



ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA E | NANOOSE BAY

ISSUE 17 • SPRING 2014

Fairwinds Update

On April 22, 2014, the RDN Board approved second reading of the Lakes District and Schooner Cove Phased Development Agreement Bylaw and



Director
George Holme

supporting bylaws, as amended, in relation to the proposed residential, commercial and mixed-use developments in the Lakes District and Schooner Cove Neighbourhood Plan Areas.

A public hearing for the rezoning applications has been scheduled for May 12, 2014.

The proposed PDA and Lakes District Zoning Bylaw, as well as the related Memorandum of Understanding, were amended to address Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose First Nation) concerns regarding the future use and potential development of the lands encircling the Notch Summit within the Lakes District area.

Moving these applications forward to a public hearing represents a significant milestone in the final stages of the rezoning process.

For more information on the Lakes District and Schooner Cove development applications please visit the application's web site at: <http://www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=1185>



Englishman River Water Service Update

The Englishman River Water Service is working to improve the water system for the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area and the City of Parksville. In partnership with the Englishman River Water Service, the City of Parksville, project consultants CH2M Hill Canada Limited, and the RDN will host a public open house on Thursday, June 5 from 7 to 9 pm to update residents on the preliminary design process for the ERWS intake, treatment plant and distribution facility. Residents will be asked to vote in a referendum on funding for this project in November, 2014.



englishman river
WATER SERVICE

The June 5 open house is an opportunity for residents of the Nanoose Bay Peninsula to provide comments and feedback on the project before the detailed design work begins. Feedback forms will be available and participants will be encouraged to provide comments. Presentations will also be scheduled to offer an overview of the project components. Another public information session will happen in October.

Community feedback is crucial to this project and I encourage all residents of the Nanoose Bay Peninsula Water Service Area to participate in this public open house if possible. Views and comments from the public are important to decision-making on how to proceed with this project. The partners in this project also encourage

residents to join the conversation via PlaceSpeak, an online engagement forum where residents and business owners in the area served by ERWS can find information, register to receive updates and provide feedback through surveys and discussion forums.

To connect through PlaceSpeak please visit <https://www.placespeak.com/topic/945-englishman-river-water-service-project/>.

For more information on the public open house please contact the RDN Water Services Department at (250) 390-6560 or (250) 954-3792.

Nanoose Bay Fire Hall Award of Excellence

On April 24, the Commercial Division of the Vancouver Island Real Estate Board honoured the RDN for the Nanoose Bay Fire Hall. The building received a 2014 Award of Excellence in the Community Institutional—Fire Halls category. I am extremely proud of our new fire hall and am happy to see it receive this significant recognition.

Averaging of Funding Agreements for Ravensong Aquatic Centre and Oceanside Place

The RDN has amended the apportionment formulas in the service bylaws for Oceanside Place Arena and Ravensong Aquatic Centre in order to consider facility usage by municipal and Electoral Area residents in District 69. A facility usage survey completed in 2010 has enabled the RDN to introduce a 50 per cent assessment, 50 per cent usage based formula to allocate costs to the participating areas. I should note that Electoral Area E residents only participate in the Oceanside Place Arena service, not >

highlights

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in the Ravensong Aquatic Centre Service.

The RDN is phasing in the new apportionment formula over a five-year period. This will bring usage in at 10 per cent per year until the new formula is completed for the 2018 tax year. There will be no expansion of the participation in the Ravensong Aquatic Centre service to include Electoral Area E. The change means that for Electoral Area E residents the cost for the service per \$100,000 assessed will decrease from \$17.80 to \$17.40, a reduction of 40 cents per \$100,000.

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.



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 granted 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.

Spring & Summer Water Restrictions

From May to August RDN water systems will be on Level 2 watering restrictions. During this time you may use any type of sprinkler, soaker hose, underground system, or twirlybird ONLY during your watering time and date (even numbered-houses on even-numbered calendar days between 6-10 am and 6-10 pm, and odd-numbered houses on odd-numbered calendar days between 6-10 am and 6-10 pm, for a maximum of two hours only).



You can water your garden, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables on days other than your watering day if you use a hand-held container or hose with a shut-off nozzle.

You can use drip-irrigation at any time to water trees, shrubs, flowers or vegetables (not soaker hoses- they're actually quite wasteful).

You can wash your car or patio any time using a hose with a shut-off nozzle, unless dry conditions this summer cause us to move into Level 4 restrictions. You will be notified by a combination of radio ads, newspaper ads, roadside signage, flyers, and website notices if the water conservation level moves to Level 3 or Level 4.

Please contact RDN Water & Utility Services at 1-877-607-4111 if you require further information.

Community Signage Pilot Program

Electoral Area E will lead a pilot program to implement a community identity and way-finding signage program for rural areas. I expect the project to progress over the summer months, and encourage interested residents to share ideas and insights for a community signage program for Nanoose Bay. Email nced@rdn.bc.ca, or call 1-877-607-4111 for more information.