

REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

in this issue

GREEN CHRISTMAS

Many locations to recycle Christmas trees and Christmas lights.

NARAMATA FIRE

Naramata fire protection area expansion.

RDOS BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The main office at 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC will be closed over the holiday season from December 24, reopening January 3



MANY LOCATIONS TO RECYCLE CHRISTMAS TREES AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Give your Christmas Tree and burnt out Christmas lights a second life this holiday season by recycling them at one of many convenient locations throughout the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen.

Used Christmas lights and all other lighting equipment can be recycled for free at the J&C Bottle Depot in Penticton, the T-2 Bottle Depot in Oliver and the Osoyoos Bottle Depot. The Campbell Mountain Landfill, Oliver and Keremeos Landfills can also accept lighting equipment free of charge. For more information visit www.lightrecycle.ca.

Several communities offer Christmas Tree collection or drop off programs for clean, natural trees:

- For a donation, the Penticton Fire Fighters Local 1399 will pick up Christmas Trees from December 27 to January 16. All donations received will go to the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters Burn Fund and Muscular Dystrophy charities. Penticton and West Bench residents can call 250-490-2315 to register for collection. Residents can also drop off clean natural Christmas Trees at Fire Hall #2 at 285 Dawson Ave from December 26 to January 31.
- District of Summerland residents can call the Fire Hall at 250-404-4087 or e-mail sfd@summerland.ca to request collection of their Christmas Trees. For a donation Summerland Secondary students will be out collecting trees on Sunday, January 8 and Sunday, January 15. Donations go to the Summerland Secondary Dry Grad.
- Town of Oliver residents can drop off Christmas Trees at the south gate of the Oliver Public Works Yard at 5971 Sawmill Road. This service will run

from December 26 to Friday, January 6. This program is supported by the local Air Cadets.

- Town of Osoyoos residents can drop off Christmas Trees adjacent to the washroom at Kinsmen Park (on boulevard) or at the Northwest Corner of the Parking Lot below Sun Bowl Arena sign until Monday, January 9. Questions can be directed to Operational Services at 250-495-6213 or pubworks@osoyoos.ca.
- In Naramata, trees will be collected the week of January 12. If you live in Naramata and would like your Christmas Tree picked up by volunteers, please ensure it is clean of artificial snow, tinsel and ornaments and place it at your curbside. Please advise Craig Henderson that you wish to have your tree picked up, 250-496-5222 or craig@vip.net. This community service is sponsored by the Naramata Citizens Association, Craig Henderson of Royal LePage Locations West Realty, EZ Bins and the RDOS.

All landfills in the Regional District will accept, free of charge, up to 500 kg (1,100 lbs) of yard waste including clean natural Christmas Trees. Trees must be free of tinsel, artificial snow, ornaments and lights. The trees will be chipped and given new life as animal bedding or compost. Burning Christmas trees create strong smoke due to moisture in the wood and needles. Fine particulates from smoke have been linked to respiratory and heart diseases. Any tinsel, artificial snow or ornaments left on the tree will create added pollution.

If you have any questions, please contact the RDOS Solid Waste Department at 250-490-4129, toll free 1-877-610-3737 ext. 4129, e-mail info@rdos.bc.ca or visit www.rdos.bc.ca.



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Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen



NARAMATA FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AREA EXPANSION

The Community of Naramata has recently agreed to expand its fire protection coverage area to include over 90 Properties.

On October 6th, 2016 the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen adopted Bylaw No. 2733, 2016 Naramata Fire Prevention and Suppression Local Service Establishment Amendment. The bylaw incorporates all remaining properties located within the existing service area that were not included in the original service and additionally, the service has expanded to include several properties in the North Naramata Road, Glenfir Road, Chute Lake Road and Indian Rock Road areas.

“The Naramata Volunteer Fire Department, along with RDOS

staff, have worked diligently to make the expansion of fire protection and first response services available to the residents of Indian Rock and Glenfir. I feel it is extremely important that we offer these services to as many residents of Area E as possible. I am very proud of our team of volunteer fire fighters and medical first responders.” Said RDOS Electoral Area “E” Director Kozakevich.

The Naramata Volunteer Fire Department has provided 61 years of invaluable service to the community and will continue with the expansion north. Plans are underway to construct a secondary fire station in the Chute Lake Road area to support the recent

expansion. The new facility will house appropriate fire fighting vehicles and equipment which will better enable fire crews to respond in a timely manner to incidents in the area.

With the expanded fire protection service comes a medical first response program. The Naramata Fire Department maintains a roster of trained and certified medical first responders who can perform patient care for the public until the arrival of the ambulance.

The Expansion of the Naramata Fire Protection service area assists the Regional District with its desire to create a socially sustainable community by providing critical life and property saving services to its residents.

RDOS

Board of Directors

MARK PENDERGRAFT
Area “A” - Osoyoos Rural

GEORGE BUSH
Area “B” - Cawston

TERRY SCHAFER
Area “C” - Oliver Rural

THOMAS SIDDON
Area “D” - Kaleden/Okanagan Falls

KARLA KOZAKEVICH
Chair
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

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Town of Osoyoos

FRANK ARMITAGE
Town of Princeton

MANFRED BAUER
RDOS Vice-Chair
Village of Keremeos

RDOS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Selected highlights from the regular meetings of the Board of Directors of the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen held December 1 and 15.

The RDOS Board of Directors awarded a five-year contract for the Transportation and Processing of Recyclable Asphalt Shingles to Intercity Recycle Ltd. By awarding this contract, the diversion of recyclable, old asphalt shingles will continue from disposal at Regional District administered landfills.

Tax requisition funds are transferred from the Province to the RDOS on August 1, 2017. As such, the Regional District may borrow funds to meet the current year's expenditures until these funds are received. The RDOS Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw was adopted by the RDOS Board of Directors.

An alternative approval process has commenced for the Okanagan Regional Library Contribution Services Bylaw. The bylaw received three readings August 18, 2016 and then received approval by the Inspector of Municipalities. The deadline for elector response forms is Friday, January 6, 2017. The number of electors in the proposed service area is estimated to be 2,756, and if the number of elector response forms signed is less than 10% the Board of Directors may consider adopting the bylaw.

Jack Bennetto, District Manager of Transportation, Okanagan Shuswap District, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure addressed the RDOS Board of Directors regarding Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure initiatives for 2017.

Linda Larson, MLA for Boundary-Similkameen addressed the RDOS Board of Directors to present a wrap-up of 2016 and a look forward to 2017.

The British Columbia Office of the Fire Commissioner recently released the 'Structure Firefighters Competency and Training Playbook'. The "Playbook" establishes a new fire training standard for all Fire Departments in B.C. Staff have reviewed the new standards along with the seven Regional District fire departments and it has raised concerns for our ability and capacity to meet the identified standards while maintaining volunteerism and budgets. In its 2016 Business Plan, the RDOS Board identified the need to seek qualified expertise to address these matters. A Fire Master Plan will provide an analysis of each Regional District fire department and offer guidance to address current and future issues related to, but not limited to, growing service needs, the continued challenges of recruitment and retention and meeting additional responsibilities required by the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Worksafe BC and other governing legislation and agencies.

The RDOS Board of Directors authorized the Chair and CAO to execute a contract with Dave Mitchell and Associates Ltd. for \$50,000 for the purpose of providing a Fire Master Plan to include the seven Regional District Fire Departments.

The RDOS Board of Directors approved the purchase of a 0.6 acre lot and the purchase of a 4.6 acre lot contingent on the successful subdivision rezoning and consolidation with the existing Creek Park parcel to maintain and enhance an existing trail from the

Townsite of Naramata to the Kettle Valley Rail Trail. Creek Park Trail is a well used public foot path adjacent to Naramata Creek, leading to scenic waterfalls and the KVR Regional Trail.

The Regional District will be providing a letter of support to Travel Penticton to renew the 2% Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT). If a business indicates on its registration for a Provincial Sales Tax number that it provides four or more units of accommodation in a B.C. jurisdiction that collects the municipal and regional district tax (MRDT), it is automatically set up to collect MRDT. Travel Penticton provides tourism marketing and attraction services on behalf of the City of Penticton and they are partially funded by the MRDT. Travel Penticton receives permission to collect the tax from the Province of British Columbia and they are currently in the process of renewing their permit. The MRDT is jointly administered by the Minister of Finance, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Destination British Columbia.

The RDOS Board of Directors adopted the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Environmental Conservation Service Establishment bylaw. An alternative approval process for this bylaw completed on December 5, 2016. The number of elector response forms needed to prevent the adoption of the bylaw was 5,603, and only 60 were received prior to the deadline. Elector approval was obtained and the Board of Directors have adopted the bylaw. The RDOS Board of Directors gave third reading to the Naramata Water Extension bylaw and the Naramata

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Water System Development Cost Charge Amendment bylaw. A new development group for Kettle Ridge applied for subdivisions in 2015 and 2016 and is moving forward with the construction of the development. The Lands are currently outside of the Naramata Water Service Area and the corresponding Development Cost Charge boundary. The owners of the aforementioned Lands have petitioned the Regional District for entry into the Naramata Water System and have agreed to pay the existing development cost charges and any additional costs associated with bringing water to these properties.

The RDOS Board of Directors appointed Directors to committees and external agency appointments as follows:

Municipal Finance Authority - Chair and Vice Chair

- Karla Kozakevich (Board Chair)
- Manfred Bauer (Vice Chair), alternate

Municipal Insurance Association - Chair and Vice Chair

- Karla Kozakevich (Board Chair)
- Manfred Bauer (Vice Chair), alternate

Okanagan Basin Water Board – Participants are Electoral Areas A, C, D, E, F, part of G, City of

Penticton, District of Summerland, Town of Osoyoos, Town of Oliver

- Sue McKortoff
- Ron Hovanes
- Peter Waterman
- Tom Siddon (alternate to Director Martin)
- Mark Pendergraft (alternate to Director McKortoff)
- Toni Boot (alternate for Peter Waterman)

Okanagan Film Commission - Participants are all jurisdictions

- Andrew Jakubeit

Okanagan Regional Library - Participants are Electoral Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G

- Karla Kozakevich
- Elef Christensen - Alternate

Okanagan Sterile Insect Release Board - Participants are Electoral Areas A, B, C, D, E, F & G, City of Penticton, District of Summerland, Town of Osoyoos, Town of Oliver, Village of Keremeos

- George Bush
- Terry Schafer - Alternate

Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition - All jurisdictions

- Frank Armitage

Southern Interior Municipal Employees Association - All jurisdictions

- Karla Kozakevich
- Andre Martin

Starling Control – All jurisdictions

- George Bush

UBCO Water Research Chair Advisory Committee – All Jurisdictions

- Manfred Bauer

Sustainable Rural Practice Communities Committee – All Jurisdictions

- Sue McKortoff

Intergovernmental FN Joint Council – Board Chair, Vice Chair and one other member

- Karla Kozakevich
- Manfred Bauer
- Mark Pendergraft

The Regional District entered into agreement with the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) to take possession of their milfoil equipment; and, will hold that title in trust for OBWB and their Members.

The RDOS Board of Directors approved the RDOS 2017 Business Plan. The RDOS Board and Senior Management Team meet each autumn and, amongst other processes, consider the internal and external environment that they need to work in as a basis for planning the Business Plan.

The RDOS Board and Staff wish everyone happiness and prosperity to come in 2017.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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