



RDOS SEEKING COMMUNITY INPUT ON ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) is holding a series of public information meetings to outline changes to Environmentally Sensitive Development Permits (ESDPs), as well as gather public feedback on the establishment of a nature conservation fund.

Since 2009, RDOS has been working in partnership with the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program (SOSCP) to create the biodiversity strategy, Keeping Nature in Our Future. Completed in 2013, the strategy refines information on sensitive areas in the RDOS and makes up-to-date recommendations for critical directions and opportunities for conservation and stewardship.

“Based on the updated information coming out of Keeping Nature in Our Future we wanted to refine and improve the science-based ESDPs for clarity and consistency,” says Christopher Garrish, RDOS Planning Supervisor. “We were delighted to work with the SOSCP on this very important strategy for the long-term health and sustainability of this region.”

ESDPs have been used in the RDOS since 1997 to assess the impact of development on the natural environment and help protect ecosystems and biological diversity. The upcoming meetings will provide

information on how ESDPs will continue to benefit our region and outline the refined ESDP areas with updated mapping and guidance.

A second initiative that came out of Keeping Nature in Our Future is the need for increased financing to protect important environmental values through the establishment of a local conservation fund. Conservation funds are dedicated sources of revenue held by a regional district or municipality for the specific purpose of undertaking conservation projects. Several BC communities such as Central Okanagan Regional District, Regional District of Central Kootenay and Regional District of East Kootenay have had great success with local conservation funds.

“Without a doubt we live in one of the most spectacularly beautiful regions in the world,” says Bryn White, SOSCP Program Manager. “Our natural environment contributes greatly to our enjoyment and quality of life, including essential resources and services. A healthy environment ensures clean air and water, rich soils, pest control, fire prevention and pollination, among many other benefits. These natural assets are at risk of being lost forever, and along with them, the benefits they provide to our economy and our communities.”

A tentative schedule for the upcoming

public information sessions follows:

Electoral Area “A”
Anarchist, Kilpoola, Rural Osoyoos
December 14, 2015
5 - 7 pm
Sonora Centre
(8505 68th Avenue, Osoyoos)

Electoral Area “E”
Naramata
January 11, 2016
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Old Age Pensioners Hall
(3rd & Ritchie Ave., Naramata)

If residents are unable to attend the public information meeting in their district, additional information regarding the ESDPs is available at the RDOS website:

<http://www.rdos.bc.ca/departments/development-services/planning/projects/esdp-area-update/>.

More information on the Conservation Fund proposal is available at www.soscp.org and residents are invited to share comments there as well.

For interviews or more information contact:

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Bryn White
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RDOS HOLIDAY HOURS AND INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

Natural Christmas Trees, free of contaminants, can be brought to any local landfill in the RDOS free of charge.

Check with your local municipality or the RDOS for potential Christmas street collection programs in your community.

LANDFILL REDUCED WINTER HOURS

December 1 - February 29

Campbell Mountain
Mon to Sat

8:30 a.m - 4:45 p.m.

Okanagan Falls

Mon to Fri

10 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Oliver

Mon to Fri

12 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Sat

10 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Keremeos

Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**All landfills will be closed
Statutory Holidays and
Boxing Day**

**Contact the RDOS at 250-492-0237
for further information**

The main office at
101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC
will be closed over the upcoming
holiday season on:

Dec. 25 and 28 and Jan. 1



RDOS INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING

At the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) Inaugural Board meeting on December 3, 2015 elections were held for Chair and Vice Chair.

Director Mark Pendergraft, Electoral Area "A", Rural Osoyoos was elected as Chair for a fourth year, and Director Andrew Jakubeit, City of Penticton was elected as Vice-Chair for a second year.

"I would like to thank the RDOS Board for their support and I look forward to the year ahead. I plan to maintain a regional perspective while ensuring local concerns are recognized and handled in a fair manner," said Chair Pendergraft.

The Regional Board consists of elected representatives from each of the eight electoral areas and appointed representatives from six member municipalities

within the Regional District.

Director Michael Brydon, Electoral Area "F", Okanagan Lake West/West Bench was elected as Chair to the Okanagan Similkameen Regional Hospital District Board for a second year and Director Judy Sentes, City of Penticton was elected Vice-Chair for a third year.

For further information please contact Christy Malden, Manager of Legislative Services at 250-492-0237 or cmalden@rdos.bc.ca.

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**Regional District of
Okanagan-Similkameen**

RDOS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Selected highlights from the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen held November 5 and November 19.

The Board of Directors awarded the contract of the Campbell Mountain Sanitary Landfill Design, Operations and Closure plan to Sperling Hansen Associates for the amount of \$222,649 excluding GST. The Board also approved a further contingency for the project in the amount of \$75,000.

Landfill operations at the Campbell Mountain Sanitary Landfill (CML) began in 1972 and it currently accepts residential, commercial and light industrial waste from the City of Penticton and the surrounding areas. CML has approximately 1,400,000 tonnes of waste in place. Various on-site diversion activities and curbside recycling programs have reduced the volume of waste landfilled each year. In 2014, 16,208 tonnes of composted/recycled materials were diverted onsite from the landfill, leaving 23,800 tonnes to be landfilled. The RDOS has completed many different components required for the Design Operations and Closure (DOC) plan however some require updates and all need integrating into a complete document. Each component must be reviewed for compliance to the new draft Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste.

As part of the new Operational Certificate the DOC plan must be completed and submitted to the Ministry of Environment by June 30, 2016.

The Board of Directors awarded the design and construction work for the "West Bench Reservoir Design and Construction" to Cumming Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$511,225.00 plus applicable taxes.

The West Bench Water System Upgrade project is now complete and there is enough remaining funds available in the consultant and capital budgets for the West Bench Water System, and from the Building Canada Fund-Communities Component (\$3,380,000) that was awarded to the Regional District for the West Bench Water System Upgrades to proceed with the additional reservoir to cover the shortfall.

The Board of Directors provided the Penticton Indian Band, Range and Animal Management Department with a letter of support for the upcoming grant submission for range restoration and herd reduction options.

The RDOS has been and continues to engage in assisting the PIB in resolving the long standing free roaming horse issue as it crosses boundaries into the RDOS. With the impending new Animal Control Bylaw, the PIB enters a new phase of animal and management control on reserve land.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area "H" Community Facilities Capital Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw. The Hayes Creek Volunteer Firefighters Association has requested funding of \$8,500 for their fire hall building expansion. Earlier this year, they also received \$30,000 for this project. The project is scheduled for final completion in 2016. The Area H Community Facilities Reserve Fund balance is currently \$581,450. A previous expenditure bylaw has \$85,000 of the reserve committed.

The Board of Directors adopted the Naramata Water System Back-Up Power Temporary Borrowing Bylaw and the Naramata Fire Truck Acquisition Temporary Borrowing Bylaw. At the October 1, 2015 the Board adopted Bylaw 2696, 2015 'Naramata Water System Back-Up Power Loan Authorization Bylaw for the acquisition and installation of back-up generator power for the community water utility up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) and Bylaw 2698, 2015 'Naramata Fire Truck Acquisition Loan Authorization Bylaw' for the acquisition of a fire truck up to four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000).



Board of Directors

MARK PENDERGRAFT
RDOS Chair
Area "A" - Osoyoos Rural

GEORGE BUSH
Area "B" - Cawston

TERRY SCHAFFER
Area "C" - Oliver Rural

THOMAS SIDDON
Area "D" - Kaleden/Okanagan Falls

KARLA KOZAKEVICH
Area "E" - Naramata

MICHAEL BRYDON
OSRHD Chair
Area "F" - Okanagan Lake West/
West Bench

ELEF CHRISTENSEN
Area "G" - Keremeos Rural/
Hedley

BOB COYNE
Area "H" - Princeton Rural

ANDREW JAKUBEIT
RDOS Vice-Chair
City of Penticton

HELENA KONANZ
City of Penticton

JUDY SENTES
OSRHD Vice-Chair
City of Penticton

ANDRE MARTIN
City of Penticton

PETER WATERMAN
District of Summerland

TONI BOOT
District of Summerland

RON HOVANES
Town of Oliver

SUZAN MCKORTOFF
Town of Osoyoos

FRANK ARMITAGE
Town of Princeton

MANFRED BAUER
Village of Keremeos

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Areas several Community Works (Gas Tax) Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw, being a bylaw of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen to authorize the expenditure of funds from the Area "H" Community Works Program for Similkameen Improvement District Grant for Nickle Plate Dam.

Electoral Area "E" Tourism and Community Services Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw received three readings in July 2015, and then received approval by the Inspector of Municipalities. The Board may now proceed with the alternative approval process. The deadline for submitting elector response forms in relation to the bylaw is no later than 4:30 pm on December 21, 2015. The total number of eligible electors to which the alternative approval process applies is 1610, and the number of elector responses required to prevent the bylaw from proceeding without a referendum is 161.

Tulameen Fire Truck Acquisition Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2704, 2015 received three readings July 16, 2015, and then received approval by the Inspector of Municipalities. The Board may now proceed with the alternative approval process. The deadline for submitting elector response forms in relation to the bylaw no later than 4:30 on December 21, 2015. The total number of eligible electors to which the alternative approval process applies is 963. The number of elector responses required to prevent the bylaw from proceeding without a referendum is 96.

The Board of Directors adopted the Naramata Fire Prevention and Suppression Local Service Establishment Amendment bylaw. Inside the Naramata fire service area, there are properties that were not included in the original adoption of the fire service area bylaw. The owners of the properties identified as Lot 18, Plan KAP51753, District Lot 207, SDYD, Lot 1, Plan KAP62665, District Lot 266, SDYD and Lot16, Plan KAP51753, District Lot 207, SDYD have applied to the RDOS to expand the Naramata fire district boundary to include their properties. The properties surrounding the identified properties are within the existing Naramata fire protection area.

The Board of Directors authorized that elector approval for the adoption of the RDOS Willowbrook Water Services Establishment bylaw be obtained through an alternative approval process. In December 2010, the owner of the Willowbrook Utilities sent a request expressing interest in having the Regional District assume the ownership and operation of the Willowbrook Water System. Willowbrook Utilities is located in the community of Willowbrook in Electoral Area "C" north-west of the Town of Oliver. The water system services a population of approximately 82 parcels which equates to approximately 180 residents and funded by utility fees that are collected from the water users of Willowbrook. In 2011 the RDOS applied for and received a "Restructure Implementation Grant" to proceed with the process of transferring the Willowbrook Utilities water system to the Regional District. In March of 2015, an Information Meeting was held in Willowbrook with MMM Group providing a presentation outlining the history and background of the Willowbrook Water System. An

Alternative Approval Process will be held in the new year.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area "A" Community Works (Gas Tax) Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw.

The project entails bringing power to the park at Sasquatch pond on Anarchist Mountain as well as installing a pump and short water line to enhance recreational use of the area. Any costs over the \$40,000 allocated from Area "A" Gas Tax contribution will be funded by the Community Association.

The Area "A" Community Works (Gas Tax) Reserve balance at the end of 2014 was approximately \$249,000. The estimated 2015 allocation is approximately \$95,000.

The Board of Directors adopted the Electoral Area "F" Community Works (gas tax) Reserve Fund Expenditure Bylaw.

The project will utilize up to \$60,000 of Gas Tax funding to enhance active transportation and recreation opportunities by installing nineteen (19) Class 1 LED lights and poles along the West Bench Pedestrian Corridor/ Pathway and installing LED signage lighting.

The Area "F" Community Works (Gas Tax) Reserve balance at the end of 2014 was approximately \$286,000. The estimated 2015 allocation is approximately \$102,000.

The Board of Directors, pursuant to the Community Charter, gave consent to the City of Penticton to provide sanitary sewer services outside of their boundaries to the Penticton Airport according to their agreement with the Ministry of Transportation.



Seated left to right: Peter Waterman, Frank Armitage, Andrew Jakubeit, Mark Pendergraft, Karla Kozakevich, George Bush, Judy Sentes
 Standing left to right: Andre Martin, Toni Boot, Ron Hovanes, Terry Schafer, Michael Brydon, Suzan Mckortoff, Manfred Bauer, Tom Siddon, Helena Konanz, Bob Coyne, Elef Christensen



*The Regional District of
 Okanagan-Similkameen Board
 of Directors and staff would like
 to wish all citizens a happy and
 healthy holiday season!*



2016 BOARD MEETING DATES

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

January	February	March	April	May	June
7	11	10	7	5	2
21	25	24	28	19	16
July	August	September	October	November	December
7	4	1	6	3	1
21	18	15	20	17	15