

Governance

The District of Vanderhoof has an open and transparent government that operates on sound business principles and balances services that meet community needs with equitable taxation. The District has water and sewer infrastructure that meets the need of the entire community, protective services that are adequately funded and is properly prepared to respond effectively to emergencies. The District has enforceable and effective bylaws. Vanderhoof has a municipal office that reflects community aspirations and pride and utilises appropriate technology in municipal operations. The District has good relations with its neighbours.

Strategies

- Continue to improve communication of municipal activities and issues with residents
- Continue to improve relationship with First Nations neighbours
- Review service and finance requirements to better reflect community needs
- Develop a plan to deal with the infrastructure deficit
- Work to ensure that the District office reflects community aspirations and pride
- Review options for technical improvements that will reduce the cost of conducting municipal business
- Implement policy change to ensure that bylaws are enforceable and effective

Social and Cultural Development

Vanderhoof is a vibrant, healthy, safe and welcoming community that people want to call home. The community is a social and cultural sub-hub for the region.

Strategies

- Maintain and enhance municipal recreation parks and trails
- Develop a policy for agreements with all user groups
- Continue to influence and support local health initiatives
- Advocate for equitable use of local hospital board funds
- Work towards a full complement of RCMP officers (as previously agreed upon through dialogue with senior RCMP)
- Actively pursue community safety initiatives
- Continue to support community volunteer groups and initiatives
- Continue to support the work of the Vanderhoof Community Centre Committee and respond to recommendations
- Continue to advocate for and support the work of the Pool Committee and respond to recommendations
- Develop an action plan for approaching the pool referendum
- Advocate and support the Nechako Valley post-secondary education working group to enhance local delivery of post-secondary education and training



Environmental Sustainability

Vanderhoof is an accessible community that adapts to community needs, is senior friendly, has local transportation options and has services and commerce concentrated in the downtown area. The community is an environmental leader supporting climate change adaptation, reduced carbon output and encouraging waste reduction and recycling.

Strategies

- Increase seniors' housing in the community
- Continue to incorporate accessibility in new capital projects and new developments
- Establish a development permit area
- Advocate for rural-specific brownfield redevelopment standards
- Promote the development of public transportation in Vanderhoof
- Encourage climate change adaptation in planning processes
 - Continue to reduce CO₂ emissions from municipal operations
 - Encourage recycling in the community
 - Advocate for implementation of a sturgeon recovery facility

Economic Development

Vanderhoof has a healthy, proactive diversified economy that is ready to take advantage of new and evolving market developments.

Strategies

- That Ensure resources are in place for economic development
- Develop an approach to business attraction
- Continue to implement the business retention plan
- Promote tourism and provide tourist information for Vanderhoof
 - Actively develop and market local events
- Continue to explore the feasibility of a local Destination Marketing Organisation
- Promote the community's amenities and attractions
- Work collaboratively to attract skilled trades and professionals to Vanderhoof
- Develop a policy on funding agreements
- Pursue improvements in 3-phase electricity supply
- Work with the NCLGA to address rural brownfield issues
- Develop a local brownfields utilisation strategy
- Develop a plan to deal with derelict buildings and properties
- Continue to implement the airport development strategy
- Persistent advocacy on flood mitigation
- Work to access funding through the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund