



# ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA A | CASSIDY | CEDAR | YELLOWPOINT | SOUTH WELLINGTON

ISSUE 18 • SPRING 2015

## Morden Colliery Tipple

At the February 2015 RDN Board meeting, representatives from Friends of the Morden Mine asked for assistance in the ongoing effort to restore the tipple at Morden Colliery Provincial Park. As a result, the RDN Board has agreed to approach the Province concerning the restoration of the tipple, and to investigate grant funding



Director  
Alec McPherson

opportunities to assist with the restoration project.

Friends of the Morden Mine is a registered non-profit society dedicated to the preservation of the head frame and tipple. In 2014, the RDN Board approved up to \$15,000 in funding to assist the group with obtaining a detailed engineering study of the structure. The head frame and tipple are recognized as the most complete above-ground remains of an historic coal mine on Vancouver Island and the earliest-built of two such reinforced concrete structures in North America.

For more information about the Friends of the Morden Mine, visit [www.mordenmine.com](http://www.mordenmine.com) or email [info@mordenmine.com](mailto:info@mordenmine.com).



*This flyer is intended for residents in RDN Electoral Area A. Overlapping postal routes could result in some City of Nanaimo, Ladysmith and adjacent electoral area residents receiving this newsletter. We hope you find the content of interest.*

## RDN Rebates

The RDN is offering new rebates in Spring 2015.



### DRINKING WATER & WATERSHED PROTECTION REBATES

The Rainwater Harvesting Incentive provides up to \$750 to install a cistern (min. 1000 imperial gallons) and other rainwater harvesting system components.

### RURAL WATER QUALITY STEWARDSHIP REBATES

**Water Quality Testing:** 50 per cent of the cost of comprehensive water quality tests for private well owners.

**Wellhead Protection Upgrades:** \$50 to \$500 for upgrades to existing well construction to improve groundwater protection, including upgrades to well cap, well casing stick-up, surface seal or well closure.

*These rebates are available to all RDN residents. Applications may be submitted beginning on April 1, 2015.*

### SEPTIC MAINTENANCE REBATE

Starting in June 2015, RDN residents may claim up to \$600 to help maintain their onsite (septic) system. The RDN will provide 75 per cent of the costs, up to a maximum of \$200 each for:

- A Custom Maintenance Plan
- Installing an Effluent Filter
- Installing a Riser

To qualify for the rebate, maintenance must be performed by an authorized person (a registered onsite wastewater practitioner or a professional engineer or geoscientist) between June 1 and Dec. 31, 2015.

The RDN is offering free SepticSmart workshops in May and June to review septic care and maintenance tips. Rebates are limited in number, and some are reserved for SepticSmart participants.

*If you would like to attend, please pre-register by calling (250) 248-3252 or 1-888-828-2069.*

### GREEN BUILDING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

#### Home Energy Assessments (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Homeowners who complete a home energy assessment can receive a \$150 to \$200 rebate. An additional rebate is available if the follow-up assessment shows an increase in your home's EnerGuide rating.

#### Woodstove Exchange Program

Homeowners can receive \$250 by replacing an old wood-burning appliance with an EPA-certified wood burning, pellet, or gas stove or insert.

#### Graded Site-Cut Timber (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Homeowners who have site-cut timber graded for use in a structure requiring a building permit can receive a rebate up to \$250.

#### Renewable Energy Systems (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

A \$250 rebate is available to residents >

## highlights

- \* Morden Colliery Tipple
- \* RDN Rebates
- \* Zoning Amendments

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who purchase and install an eligible renewable energy system.

## Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Station (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Residents who install an eligible Level 2 EV Charging Station can apply for this \$250 rebate.

## Sustainable Development Checklist (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Homeowners and owner-builders can receive between \$500 and \$1000 for achieving a high Checklist score when building an efficient home.

### NEW IN 2015

## ENERGY STAR® Clothes Washer Incentive (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Residents who purchase an eligible ENERGY STAR® clothes washer in May and June 2015 can access a \$100 - \$200 rebate from BC Hydro.

## Oil Furnace Replacement Incentive

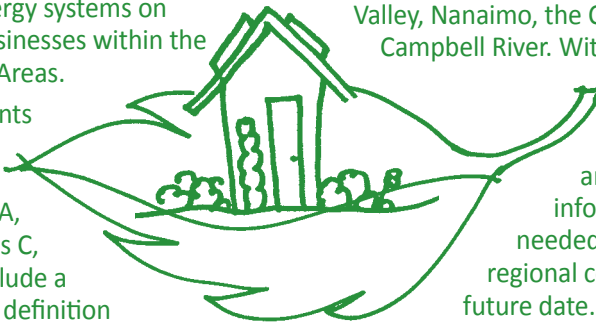
The Province is developing a program to encourage residents to exchange oil furnaces for electric heat pumps. Watch the RDN website for more information.

See [www.rdnrebates.ca](http://www.rdnrebates.ca) for details on how to claim your rebates. Rebates are first-come first-served until funds are exhausted.

## Green Building Zoning Amendments

In February, the RDN Board approved amendments to Zoning Bylaws 500 and 1285 to make it easier to incorporate green building features and renewable energy systems on homes and businesses within the RDN Electoral Areas.

The amendments to Bylaw 500 (affecting Electoral Area A, as well as Areas C, E, G and H) include a revision to the definition of floor area and exemptions



from the maximum permitted height for buildings for solar and wind energy systems. The new definition of floor area excludes exterior walls and overhangs. This can encourage passive design features such thicker walls with added insulation and passive solar shading with overhangs. Solar systems can now exceed the maximum permitted building height by 0.6m, and one 'micro' wind turbine (1kW capacity or less) per parcel can be up to twice the maximum permitted building height, with a minimum setback equal to the height of the system.

For more information on these zoning bylaw amendments, visit [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca) and click on Services/ Energy and Sustainability/ Green Bylaw Amendments.

## Transit Update

As the result of a request from the RDN Board of Directors, BC Transit is currently analyzing potential transit markets between regions, including the RDN and Ladysmith and the RDN and the Comox Valley. This work will help BC Transit and RDN



Transit to understand if transit services between these areas could be possible at some point in the future. BC Transit has hired SNC Lavalin to conduct a market research report to look at potential transit ridership markets between the RDN and these two areas.

All of the Transit Future Plans on Vancouver Island identify the need for future transit connections between regions including Victoria, the Cowichan Valley, Nanaimo, the Comox Valley and Campbell River. With this in mind, BC

Transit's analysis will include Campbell River and Victoria as this information may be needed for other inter-regional connections at a future date.

## Upcoming SepticSmart Workshop

Free SepticSmart workshops are available this spring through the RDN's Wastewater Services department. The workshops offer septic system care and maintenance tips, information about the RDN's Septic Maintenance Rebates, and the opportunity to ask questions of industry experts. The workshop scheduled in this area of the region is on Monday, May 25, from 6-8 pm at the Jonanco Hobby Shop in Extension (2745 White Rapids Road).

If you would like to attend, please pre-register by calling (250) 248-3252 or 1-888-828-2069. For more information visit [www.septicmart.ca](http://www.septicmart.ca).

## Curbside Collection App

Simplify your life with the RDN curbside collection reminder feature and mobile app! In November, 2014, the RDN launched this new feature to help our curbside collection customers remember their specific collection day and which bins to put out.



Check out the app on our Facebook page or visit [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca) and click on the Curbside Collection image at the top right side of the page.



If you haven't heard about the RDN's popular Team WaterSmart program yet, visit [www.teamwatersmart.ca](http://www.teamwatersmart.ca)

for this spring's free workshop series, tips on water conservation and water quality protection and the Team WaterSmart KidsZone.

## contacts

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