

B.C. on the Move: Engagement Meeting Notes

NOVEMBER 24, 2014

2:30PM

FORT NELSON

ATTENDEES/AFFILIATION	Katherine Wolfenden, Fort Nelson First Nation
MOTI REPRESENTATIVES	Scott Maxwell, Acting Regional Director, Northern Region, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) Bryan Crosby, Acting District Manager, Transportation, Peace District, MoTI
NOTE TAKER	Selina Bull, Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.
KEY THEMES (3-6)	
1) Highways: Fort Nelson First Nation noted that highway safety is a main concern.	
2) Bridges: Fort Nelson First Nation pointed out that the Fort Nelson River Bridge is crucial to the interests and safety of the community and MoTI should provide more information about any upcoming projects.	
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation noted that highway safety is a main concern. Fort Nelson First Nation pointed out that the Fort Nelson River Bridge is crucial to the interests and safety of the community and so the Ministry needs to provide more information about any upcoming projects involving the bridge. 	
MOVING FORWARD – STRATEGIES	
1) Moving People and Goods Safely and Reliably	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation expressed a concern that the Alaska Highway is unsafe for drivers, and especially with turnoffs on corners. Fort Nelson First Nation noted a concern with the way that the Fort Nelson River Bridge drops slightly when a car goes across. Fort Nelson First Nation noted a safety issue with higher speeds that might be expected with a new two-lane bridge and specifically for access to sand and gravel quarries near the bridge. Fort Nelson First Nation pointed out a concern with the lack of shoulders on the highway, especially since there are wide loads coming through the area. 	
2) Growing the Economy	
3) Connecting and Strengthening Communities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation indicated that the Ministry should liaise with Fort Liard in Northwest Territories to consult about Highway 77 and the Fort Nelson River Bridge, especially as it is the main route Fort Liard's community travels to access groceries and services. 	
4) Maximizing Collaboration and Investment with Partners and Stakeholders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation indicated that it was important for the Ministry to liaise with Fort Liard on issues regarding the Fort Nelson River Bridge. 	
TOP THREE PRIORITIES FOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation did not provide priorities for transportation infrastructure improvements at this time. 	
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/DISCUSSION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Nelson First Nation inquired what projects were coming up for the area. Fort Nelson First Nation noted that there would be difficulty in establishing walking trails in the area because they would be on reserve land. Fort Nelson First Nation requested more information about the Fort Nelson River Bridge design. Fort Nelson First Nation expressed a concern that if the rest area intersection near the bridge is moved, the Ministry should connect with tenure holders nearby. Fort Nelson First Nation noted that the council will consider before completing and entering its submission. However, Fort Nelson First Nation also indicated that it does not generally respond to surveys. Fort Nelson First Nation inquired whether the Ministry was considering any projects on the highway itself, or whether the bridge was the sole focus, and asked whether the Ministry would be building shoulders on that highway. 	