



## OCT 20 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Support for the Beyond the Market program; Update from Railway and Forestry Museum; Updates to Fire/Rescue Emergency Radio Network completed**

### **Support for the Beyond the Market program**

The Regional District will be providing \$15,000 per year in 2017 and 2018 to support the Beyond the Market agricultural program. Community Futures Fraser-Fort George has provided the highly successful 'Beyond the Market' agricultural extension program since 2010 in partnership with OBAC and local governments in the region. The program supports knowledge enhancement for new, prospective and existing farmers. Community Futures is applying for a BC Rural Dividend Grant to further support and enhance the program.

### **Update from Railway and Forestry Museum**

The Central BC Railways and Forestry Museum is working with the Timber Framers Guild on an extensive project that will see a large timber frame structure constructed at the museum to provide shelter for the museum's rolling stock. The project has already received some community and corporate support and could potentially involve community volunteers, trade students and more working alongside members of the Timber Framers Guild in the construction of the shelter.

### **Updates to Fire/Rescue Emergency Radio Network completed**

Over the last few years, work has been undertaken to upgrade and enhance the Fire/Rescue Emergency Radio Dispatch and Communications Network for Prince George Fire Rescue Services (PGFRS), Regional District's volunteer fire/rescue agencies and the Mackenzie Fire Departments. Initially, the cost of the project was estimated at \$2,450,000. The majority of the Network upgrade work was done by in-house radio technicians instead of hiring a consultant to design the system and a contractor to supply and install radio equipment, which reduced costs significantly.

The Regional District worked closely with PGFRS, Mackenzie Fire and the Regional District's volunteer fire services to ensure the needs of the agencies were met. The work entailed replacing all equipment at the mountain top communications sites, each fire hall and upgrading the dispatch console. The system re-design allows for all agencies to connect directly with dispatch instead of sharing a radio link as was the old design. A redundant backup system was also installed at each fire/rescue hall.

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### **Community Grants**

The Board approved the following requests for Community and Recreation Grants:

- \$700 to the Nukko Lake Recreation Commission for Halloween fireworks
- \$750 to the Beverly Community Association for Halloween fireworks
- \$800 to the Miworth Community Association for Halloween fireworks
- \$20,000 to the Pineview Recreation Commission for concession building upgrades
- \$2500 to the Summit Lake Community Association for the Fir Beetle Control Project
- \$300 to the McBride Volunteer Fire Fighters Association for hall rental
- \$250 to the Robson Valley Support Society for hall rental
- \$5000 to Robson Valley Tourism for marketing expenses and Horseshoe Lake property improvements

### **For further information, please contact**

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**REGIONAL DISTRICT**  
of Fraser-Fort George