



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2007

December 20 Board Meeting Highlights

Regional District Honours the Memory of Shelley Zenzen; 2008 Board Chair and Vice Chair Named; Investments in Equipment and Improvements for Area Fire Halls; RD Applies for \$114,000 from UBCM Community Tourism Program

Directors of the Regional District of Fraser Fort George took a moment of silence before the commencement of the December 20th Board Meeting to honour the memory of Shelley Zenzen, Director for Willow River – Upper Fraser who was killed in a tragic motor vehicle accident earlier in the week.

Shelley served on the Board for the Regional District since 2002. This tragic loss is felt by all the staff and Directors who had the good fortune of working with Shelley. Shelley cared deeply for her area and the region as a whole. Her valued time with the Regional District included serving on a number of both internal and external boards and committees including:

- Chair of the BC Caucus and Vice President for BC with the Yellowhead Highway Association
- Chair of the Prince George Treaty Advisory Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Cultural Services Advisory Committee

Our time with Shelley was much too brief, but her contributions to the betterment of the Fraser Fort George region will be felt for years to come. The Regional District of Fraser Fort George extends sincere condolences to Shelley's family during this difficult time.

2008 Board Chair and Vice Chair Named

Art Kaehn, Director for Area E (Hixon-Woodpecker) and Harvey Clark, Director for Area C (Chilako River-Nechako) have been re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair of the Regional District of Fraser Fort George for 2008. Following the re-election, Directors Kaehn and Clark thanked the Board for their confidence and said they looked forward to a good year ahead.

Investments in Equipment and Improvements for Area Fire Halls

The Regional District of Fraser Fort George approved close to \$170,000 for new equipment and hall improvements for three area Volunteer Fire Departments. The funding comes from the capital reserve funds for each respective fire department.

- The Shell-Glen Volunteer Fire/Rescue Service has been approved for \$105,000 for the purchase of a new cab and chassis.
 - The Beverly Fire/Rescue Service has been approved for \$35,000 for the purchase of approximately 10 acres of land to be the site of a new fire hall for Beverly Fire/Rescue Service.
 - The Ness Lake Fire Hall has been approved for \$29,000 to assist with the purchase and installation of a pre-engineered, insulated, steel building for the Ness Lake Fire Hall addition. The total cost of the building is estimated at \$160,000.
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RD Applies for \$114,000 from UBCM Community Tourism Program

The Regional District has applied for funding from Phase Two of the UBCM Community Tourism Program. The goal of this program is to assist local government in increasing tourism activity that will build stronger economies, and result in new, increased activities. In the first phase, the Regional District received \$114,000 to fund various projects like the Cultural Marketing Plan and improvements at Regional Parks. The Regional District is asking for another \$114,000 for initiatives including implementation of the Cultural Marketing Plan, improvements at Regional Parks and highway signage at entrances to the Regional District.

At a Glance:***Building permits***

A total of 519 permits have been issued up to December 7 of this year; 56 more than were issued for the same period last year. 90 single-family dwelling permits valued at \$20,720,000 have been issued.

Community Grants

The Board approved \$32,335 in Community and Recreation Grants to the following:

- Ness Lake Recreation Commission for volunteer appreciation night and program costs, hall maintenance, computer upgrade and newsletter costs
- Pilot Mountain Recreation Commission for computer, printer and memory sticks and volunteer appreciation dinner
- Salmon River Recreation Association for facility maintenance and supplies and newsletter costs
- Beaverly Community Association for newsletter costs
- Cariboo-Ferndale Community Association for outdoor ice rink costs
- Giscome Elementary School for seniors luncheon costs
- Willow River Volunteer Fire Department for renewal of an existing grant
- McBride Community Hall Society for kitchen equipment supplies
- Reid Lake Community Association for washroom renovations and upgrades to the electrical system in the Reid Lake Hall.

For further information, please contact
Reneé McCloskey
Manager of External Relations
Regional District of Fraser Fort George
(250)960-4453