



Director's Corner

Wells Gray Country-Electoral Area 'A'

TNRD

TNRD BOD's Meeting Highlights April 9th, 2009

Electronic Waste aka e-Waste was picked up at both Vavenby Thrift stores on April 8th and since I had no morning meetings in Kamloops I had time and was able to deliver the e-Waste to a recycling depot in Kamloops. Generous donation at the thrift stores are sincerely appreciated but eventually some items which may have been on the shelf for a year or more must be disposed of. I intend to provide this service every few month, time permitting. TV's, computers, printers, stereo's, VCR's and DVD players are just a few of the items that can be dropped off at the Bottle Depot adjacent Jubilee RV on Halston Ave. on your way into Kamloops.

The Blackpool Community Hall (owned by the Star Lake Women's Institute) will be receiving a brand new high efficiency heating system complete with propane furnace and duct work. The current system has no duct work aside from a single discharge off the side of the furnace. Recently, during a Sunday Pancake Breakfast, along with heat came flames. Since that event the furnace has not been used. The back up electric heat is inadequate and has made for some cold events! Today I received approval of a \$12,000 Federal Gas Tax Credit grant to fund the upgrade. This will cover 100% of the material and labor costs! The new high efficiency system will also significantly reduce the annual hall heating costs.

A Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee was established at Thursday's board meeting. Our very own Cheryl Thomas was appointed to the committee for a three year term, congratulations Cheryl! The committee known as PMAC will represent concerns and wishes of the citizens of the Thompson Nicola Regional District with regard to implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan initiatives and their effectiveness. It is hoped that the committee will be another valuable source of information to assist the TNRD Board of Directors in their decision making process with regards to Solid Waste Management.

Electoral Area Directors and senior staff will be attending a forum in Richmond, BC on June 26th to discuss major issues of concern to rural residents. The Forum is being hosted by the Union of BC Municipalities. Currently on the list is 'Sewage Regulation' which, due to ever increasing requirements by various levels of government, is becoming a very costly item for rural residents. Costs to install a new system in rural areas are quadruple or more than that of just a few years ago. Residents are no longer legally allowed to assemble their own systems, Interior Health Authority although they regulate sewage systems, no longer provide inspections. It seems like more regulations are added every year and with each new regulation comes an additional cost to the homeowner. Other than that the agenda is fairly open. If anybody has any concerns they would like to see discussed please forward them on to me so that they can be submitted as a potential agenda items.

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Disclaimer: These comments are personal comments of Wells Gray Country Electoral Area 'A' Director Tim Pennell and in no way reflect the comments, opinion or position of the Thompson Nicola Regional District Board of Directors