



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Aug 19 Board Meeting Highlights

Encorp Information Briefing; IPG Agreement for Land Development; Lakes Community Cemetery Going to Alternative Approval Process; Village of Valemount asks for Regional Air Quality Committee

Encorp Information Briefing

Neil Hastie, the CEO for Encorp Pacific provided a brief overview on their operations across the province. Encorp is a product stewardship corporation that operates 170 "Return It" depots in BC. Mr. Hastie provided a look at Encorps' operations in the Fraser Fort George region, noting they have 3 depots in Prince George and one in each Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount. In our region, 2.1 million kg of beverage containers are recycled, which works out to an average of 307 per person, making our region the second highest rate in the province.

IPG Agreement for Land Development

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George will be entering into an agreement with Initiatives Prince George to carry out Phase Two of the Industrial Lands Development project, which identifies areas within the Regional District suitable for industrial development. Phase one included the development of an Industrial Business Opportunity Profile, completion of detailed site evaluations for seven identified sites, and the establishment of an Industrial Lands Advisory Committee to identify issues and processes for bringing Regional District industrial lands to market-readiness. The next phase of the plan includes looking at options for disposition of land, defining standards and acceptable impacts of potential uses and development of a proactive marketing program.

Lakes Community Cemetery Going to Alternative Approval Process

A proposal calling for the creation of a cemetery along Ness Lake Road will seek elector approval through an alternative approval process (AAP). A previous attempt to establish a cemetery service in the Lakes area occurred in 2004/2005, when the proponents anticipated a \$25,000 land acquisition fee, and included that in their anticipated expenses. The proposal went to referendum but was narrowly defeated. A free Crown grant is available for the land, so the cost of the service would be reduced significantly from what was proposed in the earlier referendum. Under the AAP, electors within the proposed service area have a certain amount of time to advise the Regional District of their objections to the proposal. If more than 10% of the electors hold this opinion, then the local government cannot proceed with the proposed bylaw, agreement, or other matter without holding a referendum.

Village of Valemount asks for Regional Air Quality Committee

In a letter to the Regional District, the Village of Valemount is requesting the Regional District strike a Regional Air Quality Committee. The request comes after Valemount and surrounding areas have been faced with dust issues from Kinbasket Lake. The Village is requesting the Regional District take the lead, as the air quality issues extend beyond the borders of one municipality or electoral area. Directors with the Regional District voted to have staff examine the issue and bring back a report for their consideration.

Community Grants

The Board approved the following requests for Community and Recreation Grants:

- \$5796 to the Reid Lake Community Association for well upgrades
- \$7000 to the Bear Lake improvement Society for improvements around the cemetery and townsite
- \$2000 to the Summit Lake Community Association for hoses and miscellaneous fire equipment

For further information, please contact
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