

LETTER B



Newsletter for CRD Electoral Area "B"

Serving the Communities of Ahbau Creek, Baker Creek, Bouchie Lake, Cinema, Dunkley, Milburn Lake, Moose Heights, Parkland, Quesnel-Hixon Rd., Stathnaver, Ten Mile Lake, lower Cottonwood River, & many areas in between!

Written By Heloise Dixon-Warren, Director Area B

Greetings from me to you!

May, 2012

Letter B, Volume 1, Issue 5

Greetings everyone. Hard to believe it is mid May already. Time most certainly does fly by. I have now been in the position as Electoral Area B Director for 6 months. I am enjoying this new position and am most certainly learning a lot. One of the most positive responses I have heard is the fact that I am distributing this newsletter and other information. I am glad to hear that this is working for residents as transfer of information was one of my goals when I decid-

ed to drop my name in for elected office.

Early this month, I attended the NCLGA / North Central Local Government Association conference in 100 Mile House. The theme of the conference was "**Building Relationships, Sharing Knowledge**". Most of my fellow CRD directors attended in addition to delegates from all over North-Central BC. It proved to be a great way to network and meet new people. The CRD put forth several resolutions

that were approved by NCLGA. These and other resolutions can be viewed at www.nclga.ca/resolutions.asp These approved resolutions will be presented at the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) / <http://www.ubcm.ca/> conference in September. If approved, they are presented to senior levels of government for consideration. These resolutions are VERY important. They are one way which local government can have impact provincial policy and regulation development.

Online Links

BLOG



heloisedixon-warren.blogspot.com



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AREA B COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

*Parkland Community Association
Bouchie Lake Community Association*

There are TWO active Community Associations within Area B. Both work closely with their respective Recreation Commissions and are comprised of dedicated, community minded volunteers. These are the **Parkland Community Association / PCA** and **Bouchie Lake Community Association / BLCA**. Unlike the Recreation Commissions whose members are appointed by the CRD Board of Directors, the Community Associations are community member based.

Each organization has its own mandate. Both groups are always interested in welcoming new members; people who are interested in local community, developing programs, organizing community events / functions, fundraising, etc. All of these activities are integral to creating healthy, rural neighbourhoods. Whereas the recreation commissions primary role is to manage the buildings and properties owned by the Regional District, it is the Community Asso-

ciations who can really bring "community to the properties". Contact info. Is as follows:

Parkland RC

Christine Piltz, Chair
T: 250.992.5205
Email: rocked@telus.net

Bouchie Lake RC

Leanna Richardson, Director
T: 250.249.0013
Email: learich75@hotmail.com

PCA IS ON FACEBOOK!

DATES TO NOTE!

MAY 17th

Bouchie Lake Community Association Meeting, 6 pm, Bouchie Lake Hall

Bouchie Lake Recreation Commission Meeting, 7pm, Bouchie Lake Hall

MAY 24th

OPEN HOUSE, North Cariboo Rec. & Parks Proposed Bdy. Expansion, 5-8 pm, Bouchie Lake Hall

MAY 28th

OPEN HOUSE, North Cariboo Rec. & Parks Proposed Bdy. Expansion, 5-8 pm, Parkland Community Centre

JUNE (date TBA)

GARAGE SALE, PARKLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

CRD AGENDAS & MINUTES ONLINE AT www.cariboord.bc.ca

To be added to the electronic distribution list for "Letter B", please email hdixon-warren@cariboord.bc.ca

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

Proposed Changes

North Cariboo Recreation & Parks Taxation Boundary

BOUCHIE LAKE HALL— Thursday, May 24, 5-8 pm

PARKLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE—Monday, May 28, 2012

Two meetings will be held in **Area B** as part of the consultation process on the proposed boundary expansion of the **North Cariboo Recreation & Parks (NCRP) taxation function**.

This function collects taxes for “*sub-regional recreation*” which includes the following facilities:

Quesnel Arts & Recreation Centre, Twin Arenas & Alex Fraser Park, Pioneer Park on Dragon Lake, Bouchie Lake Hall & Rec. Grounds, Barlow Creek Hall & Ranger Park ball fields, Parkland Community Centre, & Kostas Cove.

In terms of how the proposed **North Cariboo Multi-Centre** project fits into this function, it too will be funded through NCRP should it proceed. As such, all taxpayers contributing to the NCRP service will be responsible for any debt that is incurred for its con-

struction and subsequent maintenance.

The current NCRP boundary is approximately 30 years old. As such, it does not reflect subdivisions and / or development that has occurred along the boundary's edge. It is the intent that taxpayers supporting the function should reflect those receiving the benefits as accurately as possible. If the boundary is changed, the new recreation boundary will be the same as other Regional District services more recently established in the area (e.g. North Cariboo Handy Dart, local fire protection).

The current tax rate for the NCRP service is **\$131.00 / \$100,000** of assessed value of lands and improvements.

If you are unsure if you pay into this function, check your 2011 Rural Property Tax Notice (*payable on July 1st of each year*). NCRP is denoted as “**N. CARIBOO REC**” under the list of local services.

Prior to these meetings, notification are being sent out to all properties (728) within the proposed expansion area. The property breakdown by Electoral Area is: **78 (A), 483 (B), 134 (C), and 33 (I)**. As can be noted, **66%** of the properties within the proposed expansion area are within Area B.

As such, if you are a property owner within the proposed expansion area, watch for this important mailout AND plan to attend one of these important meetings!

PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OF THE ABOVE MEETINGS!

NOMINATE A
HOMETOWN



More information on
this CRD program
available on my
BLOG (helousedixon-
warren/
blogspot.com).

North Cariboo handyDART

handyDART is a transportation service for persons who have a disability that is sufficiently severe that the person is physically unable to use conventional transit service without assistance. The service is provided to and from accessible building entrances.

To use the system, passengers must first register. There is no fee for registration. A medical confirmation of your disability may also be required.

To book a handyDART trip, phone call 250-992-1109 on Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wherever possible, try to book 24 hours in advance. If you need to cancel a trip, phone as soon as possible so others can be accommodated. Fare will be either \$4.00 (if outside of city boundaries to 15 km. from city boundaries) or \$4.00 + \$5.00 / km. (maximum 20 km. from city boundaries).

Additional information online at
<http://www.busonline.ca/regions/que/accessible/handydart.cfm>

LETTER B, VOLUME 1,

NORTH CARIBOO MULTI-CENTRE UPDATE *project receives \$4 million from province*

With the April 14th announcement of **\$4,000,000** allocated to the North Cariboo Multi-Centre Project, several residents have spoken to me about how this project is developing. Some of these are residents who have moved to the area since the referendum of 2008. As such, I will provide a brief summary & update. Additional information available at www.quesnel.ca/multi-centre.html & on the NEW Fundraising Site... ourmulticentre.com/index.htm

In the autumn of 2008, a referendum was held at the time of the local government election. The question asked was as follows: *“Are you in favour of the Cariboo Regional District adopting i) Loan Authorization Bylaw 4396 to borrow up to \$15,000,000 and ii) Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw 4395 to increase the North Cariboo Recreation and Parks function taxation limit to a maximum of the greater of \$3.2095/\$1,000 of assessed value of land and improvements or \$4,900,000 to provide for the construction of a new arena, theatre and multi-purpose event space.”*

This referendum applied to only those residents, City of Quesnel & Cariboo Regional District (Areas A, B, C & I), who contribute

to the **North Cariboo Recreation & Parks** service function. The referendum passed with **52%** in favour. When queried how the votes were tallied and how Area B voted, that answer is not available. As the NCRP service is a single function, the results from the referendum were tallied from all polling stations throughout the NCRP boundary. (i.e. not divided by jurisdiction). Additionally, North Cariboo residents were not restricted to having to vote at a polling station within their “area”. The results were **2765 YES** and **2524 NO** for a total **5289 votes**. What is of interest is, during the 2008 election, there was only election for CRD Director in the North Cariboo. All Directors, other than the Area B Director, were acclaimed to their Directorships. The total number of votes in Area B was 661. It seems a fair assumption that those who voted in Area B likely cast a vote in the referendum. As there are no voting results for Areas A, C, and I, it is anyone’s guess how many people voted in these other CRD jurisdiction.

The results of the referendum are good for five years. The \$15 million must be borrowed by November 14, 2013. If this doesn’t happen, a new referendum would have to be held to gain voter

approval for the project. As of the date of the province’s funding announcement, the multi-centre project has secured the following:

\$4 million - Province of BC

\$2 million - Northern Development Initiative trust.

\$6 million TOTAL

In addition to the \$6 million in confirmed funds, approximately **\$1.5 million** is available through pre-taxing for the multi-centre.

On September 20, 2011 at a North Cariboo Joint Planning Committee Meeting a motion was passed to recommend to the CRD Board that \$105,000 of the proposed Multi-Centre project pre-taxation funds be committed to the hiring of a full time, professional fundraising coordinator to assist the fundraising committee with raising the needed funds. In January, 2012 the North Cariboo Multi-Centre Fundraising committee hired a Fundraising Campaign Co-ordinator to lead the City of Quesnel and CRD through a process of implementing a corporate and community fundraising campaign.

CRD SUPPORTS NORTH CARIBOO PROJECTS through Area Director Special Project Funds

The **Cariboo Regional District** will be contributing **\$5,000**, through the **Special Project Fund**, to the **Barkerville Heritage Site**. The funds will be used to help reproduce the original Williams Creek Schoolhouse in Barkerville. The original Williams Creek Schoolhouse, an iconic Barkerville landmark, was destroyed by fire decades ago. The funds will be presented in June when the CRD Board of Directors travels to Barkerville for its first 2012 Board on the Road event.

The CRD also approved **\$2,000** of Special Project Funds to support the North Cariboo Agriculture Awareness & Marketing Project. This contribution will be shared equally among Electoral Areas A, B, C, and I. This project is focused on economic diversification, enhancing local food security, and supporting local food product. The project includes the installation of highway billboard signage, a kiosk, and the creation of a farm fresh product map. **Area Director Special project funds are discretionary funds to be used on a limited basis for projects that have broad benefit to an Electoral Area, that arise during the course of the year and that could not reasonably be foreseen far enough in advance to access the annual grant for assistance program.**