

THE REGIONAL REPORT

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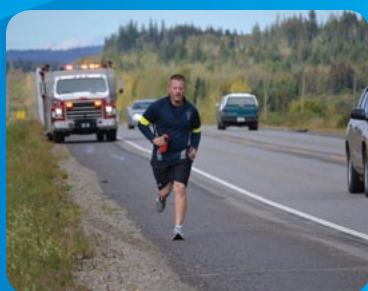
WELCOME TO THE REGIONAL REPORT,

a regular newsletter designed to keep residents aware of programs, initiatives and events underway in the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. If you have comments, feedback or ideas for articles to be featured in future editions of Regional Report, please email us at district@rdffg.bc.ca, call 1-800-667-1959 or write to us at: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, 155 George St., Prince George, B.C., V2L 1P8 ▲

Beaverly Fire/Rescue RELAY RUN

Firefighters from the Beaverly Fire/Rescue Department participated in a special relay event September 21 along Highway 16 West from their western service area boundary at Bednesti Lake to the fire/rescue department's eastern service area boundary at East Beaverly Road.

Fire Chief Bruce Perrin said the event served a number of purposes. "We wanted to create more awareness for the department which will help our recruitment efforts, and more importantly we want to promote health and wellness for our members and the community," he added. The Beaverly Fire/Rescue Department was established in 1983. Rescue services are provided from Bednesti to the City boundary, and fire protection services are provided to the community of Beaverly and surrounding area. There are 28 members in the volunteer department. ▲



Lieutenant Dustin Nelson, Rescue 12 vehicle behind him as the escort vehicle

Firefighters from the Ferndale, McBride and Pilot Mountain Volunteer Fire Departments were called into action in September when a wildfire raged in Tweedsmuir Park. The Office of the Fire Commissioner requested the firefighters to help protect the Nature Trails Wilderness Lodge in the Park. ▲

McBride Fire Hall IMPROVEMENTS

The McBride and District Fire Hall's face lift is now complete. The hall was upgraded with energy efficient windows, additional insulation and metal cladding on the exterior with funding from the Gas Tax Fund. Exterior lights were replaced with energy efficient LED light fixtures. ▲



Before



After

Illegal DUMPING

The Regional District has produced a video to bring awareness to the issue of illegal dumping. There are more responsible options available than simply making your garbage someone else's issue.

The video can be viewed at the link below:

Further information about what can be recycled and where in our region, visit:

Further information about what is accepted at our landfills, locations of our transfer stations and other information visit:

www.rdffg.bc.ca/Services/Environment/Solid_waste/Waste_Minimization/Landfills/index.html

And for those on smart phones, or I-phones, don't forget about the My Waste app for recycling information and Prince George municipal garbage collection schedules all at your finger tips:

www.rdffg.bc.ca/Services/Environment/Solid_waste/MyWasteApp/waste_app.html ▲



Emergency Operations Centre training.

Emergency TRAINING

Instructor Murray Bertram from the Justice Institute of B.C. led a recent course for Regional District staff and other agencies on how an Emergency Operations Centre functions during a major emergency or disaster. ▲

Community Consultation COMMITTEE

The Community Consultation Committee (CCC) model was approved by the Regional Board in September 2013 following a review of the models that existed previously as well as broader issues surrounding public input and engagement. The new model aims to incorporate flexibility and adaptability for communities of the Regional District

that have single local services or for those that have multiple local services sharing a boundary. Local services may include fire protection, rescue service, community sewer systems, community water systems, community halls and other services funded and provided at the local level. The focus will be on the financial aspect of the local service.

Membership in these committees is voluntary and you must be a resident of the service area for the local service. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee in your area, or to find out more about the new committee model, please contact your Electoral Area Director or the Regional District Corporate Officer. ▲

SPOTLIGHT ON AREA C - CHILAKO RIVER-NECHAKO

Area C occupies over 2800 square kilometers and includes the rural communities of Mud River, Beverly, Miworth and West Lake. There are 3,434 residents who are represented by Director Lara Beckett. Regional District services offered in Area C include fire services coordination, 911 Emergency Response, community halls, parks, solid waste management, land use planning, the West Lake community sewer system and building inspection services. A volunteer fire department is located in Beverly, which also houses the Chilako/Nechako rescue agency. ▲

Regional PARKS

Berman Lake Regional Park is located 45 kilometres west of Prince George via Highway 16 and Norman Lake Road. The 38 hectare park has 3 kilometres of trails that follow the shoreline and naturally formed eskers. Facilities including picnic tables, fire pits, toilets, change houses, canoe launch and a beach with a swimming area.



Both parks are day use only and ATVs are not permitted. ▲

Wilkins Regional Park is located 15 km west of Prince George via Otway Road. The 57 ha Park has a large system of trails offering scenic views of the large cottonwood trees and the Nechako River. Facilities include a picnic shelter with a wood burning stove, toilets, picnic tables, fire pits, a boat launch and a large lawn to hold events. ▲



Community HALLS

Community halls are located in Miworth and West Lake (Nadsilnich Lake). They are operated by non-profit societies and available for events such as dinners, meetings, special occasions and community and private functions. The halls are available for rent by contacting the Regional District office. ▲



Nadsilnich Lake Hall



Miworth Community Hall

The EXPLORATION PLACE

The Exploration Place Science Centre and Museum in Prince George is renovating its galleries and installing a new aquarium. The 1500 gallon aquarium has a 'bubble' feature in the middle that allows visitors to



Aquarium expert Ken Wong from Vancouver installing The Exploration Place's new aquarium.

view the sturgeon from inside the tank. A display will be set up around the tank, so the area has the look of a typical northern B.C. river where sturgeon would make their home.

The Museum is also hosting the new temporary exhibition, 'Kids Celebrate!', on loan from the Canadian Museum of Civilization, until February.

The exhibition evokes the seasons and family and community settings. Visitors expand their knowledge of the common characteristics of celebrations such as music, dance, food, decoration, costume and games and explore how celebrations instill values and histories and bring together families, communities and cultures throughout the year.

The Exploration Place continues to receive accolades for its work, taking

home a Tourism Impact Award at the Prince George Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards this fall. And Bob Campbell, The Exploration Place's Manager of Curatorial Services, was this year's recipient of the BC Museums Association Museums in Motion Award of Merit for his work on the exhibition "Cultural Expressions of the Lheidli T'enneh", highlighted in the last issue of Regional Report. ▲



Illustration: Stéphane Jorisch

ABOUT US

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is home to over 93,000 residents and covers 52,000 square kilometers in central British Columbia – an area almost as large as the province of Nova Scotia. It extends from the Pine Pass in the north to Hixon in the south, and from Bednesti Lake west

of Prince George to the Alberta border. As a local government, the Regional District is accountable to the residents of the region. Services provided include fire protection, 9-1-1 emergency services, solid waste management, community sewer and water systems, land use planning, cultural and recreational services and parks. Total operating expenditures in 2012 were \$29.3 million.

The governing board of the Regional District has fourteen directors: four appointed by the City of Prince George from its council, one appointed by each of the councils of the District of Mackenzie, Village of McBride and Village of Valemount, and seven directors elected from within each of the seven electoral areas covering the unincorporated portions of the Regional District. ▲