

10/21/2024

First, I would like to address any social media inaccuracies regarding Council and Chet TV. I can honestly say that all of council was concerned, and no-one supported the idea of dropping Chet TV. As the council liaison for Chet TV, I have come to learn the history of the station and admire the dedication of the team that works so diligently to keep Chetwynd and the surrounding areas up to date with accurate information; and keeps our radio station and Bingo going.

I could talk for a very long time explaining the history of Chet TV, and how originally in the 80's Chetwynd watched movies on their TV's with rabbit ears after someone actually drove up to the tower and put a VHS tape in a VCR and played the movies that way, or that Chet TV was one of the first in Canada to receive CRTC rights and certification to broadcast community radio. Prior to that, community radio & TV licenses did not exist and all that we simply had was rebroadcasting. Or I can tell you that Chet TV in 2021 and 2022 donated over two hundred thousand dollars to local not-for-profits because they had a surplus income from bingo and wanted to give back to the community. Unfortunately, Bingo sales have plummeted since then, and Chet TV has recently had to make a request for support funding to keep its doors open. Which is why we are discussing this today.

However, what we need to discuss is the PRRD wanting to change the way they support Chet TV. We need to make it clear that the District of Chetwynd will not take over this function, and instead we need to notify the PRRD that they need to begin the process of updating the function bylaw so that The Chetwynd Communications Society can continue to receive PRRD funding.

When Dan Rose from the PRRD was here recently he said that the bylaws are illegal in the way they manage their funding and instead of correcting things on their end to manage it better or more legally, the easier solution for them is to request the district of Chetwynd to just take over. I would like to clarify simply what he means by illegal. Where the PRRD has organized their funds to come from that support Chet TV needs to be updated or modernized in order to avoid tax conflicts.

If the PRRD amended and updated the bylaws, the conflict would be resolved and the PRRD would continue to operate legally as Mr. Rose wishes, and then there would be no further conflict to continue supporting Chet TV.

So, in order to stop any further conflicts and concerns for Chet TV, the District of Chetwynd Council, and our wonderful surrounding community, I am requesting that our council rejects further discussions at this time to take over Chet TV, and requests that the PRRD amend their bylaws to be able to continue efficiently and modernly supporting Chet TV. In that time the district of Chetwynd can work cohesively with the PRRD to make a plan to help keep Chet TV running.

I also want to share with the community and urge them to consider playing bingo again with Chet TV as something as simple as that can help keep our station doors open, and through them help to support other not-for-profits in the community.

I also want to take the time to thank Marlon Villar Gomez for his continued support and dedication to the District and the community of Chetwynd, we are lucky to work with him, partner with him, and learn from him. Thank-you, Marlon, for your service to Chet Tv and the community and we all wish you the very best in your new position.

#### Draft Resolution

“THAT the Council direct staff to write to the Peace River Regional District Board advising them that Council will take no further action on the Chet TV funding proposal until the Peace River Regional District Board has updated the existing Bylaws pertaining to Function 505 - Chetwynd and Area E Scramblevison and Function 510 - Chetwynd TV.”