



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 18, 2010

February 18 Board Meeting Highlights

Regional District Partners with Barkerville for Golden Raven Marketing; Directors Killam and Wilbur returned as Regional Hospital Chair and Acting Chair; Decision on Miworth Temporary Industrial Permit Postponed; Regional District provides recommendations for review of Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Regional District Partners with Barkerville for Golden Raven Marketing

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has entered into a marketing partnership with Barkerville Heritage Trust to include the historic site in the Golden Raven Cultural Marketing Program. Through the partnership agreement, the Regional District will include Barkerville in all Golden Raven marketing materials for 2010, provide training and orientation for staff and other support. In return, Barkerville will promote Golden Raven cultural facilities to the more than 65,000 visitors who come to Barkerville each year, and leverage their own marketing program with the Golden Raven initiative.

The Board has also received a letter from Fort St. James National Historic Site requesting inclusion into the Golden Raven marketing program. The Board directed that discussions should take place to determine the terms of partnership agreement with Fort St. James.

Directors Killam and Wilbur returned as Regional Hospital Chair and Acting Chair

Director Stephanie Killam and Director Dave Wilbur were returned as Chair and Acting Chair respectively for the Regional Hospital Board for 2010. The primary function of the Regional Hospital District has been to share in the capital expenses of Northern Health's health care facilities and medical equipment within the Regional Hospital District boundary. The Board also approved a bylaw to adopt the annual operating budget for the year 2010 of just over \$5.5 million.

Decision on Miworth Temporary Industrial Permit Postponed

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George agreed to postpone a decision on issuing a temporary industrial use permit for gravel screening and crushing in the Miworth area. Director Beckett put forward the motion, citing that postponing the decision one month would allow the proponent to place a covenant on his property that reduces heavy truck traffic coming out of his property, which was the main concern for residents in the area.

The covenant would restrict the number of loads of processed gravel to a maximum of three per hour. The covenant would enable restricting both the crushed and pit run truck traffic coming off the site, while the permit alone would only regulate the crushed gravel.

Regional District provides recommendations for review of Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George will be sending three recommendations to the Special Committee to Review the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). The recommendations call for a stronger connection between the governing bodies of local governments and FOIPPA; the authority for governing bodies of local governments to waive fees; and greater access to corporate records by elected local government representatives.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act is legislation which imposes responsibilities on local government to provide access to information to the general public, to provide access by individuals to person information about them which is in corporate custody and allow personal information to be corrected, to safeguard personal information from inappropriate access and to refrain from the unauthorized collection or use of person information.

Community Grants

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

- \$10,000 to the Tabor Lake Clean Up Society for weed harvesting operations
- \$500 to the Red Rock Community Association for office expenses
- \$650 to the McBride Farmers Institute for liability insurance
- \$600 to the McBride Secondary School PAC Students for travel costs for "Encounters with Canada" program
- \$3000 to the Valemount Curling Club for ice plant repairs and building heating costs
- \$3000 to the Valemount Secondary School for travel expenses to attend Provincial Championships

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