



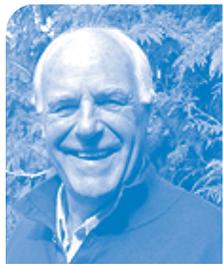
# ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA E | NANOOSE BAY

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## Community Parks Update

Claudet Road Park construction began in October 2015 and was completed in December 2015 with the addition of smaller amenities like signage and fencing. The park



Director  
Bob Rogers

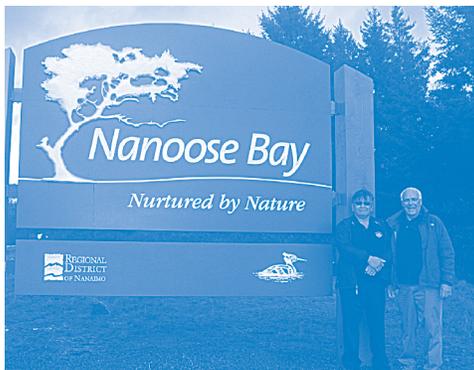
features roadside trails as well as loop trails and a 12-vehicle parking area. Future amenities will include a picnic table and toilet. This work is funded through Community Works Funds.

Now that drier weather has arrived,

construction at Blueback Community Park has resumed. The drainage was installed and grading has taken place. The addition of other elements will take place in the coming months. This work is partially funded through Community Parks Funds.

## Nanoose Bay Signs

Thanks to everyone who helped make these signs a reality. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and I'm proud to say the signs showcase our sense of community, connection to nature and the importance of the Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) First Nation.



ROGERS PICTURED WITH SNAW-NAW-AS FIRST NATION PAST-CHIEF DAVID BOB

## Water Monitoring in Area 'E'

What is the groundwater and surface water availability in the aquifers and streams in Nanoose? How will climate change affect these water resources for our communities and ecosystems? These are the driving questions behind a new initiative for expanded groundwater and surface water monitoring across Area 'E' that will be implemented in 2016. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the dynamics of local water in the Nanoose area so it can be sustainably managed over the long term. Comprehensive local datasets will be gathered and then ultimately used to look at trends over time and provide the basis for a water supply & demand analysis for the area.

### Mark your calendar

to participate in an upcoming interactive public workshop on this project:

*"Help Shape Our Water Future in Nanoose"*

Thursday June 9, 6:30 p.m.  
Nanoose Place, 2925 NW Bay Rd.

Note: The Q&A from the last Water Service Area public meeting on Feb. 18, 2016 is now accessible at

[nanoosewater.ca](http://nanoosewater.ca)

## Forestry Interface Fire Mitigation

Currently, if responding to a fire in the Rural Residential/Forested Lands interface areas of Area E, the Nanoose Volunteer Fire Department (NVFD) must return to the firehall in order to fill their tanker trucks.

In order to provide enhanced fire protection services, the RDN and NVFD is planning to install firewater storage tanks at strategic locations in the interface areas. These tanks would provide the NVFD with a water source much closer to the interface fire risk areas and reduce their turnaround time considerably. The project went to tender in December, was awarded and is currently in the design phase.

## NEW! Region-Wide Watering Restrictions

Across the region, water purveyors are adopting a standard framework for watering restrictions in an effort to streamline communications and increase clarity for the public. To find out if any restrictions are in effect in your area, visit [www.teamwatersmart.ca](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca). Private wells that are not part of a community water system are not subject to this watering restriction framework, but are encouraged to continue to voluntarily practice water efficiency.

## Fire Services Review

In April, a review of the RDN's Fire Services was presented to the RDN Fire Services Advisory Committee. The review includes a number of recommendations for improvements to the RDN organizational structure for fire services, training, health and safety, volunteer recruitment and operational guidelines. It also recommended the RDN engage a Fire Services Coordinator. Staff will report back to the Committee on options for implementing the recommendations.



## highlights

- \* Nanoose Bay Signs
- \* Water Monitoring in Area 'E'
- \* Rebates

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## Marine Outfall Fabrication

The Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre Marine Outfall is currently being fabricated on Snaw-Naw-As land in cooperation with Snaw-Naw-As First Nation. Once complete, the outfall will reach 2000 meters long and will be floated and then sunk into place later this summer.



## Agriculture Bylaw and Policy Updates Project

Following community consultation in 2015 and in response to positive community feedback, draft bylaws have been developed. New or amended zoning changes will better support farming and improve consistency with provincial regulations and include: new or amended agriculture zones that would apply to land in the Agricultural Land Reserve and new or amended general regulations and definitions related to agriculture, farm use and the keeping of animals.

On March 22, 2016, the Regional District of Nanaimo Board granted 1st and 2nd reading to zoning amendment Bylaws "500.402, 2016" and "1285.26, 2016". If there is continued support for the zoning changes then the new zones for agriculture could be in place by as soon as the end of May.

To learn more about the proposed bylaw amendments, visit [www.growingourfuture.ca](http://www.growingourfuture.ca).

## Rebates

For a complete list of rebates and eligibility visit [www.RDNrebates.ca](http://www.RDNrebates.ca) or call 250-390-6560.

**NEW!** Oil to Heat Pump Rebate is available in RDN Electoral Areas.

This program encourages the transition from oil heating to heat pumps and is an additional \$250 incentive

from the RDN for those who complete the upgrade and are eligible for the provincial Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program administered by City Green Solutions.

The popular **RDN Septic Maintenance Rebate** program is back for a third year. This year, up to \$1,000 is available for RDN homeowners to a) obtain a Maintenance Assessment report, b) install Risers and/or c) install an Effluent Filter. Rebates are available until December 31st or until the rebate budget is spent.

**The Rainwater Harvesting Incentive** provides up to \$750 to install a cistern (min. 1000 imperial gallons) and other rainwater harvesting system components.

**Rural Water Quality Stewardship Rebates** (a two-part rebate program)

- 1. Water Quality Testing** – one time 50 per cent off of comprehensive water quality test for private well owners.
- 2. Wellhead Protection Upgrades** – \$50 to \$500 is available for upgrades to existing well construction to improve groundwater protection.

### Home Energy Assessments

A \$150 incentive is available to residents who have an initial Home Energy Assessment. An additional rebate is available if the follow-up assessment shows an increase in your home's EnerGuide rating.

### **NEW!** Woodstove Exchange Program

Receive \$250 by replacing an old wood-burning appliance with an EPA-certified wood burning, pellet, or gas stove insert.

### Renewable Energy Systems

A \$250 rebate is available to residents who purchase and install an eligible renewable energy system.

### Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Residents who install an eligible Level 2 EV Charging Station can apply for this \$250 rebate.

### Sustainable Development Checklist

Receive between \$500 and \$1000 for achieving a high Checklist score when building an efficient home.

### Graded Site-Cut Timber Incentive

Up to \$250 for homeowners who provide documentation confirming the use of site-cut timber for a structure requiring a building permit.

### ENERGY STAR® Clothes Washer Incentive

Residents who purchase an eligible ENERGY STAR® clothes washer from May 1 to June 30 and again from October 1 to November 30, 2016 can access a \$100 joint rebate from BC Hydro and the RDN. Limited rebates available.

### RDN Water & Utility Services

will be piloting a landscape water efficiency rebate program for irrigation system efficiency improvements and soil amendment beginning in May 2016 in RDN Water Service Areas. Funds for the pilot program are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**Know the Risks:** Did you know that wildfire is the number one hazard in the RDN? You can learn more about hazards in the region by visiting [www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/emergency).

**Have a Plan:** Home emergency plans include the basics like including a strategy for communicating after a disaster, a meeting place and how to care for service animals or pets.

**Personal Support Network:** Create a support network of at least three people to assist during an emergency. Give them keys and add their contact information to a shared emergency plan.

**Get a Kit:** An emergency kit should include at least one week of the basic necessities – visit [www.publicsafety.gc.ca](http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca) for a detailed list.

**Be Safe. Be Proactive. Be Ready!**

*contacts*

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