

Board Highlights

From the December 10, 2014 Regular Meeting



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1. Chesterfield Sports Society (Cowichan Sportsplex) Contribution Services Established

Following public approval by referendum in November, the Board adopted four new financial contribution service bylaws to assist the Chesterfield Sports Society with costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the Cowichan Sportsplex. The new services have been established in Electoral Areas A – Mill Bay/Malahat; C – Cobble Hill; D – Cowichan Bay; and E – Cowichan Station/Sahtlam/Glenora. Public support for these new financial contribution services ranged from 56% in Area A to 73% in Area E. During the upcoming budget discussions, the Board will decide exactly how much residents in these areas will be taxed in 2015, keeping in mind that the maximum amount is specified in the bylaw pertaining to each electoral area. Contact: [Joe Barry](#), Corporate Secretary

2. Cowichan Aquatic Centre Financial Contribution Services Established

The Board adopted two new financial contribution service bylaws, following public approval by referendum in November, to assist the Cowichan Aquatic Centre with costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the facility. The new services have been established in Electoral Areas F – Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls and I – Youbou/Meade Creek. Public support for these new financial contribution services ranged from 55% in Area I to 60% in Area F.

After adoption of the two bylaws, the Board approved entering into Equal Access Agreements with Duncan and North Cowichan to give residents from Areas F and I equal access to the Cowichan Aquatic Centre by removing the two-tier payment system. Residents from Areas F and I will receive the same reduced admission, program, facility rental fees, and opportunities as other contributing jurisdictions. Contact: [Joe Barry](#), Corporate Secretary

3. 2015 Rock Of The Woods Public Meeting To Be Scheduled

Rock of the Woods is an annual music festival held in the Cowichan Valley. The 2015 event is proposed for July 23rd to July 26th on a 38 acre site off Irvine Drive in Electoral Area E – Cowichan Station/Sahtlam/Glenora. The festival is expected to draw 1000 attendees per day.

The Cowichan-Koksilah Official Community Plan and the CVRD's Development Application Fees and Procedures Bylaw were recently amended to establish a process in Area E for special events. The process allows the Board to consider and authorize special events that are non-compliant with zoning through the issuance of a temporary use permit. The Board has directed that a public meeting be held for Special Event Temporary Use Permit Application 1-E-14TUP (2015 Rock of the Woods). Contact: [Rob Conway](#), Manager, Development Services

4. Direction Given to Increase Community Policing Budget

In response to a request from the Municipality of North Cowichan, and following a presentation from Carol Ann Rolls representing the Cowichan Community Policing Advisory Society, the Board gave direction to prepare a bylaw amendment that would increase the maximum annual requisition by 24.9% for the North Cowichan Duncan RCMP Community Policing Annual Contribution Service. The partners in this contribution service are the City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan and Electoral Area D – Cowichan Bay. Contact: [Joe Barry](#), Corporate Secretary

5. Statutory Right of Way Approved For Wessex Ravine Trail in Cowichan Bay

The proposed Wessex Ravine Trail in Electoral Area D – Cowichan Bay will connect Hecate Park and Wessex Ravine Park beside Wessex Creek in the vicinity of the former cannery fish plant. The owner of the new residential condominium development will be constructing the trail along the creek, however there is a section of the trail corridor that is reduced by half due to the creek cutting into the dedicated area. Therefore, a portion of the trail has to be constructed on the condominium property. Both the developer and the Board are in favour of a statutory right of way enabling the trail to cross a small portion of the condominium property so that the trail can be built at full width. Contact: [Tanya Soroka](#), Parks and Trails Planner

6. Development Permit Application Process To Be Reviewed For All Electoral Areas

In response to public expression of interest for higher quality development in South Cowichan and Cowichan Bay, new development permit areas and corresponding guidelines to help shape higher quality development are included in both of their new Official Community Plans. Staff recommended that a refinement of development permit guidelines and the overall application process would result in improved service to the public and greater efficiency in the Planning and Development function. The Board agreed and have directed the preparation of bylaw amendments to refine development permit guidelines and development permit exemptions. Bylaw amendments have also been requested to streamline the processing of development permit applications for all electoral areas. Contact: [Ann Kjerulf](#), Senior Planner

7. Financial Assistance Provided to Various Groups and Organizations

The Directors approved the issuance of grant-in-aid funding to the following organization:

- \$550 to Cowichan Land Trust from Electoral Area F – Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls to assist with costs to provide administrative support.

Contact: [Sharon Moss](#), Manager, Finance

Board Highlights is a monthly publication of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. This publication is a synopsis only of the Regional Board meeting. Full agenda packages, meeting minutes, and archived video can be found on the CVRD website at this [link](#). Subscribe to the “Notify Me” Agenda Alerts and don’t miss a single Board or Committee agenda; subscribe [here](#). Like the CVRD on [Facebook](#) and/or follow the CVRD on [Twitter](#) to keep informed on what’s happening in your regional district.

The Regional Board meets at the CVRD Office, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC. on the second Wednesday of each month, except when scheduled otherwise in advance. For more information, contact Corporate Secretary [Joe Barry](#).