movement once the reservoir was filled as it would create added pressure. BC Hydro has identified a two-part solution to improve the stability of the right bank structures. The first is to extend the foundation deeper into the rock. This is will involve installing 125 piles each approximately 2.5 meters in diameter. These piles will be installed 15-25 meters into the bedrock to intercept the second deeper bedding plane.

This solution will minimize movement even under extreme loading. The second step to the solution is to improve the water tightness of the approach channel. Improvements will be made to the liner for water tightness as well as some additional measures to reduce the chance of water buildup in the rock which may include additional drainage. Two international experts reviewed these solutions and agree that this approach will ensure that the right bank structure will be safe and reliable for the operating life of the Site C project.

- l) Director Gooding: has a number of questions she will submit to Dave Conway for a response in respect of everyone's time. Is this bedrock? This is a big question for many people as there are reports such as the Milburn report that suggests otherwise.
  - a. Chris Waite confirmed that it is bedrock and it does contain bedding planes which are areas where the bedrock can slip against another mass of bedrock. Once Director Goodings submits the list of questions they will be answered by our engineers. BC Hydro will look to have a geotechnical engineer present at the next RCLC meeting.
  - b. Mayor Fraser would like to know if he could see a plan or aerial view that would show the location of piles in relationship to the powerhouse. That would be helpful to explain to others.
    - i. BC Hydro will look to get that information.

**Action:**

- 1. Director Gooding to submit questions to Dave Conway.
- 2. Mayor Fraser requested an aerial drawing to show where the pilings will be placed.

**Dam Off-site Construction Update**

Matt Drown introduced himself and provided updates on dam off-site construction.

- a. Transmission foundation work wrapped up in January with 3800 helical piles installed as foundations for 395 of 405 towers.
- b. Matt reviewed the various types of towers that were installed for both transmission lines. Stringing will start this summer to complete this portion of the project.
- c. Highway alignment at Cache Creek west was finished last summer. Cache Creek east is underway now. Farrell Creek east began in February. As of today, Cache Creek east, Halfway River, Farrell Creek east, Farrell Creek, Dry Creek and Lynx Creek are all under construction. All segments will be complete by 2023.
- d. Matt provided detailed updates of all the active highway projects using photos to explain the most recent activity. Many of the highway realignments will provide a safer route with less turns and corners.
- e. The Hudson's Hope berm is underway with work on the toe berm started first. The rock is being placed in the river, once that is complete rip-rap will be brought in to bring the berm up to design height. The toe berm is approximately 50% complete.
- f. There were three work fronts this winter for reservoir clearing. Two of the work fronts are complete and the contractors are now demobilizing. The last contractor will be finishing up at the end of March. Next winter two work fronts planned.
  - a. Mayor Courtoreille asked if these projects were affected by COVID-19
    - i. Matt confirmed that there were no delays on these projects as the outdoor work is spread out and many workers are solitary running large machines.

**Action:** N/A

## **EAC Amendments Update**

Karen Von Muehldorfer provided an update.

- a) BC Hydro is currently working on two environmental assessment certificate amendment requests. The first is the 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue and a request to haul till materials to the dam site in case the conveyor breaks down for reasons beyond BC Hydro's control. BC Hydro submitted our final Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) amendment request to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) yesterday. This was shared with the PRRD and the City of Fort St. John as well as Indigenous groups.
- b) BC Hydro is asking for this amendment as a contingency in case the conveyor breaks down for reasons beyond BC Hydro's control. About three million cubic meters of till materials will be moved to the dam site area for construction of the approach channel and the earth filled dam. This material cannot be transported during the cold months when its frozen; it must be moved during the warmer months between April and October of each year. Any stoppages in hauling during this short window could result in significant construction delays. It is important that there is an option to haul by truck as backup plan.. The plan is to use the conveyor as much as possible: it is expected to work and function but a back up plan is needed. Haul trucks are expensive, and our first choice will be to use the conveyor.
- c) In the draft Amendment, hauling was proposed for 10 days per season for maintenance or potentially for longer periods should the conveyor break down. In the draft EAC Amendment the route for contingency hauling travelled down Old Fort Road to the 240 Road then on to the 269 Road to Gate A. After sharing the draft Amendment, constructive feedback was received from stakeholders and local residents who expressed concern about noise, air quality, traffic and safety. BC Hydro reviewed the draft Amendment request and all suggestions were considered. The final EAC Amendment request outlines the mitigation measures that will be implemented during hauling which addresses specific measures to reduce noise and dust including covering trucks, keeping pavement clean, ensuring vehicles are in good working order and using dust suppression. For safety it is important to adhere to all MOTI and provincial legislation for using highway trucks on public roads and we will be required to implement a traffic management plan to address safety requirements. A communications plan was included which describes notification methods to advise local residents and the public about hauling activities.
- d) Another change in the final EAC Amendment request is the haul route. The proposed haul route will now go from 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue down Old Fort Road straight down to Gate B allowing trucks to place material at the needed location at the dam site. This route has less directly impacted residents. The Old Fort Road was widened in 2017 and this route is also suited to accommodate haul trucks.
- e) BC Hydro has changed the application so that hauling would not take place during planned maintenance. Instead hauling would only occur when the conveyor is not operational due to events beyond BC Hydro's control. If the conveyor is expected to be down for more than three days due to unforeseen reasons, then hauling would be required. These reasons could include vandalism, extreme and prolonged extreme weather, supply chain interruptions, localized fires, Force Majeure or acts of God.
- f) The changes were submitted yesterday. BC Hydro has been advised that if the EAC Amendment request is accepted for review they will be convening an EAC technical advisory committee and providing opportunities for public comment during the review. BC Hydro will keep the committee informed of this process and the EAO will also be reaching out.

- a. Karen Goodings I understand that the revised route will not affect as many people. Has BC Hydro spoken to the residents who will be affected under the revised plan?
  - i. Shanna explained that the community relations team did go door to door to hand deliver a letter and spoke to a number of residents and will be doing the same thing along the new haul route.
  - ii. Dave added that notifications will extend to those affected further down such as the Old Fort. Materials will be distributed through mail, email or by hand if needed.
- g) Nancy provided information on the Halfway East Boat Launch EAC amendment. The proposed boat launch at Halfway East will replace the existing boat launch at Halfway River and support boat access. The design will include a double-wide boat ramp, parking lot, day use area and outhouse.
- h) The goal during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process was to replace each boat ramp with a similar one in the same general area. This boat ramp was originally planned next to the highway alignment at Cache Creek. Since that section of realignment has been changed BC Hydro had to examine alternative locations.
- i) A draft EAC amendment package is being finalized that will allow review and comment. BC Hydro has also reached out to the North Peace River Rats as they represent many boaters in the area and are a great source of information.
- j) BC Hydro will be looking forward to feedback on the draft amendment and will be working through the EAC process. The draft will lay out the pros and cons that were looked at each location and why this location was chosen. The new location is very close to the existing location. Drafts will go out early next week with a mid-April target for feedback.
  - a. Director Sperling asked what is the reason for moving this launch and what is the difference in mileage from FSJ?
    - i. The new location is closer to Fort St. John and the reason for moving the launch is due to the change in the highway realignment in that area as access would be needed for the new highway alignment.

**Action:** N/A

### **Air Quality Monitoring and Public Complaint Response**

Molly Brewis and Lindsay Routledge.

- a) BC Hydro has a network of five air quality monitoring stations from Hudson's Hope to Taylor. Several have been in place since 2010. These fixed air quality monitoring stations are required by the Environmental Assessment Certificate Conditions. BC Hydro has engaged consulting firm RWDI who provides a local technician that runs the stations and ensures data quality.
- b) Molly provided information on the size and types of particulates that the instrumentation collects. Measurements are focused on smaller particles as those can affect human health. BC Hydro's automated alerting system will notify BC Hydro and contractors of an air quality alert, this will be followed up with another email when the air quality alert is over. There are various mitigation measures that BC Hydro contractors take such as hydroseeding, dust suppressants and load inspections.
- c) BC Hydro has a memorandum of understanding with the provincial government and shares all of the data collected at our stations with them in near real time. Those interested can type "northeast air zone" in google and find an interactive map or listing of stations. Molly walked through the website to familiarize the committee with the

information available. Near real time data can be viewed with an approximate one-hour delay.

- d) BC Hydro is developing an information sheet that will be posted on the Site C website and distributed to committee members to help explain air quality readings.
- e) Site C is just one of many contributors to air quality in the Peace Region. The BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Northern Health decide when an air quality advisory is required.
- f) BC Hydro is also supplementing our fixed air quality stations with mobile monitoring units to gather more data in areas of concern. These would be used in response to public enquiries.
- g) Lindsay provided details on public responses to air quality concerns. When an air quality enquiry is received the community relations team gathers as much information as possible such as what is being experienced, time of day, weather conditions and requests photos or video if available. The information is gathered, shared with the construction team and investigated this typically includes site visits by the community relations team, environmental experts or other subject matter experts as required. Data is analyzed from the monitoring stations and additional monitoring stations may be installed to provide data required. Once the investigation is complete and input is received by subject matter experts the construction management team ultimately decides on a resolution. It is important to note that not all enquiries result in mitigation however all concerns are investigated. Community relations will respond to the resident with the results of the investigation and record the enquiry in the enquiry data base.
  - a. Mayor Fraser commented that BC Hydro is concerned about the 24-hour time weighted average mentioned. He cautions BC Hydro to not minimize spikes in air quality as they could affect those with health concerns or sensitivity. Mayor Fraser would like to see a report on air quality monitoring for each of the RCLC meetings, this does not have to be an agenda item. Mayor Fraser asked why BC Hydro chose 90% of the provincial air quality objective as the threshold for internal alert emails. Industry standard is normally 50%. Mayor Fraser would like to arrange a meeting with BC Hydro to better understand the process.
    - i. Molly confirmed that the expectation is for contractors to apply mitigations continually , such that these limits aren't approached. A lower threshold would send out more internal alerts and perhaps make the alerts less valuable. There is another set of internal alerts that are at a lower level around smaller particulates that relate to burning. This allows us to alert the contractor quickly. Public air quality alerts are sent out by Northern Health.
  - b. Mayor Heiberg asked how often Northern Health reviews air quality data from the Site C monitoring stations. A contact name for Northern Health would be helpful to ensure they are advised of public concerns.
    - i. Molly confirms that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy contacts BC Hydro within a matter of hours if there are concerns about data or lack of data coming in. Northern Health works with the Ministry to determine when an air quality advisory should be issued.
    - ii. Shanna mentioned that BC Hydro has formed relationships with several residents that are known to have a hypersensitivity to air quality. When an air quality concern arises BC Hydro has reached out to these residents to see what they are experiencing at the time and to accommodate them when possible.

**Action:**

1. Dave Conway to arrange a meeting with Mayor Fraser and Molly Brewis to further discuss the air quality monitoring and alert process.
2. BC Hydro to get a clarification of how the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Northern Health work together to issue an air quality advisory as well as provide a contact name.

**Long Term Regional Benefits**

Nancy Pepper provided an overview of benefits from the Site C Project.

- a) It was requested at the fall meeting to revisit the comprehensive list of long-term benefits from the project. Some mitigation efforts have resulted in long-term benefits after construction is complete. During the Environmental Assessment in 2011 some of the regional mitigation were assessed when the region was experiencing high economic growth and there were real concerns of where Site C would find workers to construct the dam and negative impacts from additional population growth.
- b) The legacy benefit agreement was signed in 2013 with \$2.4 million paid annually, once the Site C Project begins generating electricity, for 70 years, indexed to inflation, the fund is distributed through the PRRD. This is separate from mitigation measures..
- c) Grants-In-Lieu-of-Taxes during operation. \$1.3 million (in 2012 dollars) is anticipated to be paid to local governments for the generating station and \$800,000 for school taxes for transmission assets based on current provincial policy.
- d) Many social mitigation measures were created based on the expectation that the Site C workforce would exceed the planned population growth however lower population growth has been experienced to date making some mitigation a benefit instead.
- e) The BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation fund of \$20 million established capital and allows the fund to operate on the interest that is generated by the \$20 million. After five years a review will take place to review the future of the fund.
- f) Examples of mitigation which also provides long-term benefits to the region includes a 50 unit BC Housing affordable housing building, the creation of a daycare with School District 60, \$1 million to Northern Lights College for student bursaries, \$100,000 to North East Native Advancing Society to support trades training, serviced long stay RV sites at Peace Island Park, Hwy 29 lighting improvements in Taylor, gravel roads around the dam site were paved, and improved recreation sites along the reservoir.

**Action:** N/A

**Job and Business Update**

Kate O'Neil presented the business update.

- a) The January workforce numbers reflect the Provincial Health Officer order for large-scale industrial camps to gradually increase activities.
- b) There was a total of 3,852 workers in January 2021, 2,862 from BC (74%) and a total of 797 workers from PRRD (25%), which is a decrease of 83 workers from December.
- c) The number of apprentices dropped to 100 (11%)
- d) There were 281 indigenous works in January which is a drop from December however the percentage remains at 9%.
- e) 434 women were working in January which is a decrease of 28 from December however the percentage increased to 14%.
- f) The annual job trend shows the effect of the pandemic as workforce numbers went from 4,896 down to 3,029 in April however by October of 2020 number were up as high as 5,181 the effects of the provincial health order can be seen in December of 2020.

- g) Q4 business participation has increased to 757 which is up from 702 during Q3. Many local communities saw an increase in business participation.
  - a. Blair Lekstrom and Karen Goodings asked for details on how the numbers are determined for the business report.
    - 1) BC Hydro confirmed that Site C directs businesses to sign up for the business directly which is then provided to Site C contractors. The business directory list is created from accounts payable lists from BC Hydro and prime contractors. The list is started from scratch each quarter and only companies who were paid during Q4 were counted.

**Action:** N/A

### **Contractor Updates**

#### **Jim Morgan - ATCO**

- a) ATCO confirms that their commitment local businesses is strong and they form a very large portion of overall vendors. ATCO uses approximately 60 local vendors from the Fort St. John area.
- b) ATCO continues to work closely with Northern Health and BC Hydro to ensure the health and safety of workers regarding COVID-19 protocols. A reintroduction of amenities has begun to aid in the health and wellness of employees. Northern Health recently provided guidance opening up the gym at the camp.
- c) ATCO continues to draw from local resources to fill employment openings. In the last two weeks six new workers were recruited locally.
- d) ATCO is working closely with the Salvation Army with their food donation program. There will be an announcement soon. They have been working with the City of Fort St. John to help procure the van needed to transport the food. ATCO is proud to announce that they have reached a milestone by diverting 50,000 pounds of food from the landfill and put back in the community for use.

#### **Jamie Bodnarchuk PRHP**

- a) PRHP has a similar approach to procurement as ATCO by being fairly active in the local community, business reports are submitted monthly to BC Hydro.
- b) The PRHP community investment program is very active and provided aid to 35-45 local charities through the Peace region each year. For the holiday campaign PRHP gave away \$90,000 to 36 local charities. The target is to do it again this year. One of the initiatives this spring is to support the SPARK Conference as a key note sponsor. PRHP will support and provide the keynote speech at the youth conference in Fort St. John organized by the Youth Advisory Council and the City of Fort St. John. Scholarships created by PRHP last year are looking to pay out to the first student recipient this spring. The best part of the PRHP program is that it is funded by the recycling program on site. Recycling is done through local vendors and PRHP recycled tonnes of metal, scrap, debris, trim as well as pop cans and bottles. Keeping these materials out of the landfill literally turns trash into treasure.
- c) PRHP is still accepting community investment applications this year so please encourage organizations in need apply to [www.prhp.ca](http://www.prhp.ca). The questionnaire can be found in the community section.

#### **Troy - AFDE**

- a) AFDE was impacted by the restart and arranged to keep staff who live in Fort St. John working from home to limit interactions with the community.
- b) AFDE is always looking for local involvement for procurement. Please encourage businesses to visit the AFDE website which is quite active. AFDE is often contacted regarding work that is not in AFDE's scope and connections are made by AFDE to connect local businesses with the appropriate contractor.

## **Roundtable**

A roundtable update occurred from the local community representatives:

- a) Rahman Mokles confirmed that neither he or Mayor Heiberg had any comments.
- b) Mayor Courtoreille commented that anytime the vaccine can get out to people in the community is fantastic to build herd immunity. Chetwynd has done well through the pandemic. Regarding the geotechnical issues, BC Hydro should be working with downstream communities for safety issues. Chetwynd doesn't seem to have concerns about air quality issues from the Site C Project, however for those communities affected by air quality concerns Mayor Courtoreille confirmed the issue is very important to them. Thanks to BC Hydro for providing all this information.
- c) Chief Napoleon confirmed that vaccines arrived, and residents were open to receiving it. The community is looking for a down turn now in infection rates now that the vaccine is out.
- d) Councillor Ken Cameron thanked BC Hydro for all the information today.
- e) Ranish Shakya also thanked BC Hydro.
- f) Director Goodings had nothing further to add.
- g) Mayor Fraser thanked BC Hydro for the burning notifications and feels lucky that there is little impact to Taylor. A new CAO, Moira Green begins March 31 and many members will be familiar with Moira. Andy Tyloski started as the new Peace Island Park manager. Mayor Fraser is interested in the EAC amendment for hauling and asked to be put on any distribution lists to ensure he is prepared for the EAC review.
  - 1. Shanna asked Mayor Fraser if it would make sense to review the stage 2 coffer dam emergency response planning guide with the new operator.
    - i. Mayor Fraser confirmed that it would be a good idea for BC Hydro to reach out to him.
- h) Chair Sperling asked about an application that came to the board from BC Hydro, Ducks Unlimited and a land owner to build or expand a wetland. There is another one down the Old Fort Road on BC Hydro property. What is the acreage of wetlands that Hydro has to replace and where are they going?
  - 1. Shanna explained that 550 hectares of wetlands are affected. What is different about the Site C project is that BC Hydro has been asked to replace the function of the wetlands which is quite complicated. Work was done with the vegetation and wildlife technical committee to assess the functionality of the impacted wetlands as we impact them. This involves studying the animals and species that use the wetlands and for what purpose and whether they are considered low, moderate or high production wetlands for those species. There are approximately eight different types of wetlands. BC Hydro then looks to see if they can be recreated elsewhere. If they can be recreated with a more efficient wetland then perhaps a smaller footprint could be used. The same wetland can be rated differently for each species. BC Hydro has replaced 50 hectares with the wetlands at Golata Creek. A presentation will be scheduled for RCLC at a future meeting.

- i) Chair Sperling would like to know where to find this information if comments are expected. Wetlands are important and an informed decision is needed.
  - 1. Dave will check to see if a presentation could be given to RCLC or to the Board.
  - 2. Shanna commented that it would make sense to have Ducks Unlimited present to the board for each application as they will be unique. BC Hydro will provide a more detailed overview of wetlands at a future meeting.
- j) Naomi introduced herself as the BC Hydro liaison for McLeod Lake Indian Band. She was disappointed that an application to the Peace Agriculture Fund was declined due to the location. The band has a few exciting projects that would be wonderful to see start up.
  - 1. Nancy will reach out to Naomi to find out details of the projects and if they are within the area of the Fund.
- k) Blair Lekstrom – thanked BC Hydro for all the information.
- l) Shanna confirmed that a news release just arrived from Northern Health regarding vaccines for large industrial camps. The expectation is that over the next 48 hours BC Hydro will be working with Northern Health to determine how much vaccine will arrive and when. Site wide notifications will go out to both onsite and offsite workers, giving instructions for access to the vaccine.

**Action:**

- 1. Mayor Fraser is interested in the EAC amendment for hauling and asked to be put on any distribution lists to ensure he is prepared for the EAC review.
- 2. BC Hydro to contact Taylor to organize a meeting with the new Peace Island Park manager to review emergency response plans.
- 3. BC Hydro will reach out to McLeod Lake regarding their interest in applying to the Agricultural Fund.
- 4. Dave to arrange a presentation about wetlands at a future meeting.

**Next Steps**

- a) The next RCLC meeting is proposed for June 2<sup>th</sup> or June 9. No concerns were raised for either date.

**Action:** Wendy to send out a poll for the next meeting dates.

Dave thanked everyone for their time and patience as the meeting ran longer than expected.

RCLC meeting ended 3.57 pm