



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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September 17 Board Meeting Highlights

**Regional District and City of PG Work Together on Community Wildfire Protection;
Funding Sought for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting System Upgrades; PGX & Firefighter
Games a Big Success**

Regional District & City of PG Work Together on Community Wildfire Protection

In a presentation to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Board, Dan Adamson from the City of Prince George and consultant Bruce Blackwell requested the Regional District's involvement in a Community Wildfire Protection program. A report commissioned by the City identifies high and very high wildfire hazards on Crown lands within 10 kilometres of the city boundary. These forests, in their present state, pose a serious fire hazard to the City of Prince George and residents and lands within the RDFFG.

Following the presentation, the Board of Directors approved working with the City of Prince George to prepare and submit an application to UBCM for \$80,000 in grant funding to cover the development of wildfire mitigation planning. The City also plans to work with the Lheidli T'enneh, provincial representatives and other key stakeholders.

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George went through a similar process for Crown lands in the vicinity of Bear Lake. The planning and prescription stages have been completed on that project and the Regional District is now moving towards treatments this fall and winter.

Funding Approved for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting System Upgrades

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has approved spending \$19,190 to fund software upgrades to process data from the Landfill Gas System at the Foothills Landfill. In 2002, the Regional District installed a landfill gas collection system as part of its Landfill Gas Management Plan. With the system, landfill gas is captured and incinerated in order to reduce greenhouse gases. Data from the system, including methane concentration, oxygen concentration and gas flows are recorded regularly. The current system involves taking the data and manually transferring into spreadsheets and reporting templates. The upgrade would provide the capacity to automatically generate required tables and figures for landfill gas reporting.

The funding comes from the Community Works Fund, which provides for the transfer of federal gas tax funding to local governments to support projects with outcomes of cleaner air, cleaner water or reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The Regional District has received close to \$1.4 million from the Community Works funding program and has so far allocated about \$470,000 of that for projects such as sewer system construction, water system upgrades and the Corporate Climate Change Action Plan.

PGX & Firefighter Games a Huge Success

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has a strong presence once again at the 2009 Prince George Exhibition. The Regional District hosted a public education display at the event. With a record 46,000 people taking in the five day exhibition, the Regional District received excellent exposure. The booth provided information on services at the RDFFG. Staff from the service centre were on hand to answer questions on everything ranging from regional parks to the 9-1-1 call answer system.

The Regional Fire & Life Safety Group coordinated the annual firefighter games. The Games attracted 80 competitors from volunteer fire departments from as far as Terrace and 150 Mile House. All 11 Volunteer Departments within the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George were represented. The Games not only showcased the skills and athleticism of these important volunteers, but also provided an opportunity to promote the departments and recruit volunteers.

Community Grants

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

- \$3000 to the Buckhorn Recreation Commission for insurance and programs
- \$22,500 to the Pineview Oldtimers Slo Pitch for ball field improvements
- \$40,000 to the Bear Lake Improvement Society for Wildfire Protection Plan consulting costs
- \$5000 to the Bear Lake Improvement Society for a memorial wall at the Bear Lake Cemetery
- \$1000 to the McLeod's Lake Centennial Club for the Hall grand opening

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