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## ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA H | SHAW HILL | QUALICUM BAY | BOWSER | DEEP BAY

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Director  
Bill Veenhof

### Area 'H' Official Community Plan Review

The Official Community Plan (OCP) review and update for Electoral Area 'H' is well underway. An OCP describes a long-term vision for the future and a course of action to achieve it. The project kicked off in

January and a variety of community meetings and events have taken place since. The most recent being the community meeting and open house on October 12 where the draft Active Transportation Plan was presented to the community for comments and feedback. This document helps to identify how to make it safer and easier for people to walk and cycle in their communities.

Changes to the OCP are currently being drafted and the Working Group will be meeting later this fall to review the draft.

Office Hours for this project are held in Bowser, upstairs at Magnolia Court, every Tuesday from 9:15 am – 12:00 pm where you can drop by and speak with a planner.

For more information on the project and to access background reports, and consultation summaries, visit [www.rdn.bc.ca/areahocp](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/areahocp).

### Bowser Cultural Learning Space

Community Works Funds are supporting the expansion of the newly created outdoor Tulnuxkw Lelum – Bowser Cultural Learning Space located at Bowser Elementary School. Funds will go towards the addition of an all-weather shelter built to reflect the original structures used by the First Peoples of the area and will provide year-round access to the space.



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

### Qualicum First Nation Cooperation Protocol and Working Group

On July 26, Qualicum First Nation and the Regional District of Nanaimo signed an important agreement that will build greater understanding between the two parties. QFN Chief and Council and the RDN Chair and Vice Chair signed the agreement at a ceremony held on QFN traditional territory.



The Cooperation Protocol will guide future and ongoing discussions on topics of mutual interest and, as part of the agreement, a non-voting seat at the RDN Board is now reserved for a QFN representative.

### Crown Land GPS Trail Data Collection

New parks and trails mapping is now available! The interactive RDN Parks and Trails Finder map provides searchable information for parks and recreation trails throughout the RDN, and is compatible with most mobile devices.

Maps are currently available for Big Qualicum River Regional Trail and surrounding Hatchery Trails and RDN GIS Staff have begun mapping trails on Crown Land in Area H – watch for the Nile Creek and McColl Road trail networks to

be added to the interactive map soon! Keep checking back as more pdf maps will be added on an ongoing basis.

Visit [www.rdnmap.ca](http://www.rdnmap.ca) and [www.rdn.bc.ca/gis](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/gis) to find out more.

### District 69 Transit Expansion

The Transit Select Committee voted in favour of a transit expansion that will enhance service to Areas G, H and the Town of Qualicum Beach. Service will include a community bus within Qualicum Beach, more frequent service for the #99 Deep Bay (five days a week) and improvements to the #91 Intercity.

### Dunsmuir Community Park

An open house was held at Dunsmuir Community Park on September 16th to present design concepts for a proposed park renovation. The concept plans illustrate ideas that were generated from community input provided at last September's open house and include improvements to the existing courts, a new playground, forest trails and an off-road parking lot.

For more information visit <http://www.rdn.bc.ca/Dunsmuir>.



### RDN's new Chief Administrative Officer

The Board is pleased to introduce Phyllis Carlyle as the new Chief Administrative Officer.

Ms. Carlyle was selected by the Board after a cross-Canada search and brings over 26 years of municipal experience to her new role including the past 12 years as General Manager of Law and Community Safety at the City of Richmond. Ms. Carlyle joined the RDN on October 11, 2016.



## highlights

- \* Area 'H' Official Community Plan Review
- \* Qualicum First Nation Cooperation Protocol and Working Group
- \* District 69 Transit Expansion

THIS NEWSLETTER IS  
PRINTED ON 100%  
POST-CONSUMER  
RECYCLED PAPER.



# RDN AREA H ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

## Water Supply Update

Following a record warm and dry spring, summer of 2016 was much closer to normal in terms of temperature and precipitation. Most community water supply systems in the region maintained Stage 2 (even and odd day) watering restrictions. Some systems chose not to implement any restrictions at all or to stay at Stage 1 all summer. This was thanks to rainy conditions in June and July that kept reservoirs topped up, kept groundwater levels stable and kept water demand at bay. The Regional District of Nanaimo would like to thank all residents for doing their part to be efficient with outdoor water this summer.

More information including a map of all community water systems is available at [www.teamwatersmart.ca](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca).

## 2016 Prescribed Burn Activities

The RDN was proud to support wildfire fuels management work in our regional parks again this year. The British Columbia Wildfire Service conducted training and FireSmart operations in Oakdowne Community Park. Work included removing lower tree limbs to prevent wildfire from travelling quickly up trees and controlled burns to reduce combustible materials in the park. These activities not only provide training opportunities to the BC Wildfire Service and local fire departments, they also provide fire hazard reduction in our parks at no cost to the RDN. For more information, visit [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca).

## Agriculture and Bylaw update

The Agriculture Bylaw and Policy Updates Project is now complete with the adoption of Bylaws "500.402, 2016" and "1285.26, 2016" on June 28, 2016. The bylaws include new or amended agriculture zones for land in the Agricultural Land Reserve and general regulations related to agriculture, farm use and the keeping of animals. The project involved amendments to RDN zoning bylaws to better support farming and improve consistency with provincial regulations and marks a significant milestone in the implementation of the Agricultural Area Plan.

The RDN has also recently completed a Rural Areas Guide to raise awareness of the Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act and Agricultural Land Reserve and inform residents of what to expect when living near farms.

To learn more, visit [www.growingourfuture.ca](http://www.growingourfuture.ca).

## STANDING COMMITTEE Established for Electoral Areas

We now have a Standing Committee dedicated to the Electoral Areas. This initiative was identified as a priority in our Strategic Planning sessions and the Electoral Area Services Committee (EASC) will now replace the Electoral Area Planning Committee. It includes additional area-specific topics such as community parks, emergency preparedness, fire protection, bylaw enforcement and building inspection. The inaugural meeting was held on September 13th. Meetings are normally scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.

Visit [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca) for the schedule.

## PUT YOUR NAME FORWARD FOR 2017! We appreciate our volunteers

We have openings on several of our advisory bodies including Parks and Open Space, Grants-in-Aid, Liquid Waste, Solid Waste and Board of Variance.

To find out how you can get involved, visit [www.rdn.bc.ca/boardappointments](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/boardappointments) to obtain an application form and to see a full list of positions. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2016.



HAVE YOUR  
SAY!

The public is invited to attend budget discussions on **November 8th and 15th. Meetings will begin at 3:00 p.m.** in the Board Chambers at 6300 Hammond Bay Road.

## RDN Strategic Priorities

### FOCUS :

Governance

Service and Organizational Excellence

Relationships

Economic Health

the Environment

To read the RDN's Strategic Plan, visit [www.rdn.bc.ca/strategicplan](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/strategicplan)



RDN Board members were proud to attend the installation of the **Witness Blanket at Vancouver Island University on October 6th**. The contemporary art installation recognizes the impacts of Canada's Residential School era and will be on display at the Nanaimo Campus from **October 6-November 30**. The RDN contributed \$5,500 to help bring the art installation to the region.

## contacts

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Regional District of Nanaimo Website | [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca)

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