



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 20, 2008**

### **June 19 Board Meeting Highlights**

## **Board Approves Industrial Land Profile; Tipping Fees Increased; Regional District Supports Bank Stabilization for Shelley and Miworth**

### **Board Approves Industrial Land Profile**

The Board of Directors with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has approved a comprehensive study that evaluates and prioritizes the best sites for potential industrial development with the Prince George area. The Industrial Land Profile study builds on a similar piece of work that was developed in 2002, and is updated to recognize the various social and economic changes that have occurred since 2002, and those that are forecast for this region.

The new Industrial Land Profile has been built through regular consultation with members of a Steering Committee, as well as a larger stakeholder group representing many organizations and interests in the area.

The new profile contains improved graphics and includes the Prince George Airport South site. Through the process, some of the potential sites also had their recommended use levels altered, mainly to reflect their potential impact on the Prince George airshed. Specifically, the Willowdale and Shelley #2 sites were changed to be acceptable for light industrial use, unless climatic modeling can upgrade them to some intermediate industrial uses.

The Hart North site, located between Salmon Valley and Summit Lake, remains the strongest contender to be able to accommodate heavy industrial use. Hart North has excellent access to rail and highway, is located on the BC Hydro transmission line, is next to natural gas and oil pipelines, is partially out of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and has Land Commission preliminary approval for the rest. It is a very large site (approximately 30 sq. km.) [3,000ha], and is already designated in the Official Community Plan for industrial development.

The new Prince George Area Industrial Land Profile will be made available to prospective industrial investors via posting on websites, hard copies, summaries and the development of an industrial land inventory. Copies of the Industrial Land Profile are available on the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George website at [www.rdffg.bc.ca](http://www.rdffg.bc.ca)

### **Tipping Fees Increased at Regional Landfills & Transfer Stations**

The Board has approved a 4.5% increase to tipping fees at the following landfills and transfer stations:

- Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill
- Mackenzie Regional Landfill
- McBride Regional Transfer Station
- Valemount Regional Transfer Station

The increase comes as a result of rising costs from servicing contracts such as hauling and maintenance for the landfills and transfer stations. The increase sees the base tipping rate rise \$2 per tonne from the current rate of \$44 to \$46. In general, the typical residential user will not be impacted by the tipping fee increase, as it applies to mostly commercial haulers, and commercial loads of construction materials, gypsum and special wastes.

### **Regional District Supports Bank Stabilization for Shelley and Miworth**

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is writing letters of support for three different applications to the Flood Hazard Mitigation Fund for bank stabilization projects in Shelley and Miworth. The Shelley Bank Stabilization Project would help protect over 20 homes and properties along a 300 metre stretch on the banks of the Fraser River. The cost for that project is estimated at just under \$1 million. The Island Park Drive Bank Stabilization Project would help protect 7 homes and properties along the Nechako in the Miworth area. The Bergman Road Bank Stabilization Project would help protect 7 homes and properties along the Nechako in the Miworth Area. Costs for the two Miworth projects are still being determined.

### Community Grants

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

- Ness Lake Firefighters Society for a land survey
- Prince George Exhibition
- Salmon River Recreation Association for pump replacement
- Beverly Volunteer Firefighter Association for semi trailer costs
- Tabor Lake Cleanup Society for the weed harvesting program
- Tabor Lake Recreation Commission for insurance and community programs
- Cariboo Ferndale Community Association for skating rink/tennis court improvements
- Longworth Community Association metal roof replacement
- Willow River Recreation Association for insurance and community programs
- Bear Lake Improvement Society for landscaping, labour and picnic tables
- Bear Lake Recreation Association for hall insurance
- McLeod Lake Indian Band for an Education Celebration
- McLeod Lake Post Historical Society conservation and feasibility plan
- Summit Lake Community Association for chairs for the hall, and
- Dunster Community Forest Society for community forest mapping.

The Board approved the payment of \$30,000 for a Community Grant-In-Aid for the Fort George Highway Rescue Society to be shared between Electoral Areas 'A', 'E', 'F' and 'G'.

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