



The Board Reports

Regional District of Central Okanagan
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Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting - Mar. 6, 2000

Central Okanagan Regional Hospital District Meets

Murray Ramsden, Administrator and Ellen McRae Chairperson for the Okanagan Similkameen Health Region were invited to provide the Regional Board with an update on future plans for the health region. Population projections show that the Okanagan continues to be a popular retirement destination. By the year 2009, it is estimated that 26% of the population will be over 65 years of age. In order to meet the health care requirements of this growing segment of the population, 650 new long term beds are needed. A new tower is also in the plans for Kelowna General Hospital to house heart surgery patients. Mr. Ramsden stressed the need for an infusion of funds and innovative partnerships with private sector care providers to meet the projected demand for health care facilities.

The Regional Hospital District Board is comprised of the same members as the Regional District Board and meets as required on decisions pertaining to capital funding of the Regional Hospital District.

*Contact: Wayne d'Easum 763-4918
Administrator*

Community Arts Centre seeks funding

The Regional Board is seeking more information before granting a request to provide additional funding for the Community Arts Centre. Campaign Chair, Ken Thom and President Deborah Helf gave a presentation to the Board outlining the tremendous community support for this project. The Board was informed that close to \$6 million has been raised towards the goal of \$6.8 million. The City of Kelowna has already committed \$2.8 million, plus designation of the land and building. The Regional Electoral areas, Peachland and Lake Country are being asked to provide \$10,000/year for the next five years for a total of \$50,000 as their contribution towards the Community Arts Centre. Each area will give the request further review before making a final decision.

*Contact: Wayne d'Easum 763-4918
Administrator*

Support sought for Ecosystem

The Regional Board received correspondence from the Okanagan Basin Water Board regarding the possibility of an ecosystem based management approach for the Okanagan Valley. The Water Board is currently

approaching the Federal and Provincial governments to develop a partnership to work towards an ecosystem-based approach to managing water and air resources while at the same time protecting the habitat in the Valley. The Federal Government has funded similar systems in the past and research is currently underway to see if this would be feasible for the area. Board Chair, Robert Hobson will be gathering information on this issue from senior government as part of his position on the UBCM Environment Committee.

*Contact: Greg Armour 545-5368
Okanagan Water Basin Board*

Aboriginal Career Fair support requested

The Regional Board received a letter requesting a donation for the Aboriginal Career Fair being held on May 4, 2000. This sixth annual event at Okanagan University College focuses on Aboriginal organizations and professionals. The purpose is to expose aboriginal youth to the wide variety of occupations to assist them with planning their futures. The Regional Board is requesting more information on the event and the amount and type of donation requested before making a decision.

*Contact: Wayne d'Easum 763-4918
Administrator*

February building statistics

During the month of February, 2000 there were 33 permits issued for a total construction value of \$2,042,500. During this time there were also 53 permits completed for a total construction value of \$2,795,636.58.

*Contact: Kelly Roth 868-5211
Director of Inspection Services*

Approval sought for Cst. Neil Bruce Middle School sports field lease agreement

In accordance with the Municipal Act, the Regional District gave the first three readings to the Bylaw for the lease agreement and counter petition for the Neil Bruce Sports Fields. The assent of the electors is required as the lease agreement extends for more than five years for this joint use agreement involving many other community partners. The Act requires that counter petitions be made available for distribution to each person that requests one. Based on 13,649

potential electors in the area, if 5% petition against the bylaw, a referendum would be required. If more than 50% petition against, the bylaw cannot proceed. The deadline for counter petition signatures is Tuesday, April 11, 2000 at 4:00 pm.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918
Administrator

Stantec Consulting Ltd. awarded sewer project

The Regional Board awarded the preliminary and detailed design for the West Kelowna Estates Stage II Sanitary Sewer Project to Stantec Consulting Ltd. The project will cover approximately 300 single family residential parcels in the West Kelowna Estates area. Stantec Consulting Ltd. presented the best value proposal of the seven Engineering firms who also submitted proposals.

Contact: *Hilary Hettinga* 763-5241
Director of Engineering Services

Aboriginal Issues Conference

Westbank Area Director Len Novakowski and Area 'I' Director Mary-Ann Graham are slated to attend the Aboriginal Issues Conference being held in Richmond, April 5-7, 2000. They will be joined by Treaty Advisory Committee members Mayor Rolly Hein of Lake Country, Area 'G' Director Aaron Dinwoodie, and Kelowna Councillor Ron Cannan. The purpose of the conference is to provide an introduction to Treaty Negotiations for newly elected officials, review current issues and challenges and provide direction for UBCM policy development. A joint Treaty Advisory Committee meeting of local government officials will also be held as part of the conference.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918
Administrator

New reports from committee chairs

As part of the re-organization of board committees, each Committee chairperson will now have the opportunity to provide a quick update to the Board on activities of the committee. This will become a standing item under each agenda for the first meeting of the month.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918
Administrator

Grants-in-Aid

Regional Report is a bi-weekly publication of the Regional District of Central Okanagan. The Regional Board meets every second Monday night at Kelowna City Council Chambers, 1435 Water Street. The public is welcome to attend.

For copies of this publication or more information contact

Electoral Area 'G' - \$400 – Okanagan Business Student's Association
Electoral Area Westbank - \$200 – Westbank Neighbourhood Association

Chip it!... Don't Chuck It!

FREE drop-off at Glenmore and Westside Landfills for residential prunings and yard waste up to 8" in diameter.
Now there's even more chances during Chip it Months!

March 1 - April 30

During Regular Landfill Hours

Glenmore: 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Closed Sundays & Holidays
Westside Landfill: 9a.m. - 4p.m.
Open Daily

Please cover your load with a tarp and keep our streets clean! No commercial loads.



For more information call the Regional Waste Reduction Office at 868-5250

Jan Enns, Communications Coordinator
763-4918