

C

ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA C | EXTENSION | ARROWSMITH-BENSON | EAST WELLINGTON-PLEASANT VALLEY

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Anders and Dorrit's Community Park

Over 60 people attended the open house for Anders and Dorrit's Community Park on Sept. 5. The park is at 3734 Jingle Pot



Director
Maureen Young

Road (across from GP Cottonwood Stables) and is open to the public. This property was donated to the RDN by Anders and Dorrit Olesen for use as a community park.

The RDN is still looking for more

public input about the design and use of the park, so I encourage members of the community to fill out the online questionnaire at www.rdn.ca/parks. The questionnaire will be available until January 13, 2014. Your ideas are important to us!

Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment Process

The RDN's Liquid Waste Management Plan is a 20-year plan created in 1997 and approved by the Ministry of Environment in 1999. Its purpose is to support sustainable wastewater management throughout the Region. As the Ministry requires local governments to review their plans every five to 10 years, the RDN launched a region-wide Liquid Waste Management Plan amendment public consultation process in the summer of 2013.

The RDN needs a plan for managing liquid waste because laws regulating municipal wastewater management require that municipal wastewater treatment facilities provide a minimum of secondary treatment. These laws also recognize that it will take time for some treatment facilities to be able to provide secondary treatment. Our plan gives the RDN the authority to find community-driven and cost-effective solutions to protect public health and achieve a standard level of wastewater treatment over a reasonable



LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

timeframe.

From August through October, the RDN held public meetings in every Electoral Area and municipality to discuss the LWMP and what the amendment process will mean for the various communities that make up the Regional District. Residents also had the opportunity to complete a survey about the process, and to share their opinions with RDN Wastewater Services staff by email, phone or in person. I would like to thank all of the residents of this Electoral Area who took the time to participate in this

important process.

In early 2014, the RDN intends to submit the final draft of the plan to the Ministry for approval, and to post the document on the RDN website for members of the public to access.

For more information about the plan or the process, visit rdnlwmp.ca or call Wastewater Services at (250) 390-6560 or (250) 954-3792.

Secondary Suites Project Update

Following a Board resolution to proceed with public consultation on secondary suites, RDN staff members have spent the summer and fall months attending public events, meeting with community groups, and hosting information sessions. The purpose of the secondary suites consultation is to gauge the level of community support for secondary suites in the RDN Electoral Areas A, C, E, F, G, and H and to gain an understanding of the opportunities and concerns relating to secondary suites as a form of affordable housing in the region. Community input has been focused around an online survey geared towards both homeowners and renters in the applicable Electoral Areas.

Preliminary results indicate strong support to allow both attached and detached secondary suites throughout the region. Housing affordability, the ability to age in place and/or care for a family member, and housing choice were some of the reasons for supporting secondary suites. Many survey respondents want to ensure that the impacts of secondary suites are minimized by ensuring issues like

This flyer is intended for residents in RDN Electoral Area C. 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

- * Anders and Dorrit's Community Park
- * Liquid Waste Management Plan Amendment Process
- * Secondary Suites Project Update

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parking and servicing are addressed. In general, many survey respondents support the idea of recognizing existing secondary suites.

Staff are in the process of reviewing and analyzing the public input and will draft a report and recommendations for the Board's consideration later this fall.

For more information on the RDN Secondary Suites Project, please contact Greg Keller, Senior Planner at (250) 390-6510 or from District 69 (250) 954-3798 or email to planning@rdn.bc.ca.

Rebates in Your Area

The Regional District of Nanaimo continues to offer rebates and incentives to residents who protect local water resources by purchasing rainwater harvesting systems or invest in energy efficiency, emission reductions and green building practices.



Incentives in the RDN are now available for a range of improvements that conserve water, reduce energy use, or increase the use of renewable materials in the home.

These rebate programs have produced impressive environmental and economic results. Although the toilet rebate program is

ending in 2013, across the region, almost 1,500 conventional toilets have been replaced with dual flush or high efficiency alternatives. This translates into almost 50 million litres in water savings per year. For rainwater harvesting systems, 66 systems have been installed across the region since 2012, providing storage for over 700,000 litres of water.

For green building incentives, 247 old inefficient woodstoves have been replaced since 2010, 232 home energy assessments have been completed, and the number of green buildings in the region continues to grow.

From an economic perspective, each rebate represents a direct financial investment in the community, but also generates spin-off benefits as residents purchase whole systems from nearby businesses, and hire local tradespeople to complete work. As an example, for rainwater harvesting systems, \$18,000 in rebates in 2013 has contributed to over \$95,100 in total investment.

While popular region-wide, residents of Area C have accessed considerably fewer rebates than other areas. Toilet rebates have been most popular with 89 replacements in our Area, but only a handful of other rebates have come to homes in Electoral Area C.

Home Energy Assessments	\$60-200
Woodstove Exchange Program	\$250
Sustainable Building Checklist Incentives	\$500-\$1,000
Renewable Energy Systems	\$250
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	\$250
Graded Site Cut Timber	Up to \$250
Toilet Replacement (ending in 2013)	\$50
Rainwater Harvesting System	Up to \$750

See the list below for all the available rebates:

Now is a great time to invest in sustainability and conservation for your homes. Thanks to all who have participated in the program. Contact sustainability@rdn.bc.ca for more details.



contacts

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