



REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George

Main Office: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
Telephone: (250) 960-4400 / Fax: (250) 563-7520
Toll Free: 1-800-667-1959 / <http://www.rdfg.bc.ca>

2024 BUDGET REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Directors, Committee of the Whole File No.: BUD 1.0

FROM: Kenna Jonkman, MCIP, RPP, General Manager of Development Services

DATE: November 9, 2023

SUBJECT: Economic Development – 4003

SUMMARY: Purpose: Consider and Approve Budget and Five-Year Financial Plan

Attachments:

1. 2024 Proposed Budget
2. 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. THAT the report be received.
2. THAT the 2024 budget for Economic Development be approved.
3. THAT the 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan for Economic Development be approved.

ENTITLEMENT	HOW VOTE COUNTED
All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
All Weighted	Majority
All Weighted	Majority

SERVICE DESCRIPTION:

The Regional District Board is authorized to provide Economic Development services to the region and to fund these services through Bylaw No. 804, 1986.

The Board considers funding specific Economic Development projects or initiatives with third parties such as the current contract with the City of Prince George for their marketing work on the Industrial Lands Project, collaborative project with the Village of McBride and the Village of Valemount regarding the Robson Valley Region program and projects that benefit the electoral areas and neighboring communities.

For the past number of years, the budget has been funded through a grant-in-lieu targeted for Electoral Area Services and has not required any requisition funding.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

- ☐ Climate Action ☒ Economic Health ☐ Indigenous Relations ☒ Strong Communities
- ☐ None – Statutory or Routine Business

SERVICE DETAILS:

Participants: All Municipalities and Electoral Areas

Requisition Limit: \$0.427 per \$1,000 (2023 - \$8,949,948)

Debt Balance: None

SERVICE WORKPLAN:

- Support work related to the Prince George Area Economic Development and Marketing Activities Service Agreement with the City of Prince George.
- Continue to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Robson Valley Region program.
- Support the Robson Valley Region program by undertaking a competitive bid process for contract services to fulfil the marketing strategy outlined in the Robson Valley Region Marketing Plan Strategy.
- Continue delivery of the Business Façade Improvement program for Electoral Areas.
- Continue to support the Cleanfarms Inc. initiative into 2nd quarter of 2024.
- Provide funding to the 2024 Para Biathlon World Championships and 2024 Nordic World Cup Finals.
- Consider opportunities to partner with other organizations on economic development initiatives that fit within the strategic priorities.
- Continue to consider the role that the Regional District should play in economic development.

OVERALL FINANCIAL IMPACT:

	2023	2024	\$ Change	% Change
Total Expenditure:	\$ 296,790	\$ 258,238	\$ (38,552)	(13.0) %
Requisition:	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0 %

BUDGET INFLUENCES/SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES:

- Reduction in budget from 2023 to 2024 as a result of completion of investrvr.ca website project, reduced grant funding for the 2024 Business Facade Improvement Program and reduced expenditure projected in training and development
- budget recognizes prior year surplus, along with a \$90,000 grant-in-lieu contribution and combined grant funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust of \$65,000 that offsets the need for funding from requisition for 2023
- budget reflects funding allocated to the implementation of recommendations resulting from the Regional Agriculture Strategy
- budget reflects the long-term partnerships for the delivery of economic development initiatives with the City of Prince George, Village of McBride, Village of Valemount and Cleanfarms Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

“Kenna Jonkman”

Kenna Jonkman, MCIP, RPP
General Manager of Development Services

KJ