



---

## COUNCIL TO COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Meeting Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

“The Ridge” – Council Chambers

4936 Barriere Town Road

### In attendance:

Barriere: Mayor Ward Stamer, Councillors Scott Kershaw, Rob Kerslake, Donna Kibble and Louise Lodge, CAO Bob Payette and CO Tasha Buchanan.

Simpco: Councillors Alison Green, Amanda Celesta, Ron Lampreau Jr., Larry Lampreau and Tina Donald, Band Administrator Rhonda Kershaw and Executive Assistant Janice Phillip.

### Opening Prayer

### Welcome by Mayor Stamer

### Community Updates

Barriere – Mayor Stamer provided a summary of the following:

- The District received a grant from the Province to renovate the old HY Louie Building that is currently being dubbed “The Flume Business Centre” which will be the new home of the Barriere Chamber of Commerce and other leased office space.
- Barriere’s Winter Road Maintenance contract with Borrow Enterprises has been extended another year.
- Thankful that Chief Lampreau made the trip to UBCM and noted that ‘a lot of heads were turned’. He was proud of the display of partnership and camaraderie between our communities.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure meeting went well with the following items communicated to the Minister: rumble strip installation, addition of lighting on problem corners, road widening, increase of enforcement, detour communication and winter road maintenance.

Councillor Tina suggested that flashing signs be added to wildlife prone areas such as ‘Pigs Corner’. Mayor Stamer will communicate this suggestion to MOTI

- The District’s Commercial Truck Dash Cam resolution was passed unanimously and is looking forward to the Province’s response.

- Met with Ministry of Forests staff regarding Wildfire Mitigation. It was noted that there may be some upcoming opportunities for First Nations regarding burnt fiber.

Councillor Tina and Ron noted that there has been some discussion at their table regarding selective logging as a preventative measure and there are plans to discuss with area licencees for collaboration on this.

- Minister Kang seemed very interested on the joint Crown Land Tenure application between our communities.

Barriere – Councillor Lodge provided a summary of the following:

- On behalf the Barriere Rec Committee, a ‘thank-you’ was extended to Simpcw for their involvement and support of the recent ParticipACTION Community Challenge.
- Along with Council, the Committee is exploring options for the winning funds of \$15,000 which so far includes the purchase of sound equipment for the Bandshell that both communities can make use of.
- Working with the Chamber of Commerce on a Digital Destination Magazine for the Valley and hopes that Simpcw will contribute to the publication with history, story-telling and area knowledge. This project was made possible through a grant.

Rhonda Kershaw noted that the new Tourism Committee will discuss the project going forward.

Simpcw – Councillor Tina Donald provided a summary of the following:

- Holds the portfolios of Emergency Management and Tourism as well as is the Fisheries Manager.
- Neqweyqwelsten School is celebrating 40 years of existence.
- In addition, the Dunn Lake Hatchery is also celebrating 40 years and this year is the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Coho Day.
- This year marks the 17<sup>th</sup> of providing sturgeon education in the Valley.
- Upgrades to the Hatchery are planned and is considering a switch from Coho to Chinook. This will be dependent on funding for a cooler water source.
- Bolder Creek sediment cleaning is underway.

Simpcw – Councillor Amanda provided a summary of the following:

- Holds the Health, Language and Culture portfolios.
- ‘Simpcw Days’ was an amazing success.
- A Celebration of Life is planned next month to honor those lost during the Covid pandemic.
- The second year of “Calling Children Home” ceremony is going to take place in Jasper this year.
- Is grateful to have Louise Lodge employed as their Youth Worker in Chu Chua.
- A new Land-Use Plan has been passed
- In partnership with Parks BC, a storyboard has been placed on Mount Robson outlining the peoples of Simpcw’s history and heritage as caretakers of the land.

Simpcw – Councillor Alison provided a summary of the following:

- Last year an agreement was signed with the Ministry of Children & Family Services.
- Next year’s Simpcw Days takes place in Jasper from Oct. 19-22, 2024
- An MOU has been signed with Community Living BC which helps fund services for adult First Nations with intellectual disabilities.
- The new Tourism Committee’s first meeting is scheduled this week.

Simpcw – Councillor Ron provided a summary of the following:

- Holds the Emergency Management portfolio.
- Chu Chua’s Rapid Attack team was pulled off of the fires yesterday after a two-month deployment.
- Active researching is underway to enhance their water system in order to support fire suppression tools.
- A local boat launch, either in Barriere or Chu Chua, for the use of both Simpcw’s Emergency response and the Barriere Search & Rescue teams is something he would like both communities to explore.
- The Dunn Lake Road project is close to its end. Paving should be starting soon.

Simpcw – Councillor Larry \*due to online Mic not working, Rhonda provided the following summary on his behalf:

- Holds Forestry Division and Housing portfolios
- Excited to announce that 15 new homes will be coming online in Chu Chua in February.

Councillor Tina requested that the District communicate to Borrow Enterprises to not dispose of cleared snow off of the Barriere Town Road bridge into the river. Mayor Stamer noted agreement.

Councillor Tina asked if there was still an opportunity for Simpcw to contribute to the Welcome Arch. Mayor Stamer reported that that was always the intention and that it was only erected beforehand due to a rush to have it in place in time for the Fall Fair. District staff will reach out to the Band Office to make arrangements.

**Next meeting:** January 2024 – exact date to be determined.

**Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

---

NOTES TAKEN FOR JOINT MEETING OF THE COUNCILS

Simpcw First Nation

District of Barriere

September 26, 2023

*-T.Buchanan, Corporate Officer*

*District of Barriere*