



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2008

December 18 Board Meeting Highlights

New Regional Board Sworn in, 2009 Board Chair and Vice Chair Named; Towns for Tomorrow Application; Board to Consider Funding for Updated Regional Parks and Trails Plan; Outgoing Directors Recognized

New Regional Board Sworn in, 2009 Board Chair and Vice Chair Named

The fourteen directors of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George were sworn in today during a brief ceremony at the start of the Regional District's regular monthly meeting. The Regional District welcomed seven new directors to the Board, including:

Dan Rogers (City of Prince George)
Dave Wilbur (City of Prince George)
Bob Smith (Village of Valemount)
Lara Beckett (Area C)

Garth Frizzell (City of Prince George)
Debora Munoz (City of Prince George)
Warren Wilson (Area A)

Art Kaehn, Director for Area E (Hixon-Woodpecker) was re-elected as Chair of the Regional District of Fraser Fort George for 2008. Terry Burgess, Director for Area G (Crooked River-Parsnip) was elected as Vice-Chair. Following the re-election, Directors Kaehn and Burgess thanked the Board for their confidence and said they looked forward to a good year ahead.

Towns for Tomorrow Application

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George will be submitting a funding request for \$400,000 for a Towns for Tomorrow Grant to support upgrades to the Beverly Fire/Rescue facility. The current building is 24 years old and supports the fire department and area-wide rescue. Other projects that were considered for the program included an addition to the Shell-Glen Fire/Rescue Department Hall and renovations to the Reid Lake Community Hall

Towns for Tomorrow was launched in December 2006 as part of the Province's effort to address the unique challenges faced by smaller communities in British Columbia with respect to sustainability and meeting their infrastructure needs. Now a five-year, \$71-million program, Towns for Tomorrow provides funding for infrastructure projects that address climate change and contribute to the overall health, sustainability and livability of communities.

Board to Consider Funding for Updated Regional Parks and Trails Plan

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Board of Directors was asked to consider including a request for \$70,000 for upgrading the Regional Parks Plan, as part of the 2009 budget deliberations. The request pointed out that existing plan is 22 years old and should be updated to incorporate opportunities for trails in Prince George and other communities within the Regional District. The proposal will be considered as part of the budget discussions in early 2009.

Outgoing Directors Recognized

Following the conclusion of the Board Meeting, a celebration was held to recognize the outgoing directors who have completed their terms on the Regional District Board.

Colin Kinsley (City of Prince George)

Don Zurowski (City of Prince George)

Don Bassermann (City of Prince George)

Murry Krause (City of Prince George)

Jeannette Townsend (Village of Valemount)

Denis Gendron (Area A)

Harvey Clark (Area C)

Chairman Art Kaehn thanked all the directors for their years of service and contributions to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George.

For further information, please contact

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