



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.rdffg.ca>

REPORT FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Members, Cultural Services Advisory Committee
FROM: Hilary Erasmus, Manager of Communications and Culture
DATE: March 7, 2025
SUBJECT: Argus Database
SUMMARY: Purpose: For Information

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT the report dated March 7, 2025 regarding the “Argus Database” be received for information.

ENTITLEMENT	HOW VOTE COUNTED
All 1 Member/1 vote	Majority

ISSUE(S):

The Exploration Place has developed and maintains an Argus database to provide the public with online access to search their collection. The Exploration Place also provides Argus licenses to five other cultural sites funded by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George in order for them to house their individual collections online.

The collective database system was accessed over 13,000 times during 2024 and hosting the collective database costs The Exploration Place approximately \$2,350 per month before tax. This includes the costs for the additional individual licenses for the Central BC Railway and Forestry Museum, Huble Homestead, Mackenzie and District Museum, Valley Museum and Archives and the Valemount Museum and Archives collections.

RELEVANT POLICIES:

N/A

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ALIGNMENT:

- Indigenous and Intergovernmental Partnerships
- Organizational Strength and Adaptability
- Quality Community Services
- Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action
- Awareness and Engagement
- Statutory or Routine Business

SERVICE RELEVANCE:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

There are no financial commitments involved in receiving the Argus Database Report.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

N/A

DECISION OPTIONS:

1. Approve recommendations.
 - Receive for information the Argus Database Report.

COMMENTS:

A breakdown of the database views from 2024 is attached as background information for the additional licensees to understand how the collective database and their individual collections are being view by the public.

Respectfully submitted,

“Hilary Erasmus”

Hilary Erasmus
Manager of Communications and Culture

HE

BACKGROUND

Argus is an online database that digitally categorizes museum collections from photographs and artifacts to heritage assets and other assorted categories.

The program is hosted by The Exploration Place and they have issued licenses to the Central BC Railway and Forestry Museum, Huble Homestead, Mackenzie and District Museum, Valley Museum and Archives, Valemount Museum and Archives, and the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.

In 2024, Argus was accessed 13,032 times. Most searches in the program were done through the general portal search as opposed to accessing content through individual sites' collections.

2024	Total Views	The Exploration Place	Central BC Railway and Forestry Museum	Huble Homestead	Mackenzie and District Museum	Valemount Museum and Archives	Valley Museum and Archives	Lheidli T'enneh First Nation	Portal Search
January	982	67	29	18	1	1	2	1	863
February	977	62	19	23	5	-	2	3	705
March	712	87	50	30	2	2	3	2	536
April	1,034	44	23	15	3	-	-	-	949
May	1,162	57	20	13	13	1	1	-	1,057
June	868	42	95	37	7	2	5	1	679
July	1,463	32	38	24	2	-	-	-	1,367
August	1,445	42	20	35	-	-	8	-	1,340
September	716	44	19	12	1	20	9	-	611
October	1,413	62	26	12	4	1	2	-	1,306
November	1,468	39	19	4	3	3	19	4	1,377
December	792	47	40	11	4	2	5	-	683
Total	13,032	625	398	234	45	32	56	11	11,473