

District of Barriere

# REPORT TO COUNCIL

<b>Date:</b> April 14, 2025	
<b>To:</b> Council	<b>From:</b> Department Heads
<b>Re: Departmental Updates</b>	

## **CORPORATE OFFICER:**

### **General:**

- Participated in a review of updates to the administration of the District's website.
- Coordinated with the artist completing Council's gift to Simpcw commemorating the two organization's MOU signing.
- Procured and assembled six Easter Basket gift baskets that were generously funded by the Barriere Legion Ladies Auxiliary in preparation for next weekend's Community Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Lions Club.
- At the request of a Barriere Senior Secondary School Science Teacher, provided an education session to the Grade 11 Science class about the District's solid waste & recycling program, including information about the journey that Barriere's waste takes once it leaves someone's home or business.

## **PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER:**

### **Roads:**

- Load Restrictions on all District roads have been rescinded.
- Bulk sweeping has been completed. Commercial sweeper is scheduled to be here after Easter weekend.
- Dixon Creek Road ditching was completed in-house.
- Dixon Creek and Bandshell roads were recently graded by ARGO.
- Barriere River bridge deck and sidewalk washed by Fire Department.

### **Parks:**

- Staff are reducing brush pile accumulation from tree pruning and park cleanup by burning on good venting index days.
- Annual flowers have been started in the greenhouse at SAWRC.
- All ball fields have been aerated.
- Water to KP washrooms and Community Garden is now on.
- Fire Department attempted a controlled burn behind SAWRC to reduce invasive plants and Firesmart the field.

### **Environmental Services:**

- Staff will be purchasing 6 used dumpsters from a Kamloops firm. Working out logistics for pick-up and delivery.

### **Utilities:**

- The water leak identified on the property of Community Forest on Gilbert Drive has been repaired.
- Watermain flushing throughout town is underway and should be completed by April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Water consumption is hovering around 1000 m3/day.

### **Facilities:**

- Business Centre Unit #4 renovations – drywalling has commenced.

## **FIRE CHIEF:**

### **Fire Department:**

- Calls: Medical Assist, Burning Complaint, Grass Fire (Out of Boundary)
- Training: Bridge Washing, NFPA 1001 (Exterior and Interior)
- 3 members assisted Chu Chua Fire and BCWS with a Prescribed Burn
- Attended the NG-911 System Regional District Stakeholders Meeting
  - New NG911 System set to roll over by March 31st 2027
- 2 Members (Chief and LT) attended Mass Casualty Training in Black Pool with BCHES and other regional FD's
- Control Burn behind Wastewater Treatment Plant will occur on a good venting day – first attempt had little success as moisture was high
- Attended the C2C Forum in Chu Chua

### **FireSmart:**

- Two Members currently at the Wildfire and Resiliency Training Summit in Penticton
- Wildfire Preparedness Day event on May 3rd planning has started
- Joined the FireSmart Luncheon in Clearwater on Tuesday the 8th
- Second Luncheon at Senior Center has been rescheduled to June 14th

### **Weather:**

- Provincial snowpack is below normal, averaging 79% of normal
- April 1st 2025 Snow Basin Indices (North Thompson) 58% of normal
- No anticipated flood hazards
- Low snowpack and seasonal runoff forecasts combined with warm seasonal weather forecasts and lingering impacts from on-going drought are pointing towards elevated drought hazards for this upcoming spring and summer.

## **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:**

### **Finance:**

- Public Budget Meeting was held on March 31, 2025 with a few interested community members in the audience.
- Work continued on the Financial Plan and Tax Rates Bylaw, along with reconciliation of the 2024 yearend financials. 3 separate reports are attached to this agenda.

### **Governance:**

- Agreements / Contracts:
  - Community Hall Lease Agreement – working with representatives for the Club on fine tuning the agreement. We should be able to finalize this in May.
- Policies / Bylaws:
  - Finalizing Tax Rates and Financial Plan Bylaws

### **Administration:**

- Continued to work with CN Rail on cost sharing resolution to the Hall Road crossing. The estimate for the wooden planks, installed, is now \$20,000 compared to the initial estimate of roughly \$180,000. The District would still be responsible for roughly \$25,000 in paving.
- TNRD CAO's had a bi-annual check-in last week, which included discussion on budget presentations, and potential options for the TNRD to attend Council meetings to explain the TNRD services in more detail to all members of Council.