



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2011

September 15 Board Meeting Highlights

Support provided to explore feasibility of biodiesel plant; New mapping application unveiled; Traveling exhibit for Barkerville supported; New engine approved for Shell-Glen Volunteer Department

Support provided to explore feasibility of biodiesel plant

The Regional District has provided support in the way of a \$10,000 grant through Northern Development Initiatives Trust (NDI) to explore the feasibility of a biodiesel plant. Sustainable Northern Solutions Society is heading up the initiative to examine the feasibility of collecting waste vegetable oils and processing them into biodiesel as an affordable and environmentally sustainable alternative to traditional diesel fuel. The study would look to confirm the availability of feedstock quantities in the Prince George area and identify infrastructure and costs of a pilot facility. The City of Prince George has also provided a \$10,000 grant. The total value of the project is estimated at \$115,584. The proponent is seeking the remaining funding for the feasibility study from other grant funding sources

New mapping application unveiled

Staff from the Regional District provided an overview on a new online mapping application that has been added to the Regional District website. The site is a portal where you can view and download free maps and GIS data, or look up property information using the online web mapping applications. The mapping application is compatible with Google Earth and users are able to download mapping images and open them in Google Earth. The site provides links to other municipal mapping sites in the region, and other related links. The site can be accessed at <http://www.rdffg.bc.ca/Maps/GIS/>.

Traveling exhibit for Barkerville supported

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is supporting an application by the City of Prince George to help fund a travelling exhibit for Barkerville in China. Barkerville has been invited to develop an exhibit to travel to Hong Kong and South China in 2012. The City of Prince George is assisting Barkerville with the development of the exhibit as a way to benefit the region's economic development and tourism opportunities, and as part of its fulfillment of the friendly city agreement and strong connection with Jiangmen, located in the Guangdong Province in China. The City of Prince George is applying for funding through the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition (OBAC) and the Regional District will be providing a letter of support.

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New engine approved for Shel-Glen Volunteer Fire Department

The Shel-Glen Volunteer Fire Department will be adding a new engine to the department. Directors approved awarding the contract for the new engine to Hub Fire Engine Ltd. for the amount of \$324,974. The new engine will have a foam system for more effective fire suppression abilities, and updated technologies and safety features. The engine has a two door cab and an enclosed crew module and pump panel, which protects the pump operator from weather elements. The new engine replaces the old frontline fire engine, which will be 20 years old in 2012.

Community Grants

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

- \$5596 to the Ness Lake Recreation Commission for community hall accessibility improvements and for Utilities and miscellaneous operating expenses
- \$5160 to the BC Old Time Fiddlers Association for a sound system
- \$5000 to the Pineview Recreation Commission for preschool and hall improvements
- \$3000 to the Buckhorn Recreation Commission for insurance, swimming and miscellaneous expenses
- \$2500 to the Ferndale/Tabor Volunteer Fire Department for equipment
- \$3500 to the Sinclair Mills Education and Recreational Club for insurance, programs, swimming and miscellaneous expenses
- \$500 to the Dunster Community Association for refurbishing signs
- \$1400 to the Fraser Headwaters Alliance for Goat River trail maintenance

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