

Cowichan Valley Regional District Board Meeting Highlights – March 10, 2010

Board Adopts Five Year Financial Plan

The Board of Directors adopted Bylaw No. 3361 (Five Year Financial Plan 2010 - 2014) which includes a total expenditure of 74.4 million dollars for this year. Highlights from the 2010 budget include:

- An increase in the requisition amount for the Regional Parkland Acquisition Fund from \$300,000 to \$500,000.
- An expenditure increase of \$175,000 for capital project work on the Cowichan Valley Trail. This expenditure allows the CVRD to qualify for major funding grants of approximately 1.2 million dollars.
- \$100,000 from Gas Tax Grant Revenue was approved for the development of an Integrated Sustainability Plan.
- The Chesterfield Sports Society received a grant-in-aid for \$100,000 for operation of the Cowichan Sportsplex.
- \$20,000 for an outreach program for the Environment Commission.
- Expenditures of \$20,000 for a subsidized backyard composter sales program and \$15,000 for a woodstove rebate program.

Contact: Mark Kueber, General Manager, Corporate Services

One Million Dollars to Hospital Reserve Fund

The 2010 Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District budget was also adopted and will see \$1,000,000 being placed into a reserve fund for a new Cowichan District hospital in the future to serve the residents of the Cowichan Valley.

Contact: Mark Kueber, General Manager, Corporate Services

Kinsol Trestle Revitalization Steams Ahead

The Board awarded two major contracts for the Kinsol Trestle Revitalization project. MacDonald and Lawrence Timber Framing Ltd. will focus on the rehabilitation and upgrade of the existing structure. Stantec Consulting Ltd. will undertake design work on the new superstructure walkway with an underslung truss system atop the trestle that will provide an essential crossing over the Koksilah River for Cowichan Valley/Trans Canada Trail users.

Contact: Brian Farquhar, Parks & Trails Manager

Free Transit Schedule Approved

The Cowichan Valley Regional Transit System has offered free rides on local transit buses for specific events since 2006. The Board approved a schedule of free transit days in 2010 for the following reasons:

- Wednesday June 2: To promote motorists to leave their vehicles at home and ride the bus on national Clean Air Day.
- Thursday November 11: To encourage residents to attend Remembrance Day ceremonies at various cenotaphs in the Cowichan Valley.
- Friday December 17: To celebrate the spirit of the holiday season and promote residents to shop locally by taking transit to the unique shops and boutiques found in Chemainus, Lake Cowichan, Duncan, Cowichan Bay, and Mill Bay.

Contact: Jim Wakeham, Manager, Facility, Fleet and Transit

Next Regional District Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Regional District will be held in the Boardroom on Wednesday, April 14th at 6:00 p.m.