



**REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George**

ITEM NO. 12.1 GM: _____

Main Office: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
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REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION

TO: Chair and Directors File No.: TET 1.2

FROM: Carina Hanson, Community/Public Safety Assistant

DATE: September 10, 2012

SUBJECT: Item: Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Service Mail Out

SUMMARY: Purpose: Consider Information Summary

PREVIOUS STAFF REPORTS: Item No. 10.3, July 2012 (see Agenda for link)
Item No. 10.2, June 2012 (see Agenda for link)

ATTACHMENT(S): Proposed Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Service Information Summary

RECOMMENDATION(S):	<u>ENTITLEMENT</u>	HOW VOTE COUNTED
1. THAT the staff report be received.	All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority
2. THAT the Information Summary for the proposed Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Service be approved for mail out.	All 1 Director/1 vote	Majority

ISSUE(S):

In accordance with Board's Policy C-1 Referendum Information Mailouts, the attached Information Summary has been prepared to be mailed to all property owners within the Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Service Area for the purpose of increasing public awareness, knowledge and involvement in the upcoming referendum for the proposed cemetery.

The Board is being asked to consider approving the attached mailout for distribution.

RELEVANT POLICIES:

1. *Policy C-1 Referendum Information Mailouts:*
 - Requires Board approval for referendum information mailouts

SERVICE RELEVANCE:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

The cost of the mailout will be covered by the Community Services budget.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

N/A

DECISION OPTIONS:

1. Approve staff recommendations.
 - mailout will be sent to all property owners identified within the Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Service Area according to the most recent information obtained from BC Assessment

Other Options:

- a. do not send out mailout
 - property owners will not have the opportunity to review the proposed service's details and meeting information

COMMENTS:

Should Board approve the mailout, it will be distributed to all property owners at the end of September 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

"Carina Hanson"

Carina Hanson
Community/Public Safety Assistant

CH:cp

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

DATE AND TIME TBA

AT THE TETE JAUNE COMMUNITY HALL

PURPOSE OF THE REFERENDUM

To give eligible voters the opportunity to show if they are in favour of the establishment of a taxable service that will fund the building and maintenance of a community cemetery in Tete Jaune.

BACKGROUND

The Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Steering Committee, comprised of area residents and stakeholders, has been working with Regional District staff to study the feasibility of establishing a community cemetery that would serve Tete Jaune and surrounding area. The process to develop a cemetery on Crown land must include the establishment of a taxable service to ensure that there is long-term security in funding the operating costs of the cemetery, as well as to pay the capital costs of construction. It is proposed that the cemetery be located on a 3.6 acre portion of land located on Carr Road.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The capital budget for construction of the proposed cemetery is estimated at \$83,280. This cost includes \$45,000 to purchase the Crown land if necessary. Alternatively, if the referendum is successful, the Regional District will apply for a Sponsored Crown Grant from the Crown that could cost only \$280, but as Provincial approval of the Sponsored Crown Grant is not a certainty, the capital budget must include the possibility of purchasing the property.

The estimated annual budget of \$15,970 for maintaining the cemetery will also include the borrowing costs (over a ten year term) to construct the cemetery. Once the ten year borrowing term is concluded, the budget will be reduced accordingly.

ANNUAL TAX IMPACT

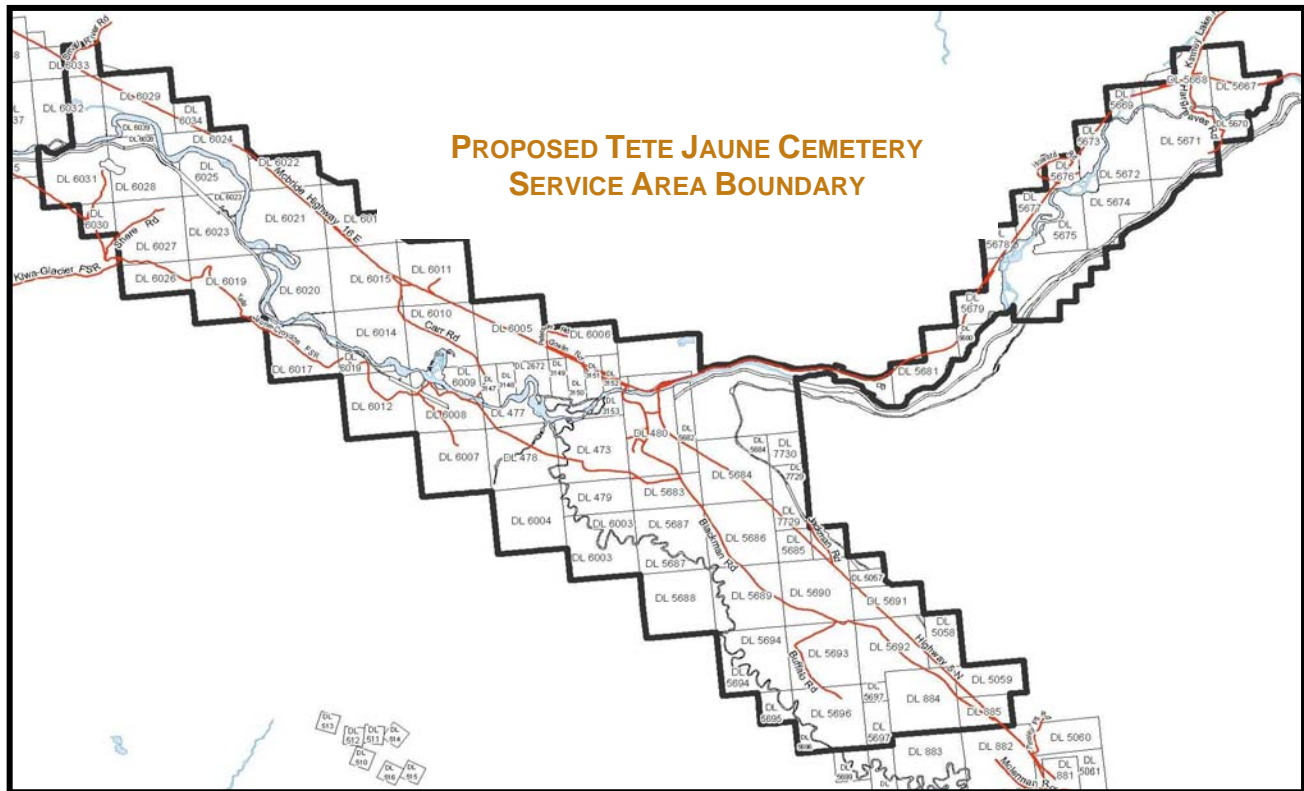
Taxation will be based on the net taxable value of land and improvement assessments. The proposed residential tax levy based on a maximum capital borrowing of \$83,280 over a ten year term and an operating budget of \$15,970 is **\$.1482** per \$1,000 of assessments. A residential property that has been assessed at \$100,000 will see an annual tax impact of **\$14.82**.

MORE INFORMATION

Check the Notice Board on the Regional District website at www.rdffg.bc.ca for further information specific to this proposal such as previous mail outs, related Board reports, etc. or contact Carina Hanson, Community/Public Safety Assistant, or Meredith Burmaster, Community Services Leader, at the Regional District office at 250-960-4400 or 1-800-667-1959.

AREA AFFECTED

The service area boundary for the proposed cemetery service includes those properties outlined in the following map.



VOTING INFORMATION

Further information pertaining specifically to the referendum will be advertised in local newspapers in October 2012, available on the Regional District website, www.rdffg.bc.ca, or by calling Karla Jensen, Chief Election Officer, at the Regional District office at 250-960-4400 or 1-800-667-1959. **Receipt of this Information Summary does not confirm that the recipient will be eligible to vote in the referendum.**

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible to vote on this proposal, individuals must meet the following criteria:

1. Canadian Citizen.
2. Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day.
3. Resident of British Columbia for at least six (6) months at the time of registration.
4. Resident of, or registered owner of, real property within the proposed service area for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding voting day.
5. Not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

Elector registration will be done at time of voting. There is no advance registration for voting purposes.

VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

REFERENDUM DAY: DATE AND TIME TBA

ADVANCE VOTING DAY: DATE AND TIME TBA

POLLING STATIONS: TETE JAUNE COMMUNITY HALL