



Peace River Regional District Board Newsletter

Highlights from the Peace River Regional Hospital District Board and
the Peace River Regional District Board Meeting, held May 24, 2007

Railway Safety Act Review

Director Saugstad attended the *Railway Safety Act* Review in Prince George, BC on May 18, 2007. Among the topics discussed were the following issues raised by Director Saugstad:

1. the need to add the requirement for rail line holders to maintain fencing along the rail lines;
2. the lack of notification by railway companies of the transportation of dangerous goods;
3. the lack of involvement permitted by CN to local authorities;
4. the lack of communication by CN with other agencies when accidents occur;
5. the need for railway companies to remain liable when there is a demonstrated need to change a railway crossing from a whistle to a gated crossing;
6. the need to correlate the length of trains to the condition of the rail line - if the line is in poor condition than the train length should be shorter;
7. that trains no longer be permitted to stop while crossing national or provincial highways, unless there is an emergency;
8. the need to have flashing lights added at uncontrolled railway crossings.
9. the need for railway companies to maintain railway crossing approaches; and
10. the need for railway companies to install larger drainage culverts to prevent floods.

The Regional District has prepared a motion regarding some of these concerns for presentation to the Union of BC Municipalities. The Cairboo Cattlemen's Association has communicated to the Regional Board their support of this motion.



Ungulate Wildlife Impacts

Mr. Pat Bell, Minister of Agriculture and Lands advised the Board that the Ministry of Environment is reviewing the *Wildlife Act*. To review proposed changes, visit the Ministry of Environment's website at www.env.bc.ca/fa/wildlifeactreview/discussion. As input from interested parties is an important part of the process, be sure to visit the website and offer your suggestions and comments.



Other Highlights

- ★ The annual Chain Saw Carving event will be held again this year in Chetwynd, beginning June 7th, with the Finals held on June 10th, at the Chetwynd Recreation Centre.
- ★ A private groundbreaking ceremony will be held on May 28th at Dunne-Za Lodge on the West Moberly First Nations for the proposed 300-megawatt wind energy development, one of the largest wind energy projects in Canada. The Dokie Wind Energy Inc. is co-hosting the event with the West Moberly First Nations.
- ★ The Directors passed a resolution to accept the bargaining agreement with Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). The agreement is for a four-year term.



Next Regional Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Regional Board will be held Thursday, June 14, 2007 at 10 a.m. at the North Peace Cultural Centre in Fort St. John.



For Further information, please contact the Peace River Regional District at:

www.prrd.bc.ca

P.O. Box 810, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8,
Telephone: (250) 784-3200; Fax: (250) 784-3201

9912-106 Avenue Fort St. John, BC V1J 2N9
Telephone: (250) 785-8084; Fax: (250) 785-1125

prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca

Toll-free Telephone: [800] 670-7773

prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca