Northern Health Presents to CCRHD Board
Representatives from Northern Health – Penny Anguish, Chief Operating Officer, Debbie Strang, Health Service Administrator, and Peter Kallos, Regional Director of Development Services – gave the Cariboo Chilcotin Regional Hospital District (CCRHD) Board an update on the Quesnel health services administrative area. They discussed their service priorities, changes with Quesnel medical staff, and completed and proposed capital projects. They also gave an update on how they used the CCRHD’s 40 per cent funding support on recent minor capital purchases.

Cariboo Agricultural Research Alliance Update
David Zirnhelt, Chair, and Serena Black, Coordinator, for the Cariboo Agricultural Research Alliance (CARA), appeared before the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) Board to provide information with regard to the CARA, its accomplishments to date and goals moving forward and to request support. CARA’s vision is to be seen as the steward of Cariboo applied agriculture research, providing access to research outputs, helping to set regional priorities, and providing coordination for programs and projects which are important, on behalf of ranchers, farmers and other user groups.

Secondary Suites Bylaw Adopted
The CRD Board adopted text amendments to a secondary suites bylaw. Secondary suites and carriage houses are now allowed in most residential zones and in all rural zones, with the exception of mobile home park zones and multi-family residential zones. Secondary dwellings are only allowed in Rural 1 and Resource/Agricultural zones. The CRD’s planning department held four public hearings and an online survey to gather public comments on the changes earlier this year. The new Bylaw is available at cariboord.ca/resources/bylaws.

Statement of Financial Information Released
The Board received the CRD’s 2017 Statement of Financial Information schedules and approved them for release to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Statement of Financial Information is a regulatory requirement for all Local Governments in British Columbia under the Financial Information Act. The Schedules and Audited Financial Statements are included in the May 25 Board agenda.

Funding for North Cariboo Trail Project
The Regional District submitted a grant application to Northern Development Initiative Trust for $30,000 towards the Wonder-land Trails project, which is part of the North Cariboo Trail Development project. This project builds on the extensive mountain bike trails development work undertaken in the central and south Cariboo. The Board also allocated $33,000 in Cariboo Strong funds and submitted a Special Circumstances application to the Rural Dividend Fund to support the project. The CRD also submitted two additional Special Circumstances grants to the Rural Dividend Fund in support of upgrades at the Bull Mountain Cross Country Ski Trails and the 100 Mile Nordics Ski Trails.

Grants for Assistance Approved
The Board of Directors approved the following Grants for Assistance:
- $682.50 from Electoral Areas G, H and L’s Grant for Assistance funds for the 100 Mile and District Women’s Centre Society to support their fundraising event;
- $500 from Area K for the Riske Creek Rec Commission to purchase a trailer for a water tank;
- $500 from Area D funds to the Wildwood Community and Recreation Association for the Children’s Festival on May 27; and
- $1,000 from Electoral Area E to support the Williams Lake Farmers’ Market.

Interlakes Fire Truck Assent Vote on Aug. 18
The Regional District Directors approved conducting an assent vote (referendum) within the Interlakes Area Fire Protection Service area. To satisfy Fire Insurance Underwriter requirements, the Interlakes Area Fire Protection Service must replace two engine/pumper trucks in 2019 and 2021. The CRD needs public authorization to borrow the necessary funding, but the estimated annual cost to undertake this borrowing will not require any adjustment to tax rates. General voting day will be on Aug. 18 with advance voting opportunities on Aug. 8 and Aug. 13. Stay tuned for more details about the referendum over the coming months.

Upcoming Meetings:
- Committee of the Whole (Williams Lake) – Thurs., June 21
- CCRHD & CRD Boards (Williams Lake) – Fri., June 22
The Board on the Road meetings scheduled for June 14-15, 2018, in Electoral Area J, have been postponed to 2019 due to scheduling conflicts.