

Township endorses federal control of railway right of way

Spallumcheen council is endorsing federal government control of the Armstrong-Grindrod short line as a right of way.

The period for private negotiation ends in early May and if no private sale is made, it will be referred to government.

Council will send a letter to the Minister of State (transport) and to Okanagan-Shuswap MP Colin Mayes to pursue while in Ottawa.

Tate Bengtson, executive director of the

Enderby Chamber of Commerce outlined the impacts of losing the short line.

Businesses such as Sure Crop Feeds, Okanagan Fertilizer and Rogers Flour have dealt with a huge increase in transportation costs now that they

have to transload for highway transportation. Local agricultural producers who receive feeds and fertilizer will be affected as well. Increased highway traffic will not only increase the carbon footprint of the area but also will speed up the deterioration of public roads.

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