



# Thompson Nicola Regional District

## 2017 Annual Report

Thompson-Nicola Regional District  
[tnrd.com](http://tnrd.com)



*The Region of BC's Best*



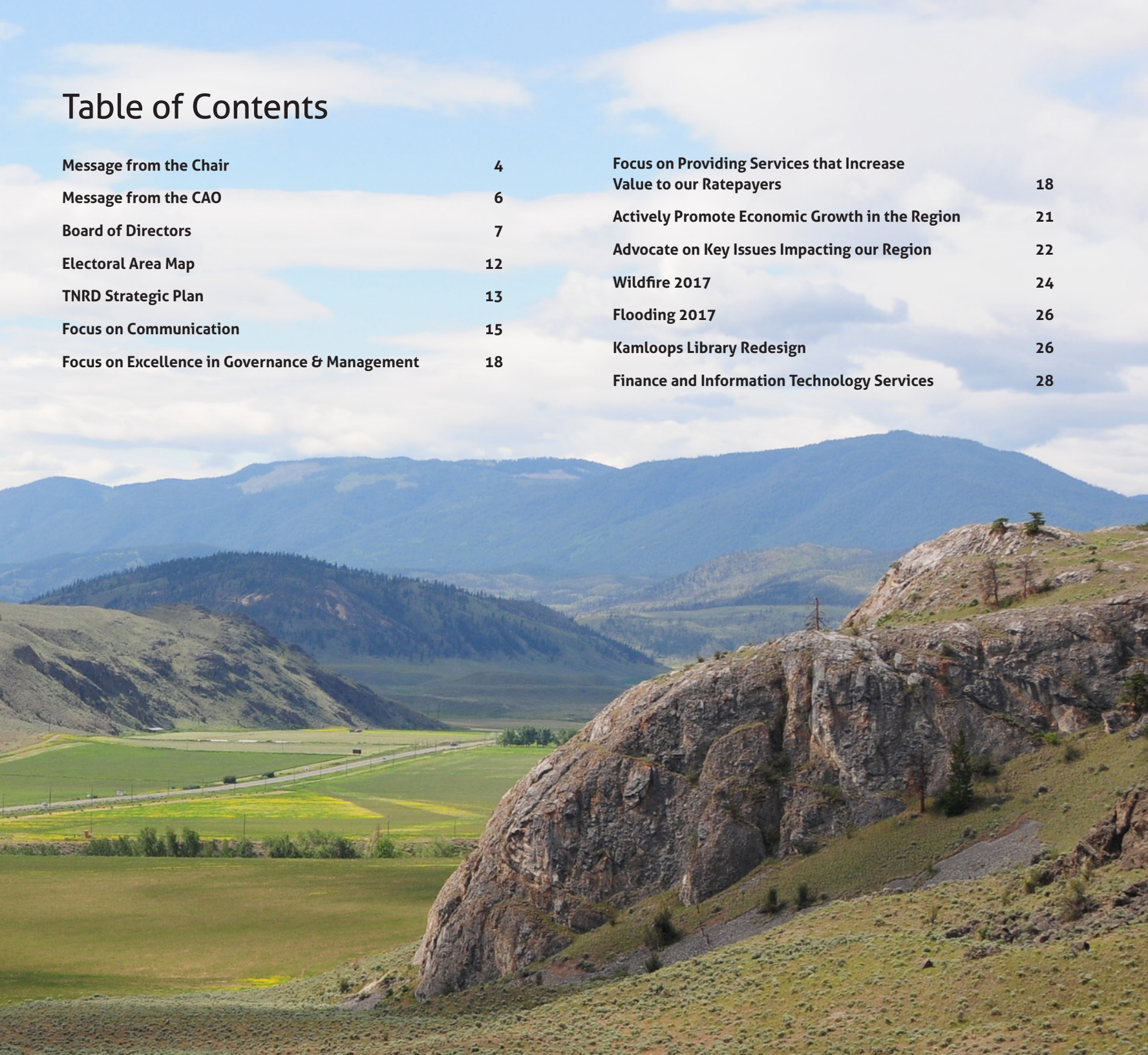


Cache Creek — Source: TNRD Film Commission Library



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# Message from the Chair

The Board of Directors and staff of the Thompson-Nicola District join in wishing you good health, happiness and prosperity in the coming year.

This was a year of emergency responses in the Regional District. The year started out with a diesel spill in the North Thompson River in the Vavenby area that impacted the community water system's intake and resulted in the activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). The EOC was again activated in the early spring with flooding in the Cache Creek area, along Cherry Creek; the Lower Nicola area around Guichon Creek; and some properties in the Turtle Valley area. The EOC was again reactivated in response to the wildfires in early July and into September, supporting not only our residents but those in the Cariboo, too.

This all took place during the 50th anniversary of incorporation of the TNRD. While we started off the year thinking about ways to celebrate 50 years of the TNRD, the year became overtaken with emergency responses. But staff kept the 50th anniversary celebration going with a writing competition and a photography competition, which highlighted what a beautiful area in which we're privileged to live -- 45,000 square kilometres of absolutely photogenic landscape. The local community events and contests culminated in an evening celebration on November 23, when we filled a time capsule with contributions from every community in the regional district. The time capsule will be opened on the TNRD's 75th anniversary in 2042.

We have undertaken a variety of initiatives during the year, not the least of which is the update of the regional solid waste management plan and that will continue into 2018.

We've got a fire service review to support fire departments to meet new requirements and regulations that have been put in place by the province to protect the health and safety of volunteer firefighters.

A new bookmobile was designed to replace the one that's been in operation for 17 years and delivery of the new bookmobile will be in 2018. It'll have new wrap on the outside of it and we hope you will enjoy the opportunity to use the bookmobile.

The plans are also underway to update the Kamloops Library-Civic Building branch on Victoria Street in Kamloops to incorporate a coffee shop in the Kamloops Library and build a glass atrium so that people can sit there more comfortably in the winter time.

Building in the region has remained very strong. 2017 was busier for building permits than 2016 with more building permits issued for higher construction values with 28 per cent more residential units being started in the TNRD. The North Thompson Official Community Plan community engagement was undertaken and we have some other initiatives that were funded by more than a \$1 million we received from the federal government through their gas tax funding that was approved in 2017. The variety of projects include recreation trail system expansion, water system improvements and energy-efficiency upgrades on community buildings in Barriere, Lytton, Westwold, Savona and McClure.

The board also approved the submission of funding applications for an additional \$4.78 million. We are anxiously awaiting a decision on a \$3.5 million funding application for water meters, which we are led to believe will lead to our people paying a little bit more attention to water use in their daily lives.

We continued to be a destination for film and other media production. Locations such as the hoodoos around Kamloops, the Ashcroft area and the grasslands served as a backdrop for major films, commercials, TV series and even a trailer for a video game.

Looking ahead to 2018, local government elections will be held in October, which is earlier than in previous years, so all of the director positions on the



TNRD Board will be up for re-election. There are 10 electoral areas in the regional district.

The Royal Inland Hospital, which provides medical services to residents throughout the region, will continue to see positive changes with a new patient care tower slated to begin. The legalization of cannabis will also impact our region.

Recovery work that began in 2017 to support those impacted by the wildfires will continue into 2018 and we have a couple of dedicated employees working with people that were negatively impacted by the wildfires. We look forward to the coming year and continue to support those of you in the TNRD. All of us in the TNRD -- the staff, the elected officials, and

everybody here that serve you -- wish you and your family all the best. We had an eventful 2017 and we look forward to continuing to work hard to keep the TNRD the Region of BC's Best.

**John Ranta**



Chase view — Source: TNRD Film Commission Library



# Message from the CAO

Thank you to each staff member and Board Director who made the TNRD a great place for all our residents in 2016. I am very proud of the numerous projects that were initiated and the many that were completed in the past year. As we aim to be an employer of choice, ensuring a positive corporate culture has been an ongoing focus. Although there have been a number of changes over the course of the year, the cornerstone of our success continues to be the hard working people we have here at the TNRD. At the Senior Management level we've seen a lot of different faces around our table, and I am pleased to witness this new group building relationships and getting things done as a team.

Over the course of 2016, we continued to nurture strong relationships with our member municipalities. We worked together on various local initiatives, and ensured the work of the region was supportive of local goals and priorities. TNRD staff have maintained the bi-annual meetings with staff from our member municipalities at the All-Management meeting in the spring, and the CAOs meeting in the fall. These meetings allow a formal setting to share information with one another, build collaborative partnerships, and strengthen skills within our organizations. We also met regularly throughout the year with these partners as specific or thematic issues arose within the region, developing solutions collaboratively and providing support where possible.

Communication continued to be a focus area in 2016 as serving the public with excellent customer service is an underlying priority in everything we do here at the TNRD. We are constantly working towards stronger communication within our organization, and ensuring that our residents understand who we are and what services we provide. Further developing our use of various media platforms has allowed the TNRD to provide information to more people living in the region about issues that impact them.

In the past year, we have completed a number of important construction projects throughout the region. In Clearwater, the septage receiving station was completed, the Ashcroft library received some updates, and the Clinical Services Building of the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops was completed and opened

to the public. Additionally, the Cache Creek Eco Depot was built to address local needs due to the landfill closure, and a number of community halls in the TNRD received various updates. We will continue working on these types of projects in 2017.

Funding was approved by the Thompson Regional Hospital District for the Patient Care Tower, the second phase of development at Royal Inland Hospital. The business case for the project was approved by the Interior Health Authority Board and will go to the Province for consideration in 2017. This project, along with the updates underway at the Nicola Valley Hospital's ER and the completion of the Clinical Services Building, will significantly improve the quality of service provided by the Interior Health Authority to residents of the TNRD. The Thompson Regional Hospital District has played an important role in ensuring these projects have come to fruition.

In 2016, our organization reviewed utility systems user fees for the 11 water systems and 2 sewer systems currently managed by the TNRD. The review allowed us to consider the required costs of maintaining these systems on a long term basis, and resulted in some necessary fee increases as well as savings opportunities for some user groups. The TNRD's new safety program was also initiated in-house in 2016. The program has worked to minimize the risks our employees may face in their daily tasks, and the risk to our organization caused by potentially unsafe working conditions.

As we move into 2017, I'm excited for a number of important projects that will be taking place within the region. This includes the refresh of the downtown Kamloops library space; the TNRD's 50th Anniversary events; initiating the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan review; and the various Clean Water Wastewater projects that have recently been funded. I'd like to thank the Board of Directors for being such a collaborative and progressive group of individuals, as well as the staff for making the TNRD one of the premier regional districts to work for. I'm looking forward to what 2017 has to offer!

**Sukh Gill**

Chief Administrative officer





**FRONT ROW (left to right):**

Front row: Ken Gillis, Mel Rothenburger, Dennis Walsh, Vice-Chair Steven Rice, Chair John Ranta, Ken Christian, John Harwood, Neil Menard

**MIDDLE ROW (left to right):**

Donovan Cavers, Rick Berrigan, Randy Murray, Jack Jeyes, Herb Graham, Willow Macdonald, William Kershaw, Pat Wallace, Al Raine

**BACK ROW (left to right):**

Sally Watson, Carol Schaffer, Virginia Smith, Jim Rivett, Robin Smith, Ronaye Elliott, Tina Lange, Jessoa Lightfoot, Arjun Singh



# 2018 Committee List

## Chair Appointment Committees

### Air Quality Stakeholder (Lower Nicola/Merritt area) – External



Electoral Area "N"  
(Beautiful Nicola Valley-South)  
Herb Graham  
herbgraham@shaw.ca



Electoral Area "M"  
(Beautiful Nicola Valley-North)  
Randy Murray  
director.rmurray@tnrd.ca

### Audit Standing



Electoral Area "B"  
(Thompson Headwaters)  
Sally Watson  
director.swatson@tnrd.ca



Logan Lake  
Robin Smith  
rsmith@loganlake.ca



Kamloops  
Ken Christian  
director.kchristian@tnrd.ca

### Economic Development and Recreation Services – Standing



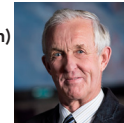
Electoral Area "I"  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
director.srice@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "J"  
(Copper Desert Country)  
Ronaye Elliott  
director.relliott@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "M"  
(Beautiful Nicola Valley-North)  
Randy Murray  
director.rmurray@tnrd.ca



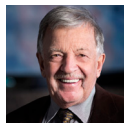
Electoral Area "O"  
(Lower North Thompson)  
William Kershaw  
director.wkershaw@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "P"  
(Rivers and the Peak)  
Mel Rothenburger  
director.mrothenburger@tnrd.ca



Chase  
Rick Berrigan  
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Sun Peaks  
Al Raine  
alraine@telus.net



Kamloops  
Denis Walsh  
dwalsh@kamloops.ca

### Emergency Management and Protective Services – Standing



Electoral Area "A"  
(Wells Gray Country)  
Carol Schaffer  
director.cschaffer@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "N"  
(Beautiful Nicola Valley-South)  
Herb Graham



Electoral Area "O"  
(Lower North Thompson)  
William Kershaw  
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Electoral Area "P"  
(Rivers and the Peaks)  
Mel Rothenburger  
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Chase  
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Clinton  
Jim Rivett  
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Merritt  
Neil Menard  
director.nmenard@tnrd.ca



Kamloops  
Dieter Dudy  
ddudy@kamloops.ca



## Fraser Basin Council – External



Electoral Area "I"  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
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Kamloops  
Arjun Singh  
director.asingh@tnrd.ca

## Policy Review – Standing



Electoral Area "A"  
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Electoral Area "B"  
(Thompson Headwaters)  
Willow Macdonald  
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Electoral Area "E"  
(Bonaparte Plateau)  
Sally Watson  
director.swatson@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "I"  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
director.srice@tnrd.ca



Ashcroft  
Jack Jeyes  
jjeyes@ashcroftbc.ca



Clearwater  
John Harwood  
harwood8@telus.net



Sun Peaks  
Al Raine  
alraine@telus.net



Kamloops  
Pat Wallace  
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## Regional Solid Waste Management – Standing



Electoral Area "M"  
(Beautiful Nicola Valley-North)  
Randy Murray  
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Electoral Area "I"  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
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Electoral Area "J"  
(Copper Desert Country)  
Ronaye Elliott  
director.relliott@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "O"  
(Lower North Thompson)  
William Kershaw  
director.wkershaw@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "P"  
(Rivers and the Peaks)  
Mel Rothenburger  
director.mrothenburger@tnrd.ca



Clearwater  
John Harwood  
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Jim Rivett  
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Merritt  
Neil Menard  
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Kamloops  
Tina Lange  
tlange@kamloops.ca

## Utility Systems – Standing



Electoral Area "A"  
(Wells Gray Country)  
Carol Schaffer  
director.cschaffer@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "B"  
(Thompson Headwaters)  
Willow Macdonald  
director.wmacdonald@tnrd.ca



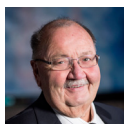
Electoral Area "J"  
(Copper Desert Country)  
Ronaye Elliott  
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Electoral Area "O"  
(Lower North Thompson)  
William Kershaw  
director.wkershaw@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "P"  
(Rivers and the Peaks)  
Mel Rothenburger  
director.mrothenburger@tnrd.ca



Clearwater  
John Harwood  
harwood8@telus.net



Lytton  
Jessa Lightfoot  
jlightfoot@lytton.ca



Kamloops  
Tina Lange  
tlange@kamloops.ca

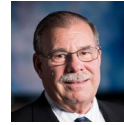
## Thompson-Nicola Invasive Plant Management – Standing



Electoral Area "L"  
(Grasslands)  
Ken Gillis  
director.kgillis@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area "N"  
(Beautiful Nicola  
Valley-South)  
Herb Graham



Ashcroft  
Jack Jeyes  
jjeyes@ashcroftbc.ca

## Board Appointed Committees

### Municipal Finance Authority – External



Cache Creek  
John Ranta  
bigjohn4@telus.net



Electoral Area "A"  
(Wells Gray Country)  
Carol Schaffer  
director.cschaffer@tnrd.ca

### Municipal Insurance Association – External

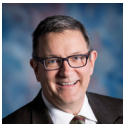


Ashcroft  
Jack Jeyes  
jjeyes@ashcroftbc.ca



Kamloops  
Dieter Dudy  
ddudy@kamloops.ca

### Shushwap Watershed Council (SWC) – External



Kamloops  
Ken Christian  
director.kchristian@tnrd.ca



Chase  
Rick Berrigan  
director.rberrigan@tnrd.ca



# Appointed by Other

## Kamloops Airport Authority Society – External



Electoral Area “I”  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
director.srice@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area “O”  
(Lower North Thompson)  
John Ranta  
bigjohn4@telus.net

## Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Committee of the Whole – External

Directors (1) elected by FCM Membership

## Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) – External

Directors (2) elected by SILGA Membership

## Thompson Regional Hosiptal District

Full membership of the board – All directors

## Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT)

Electoral Areas “E” and “I” Directors



Electoral Area “E”  
(Bonaparte Plateau)  
Sally Watson  
director.swatson@tnrd.ca



Electoral Area “I”  
(Blue Sky Country)  
Steven Rice  
director.srice@tnrd.ca

## Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT)

TNRD Board Chair



Cache Creek  
John Ranta  
bigjohn4@telus.net

*Standing: Permanent in nature. Usually established by bylaw. Appointments made by Board Chair unless legislation or bylaw states otherwise.*

*Select: Task-oriented. Usually established by resolution of the Board of Directors. Appointments made by the Board of Directors.*

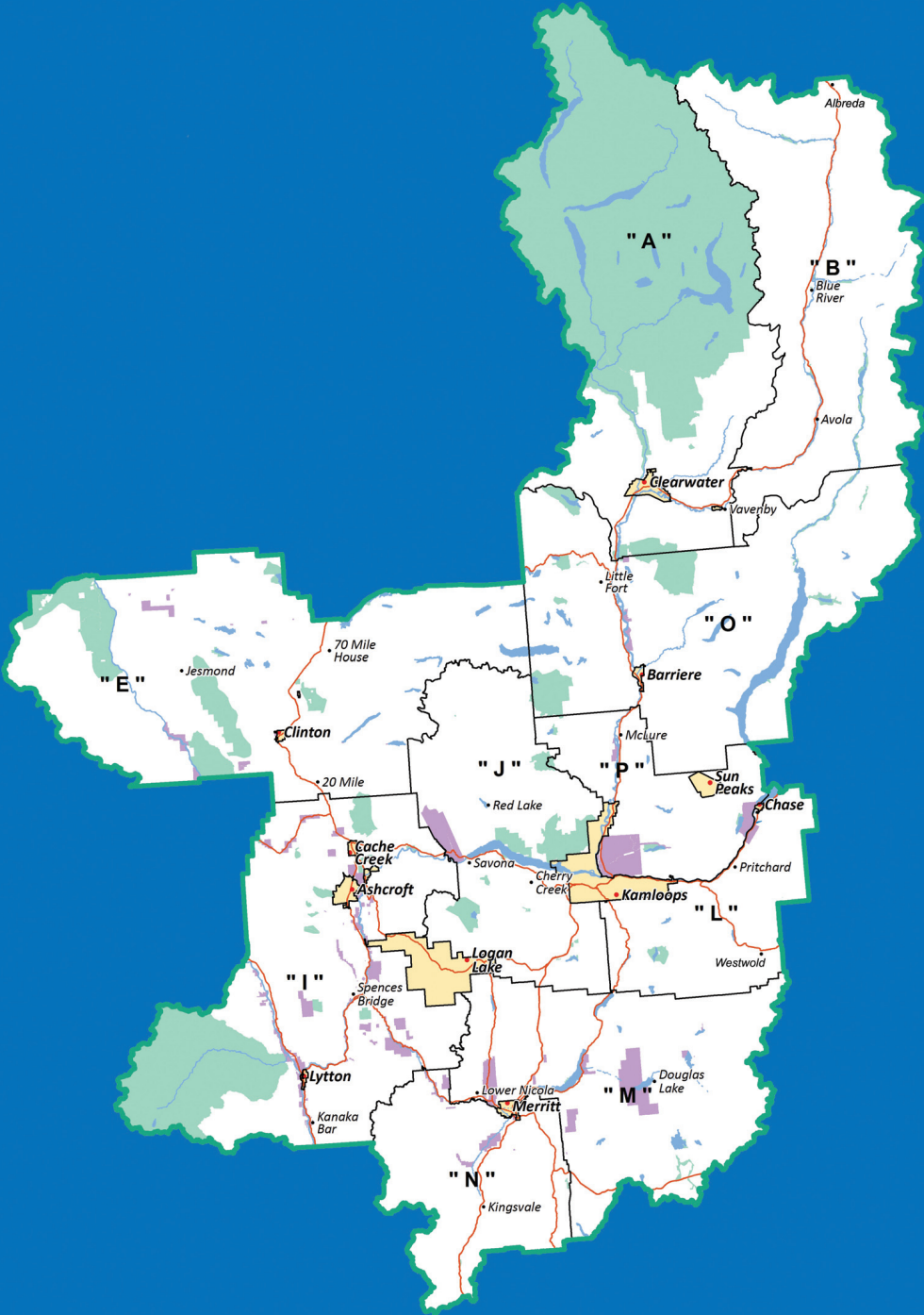
*Service: Established by bylaw. Appointments made by Board on recommendation of the Electoral Area Director. Service Committees usually act as an advisory group, providing advice to the mm Electoral Area Director and TNRD staff with respect to specific services.*

# Electoral Areas

## Legend

- A Electoral Area "A" (Wells Gray Country)
- B Electoral Area "B" (Thompson Headwaters)
- E Electoral Area "E" (Bonaparte Plateau)
- I Electoral Area "I" (Blue Sky Country)
- J Electoral Area "J" (Copper Desert Country)
- L Electoral Area "L" (Grasslands)
- M Electoral Area "M" (Beautiful Nicola Valley – North)
- N Electoral Area "N" (Beautiful Nicola Valley – South)
- O Electoral Area "O" (Lower North Thompson)
- P Electoral Area "P" (Rivers and the Peaks)

- Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Electoral & Municipal Boundary
- Municipality
- First Nations Reserve
- Parks & Protected Areas of BC
- Water Body
- Highway





# Tnrd Strategic Plan

## 2015-2019 Overview of priorities



### Focus on Communications

- Learn more about our stakeholders & how they wish to be communicated with
- Provide information about the services we provide & related costs
- Ensure communication opportunities exist for items that affect stakeholders



### Focus on Excellence in Governance & Management

- Regionally focused board decision-making
- Continue to strive to be an employer of choice
- Actively track our assets & plan for the financial impacts of repair & replacements
- Foster our relations with stakeholders inclusive of first nations, member municipalities, neighbouring rds, & senior levels of government
- Develop business continuity plan



### Focus on Providing Services that Increase Value to our Ratepayers

- Continue to improve customer service and understanding
- Ensure that services are being delivered in an efficient & cost effective fashion
- Continue our focus on regional solid waste management
- Focus on community and public safety
- Provide safe, reliable drinking water for our utility services



### Actively Promote Economic Growth in the Region

- Create an environment that is attractive to existing & new businesses
- Continue to leverage the impact of the film commission



### Advocate on Key Issues Impacting our Region

- Actively engage to improve health care delivery in the region
- Continue to leverage advocacy avenues to further tnrd's regional interests



*Sun Peaks Alpine Resort - Source: TNRD Film Commission*





# 2017 Annual Report

## Focus on Communications

### Ensure Communication Opportunities Exist for Items that Affect Stakeholders

#### Public Consultation Activities

As part of general push for a greater focus on communications, the TNRD has made a point of hosting more public meetings in communities where new services, changes to service or cancellation of services will be taking place. For 2017, 68 public consultations took place, increasing opportunities to connect with residents of the Regional District, receive feedback and provide information. All of these activities are compiled, along with other communications activities, and presented to the board on a monthly basis.

#### Environmental Services Outreach Efforts

The EHS Department continued its efforts to communicate ways for Regional District residents to reduce waste. These efforts in composting workshops at trade shows and fairs; and airing a series of radio spots that featured the TNRD's own Cassie Enns and Radio NL morning host Peter Olsen discussing the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Review.

#### PlaceSpeak Helps Engage Citizens in New Way

The TNRD started using PlaceSpeak in 2017, an award-winning location-based citizen engagement platform, for consulting with residents and key stakeholders.

With PlaceSpeak, decision-makers can be confident that they are hearing from relevant and affected citizens. The platform's unique geo-verification technology ensures that the feedback collected is coming exclusively from residents within the TNRD's jurisdictional boundaries. PlaceSpeak's citizen-centric model also makes it easy for residents to stay informed and get involved in the decision-making process. Residents only have to register once in order to be notified of and participate in all future consultations in the region.

In 2017, there were two consultations that are open for public input. First, residents were invited to provide feedback on the draft 2018 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP). They could share ideas on how the region can reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill while keeping the cost of the system financially sustainable. In addition, in the lead-up to the new Bookmobile, they could also share what they like about the Bookmobile, and how it can be improved. In particular, Facebook took prominence as the event progressed.

## Social Media Helps Reach More Residents

During the wildfire season social media was used to great effect in communicating information to the many residents who were affected by the natural disaster. In particular, Facebook took prominence as the event progressed.

Many communities had separate Facebook groups for their community to which the TNRD posted information, often with the number of participants in the group being upwards of 75 per cent of the number of properties in that area. Facebook also provided a way to livestream public meetings, reaching a much broader audience and allowing viewers to access the information after the fact if they were not able to view the information live. Statistics show that Facebook was heavily utilized by the public during the wildfires:

- Daily Bulletins had an average reach of 5,000 Facebook users on each post (Facebook reach is the number of unique people who saw your content). The bulletins had a relatively consistent following throughout the event.
- Regular video updates had an average reach of 23,000 Facebook users, with the number fluctuating greatly with high numbers occurring when there had been a significant change in the fire or changes in Evacuation Orders.
- Highest reach was over 50,000 on August 5, with almost 30,000 people watching all or a portion of a video posted that day.
- Viewership of the livestreamed public meetings grew dramatically during the event with a reach high of 55,000 for a public meeting on July 31, with almost 11,000 people watching all or a portion of the meeting.

The use of livestreamed public meetings will be a valuable communications tool going forward as the TNRD seeks more effective and cost-efficient ways to reach residents throughout the Regional District.

## Provide information about the Services we Provide

### 50th Anniversary Celebrations

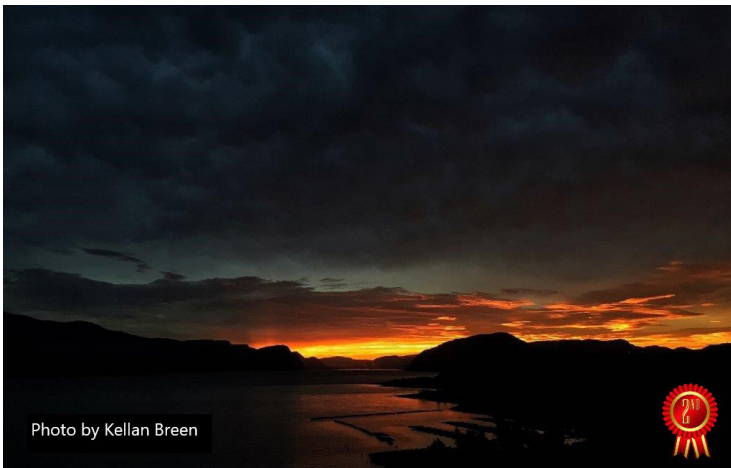
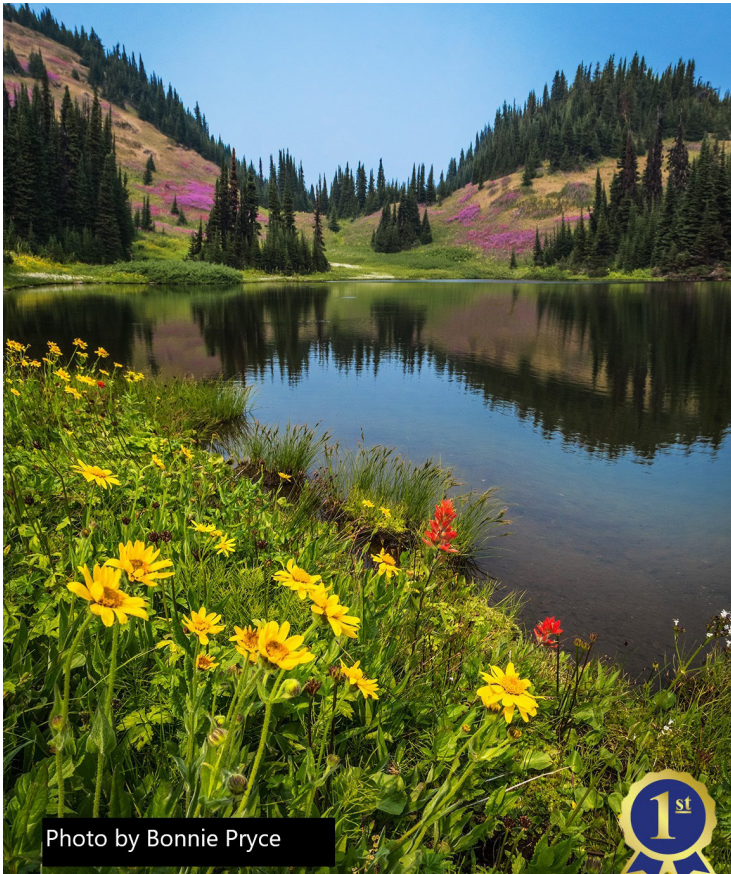
To commemorate its 50th anniversary, the TNRD was busy in 2017 with a raft of local community events and contests, as well as a dedicated website that was created to commemorate the event. Beginning in April with the launch of a weekly trivia contest, the year's celebrations culminated on the official date of the TNRD's incorporation -- Nov. 24, 2017.

In addition to the trivia contest, during the spring a writing contest was held with prizes awarded in each age category for short stories or poems about the TNRD. Throughout the summer, our young residents participated in a colouring contest with prizes awarded by age category at each of the TNRD libraries including the bookmobile.

As well, in the fall, the TNRD hosted a photo contest that encouraged TNRD residents to take and submit photos of the region for a chance to win one of the great prizes offered. Eligible photos were uploaded to a dedicated TNRD Instagram page where viewers helped with the selection of winners.







Public events were held throughout the TNRD, too, taking place at library locations (including Bookmobile stops) and included refreshments, TNRD swag/prizes and a meet & greet with local elected officials.

On November 23, the Board celebrated its anniversary at an event that included the preparation of a time capsule to be sealed and subsequently placed for reopening on the TNRDs 75th Anniversary. The Board of Directors Meeting the following day also saw MLAs Todd Stone and Peter Milobar present the Board with a commemorative plaque to mark the milestone.



# Focus on Excellence in Governance & Management

## Regionally Focused Board Decision-Making

### Gas Tax Money Helps Halls, Septage Facilities, Water Systems

Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund revenues helped fund a number of projects across the TNRD, helping with energy efficiency, clean water and tourism, including:

- Roof resurfacing and insulation upgrades at the North Thompson Valley Legion Hall.
- Upgrades to the Clearwater Septage Receiving Station.
- Pre-engineering to determine the scope and project budget for improvements to remove heavy sand/sediment from the Walhachin Community Water System.
- Roof and insulation upgrades at the Westwold Community Hall.
- Upgrades to the Clearwater Septage Receiving Station.
- Installation of park benches and signage and upgrade of play ground equipment and the basketball court at the Paul Lake Community Park.
- Power redundancy upgrades for the Blue River Community Water System in the case of an emergency. The funds will help finance a backup power connection for the pumphouse. The funds will help finance a switch to permit connection of a back-up power supply to the pumphouse.

# Focus on Providing Services that Increase Value to our Ratepayers

### Library System Teams Up with School Districts

In partnership with School Districts 73, 74 and 58, the TNRL launched the Grade 3 V.I.P. Library Card Campaign. The Campaign aims to put a library card in the hands of every Grade 3 student served by the Library. There was already a 30% uptake from the school districts in the first year of this initiative with the issuance of over 400 new library cards.

## Continue our Focus on Regional Solid Waste Management

### Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Review Continues

The Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) review looked to TNRD residents for their feedback early in 2017 with an online survey about current garbage and recycling services, and what they'd like to see in the future.

The beginning of 2017 also saw the first meetings of the Public Advisory Committee (PAC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Steering Committee. In order to promote cross-fertilization of ideas and knowledge and help generate a plan that is more likely to garner broad community support, the RSWMP Steering Committee recommended that the PAC and the TAC be merged into one committee -- the Review Advisory Committee (RAC).

The RAC met several times in 2017, and over the course of those meetings were presented with the results of the survey as well information about Waste Reduction and Diversion Options; Residual Waste Management; and an economic analysis of TNRD Landfills.



These meetings led to the writing of a Draft Plan, which was reviewed and approved by the TNRD Board and went forward for stakeholder and public consultation starting in November and continuing into February 2018. This included another online survey as well as the citizen engagement platform PlaceSpeak, and featured public information meetings that were hosted throughout the Regional District.

It is expected that a final report will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment in early 2018, with approval likely later in the year.

## Focus on Community and Public Safety

### Fire Protection Management Model Adopted

The TNRD made the move from a fire protection committee management model to a local government driven management model. Typically, the model shifts the fire protection committee to an advisory role from one of management and operations.

The TNRD has established six volunteer fire departments that are not administered by the TNRD but instead by independent societies. The TNRD has collected funds through taxation to assist those societies in operating their fire departments.

Since the implementation by the Province of the fire department Playbook, some of these independent fire departments have expressed concerns about the liability of fire department operation and maintenance as well as the increased workload associated with operation, administration, reporting, training, etc., and requested that the TNRD take over the fire departments and operate them in a manner similar to the three TNRD-administered fire departments (Blackpool, Pritchard and Vavenby).

*Playbook* is the retrofit for the Fire Services Act via the Fire Safety Act and a more pointed overhaul of legislation related to fire departments through Workman's Compensation Act.

This new model will help reduce the legal risk to TNRD volunteer fire protection committees and create a safer environment for volunteer firefighters through mandatory fire training, fire ground operations and administration.

### 911 Agreement with Kamloops Finalized

A 911 Secondary Answering Cost Sharing Agreement between the City of Kamloops and the TNRD for fire dispatch service with Kamloops Fire Dispatch was agreed to in 2017. The agreement is for a term starting January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2022. It will cost \$260,000 for the first year, and to a maximum of \$280,000 in the final year of the agreement.

Calls relating to fire within the boundaries of the TNRD, or within the City of Kamloops, are routed to the Kamloops Fire Dispatch.

## Provide safe, reliable drinking water for our utility services

### Water Metering Program

The TNRD submitted an application to the Federal Gas Tax – Strategic Priorities Fund for funding to support a Regional Water Metering Program that will require the installation of remote read water meters on all TNRD-owned water systems.

This initiative, along with an accompanying fee structure, will ensure consumer accountability as users would pay according to quantity of water consumed. Water metering would also assist in identifying and isolating system leaks for repair, and consumption data will be vital in determining filtration system sizing.

### Savona Water System Upgrade Begins

Upgrades to the Savona Community Water System began in 2017. Significant upgrades to the system were required to improve the reliability of water delivery and increase reservoir storage for fire protection.



Clearwater Lake - Source: TNRD Film Commission Library



# Actively Promote Economic Growth in the Region

## New Bike Trail Networks Open

A new section of the Candle Creek Mountain Bike Trails Network in Electoral Area “A” (Wells Gray Country) opened this year. The funding was secured under Recreation Sites and Trails BC Partnership Agreement.

The new “Freebird” single-track trail is 2.3 kilometres long and completes network loops in the Ridge area of the Candle Creek Mountain Bike Trails.

Tourism is a major economic driver in Electoral Area “A” and bike trails are vital components in maintaining the community's economy.

## Film, TV Productions Continue to Flock to the Area

The region attracted numerous types of productions in 2017 from science fiction TV series to short films with visual effects to video games, and its landscapes stood in for Afghanistan, USA, BC and unknown planets. As well, the film commission helped produce vignettes for Explore Gold Country's Facebook-based tourism campaigns, and developed the film commission's new online education tools.



### The following productions filmed in the region in 2017:

1. A Dog's Way Home Columbia Pictures movie
2. I Am Elizabeth Smart, Showtime movie
3. Indian Road Trip, APTN movie (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network)
4. Refuge, short independent film with special effects
5. LL Bean commercial
6. Nature's Valley commercial
7. Marks Work Wear “Well Worn” commercials campaign
8. Ubisoft video game commercial
9. Activision Kronos video game, photogrammetry of assets
10. World's Most Dangerous Roads BBC Netherlands TV program
11. The 100, CW Network TV series
12. Colony, Discovery Channel TV series
13. Scout & the Gumboot Kids, Kid's CBC TV series
14. The Man in the High Castle, Amazon Prime series
15. Lost in Space, Netflix series



# Advocate on Key Issues Impacting Our Region

## New Approach to Invasive Plant Management

A new Thompson-Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee (TNIPMC) was created by the TNRD that will administer invasive plant management within the TNRD boundaries.

The key functions of the TNIPMC are to provide co-ordination and communication amongst land managers to ensure everyone is working together in their own operations to minimize the spread and impact of invasive plants across jurisdictional boundaries. Other functions include education, promoting research, and ensuring financial accountability.

Invasive plants occur outside their natural range and can have significant ecological, social, and economic impacts once established.

## New Film Commission Advisory Committee Created

The Film Commission Advisory Committee replaced the Thompson-Nicola Film Commission. The newly formed committee will consist of up to 5 representatives from outside the TNRD and up to 5 representatives from within the TNRD who are motion picture experts and other creative industries. Meetings will occur twice a year.

Under this new structure, the Film Commissioner will now submit reports through the TNRD's Economic Development, Tourism and Parks committee to the TNRD Board of Directors for approvals, whenever possible.

The challenges with the old model was that members did not have the expertise and knowledge to advise the film commission about current film industry trends and best practices, and did not hold expertise in motion picture industry infrastructure development or education or economic development.

## Consultation for North Thompson Valley Official Community Plan

The North Thompson Valley (NTV) has been selected for a new long-range planning initiative. The NTV Official Community Plan (OCP) will consolidate the existing Blue River, Avola, rural Clearwater and rural Barriere OCPs and provide a broader plan covering the NTV.

Given the large geographic area and range of uses and interests in the NTV, a broad, comprehensive approach to consultation will be as follows:

- 1) Consultation with the referral agencies.
- 2) Creation of an ad hoc advisory group consisting of up to 8 members.
- 3) Engaging all interested stakeholders via electronic, written, or individual meetings.
- 4) Public open house meetings in addition to the required public hearing and all other staff, Advisory Group, and other agency-focused meetings.

In 2017, a Community Survey was prepared and mailed to all property owners in the proposed North Thompson Valley Official Community Plan area not including residents of the District of Barriere or District of Clearwater. Survey results will help prepare for community consultation by residents telling the TNRD about their concerns and priorities.

The purpose of an OCP is to guide future land use and development in a given area. They contain comprehensive and integrated policies providing direction, setting out community priorities, and providing a level of certainty for what will happen in your community.



*Electoral Area "E" (Bonaparte Plateau) — Source: TNRD Film Commission Library*





# Wildfire 2017

The province of B.C. experienced the worst wildfire season in its history during the summer. Through the Elephant Hill, Martin Mountain, and Little Fort Complex fires, the TNRD was severely impacted – 195,659 hectares were burned, 11,768 people were impacted by evacuations, and 215 structures were completely lost.

However, thanks to the incredible efforts of volunteers throughout the region, people and animals who were impacted were also cared for in this time of crisis.



On Thursday, July 6, 2017, what would be known as the Elephant Hill Wildfire started within the boundaries of the Ashcroft Indian Band Reserve. The following day, it had spread from 700 to 4,000 hectares in size, and was threatening the safety of people and properties in and around Ashcroft and Cache Creek. The danger was immediate, but so was the response – from the staff of numerous agencies, as well as volunteers and non-government organizations.

While evacuations and fires spread in the western part of the region, fires in neighbouring regions – particularly the Cariboo – resulted in an influx of evacuees to the communities along the North Thompson, and in Kamloops.

Many of these people and animals found themselves receiving support, housing, and services from dedicated volunteers in the TNRD. Then, fires started in the northern parts of the region. The Thuya, West Dunn, and North Dunn Lakes fires (later renamed the Little Fort Complete fire) began impacting residents and volunteers living in and around Little Fort and Clearwater.

This resulted in even more evacuees being redirected to the City of Kamloops, and an increase in the volunteers and services needed to support them.

Over the course of the summer's wildfire events, the TNRD – and particularly the City of Kamloops – housed approximately 11,768 evacuees from both the TNRD and the Cariboo Regional District (CRD). Of those evacuees, 83 per cent were from outside of the TNRD.



This would not have been possible without the contributions and hard work of countless amazing volunteers. The total hours contributed by the rural Emergency Social Services (ESS) teams was just under 3,150, and the ESS volunteers within the City of Kamloops contributed over 7,450 hours. The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the TNRD's Civic Building in Kamloops stayed consecutively active until September 17 (73 days).



In total, the Kamloops Reception Centre provided over 38,250 hours of volunteer services to evacuees. This included contributions from BC Lottery Corporation, Disaster Psycho-Social, Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation, St. John's Ambulance Services, other miscellaneous agencies, and people of the community who showed up to offer their time helping in any way they could. The Salvation Army also provided over 4,150 hours of volunteer time to feeding, clothing, and generally supporting evacuees.

All in all, it is estimated that more than 150,000 hours were volunteered to support and manage the response to the 2017 wildfire events.



## Road to Recovery

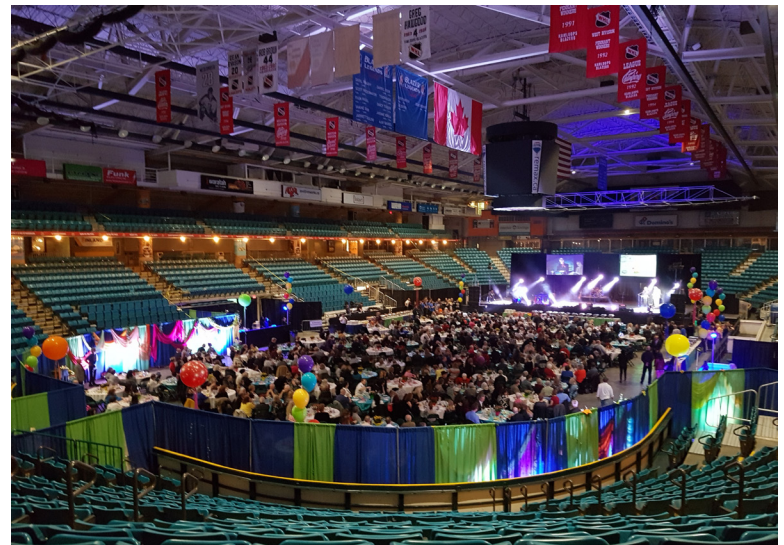
After the wildfires had subsided and residents were allowed to return, the TNRD took immediate steps to help property owners quickly dispose of fire-damaged materials. This included temporarily waiving disposal fees for fridges/freezers and food; coordinating pickup of fridges/freezers; setting up temporary disposal locations for debris; and offering one-on-one assistance to landowners.

In November, the TNRD Board passed further measures to help landowners who were adversely affected by the disasters, including the possible reduction of or sourcing alternative sources for permit fees, the acceleration of application processing, potential new zoning for "dry cabins" and lobbying the provincial government for relief and Building Code changes.

The Board also supported the hiring of two Recovery Managers, who helped guide property and business owners through the process of recovery from the wildfires. Part of this effort included public information meetings and an online survey.

## Celebrating Volunteers

To commemorate the effort of volunteers during the unprecedented wildfire season, the Board approved setting aside \$100,000 in the 2018 budget to erect a permanent, artistic monument or statue. In communications with the City of Kamloops, the home for the display will be outside the Sandman Centre, where many of the wildfire evacuees were housed or received aid and support from volunteers. It is anticipated that the monument will be unveiled at a volunteer appreciation event scheduled during Volunteer Appreciation Week in April 2018.



## Flooding 2017

The 2017 freshet flooding event resulted in significant flooding to numerous parts of the TNRD. The areas of largest impact were Cherry Creek, Savona, Westwold, Lower Nicola, Nicola Lake, Stump Lake, Canford, Spences Bridge, Mill Creek, Heffley Lake, Turtle Valley, Back Valley, Chase Creek, Pinantan and Alpine Valley.

To support residences impacted by the wide spread flooding in electoral areas "A", "I", "J", "L", "M", "N", and "P", the TNRD Emergency Program opened Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) for approximately 37 consecutive days.

Evacuees were supported with volunteer Emergency Social Service Teams and Resiliency Centres that were opened in Merritt and Kamloops for approximately 12 days. Multiple sites were supported with sand and sandbags, temporary shoreline armoring/debris removal and removal of temporary emergency works.

As well, numerous sites were supported with professional expertise through the use of geotechnical/hydrological engineers and Registered On-Site Waste Water Practitioners (ROWP).

## Kamloops Library Redesign

A re-design of the Kamloops Library was approved by the Board early in 2017. The TNRD Civic Building, built in 1998, has seen only modest improvements and maintenance (paint, carpet, etc.), and requires modernization to support public use and operations. The redesign addresses several needs including: a functional space plan; interior "zoning" for noise-related activities; and visual identity. The first phase of the renovation began over the Christmas-New Year's break, and the project is expected to be completed in the spring of 2018.

The opening of the new look Kamloops Library in 2018 will coincide with the unveiling of a new Bookmobile as well as a new name for the Library System -- Thompson-Nicola Regional Library. Along with a name change, there will be a corresponding change to the Library System's website URL, which will now be [tnrl.ca](http://tnrl.ca).

The proposed name change is expected to enhance name recognition and ease of patron use.







Lac Le Jeune — Source: TNRD Film Commission Library

# 2017 Annual Report

## Finance and Information Technology Services

### 2017 Key Activities and Accomplishments

The Financial Services department provides support and service to all departments of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District as well the Board of Directors and the general public. Our chief goal is to ensure good stewardship and accountability over all financial matters and to provide timely, transparent and clear reporting. Finance works closely with other departments to support the implementation and maintenance of all programs and services.

#### Finance Activities in 2017 Included:

- Providing professional advice to elected officials and other departments
- Budget preparation and monitoring
- Annual 2016 financial statements completed, with external audit providing unqualified audit opinion
- Supplementary financial information published on TNRD website
- Reporting required for the \$5.7 million + in grant funding received
- Carbon emission (CARIP) reporting for 2016 year – carbon neutrality achieved for in-scope emissions
- Finalized updates to utility service rates following public consultation, resulting in improved financial stability for all TNRD utility services
- Assumed billing and accounting responsibilities for Savona Community Water System from contractor, enabling online payment and paperless billing for this service
- Transitioned to in-house accounting and cash-management for TNRD administered volunteer fire departments in Blackpool, Vavenby and Pritchard
- Further development of framework for Asset Management Plan
- Other reporting as required by legislation

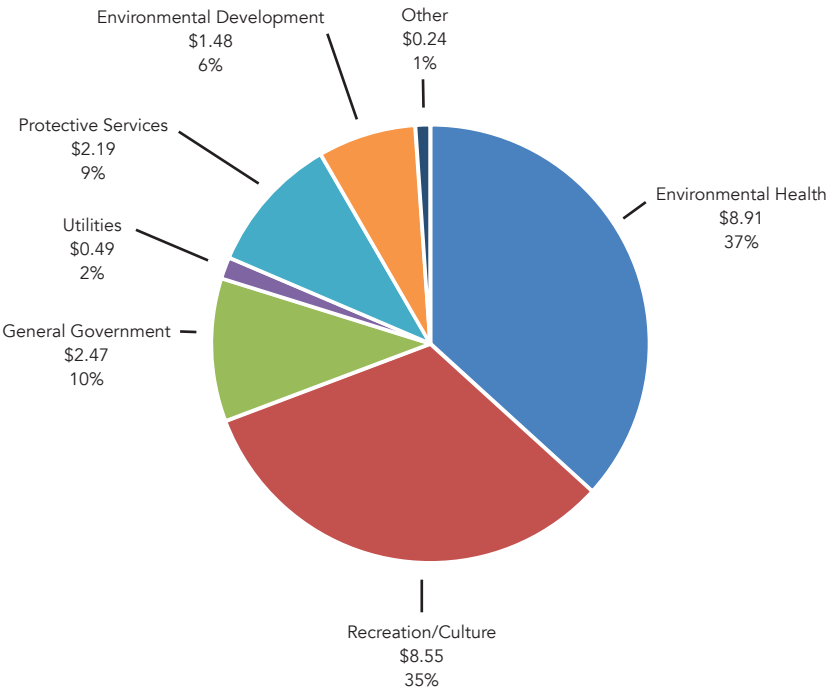




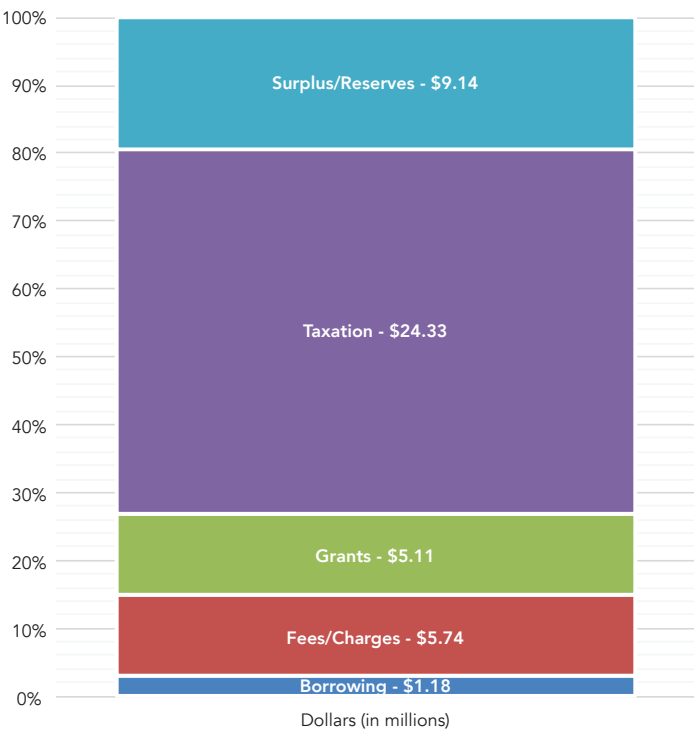
# 2017 Budgeted Revenue and Expenses Charts

The following graphically summarizes the budgeted sources of revenue, along with a breakdown of expenses budgeted by function for 2017. Revenues and expenses are inclusive of surplus funds carried forward from prior years and transfers to/from operating or capital reserves and principal portion of debt payments. They do not include flow-through payments relating to member municipality debt.

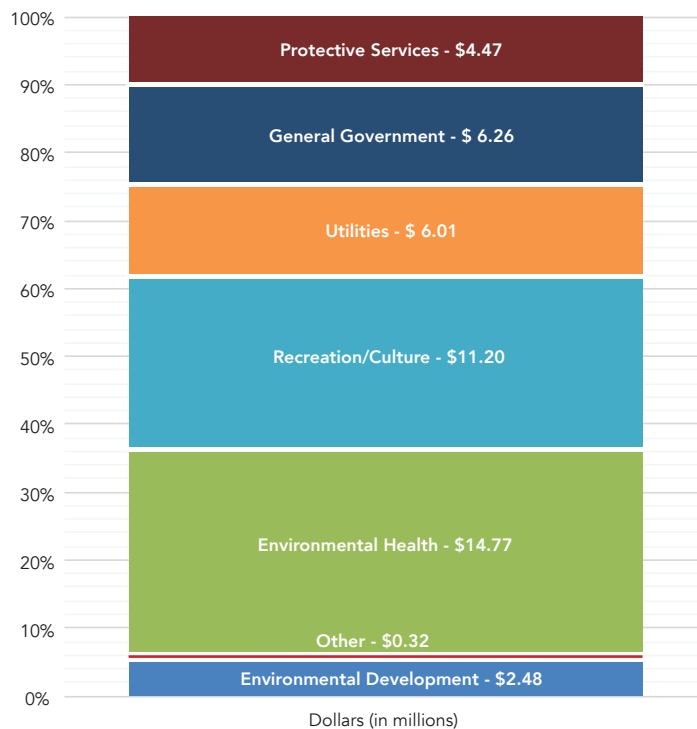
2017 Taxation Revenues by Function (in millions)



2017 Budgeted Revenues (in millions)



## 2017 Budgeted Expenses by Function (in millions)



## 2018 Key Initiatives

- Policy review and update
- Assist with service establishment process for community volunteer fire departments
- Upgrade Star Garden payroll software to newest version and streamline payroll processes
- Begin work on new water service fee rate structure based on consumption, with water meter installations planned in near future
- Completion of an Asset Management Plan

There is much more financial information available on our website ([www.tnrd.ca](http://www.tnrd.ca)) or upon request.





*Hoodoos W of Lower Nicola — Source: TNRD Film Commission Library*





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