

May 14, 2015

## Recruitment & Retention of Health Care Professionals

Lynn Roberts and Trevor Barnes appeared before the Cariboo Chilcotin Regional Hospital District Board on behalf of the Central Interior Rural Division of Family Practice. The presentation provided an overview of what has been accomplished over the past three years as a result of the Cariboo Chilcotin Recruitment & Retention program in recruiting physicians and health professionals to the region. One of the strategies highlighted was the successful Red Carpet Program in 100 Mile House which welcomes potential health care professionals to the area. More information about the CIRRD can be found online at [divisionsbc.ca/CIRRD](http://divisionsbc.ca/CIRRD).

## Rural Fire Inspections

The CRD will be submitting a resolution to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities this fall which calls for changes to the proposed fire inspections of public buildings in rural areas. The CRD resolution calls for the provincial government to provide the resources necessary to inspect and enforce provincial safety regulations, including the Fire Services Act and its regulations, through either the Office of the Fire Commissioner or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments. At the annual Regional District Chairs/CAOs forum held on March 24 and 25, 2015, the topic of fire inspections in rural areas was raised. The discussion focused around the fact that the province has indicated that it intends to mandate regional districts to perform fire inspections of public buildings in the rural areas.

## Urology Services Return to South Cariboo

The Cariboo Regional District received information that after an extensive review, Interior Health has confirmed the restoration of Urology Services at the 100 Mile and District General Hospital. This unique outreach program will be supported by urologists at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops. It will allow for the provision of health care closer to home for patients, reducing travel time to receive specialized services elsewhere.

## Rural Feasibility Funding & Studies Approved

The Cariboo Regional District authorized up to \$6,000 of Rural Feasibility Funds for two separate water system projects within the region. The CRD has been requested by Saunders Enterprises Ltd., to take over the 103 Mile Water Utility. A request was also received from the Benjamin Water and Utility Ltd., to assume control of its water system near the Red Bluff area in the north Cariboo. Thorough evaluations of both systems including current conditions and required improvements will be noted.

## Big Lake Grant Application Supported by CRD

The Regional District will be sponsoring a funding application for the Big Lake Community Association to the Farm Credit Canada AgriSpirit. The Association is requesting \$18,000 in grant money to help in the replacement of the staff housing unit at the Big Lake Community Hall property. The housing unit is reaching the end of its effective lifespan and has become badly deteriorated. The total cost of the project is \$70,000 and the association intends to cover the remaining cost through a combination of existing reserves, further grants, targeted fundraising and in-kind donations of labour and equipment. The proposed grant sponsorship will be at no cost to the Regional District.

## Electoral Area Discretionary Funds Approved

The Regional District directors authorized \$100 in discretionary funds from each of Electoral Areas G, H and L, for the Mill Girl Follies performance at Martin Exeter Hall. The District of 100 Mile House will also be providing \$100.

The Board also authorized a total of \$400 of Electoral Area K Discretionary Funds. A total of \$200 will be used to support the Riske Creek Turkey shoot while another \$200 will be used to make the Alexis Creek Community Hall washrooms wheelchair accessible.

During the meeting the Board amended the Board resolution from April 24 by increasing the original budget of \$1,350 up to \$1,600 from the Electoral Area D Director Initiative Fund for the director's attendance at the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition Keeping it Rural 2015 Conference in Salmon Arm on May 26-28, 2015.

## 100 Mile Highway Rescue Feasibility Funds Authorized

The CRD endorsed a resolution to authorize up to \$5,000 of feasibility funds to look into a potential framework and cost for a highway rescue services in the South Cariboo. The proposed framework would include all of electoral areas G, H and L and the District of 100 Mile House. CRD staff will be reporting back with options to the next South Cariboo Joint Committee. If this study shows the project is feasible, a referendum would be held to ask residents if they wish to contribute to the 100 Mile Highway Rescue Services. It is estimated that it will cost approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000/year to operate this service based on preliminary investigations.

## May 2015 Declarations

May 25-31, 2015 - Bike to Work & School Week  
June 6, 2015 - Access Awareness Day

## Next Board Meeting

### Board on the Road – Esler Sports Complex

June 11, 2015 – COW & Community BBQ  
June 12, 2015 – Regular Board