



THE REGIONAL REPORT

ISSUE 11 • FEBRUARY 2015

IN THIS EDITION, WE WILL RECAP SOME OF THE PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON WITHIN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF FRASER-FORT GEORGE. ▲

WELCOME TO THE REGIONAL REPORT,

a regular newsletter designed to keep residents aware of programs, initiatives and events underway in the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. If you have comments, feedback or ideas for articles to be featured in future editions of Regional Report, please email us at district@rdffg.bc.ca, call 1-800-667-1959 or write to us at: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, 155 George St., Prince George, B.C., V2L 1P8 ▲

WELCOME THE NATION 2015 Canada Winter Games



Prince George is set to play host to more than 2400 athletes, 1000 coaches and officials, up to 4500 volunteers, hundreds of media and thousands of visitors as the 2015 Canada Winter Games get underway February 13 – March 1. This is the largest multi-sport and cultural event to ever be held in Prince George and northern BC and is forecasted to generate an economic impact of over \$90 million. Young athletes from every province and territory will compete in 19 different winter sports.

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is proud to be an official funding party of the 2015 Games and is supporting Northern BC regional engagement and sustainability initiatives such as solid waste and carbon emission tracking and reductions. The Regional District is very excited to be the presenting sponsor of the Opening Ceremonies. The TSN/RDS nationally broadcasted opening ceremony will take place at the CN Centre on February 13. With an assembled cast of over 180 performers, the ceremony will highlight local talent and the pride of northern BC.

The Regional District looks forward to welcoming the nation for the 2015 Canada Winter Games. Many of our staff and Directors are Games volunteers and are assisting with staging various aspects of the Games. Additionally our staff have been recognized for their Games spirit as a winning workplace for Games Gear Fridays. ▲

East Line ACTIVITY CENTRE

A ceremony was held January 16 to celebrate the opening of the Giscome School and East Line Activity Centre, a joint venture between the Regional District and School District No. 57 that will serve communities along the East Line including Giscome, Willow River and Upper Fraser. Thanks to \$287,760 received from the Provincial Community Recreation Fund,



\$250,000 from Northern Development Initiative Trust through the Economic Diversification Infrastructure Program to construct the East Line Activity Centre and the commitment of time and work from dedicated community members, the new facility was opened for business in September 2014.

The activity centre will host community and sports activities for a growing community and encourage and foster community growth, making this area an attractive location for residents who wish to live in a rural setting while keeping their families active and maintaining city amenities. The new centre will provide a place to facilitate fundraising activities to support the growth and sustainability of community groups and local organizations.

The new facility features a school, playground, daycare, library, high speed internet access, gymnasium, and meeting room. ▲

Building Code CHANGES

Effective December 19, 2014 changes are being made to the 2012 British Columbia Building Code. The revisions are substantially related to 9.36 Energy Efficiency (and relocation of Secondary Suites to 9.37), 9.32 Ventilation, and 9.13 Radon provisions.

2012 BC Building Code errata and revisions may be found at www.bccodes.ca. In addition, changes can be found in the Homeowner Protection Office "Illustrated Guide – Energy Efficiency Requirements for Houses in British Columbia" specific to Climate Zone 5 to 7A North Vancouver Island and Interior, which includes Regional District of Fraser-Fort George which has two Climate Zones (6 and 7A) within our boundaries. A more detailed summary of Code changes is available through the Homeowner Protection Office at www.hpo.bc.ca. ▲

Tete Jaune Community Hall IMPROVEMENTS

The community of Tete Jaune, 20 kilometres north of Valemount, recently saw the completion of improvements to their community hall through funding from the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund and Northern Development Initiative Trust's Community Halls and Recreational Facilities Fund.

The project improvements contracted to Lewis Enterprises of Valemount, BC include a large covered deck on the south and west sides of the building, accessibility ramps, enlarged energy efficient windows, upgrades to both men's and women's washrooms to make them fully accessible and enlarged interior doors to allow for wheelchair access. The Tete Jaune Community Club together with local residents



donated over \$4,000 of in-kind labour. Since the completion of the project, the Community Hall has been a beehive of activity and a welcome boost to the energy and the economy of the community. The Tete Jaune Community Club hosted an evening of coffee, cake and music to celebrate the upgrades last November. Over 100 people from Tete Jaune and Valemount attended the event. ▲

MULTI-MATERIAL Recycling Update

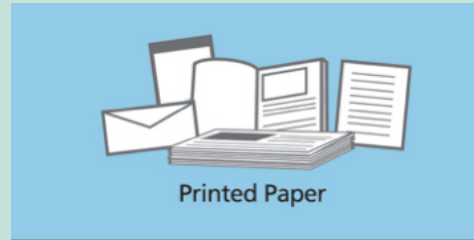
October 1 2014 saw the installation of multi-material recycling bins to service a number of the rural communities within the Regional District. New recycling sites were established in Bear Lake, Buckhorn, Chief Lake, Hixon, West Lake and Willow River.

Residents in these communities welcomed the opportunity to recycle at their local transfer station and we have seen a steady increase in the usage of these multi-material recycling bins in the first three months of this new program.

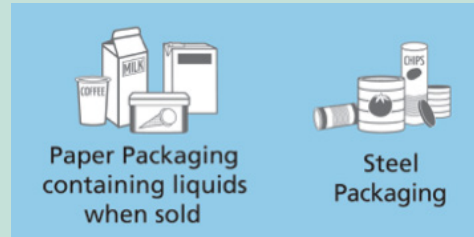
Long established rural recycling sites such as the Cummings Road Transfer Station, Shelley Transfer Station, as well as the city sites located at the Vanway Transfer Station, Quinn Street Recycling Depot, and the Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill now offer an expanded list of accepted materials which includes residential plastics. This expanded list is also accepted in McBride, Valemount, Mackenzie and Dunster.

As with any new program there are growing pains experienced as residents become familiar with what can and can't be recycled through this program. The Regional District has developed the list of acceptable materials to mirror that which is collected by Multi-Material BC in the curbside recycling program offered in the City of Prince George.

The materials accepted for paper recycling have not changed much from those accepted in the original multi-material recycling program. A new addition is the inclusion of paper bags with single and multiple paper or plastic layers, e.g. for pet food or flour.



Residents are reminded to remove liners, plastic wrap and flatten all boxes. The inclusion of residential plastics has left some residents scratching their heads when trying to determine which materials are accepted. The illustrations below are a quick summary of those materials that can be recycled through this program. As you can see it is not all household plastics but more specifically containers or packaging.



Residents are encouraged to empty and rinse all containers, as well as remove caps, pumps, and lids and place loose in the multi-material recycling bin.

Glass bottles and jars can be returned to your local bottle depot. Styrofoam, plastic bags and overwrap can be taken to the MMBC depots in Prince George. These include the PG Recycling and Return-It Centre and the Hart Return-It Depot. ▲

SPOTLIGHT on Electoral Area H, Robson Valley-Canoe



Electoral Area H lies southeast of Prince George and includes the communities of Dome Creek, Crescent Spur, McBride, Dunster, Tete Jaune and Valemount. Area H covers over 15,000 square kilometers with 1665 rural residents (not including the Villages of McBride and Valemount) represented by Director Dannielle Alan. Region-wide services provided include solid waste management, 9-1-1 emergency response, fire services coordination, regional parks, land use planning, building inspection and heritage conservation.

Other Regional District services such as library service, the Robson Valley and Canoe Valley Recreation Centres, Arenas and TV Rebroadcasting are provided in those communities where residents have opted to pay for them. The Regional District owns and provides funds to operate the Dome Creek Recreation Facility and the Tete Jaune Community Hall. ▲

NDIT Grant Writer SUPPORT

The Regional District extends its appreciation for \$8,000 received from Northern Development Initiative Trust through its 2014 Grant Writer Support program. This funding is in place to enable staff to devote additional hours for grant searching, preparing grant applications, assisting various community groups with grant applications and complete reporting requirements that lead to successful community projects. ▲

Pineview VFD SERVICE AWARDS

Members of the Pineview Volunteer Fire Department (L to R) Ed Larabie, Assistant Deputy Chief, Lyle Wood, Fire Chief pose with members receiving awards: Shannon Elliott (15 year service award), Bill Whitmer (15 year service award) and Lorne Koch (20 year service award). Ken Schinkel (not in picture) also received a 20 year service award. ▲



ICE AGE MAMMALS at The Exploration Place

The national travelling exhibition Ice Age Mammals opens Friday February 13 at The Exploration Place in Prince George. Find out all about the last ice



age; the mammals that survived and those that didn't. See skulls and bones of ice age beasts, and detailed artwork of what they looked like. Touch a real mammoth tusk! Hear scientists' stories as they recount their Arctic adventures and discoveries.

Ice Age Mammals is produced by the Canadian Museum of Nature in partnership with the Montreal Science Centre, the Yukon Beringia Centre and the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology.

For more information contact The Exploration Place at **250 562-1612**, toll free **1-866-562-1612** or email: info@theexplorationplace.com. ▲

ABOUT US

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is home to over 93,000 residents and covers 52,000 square kilometers in central British Columbia – an area almost as large as the province of Nova Scotia. It extends from the Pine Pass in the north to Hixon in the south, and from Bednesti Lake west of Prince

George to the Alberta border. As a local government, the Regional District is accountable to the residents of the region. Services provided include fire protection, 9-1-1 emergency services, solid waste management, community sewer and water systems, land use planning, cultural and recreational services and parks. Total operating expenditures in 2014 were \$32.2 million.

The governing board of the Regional District has fourteen directors: four appointed by the City of Prince George from its council, one appointed by each of the councils of the District of Mackenzie, Village of McBride and Village of Valemount, and seven directors elected from within each of the seven electoral areas covering the unincorporated portions of the Regional District. ▲