



REGIONAL DISTRICT of Fraser-Fort George Community Services

TETE JAUNE CEMETERY OCTOBER 2011 - Newsletter

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

The Regional District will host an information meeting to offer residents and property owners in the Tete Jaune community an opportunity to gain information and ask questions regarding the feasibility of establishing a community cemetery in the Tete Jaune area. This meeting will be held at:

Tete Jaune Community Hall

Monday, October 24, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Members of the Tete Jaune Community Cemetery Steering Committee and Regional District staff will be making presentations.

BACKGROUND

The Tete Jaune Community Club approached the Regional District regarding the possibility of establishing a cemetery in Tete Jaune. As a result, a Cemetery Steering Committee, comprised of area residents and stakeholders, was formed. The Steering Committee has been working with the Regional District to prepare a feasibility study that details the requirements for establishing a cemetery.

The cemetery is proposed to be located on a portion of the 20.51 acre parcel of Crown land on Carr Road in Tete Jaune. The Regional District presently holds a Licence of Occupation for recreational use on this property.

The Consumer Protection Authority of BC is the regulatory body with regard to cemeteries. Provincial policy requires that a local government (ie: regional district or municipality) must establish a cemetery service to ensure that provisions (bylaws) are in place for the continued operation of a cemetery.

An informal door-to-door and phone survey was conducted by the Steering Committee in the Fall of 2010 and the results indicate that there is support for a local cemetery. The Steering Committee and Regional District staff would like to present the proposal to the Tete Jaune community. Therefore, residents are invited to come to a public information session to hear the details of the proposal, ask questions and give feedback.

THE PROPOSAL

The Steering Committee is proposing that the cemetery be built to accommodate 50 full burial plots, as well as offer plots designated for cremated remains. Allowances would also be made for future expansion if required. Capital costs associated with the building of the cemetery include the cost of acquiring and developing the property, ie: surveying, equipment, and soil assessment costs. Development costs, as well as annual maintenance costs, are proposed to be paid for by a combination of taxation and revenue from plot sales.

Many steps are involved in establishing a cemetery. These steps, depending on how each phase unfolds, may include:

- engaging in public consultation (public meetings)
- seeking the Regional District Board's support of the proposal
- gauging community support (surveys)
- obtaining elector assent (agreement of tax payers)
- applying for a Sponsored Crown Grant (Crown gives property to the Regional District under certain conditions)
- making the applications to subdivide and develop the land
- designing the cemetery, and
- construction.

