



Peace River Regional District &
Peace River Regional Hospital District
Board Meeting Newsletter



October 27, 2011 Location: North Peace Cultural Centre, Fort St. John, BC

North Peace Gymnastics Association

Lori Bonertz, Board Secretary for the *North Peace Gymnastics Association (NPGA)*, made a presentation to the Board to thank them for supporting the program that delivers programs to 500 members. NPGA announced the addition of a new head coach, more diverse programming and development plans for a new facility in Fort St. John to meet the needs of regional athletes. The Board looks forward to receiving specific budget and project information from the NPGA in the future. To find out more go to: www.npga.ca.

Worker Camp Applications on Titled Lands in the Peace River Regional District

The Board resolved to correspond with stakeholders to discuss the issues the region faces with worker camp installations on titled land. The demand is increasing and is estimated to triple over the next 5 years. The board has directed staff to develop a decision guide, or policy framework, for worker camp applications, and to improve communications with all the stakeholders involved: oil and gas producers, contractors, MLA's, and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, the latter with respect to location of worker camps on Crown land.

Farmers' Advocacy Office

The Board resolved to support for the Farmers' Advocacy Office to ensure funding be available to continue with the Farmers' Advocacy program for the next four years. The pilot program end date is February 29, 2012. The key priorities for the next term are: (1) completion of regulations to support recently implemented OGA legislation; (2) education/accreditation for land agents; and, (3) electronic access to public lease agreement information registered with the Province. For more info visit: www.farmersadvocate.ca.

Northwest Corridor Development Corporation

The Board resolved that any director is authorized to attend upcoming NCDC meetings in Fort St. John. PRRD directors hope to raise the awareness of the importance of investments in the region. The business case for northern transportation corridor improvements, despite both current and future industrial demands predicted, appears to be a lower priority than other infrastructure projects in the province. For more info visit: www.ncdc.ca.

Chetwynd & District Recreation Centre Pool Equipment Renovation

Chetwynd's swimming pool will be undergoing a \$1.2-million mechanical replacement and installation. The Regional District awarded the contract to Lee's Sheet Metal from Grande Prairie.

Water Act Modernization

The Water Act is the principal law for managing the diversion and use of provincial water resources. Established in 1909, B.C.'s *Water Act* is the primary piece of water management legislation and plays a key role in the sustainability of B.C.'s water. The deadline for receiving comments on the draft *Water Act* Modernization (WAM) and proposed new *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA) has been extended into 2012 before it is introduced into legislation. The Board appointed "Water Committee" will review the Province's draft document. To find out more: <http://livingwatersmart.ca/water-act>.

Rural OCP By-law No. 1940, 2011

The Rural Official Community Plan By-law No. 1940, 2011 was adopted after the third reading on October 27, 2011. The Rural Official Community Plan (Rural OCP) is prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act. Superseding federal and provincial legislation affects the lands within the Rural Official Community Plan area. No policy or land use designation removes the need to obtain approvals required by other jurisdictions.

The plan guide land use decisions for approximately 21,000 square kilometers stretches generally to Minaker Park in the north; Kelly Lake in the south; Lemoray in the west; the Alberta border to the east. It includes areas from Electoral Area 'B', Electoral Area 'D' and Electoral Area 'E'. This plan area shares portions of its jurisdictional boundaries of District of Chetwynd and District of Hudson's Hope, and a portion of the province of Alberta. The plan can be obtained at: www.ruralocp.ca.

South Peace Fringe Area OCP Consultations

This is the second official community plan approved by the current term of directors (in the past three years), and represents a substantial body of work, initiated in 2001, accomplished by PRRD staff. Also underway is the *South Peace Fringe Area Official Community Plan*, for which meeting schedules and public consultation opportunities to come in 2011 and 2012. Visit the PRRD website for info:

http://www.prrd.bc.ca/services/development/planning/official_community/south_peace_fringe/index.php

Next PRRD Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 10, 2011

Time: 10:00am

Location: 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC

Delegations wishing to appear before the Board of Directors are asked to apply well in advance of the meeting date of their choice. View Board schedules, agendas and minutes at: <http://www.prrd.bc.ca/board/meetings/schedule/index.php>.