

June 12, 2015

CRHD Retired

The Cariboo Chilcotin Regional Hospital District received letters from the Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance and Corporate Services, Ministry of Health regarding an Order in Council to dissolve the Cariboo Regional Hospital District (CRHD). In 1996, the Cariboo Chilcotin Regional Hospital District (CCRHD) was established to replace the CRHD. Now that the debt incurred by the CRHD has been retired, it will be disbanded.

Training & Recruitment of Health Care Professionals

The Cariboo Chilcotin Regional Hospital District (CCRHD) received information from Hilary Crowley, outlining the dire shortage of physiotherapists in BC, particularly in the north. The CCRHD will be writing a letter of support for more opportunities at medical schools in the province, which will be copied to all local governments and associations to seek support for a resolution which will be going forward to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in September 2015.

New Pathways to Gold

Gord Rattray, and Brent Rutherford representing the New Pathways to Gold Society, provided an overview of the Society along with their current projects and prospects for the future. Since 2007 they have raised almost \$4 million. Some of the projects include the rebuilding or construction of over 230 historic trails, support for Barkerville's Theatre Royale and marketing of the Highway 97 corridor to establish the area as a tourism destination. New Pathways to Gold and the Gold Rush trail is available online goldrushtrail.ca.

Quesnelle Forks Added to Heritage Registry

The Regional District Board of Directors approved the addition of Quesnelle Forks on the CRD's Heritage Register. The CRD will notify the Minister responsible for Heritage Conservation so that the property can be added to the provincial heritage registry.

Connectivity

The Central Coast Regional District (CCRD), and the CRD will be working collaboratively to promote the need for cellular service along the Highway 20 corridor. The CRD will identify other areas of the Cariboo Chilcotin that currently do not have cell phone coverage and will report those areas to the Canadian Radio and Television Commission for consideration.

Atlantic Power

Terry Shannon, Environmental Director of Atlantic Power, and Cam McAlpine, Renewal Project Communications Coordination, appeared before the Board on behalf of Atlantic Power Williams Lake (APWL), to provide information about development of APWL's Renewal Project at the Williams Lake Power Plant. Atlantic Power is considering the inclusion of shredded rail ties in the fibre it consumes in order to supplement the diminishing local fibre supply and to make the commitments necessary to be able to enter into a contract extension with BC Hydro. Further information about the proposed project can be found online at atlanticpower.com/williams-lake. Atlantic Power will be hosting a public open house at the Cariboo Memorial Complex on June 17 at 5 – 8 p.m. to discuss this proposal with the community.

BC Air Access Program

The Cariboo Regional District will be submitting an application to the new BC Air Access Program (BCAAP).

Proposed projects for this intake must be 'shovel ready' to be completed this year and the deadline for applications is June 22, 2015. The application will be for \$26,250 to support the purchase and installation of an emergency generator as an alternate power source at the South Cariboo Regional Airport. The BCAAP program covers 75% of the cost of approved Small Rehabilitation Projects, and is a component of the 10 year transportation plan, BC on the Move.

Community Works Funds Allocated

The Cariboo Regional District authorized up to \$13,600 of Community Works Funds energy efficiency upgrades at the Lone Butte Community Hall. The Lone Butte-Horse Lake Community Association will be installing new doors, lighting and ceiling fans at the Community Hall.

The CRD Board also authorized up to \$19,500 of Community Works Funding for the Miocene Community Club to install a new well system, energy efficient furnace and new windows at the Miocene Community Hall. The well at the Miocene Community Hall collapsed and a new well system will allow the community hall to provide safe water for users.

NDIT Projects Receive Support from CRD

The Board of Directors agreed to support three funding applications to the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) Regional Development Funding program. The first project to receive support was a request from Mount Timothy Ski resort. If approved, a total of \$30,000 will be used to develop a 900' long, tow-lift serviced tube sledding facility at the ski hill. The project primarily involves land clearing and site preparation, engineering and installation of the lift system, and the purchase of tubes and other materials.

The Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association (CCCTA) will also be submitting an application of up to \$20,000 in grant funding. These funds will be used to develop and implement a reputation recovery marketing plan designed to portray a more positive image of the Cariboo following the Mount Polley Mine disaster.

The third application to receive support of the CRD Board was from the Esk'etemc First Nation. The request is for \$250,000 in grant funding under the Economic Diversification Infrastructure program. The funding will be used to purchase and install a biomass central heating system in the community of Alkali Lake. Once complete, the heating system will supply heat to 13 buildings in the community, including a new school. The bioenergy system will be fueled by wood chips sourced from the Esk'etemc Community Forest.

Electoral Area D Economic Development Funds Approved

The Regional District Board received and endorsed a request for \$2,000 from the Area D Economic Development service from the McLeese Lake Farmer's Market Association.

The Area D Economic Development Service was established to support economic development activities for the benefit of Area D residents. The funding request from the McLeese Lake Farmer's Market Association is expected to assist with the launch of the McLeese Lake Farmer's Market and associated advertising.

Declarations

Invasive Species Action Month

Next Board Meeting

July 10, 2015