



MAY BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural plastics recycling pilot program gets green light; Regional broadband study received; Update from Coastal GasLink

Agricultural plastics recycling pilot program gets green light

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is joining forces with the Regional Districts of Peace River and Bulkley Nechako to test out an agricultural plastics recycling pilot program. The project was initiated by Cleanfarms to collect agricultural plastics such as twine, bale wrap and silage film. In the Fraser-Fort George region, a collection site will be established at the McBride Regional Transfer Station. The program is slated to go for three years, with the RDFFG contributing a maximum of \$79,521 over the three years. Further details, including a start date when the program is expected to begin will be announced in the coming months.

Regional broadband study received

The Regional District Board has received the final report from a study that explored gaps in broadband connectivity within the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. The study was an initiative of the RDFFG and the municipalities of Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount. The report provides a strategy for the four local governments to develop options for residents and businesses that do not already have broadband service at the CRTC universal service objective of 50 million bits per second download speed and 10 million bits per second upload speed ("50/10" or the "USO") to get that service. It also identifies the strategic steps for the four local governments to consider in advancing that initiative. The Board agreed to establish a Select Committee to further explore the Regional District's role in advancing broadband connectivity in the region.

Update from Coastal GasLink

Representatives were on hand from Coastal GasLink to give an update on their project. Coastal GasLink is a 670 km pipeline to carry natural gas from north eastern BC to Kitimat. Significant progress was made on the project in 2020, despite dealing with challenges from the pandemic. Currently there are 350 people working on the project within the Regional District and about 21 kms of pipe has been installed in the region so far. \$125 million in contracts have been awarded in the region, and an estimated direct spend of \$36 million in the region as a result of the project.

Community Grants

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

- \$1309 to the Salmon Valley Gymkhana Club for insurance
- \$2500 to the Tabor Lake Recreation Commission for insurance, programs and park maintenance
- \$5500 to the Cariboo Ferndale Community Association for insurance and programs
- \$4652 to the Dunster Community Association for insurance and administration costs

For further information, please contact

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