Mayor Kerry Cook and Council  
City of Williams Lake  
450 Mart Street  
Williams Lake, BC V2G 1N3  

November 7, 2011  

Dear Mayor Cook and Council:  

As this term of office draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and council for your dedicated public service over the past three years. Some of you will be retiring and others will be back, however, I feel it is important to reflect on some of the many accomplishments we have achieved over the recent past.  

Together we have accomplished many goals to help bring awareness and promotion of the Cariboo Chilcotin. For example, in 2009, together with our municipalities, the CRD was named the Forest Capital of Canada for 2010/2011. The goal of our Forest Capital program was to foster regional partnership through celebration and community support for our forest industry, while bringing awareness of current issues to senior levels of government to attract more resources, to manage the effects of the pine beetle infestation, and create new economic opportunities.  

To launch this program, the CRD, along with the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association, and the New Pathways to Gold Society and our many sponsors, took a bit of the region to BC Street during the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. The exposure surpassed our expectations as over 475,000 Olympic spectators visited BC Street during the two week event while the total global audience who would have seen, heard or read a BC Street feature would be around 3.4 billion people.  

Over the past four years, in collaboration with our municipalities we have been able to open two new flagship libraries; Quesnel and 100 Mile House.
And more recently, during the Union of British Columbia municipalities, our region, along with our neighbours from the Regional District of Fraser Fort George and the City of Prince George, lobbied provincial ministries to ensure the 150th Anniversary of Billy Barkers gold strike were on BC’s radar for 2012. One of those meetings was with the Premier of BC, the Honourable Christy Clark, who announced today the signing of a letter of intent between Barkerville and the Guangdong Museum of Overseas Chinese that will form the foundation for a tour of the Barkerville photographic exhibit in China. Our message was clear, precise and was heard by our provincial government.

On behalf of the Cariboo Regional District Board of Directors, thank you for your dedication and commitment to public service. It has been a pleasure and an honour to serve our residents in making the Cariboo Chilcotin a great place to live, work and play.

Yours truly,

Al Richmond
Chair