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Northern Mayors and Chairs Roundtable Seeks Common Ground

Prince George - Mayors, regional district chairs, and chief administrative officers from across Northern BC will be meeting in Prince George tomorrow to discuss issues of common concern and ways of working together to address them.

“Our goal is to identify common challenges and look at mutually beneficial opportunities,” says Laurey Roodenburg, President of the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) and one of the co-chairs of the Roundtable. “While the communities and regional districts in our association cover 70% of the provincial landmass, we only account for 7% of the overall population. Community leaders in the North know the value of working together and having a regional focus.”

In the NCLGA’s 62 year history, there has never been an event like this. The organization holds an AGM each May, but the pace of legislative change, resource development, and infrastructure decay make the timing of this roundtable critical, according to Ms. Roodenburg. “From 100 Mile House to the Nisga’a village of Gitlaxt’aamix and from Kitimat across to the Peace River Regional District, attendees cover the width and breadth of the region,” adds Ms. Roodenburg. “Mayor Hall first approached NCLGA to co-chair this meeting, and with about 50 people attending, it’s clear that participation alone is confirming the value and timeliness of this meeting.”

The Roundtable will be co-chaired by Prince George Mayor Lyn Hall. “It’s a critical time for the region to come together and establish some priorities with respect to economic development, the environment, and the social development of our communities,” says Mayor Hall. “While this roundtable will be taking place in Prince George and I’m grateful to NCLGA for partnering with us, the discussion will be about the region. I see a direct link between the success of individual communities and the success of the NCLGA region as a whole.”

***The Northern Mayors and Chairs Roundtable will be taking place at the Prince George Civic Centre, in Room 101. Media will be welcome to attend from 11:30am to 12:00pm, and attendees will be available for interviews at noon.**

For additional comment and information, please contact:

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