



July 27, 2018

For Immediate Release

News Release

Recent changes with North East BC Resource Municipalities Coalition

Earlier this month the North East BC Resource Municipalities Coalition rebranded to reflect a broader image of the organization, now known as the Resource Municipalities Coalition (Coalition). Remaining as a regionally based organization that provides a unified voice for member municipalities, business and communities on responsible resource development, ensuring that resource municipalities, business and communities are involved and engaged in resource development decisions that impact them directly or indirectly.

The Resource Municipalities Coalition welcomes Mike Whalley as their new Executive Director, bringing with him 10 years of experience in aviation management and looking forward to working with the Coalition towards a sustainable future for resource municipalities.

The Coalition would also like to welcome the District of Mackenzie as a member municipality to the Coalition, their 2014 Official Community Plan stated "The District, residents and businesses recognize that successful economic development is rooted in a healthy natural environment and understand that the clean air, water, and natural habitat that the area provides a draw for increased growth. Measures to protect these valuable resources for conservation, recreation and resource management are required."

With this dedication to a sustainable and vibrant community, the District of Mackenzie is a natural fit and welcomed as a member of the Resource Municipalities Coalition.

Fort St John Mayor Lori Ackerman said, "The conversations we have had with colleagues across BC and Canada reflected our need to expand the conversation with other resource municipalities; so rebranding, bringing Mr. Whalley on the team, and welcoming the District of Mackenzie to the Coalition is clearly the right move in our efforts to ensure that resource municipalities, businesses and rural communities are involved and engaged in resource development decisions that impact them directly or indirectly."

District of Tumbler Ridge Mayor Don McPherson said, "The addition of Mackenzie, Mike, and the new brand are exciting developments that will help keep the Coalition in the forefront of advocacy and responsible resource development. I want to welcome Mike and Pat into our team and I look forward to working with them".

District of Taylor Mayor Rob Fraser commented, "The Coalition of Resource Municipalities continues to evolve in an effort to enhance our communities and make them great places to live. It is my great pleasure to welcome the town of Mackenzie; our newest community member. I also want to welcome Mike Whalley as he accepts the position of Executive Director. We all believe the name change will appeal to other resource municipalities who may be experiencing the same opportunities and challenges as we have in Northeastern B.C."

District of Mackenzie Mayor Pat Crook noted, "That being a part of the Resource Municipalities Coalition gives smaller communities like Mackenzie a far greater voice when trying to resolve issues of concerns."

-30-

Media Inquiries

Mike Whalley
Executive Director
Resource Municipalities Coalition
250.793.6754