



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2008

October 16 Board Meeting Highlights

Former Administrator Honoured; Trading Landfill Gas Emission Reduction Credits; Reports from UBCM Meetings; Mutual Aid Agreements Approved;

Former Administrator Honoured

A moment of silence was held to honour former Regional District administrator Dave Wilson, who passed away earlier this month. Mr. Wilson served as the administrator for 10 years, until his retirement in 1997. Mr. Wilson was credited for making the regional 9-1-1 system a reality. He also laid the groundwork for the region's first Solid Waste Management Plan. In his tribute remarks, Regional District Chairman Art Kaehn said Wilson was an integral part of the growth and development of the Regional District and credited him for helping to build the professional and political careers of many in the region.

"Though he is sadly no longer with us, we take comfort in knowing he has left a lasting legacy not only in this organization, but in this region as a whole. He was one of a kind, and we were thankful for his many contributions to the Regional District," said Kaehn.

Trading Landfill Gas Emission Reduction Credits

The Regional District has approved in principle a greenhouse gas emission trading arrangement. The arrangement would see the Regional District enter into a contract with the Green Municipalities Corporation to trade emission credits generated from incinerating landfill gas collected at the Foothills landfill. The Green Municipalities Corporation main purpose is to work with local governments across Canada to pool and trade greenhouse gas emission reductions. Green Municipalities Corporation will act as an agent and broker on behalf of local governments and market these credits through the emission trading market place.

There are two agreements as part of this process that the Regional District is working on. The first deals with the terms of a repayable \$525,000 grant from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities that would support improvements and expansion of the landfill gas collection and flare system and cover legal costs associated with the preparation of the trade agreements.

The second is a Project and Transfer Agreement between the Regional District and the Green Municipalities Corporation for the emission trading. Revenue generated from the emissions trading would initially be used to pay back the \$525,000 grant and cover initial marketing and sales costs associated with the sales of the emission reductions. Once the grant has been paid back revenues would flow directly to the Regional District.

Since 2003, the Regional District has reduced greenhouse gas emissions in the order of 70,000 tonnes, which is equivalent to removing 13,000 cars from the road.

Report from UBCM Meetings

Chairman Art Kaehn reported that the Regional District had the opportunity to meet with several provincial ministers during the recent Union of BC Municipalities conference in Penticton. Meetings were held with Ministers Bell (Forests & Range) Falcon (Transportation & Infrastructure), Abbott (Health Services) and Lekstrom (Community Development). Two resolutions sponsored by the Regional District were passed at UBCM. Director Harvey Clark proposed a resolution regarding funding for community parks and Director Ken Starchuk proposed a resolution to protect groundwater resources.

Mutual Aid Agreements Approved

The Regional District has approved mutual aid agreements for volunteer fire departments in Beaverly, Salmon Valley, Ness Lake and Pilot Mountain. Mutual aid agreements lay out the process and requirements for other departments to respond and assist a department in responding to an incident when needed.

Community Grants in Aid

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

- Pineview Volunteer Firefighters Association for rescue upgrades
- Tabor Lake Cleanup Society for weed harvesting program and weir repairs
- Pineview Recreation Commission for grand opening of the hall and Halloween festivities
- Nukko Lake Recreation Commission for swimming program
- Reid Lake Community Association for swimming program
- Salmon River Curling Club for operating expenses
- Salmon River Recreation Association for roof repairs
- Reid Lake Community Association for ceiling repairs
- Nukko Lake Recreation Commission for insurance and equipment
- Ness Lake Recreation Commission for swimming program and volunteer event
- Reid Lake Community Association for volunteer event
- Beaverly Community Association for fireworks display
- Pineview Oldtimers Slow Pitch League for ball diamond project
- Nadslinich Lake Community Association for fireworks display
- Miworth Community Association for insurance, swimming, fireworks and miscellaneous

For further information, please contact
Reneé McCloskey
Manager of External Relations
Regional District of Fraser Fort George
(250)960-4453