



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 22, 2008**

### **February 21 Board Meeting Highlights**

#### **Regional District Gets Update on Mt Milligan Mine Project; Crooked River Parsnip Official Community Plan; Golden Raven Marketing Plan Moving Forward; Building Permit Stats and Community Grant Information**

At the February 21 meeting of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, directors heard a presentation from Glen Wonders of Terrane Metals to update on the progress of the Mt. Milligan mining project. The well-known and advanced copper-gold project is located 155 km northwest of Prince George. It is well positioned with good infrastructure such as road, rail and power already in place.

The company is hoping for construction to begin in 2009, with the mine becoming fully operational by the end of 2011, or early 2012. During the two year construction period, the project will create an estimated 750 jobs. Once operational, the mine is expected to employ 350-400 people, most of whom are expected to reside in either MacKenzie or Fort St. James. Capital expenditures to establish the mine are estimated at \$827 million.

Terrane Metals is now in the environmental approval process, which includes consultation with the McLeod Lake Indian Band, the Nak'azdli First Nation, the West Moberly First Nation and the Halfway River First Nation northwest of Fort St. John.

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#### **Crooked River-Parsnip Official Community Plan**

The Board gave second reading to a new Official Community Plan (OCP) bylaw for the Crooked River-Parsnip area. The new OCP is to cover the entirety of Electoral Area 'G' of the Regional District, starting just south of the Salmon River Forest Road, running north to the Peace Reach on Williston Lake, including the Pine Pass. The new OCP will replace the Crooked River-Bear Lake OCP and the McLeod Lake-Azu Rural Land Use Bylaws. The Summit Lake area will also be included in the new OCP and removed from the Salmon-River Lakes Official Community Plan area to coincide with Electoral Area 'G' boundaries. A Public Consultation meeting was held on February 5, 2008 and there will now be Public Hearings held in several locations to give residents the best opportunity for input.

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#### **Golden Raven Marketing Plan Moving Forward**

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has entered into a contract with Initiatives Prince George to coordinate the implementation of the Golden Raven Cultural Marketing Plan. The plan revolves around the marketing of the eight Regional District funded cultural facilities as an experience. The board adopted the Golden Raven brand for this marketing plan in July 2007. Extensive marketing and advertising are in place for a launch this spring that promotes the Region's cultural attractions. Some of the initiatives include advertising in tourism and other trade publications, website, media launch, brochures and rack cards, site signage and orientation and training for facility staff.

### **2008 Building Permits off to a Strong Start**

The Board received a report highlighting that a total of 24 permits, valued at \$1,389,000 were issued during the month of January 2008. 4 single-family dwelling permits valued at \$889,000 have been issued, compared to 1 dwelling in January 2007. Building permits are required for construction throughout the Regional District.

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### ***Community Grants***

The Board approved Community and Recreation Grants to the following:

- Reid Lake Community Association for a volunteer appreciation banquet
- Pilot Mountain Recreation Commission for a volunteer appreciation dinner, newsletter costs and insurance
- Association des Parents Francophone de Prince George for a cultural workshop program
- Ness Lake Recreation Commission for insurance
- Mud River Beaverly Farmers' Institute for their Annual General Meeting
- McBride Secondary School for Senior Girls' travel expenses
- Valemount Secondary School for Senior Girls' travel expenses, and
- Sinclair Mills Education and Recreation Club for first aid courses.

For further information, please contact  
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