



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2011

August 18 Board Meeting Highlights

Update provided on Performing Arts Centre; Amended Recycling Regulation delays curbside recycling implementation; Beverly Fire/Rescue to host relay to build awareness

Update provided on Performing Arts Centre

Representatives from the Prince George Regional Performing Arts Centre Society provided an update on their activities. The presentation included a recap of studies, business plans and reports that have presented the benefits of a Performing Arts Centre. The proposed centre would have an 800 seat multi-use theatre, 250 seat flex space theatre, rehearsal space, administrative offices and a public foyer. The centre is estimated to cost \$42.5 million. The Society is pursuing a public/private partnership, and has requested grant from \$1 million from the Regional District. The Board referred the matter to administration, and further information is expected in the coming months.

Amended Recycling Regulation delays curbside recycling implementation

The Board received a report examining the feasibility and options for curbside recycling in Prince George, and learned that as the report neared completion, changes to the Province's Recycling Regulation were introduced. The amendment to the Recycling Regulation means that the Province will now hold producers of packaging materials and printed paper products responsible for the collection and recycling of all packaging material and printed paper products. Programs are required to be in place by May of 2014. The Regulation was recently introduced, and will involve significant consultation. Details about how producers will collect and recycle the packaging and paper materials are not yet known and there is uncertainty as to whether local government will play a role in the delivery of recycling services. Therefore, the Board determined that implementation of a curbside program for Prince George should be put on hold until further information is known on how the new Recycling Regulation amendments may impact curbside collection plans. More information on the Recycling Regulation Amendment can be found at http://rcbc.bc.ca/files/u7/epr_110620_moepackaging.pdf

Beverly Fire/Rescue to host relay to build awareness

Beverly Fire/Rescue is coordinating a relay run event along Highway 16 from Bednesti Lake to the western boundary of the City of Prince George for September 24, 2011. The purpose of the run is to raise awareness of the volunteer department for recruitment purposes and to promote health and wellness in the community. Participation in the Relay Run event is also meant to promote health and wellness within the department as well as serve as a team building exercise for the department.

Community Grants

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

- \$50,400 to the Pineview Funtimers Slo Pitch League for ball field completion expenses
- \$15,000 to the Willow River Fire Department for operating expenses
- \$1000 to the McBride Secondary School for transportation costs

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