



ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA A | CASSIDY | CEDAR | YELLOWPOINT | SOUTH WELLINGTON

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Cedar Skatepark

The long-awaited Cedar Skate Park is open to the public, with the official Grand Opening Celebration set for Saturday, May 24 at 11 am. The park is located in the south-eastern corner of the Cedar Community Secondary School property, off of Walsh Road, and I have noticed at least three dozen youth using the facility every day since it opened in February.



Director
Alec McPherson

Our 930-square-metre skate park is designed for both skateboards and bikes and includes a variety of obstacles and features appropriate for beginners and experienced riders. The park can accommodate 40 to 50 users at a time. This park was a true community effort. Local youth had significant involvement in the design process, community businesses and individuals donated generously, and the Cedar Skatepark Association worked tirelessly toward this goal for more than a decade. My congratulations to everyone involved.

The final project cost for the park is \$589,000 including the cost to construct the parking lot, which was not within the original scope of the project. The Province of BC, through the Community Recreation Grant (2012) contributed \$439,410; the RDN contributed \$99,500 and the Cedar community fundraised and contributed \$50,000 towards the project.



Cedar Village Sewer Servicing Study

The RDN is dedicating \$50,000 from the federal Gas Tax Fund transfer to complete a Sewer Servicing Study. The study will examine options for properties within the Cedar Village to connect to the Duke Point Pollution Control Centre and pay for their required capacity as a means of providing Cedar Village with sewer services.

The Duke Point Pollution Control Centre is a secondary-level wastewater treatment facility designed and constructed by the Duke Point Development Ltd. to treat residential-strength wastewater from the industrial park. Since 1999, when ownership was transferred to the RDN, Cedar Secondary School and a handful

of homes in the Cedar community have connected to the DPPCC and now receive sewer services. While the treatment facility currently operates at only 10 per cent of its design capacity, the current Agreement and bylaws do not allow for any more new connections outside of the currently established service areas.

The sewer servicing study aims to update the existing agreement and bylaws and expand the eligible service area. It represents a significant step forward in the realization of adequate sewer servicing and the development of Cedar Village as envisioned in the Cedar Main Street Village Plan. Additional connections will improve the operating efficiency of the plant and lower the per capita



This flyer is intended for residents in RDN Electoral Area A. Overlapping postal routes could result in some City of Nanaimo, Ladysmith and adjacent electoral area residents receiving this newsletter. We hope you find the content of interest.

highlights

- * Cedar Skatepark
- * Cedar Village Sewer Servicing Study
- * RDN Rebates

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operational costs. Residents, stakeholders, and First Nations will have opportunities to provide their input to the study. Study completion is targeted at December 2015.

RDN Rebates

The Green Building Incentive Program celebrated its most successful year in 2013, and the RDN will continue to support residents in Electoral Areas and the District of Lantzville in taking action to improve their built environment.

Green Building Incentives help homeowners invest in reducing household energy and emissions. In 2013, over \$50,000 was distributed to residents in RDN Electoral Areas and Lantzville, helping residents upgrade their homes and save money over the long term while generating local economic benefits for the region. For example, for every dollar the RDN invests in the woodstove exchange program, residents put \$6.50 back into the local economy. For home energy retrofits, the ratio can be as high as ten dollars for each dollar invested by the RDN.

For 2014, the RDN has made adjustments to the Program to reflect changes at the provincial and federal levels. In response to the end of the popular provincial LiveSmart BC program, the RDN will now rebate half the cost of an initial home energy assessment, up to \$150. With no confirmed provincial funding for the Woodstove Exchange program for 2014 RDN incentives will be offered again starting in October.

At the federal level, the EnerGuide rating system for home energy efficiency is evolving. Once released, the new rating systems will be incorporated into the RDN's Home Energy Assessment and Sustainable Development Checklist Incentives.

In addition to the RDN's Green Building Incentives, Rainwater Harvesting and Rural

Water Quality Protection Rebates continue to be available region-wide through the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Program. These include:

up to \$750 for residential rainwater harvesting systems with 1000 imperial gallons of storage or more;

cost-sharing for various well protection upgrades, \$50 - \$500 available;

50 per cent off full-spectrum water quality tests for private well owners.

See www.rdnrebates.ca for details and pre-approval application forms. For more information about the Rainwater Harvesting and Rural Water Quality Protection Rebates, email watersmart@rdn.bc.ca or call (250) 390-6560. For more information about all incentives offered through the RDN, visit rdnrebates.ca or call (250) 390-6510 or (250) 954-3798. The RDN will continue to publicize new incentives as they become available.

Secondary Suites

At the April, 22 2014 RDN Board meeting, the RDN Board gave third reading to zoning bylaw amendments that will, when adopted, allow secondary suites in Electoral Areas A, C, E, F, G and H. To address issues related to the recognition of existing suites, bylaw enforcement and building inspection, the Board also adopted a secondary suites policy that will take effect following adoption of the two amendment bylaws.

The RDN Board embarked on the Secondary Suites Project to make things easier for homeowners and renters in the Region. Residents showed strong support for secondary suites throughout the 2013 consultation process. Community members listed housing affordability,

the ability to age in place and/or care for a family member, and housing choice as some of their reasons for supporting secondary suites.

Morden Colliery Tipple

The RDN Board has approved up to \$15,000 in funding to assist the Friends of the Morden Mine with obtaining a detailed engineering study of the Morden Colliery head frame and adjacent tippie. Located in Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park in South Wellington, the head frame and tippie are recognized as the most complete above-ground remains of an historic coal mine on Vancouver Island and the earliest-built of two such reinforced concrete structures in North America.

The Friends of the Morden Mine is a registered non-profit society dedicated to the preservation of the head frame and tippie. The \$15,000 in funding provided by the RDN is contingent on the society obtaining the remainder of the engineering study funding from other sources.

For more information about the Friends of the Morden Mine, visit www.mordenmine.com or email info@mordenmine.com.

Nanaimo River Bridge and Morden Colliery Trail

The RDN and Herold Engineering are currently working on a study that will result in concept designs for the Nanaimo River Bridge, and are also beginning survey work and trail design for the Morden Colliery Trail. This work is in its early stages and will be ongoing. Electoral Area A contributed \$79,750 in Community Works funding to this regional project, including \$50,500 for trail and bridge design work and \$29,250 for survey and assessments.



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