



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2011

June 16 Board Meeting Highlights

Neighbourhood Learning Centre Feasibility Study received; Update from the Prince George Airport Authority; 2011 Golden Raven Cultural Marketing Program Launched; Foothills Regional Landfill 2010 Annual Report released;

Neighbourhood Learning Centre Feasibility Study received

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George received a study that examined the feasibility of exploring the Neighbourhood Learning Centre concept for rural schools in the region. The report looked at opportunities for extended use of schools in Hixon, Nukko Lake and Giscome/Willow River. The Regional District and School District No. 57 partnered on the report, after receiving a \$10,000 School Community Connections grant. The Regional District will be seeking a meeting with the School District to review recommendations from the report. The School District will be receiving the report at their June 28 meeting.

Update from the Prince George Airport Authority

Representatives from the Prince George Airport Authority presented their 2010 Annual Report to the Regional District. Highlights from the past year include a 3.8% increase in passengers, acceptance into the Asia Pacific Gateway marketing program, and close to \$1.4 million in capital improvements. For 2010, the Airport Authority achieved an operating surplus of \$90,000.

2011 Golden Raven Cultural Marketing Program launched

Directors received an update on the Golden Raven Cultural Marketing Program. The annual marketing program promotes 10 different cultural facilities in the region. The marketing program includes an extensive advertising campaign, marketing collateral, and a brochure featuring information and money-saving coupons from each of the 10 participating sites. The Golden Raven facilities are Exploration Place, Two Rivers Gallery, Railway and Forestry Museum, Huble Homestead, Mackenzie and District Museum, Whistle Stop Gallery in McBride, Valley Museum and Archives in McBride, Valemount and Area Museum, Fort St. James National Historic Site and Barkerville. Brochures are available at all Golden Raven sites and visitor info centres in Northern BC.

Foothills Regional Landfill 2010 Annual Report released

Directors were presented with the 2010 Annual Report for the Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill. Highlights of the report include:

- A total of 96,577 tonnes was managed at the Foothills facility.
- 19,435 tonnes of material received at the Landfill were diverted through recycling, onsite use as cover material, or compost.
- Approximately 77,142 tonnes of waste, or 98% of all waste landfilled at Regional District facilities was buried at the Foothills site.
- 5,846 tonnes of yard and garden waste were received in 2010.
- Annual groundwater monitoring efforts continued in 2010 with two separate sampling events. Overall, sampling results from 2010 are relatively consistent with results from previous years.
- Based on the Volume and Site Life Assessment, the estimated lifespan of the current footprint is seventeen years.

Community Grants

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

- \$685 to the Reid Lake Community Association for insurance
- \$500 to the Tabor Lake Recreation Commission for program expenses and insurance
- \$3500 to the Cariboo-Ferndale Community Association for program expenses and insurance
- \$2000 to the Tabor Lake Recreation Commission for program expenses and insurance
- \$4000 to the Autumn Lodge Society for seniors wellness and recreation
- \$15,000 to the Mackenzie Fire Fighter Association for a rescue truck purchase
- \$2500 to the Robson Valley Community Development Visitor Service Centre for visitor centre activities
- \$300 to the Miworth Community Association for covered recycling containers

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