



ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

AREA H | SHAW HILL | QUALICUM BAY | BOWSER | DEEP BAY

ISSUE 18 • SPRING 2015

RDN Grants and Rebates

The RDN has three programs that offer grants to local community organizations and has several grants for individual homeowners. The first intakes for applications usually happen in the Spring. I encourage you to apply.



Director Bill Veenhof

I have found a local resident (with great credentials) who may be interested in helping you to write these

applications. If she is interested, I will advise you of her contact details.

Recreation Grants

Purpose: To provide funds to organizations requesting financial assistance to offer recreation programs, special events or projects; either youth specific (11-18 years) or to other populations.

Grants-in-Aid

Purpose: Non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for grants-in-aid to help fund programs, activities or events that enhance the wellbeing of our community and benefit the residents.

Northern Community Economic Grants

Purpose: The Northern Community Economic Development program provides support for economic development initiatives in the City of Parksville, the Town of Qualicum Beach and Electoral Areas E, F, G and H. The Program allows

the RDN Board of Directors to contribute to eligible projects that advance the Board's vision for a resilient, thriving and creative local economy.

You can visit the A to Z Directory at www.rdn.bc.ca for information on these grant programs. The Grants-in-Aid link in the Directory also provides information on Recreation Grants.

Individual Home Owner Grants

DRINKING WATER & WATERSHED PROTECTION REBATES

The **Rainwater Harvesting Incentive** provides up to \$750 for homeowners who install a cistern (min. 1000 imperial gallons) and other eligible components as part of a rainwater harvesting system.

Rural Water Quality Stewardship Rebates (a two-part rebate program):

1. Water Quality Testing – one-time 50 per cent off of comprehensive water quality tests for private well owners.
2. Wellhead Protection Upgrades – \$50 to \$500 is available for upgrades to existing well construction to improve groundwater protection. This includes upgrades to well cap, well casing stick-up, surface seal or for well closure.

Applications may be submitted beginning on April 1, 2015.

SEPTIC MAINTENANCE REBATE

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

- Category 1:** Custom Maintenance Plan
 - Category 2:** Installing an Effluent Filter
 - Category 3:** Installing a Riser
- To qualify for the rebate, eligible

maintenance must be performed by an authorized person between June 1 and Dec. 31, 2015. An *authorized person* is one of two industry specialists, either a registered onsite wastewater practitioner or a professional engineer or geoscientist.

GREEN BUILDING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Home Energy Assessments (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

Complete a home energy assessment to 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

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 up to \$250.

Renewable Energy Systems (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

A \$250 rebate is available to residents 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.



This flyer is intended for residents in RDN Electoral Area H. Overlapping postal routes could result in some adjacent electoral area residents receiving this newsletter. We hope you find the content of interest.

highlights

- * RDN Grants and Rebates
- * Recreation Update
- * Meet the Area H POSAC

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED ON 100% POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED PAPER.



RDN AREA H ELECTORAL AREA UPDATE

Sustainable Development Checklist (Electoral Areas and Lantzville)

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 for details on how to claim your rebates. Rebates are first-come first-served until funds are exhausted.

Recreation Update

Area H recreation programmer Chrissie Finnie has some excellent summer camps and fun family events in the works.



GO-WILD MORNINGS 6-12YRS

Campers will explore, hike, discover, and play in a variety of local parks and trails. Locations include Henry Morgan Community Park, Lighthouse Trail & Wildwood Community Park and Big Qualicum River Regional Trail.

Tue-Thu 9 am-12 pm July 21-23 \$54/3

MARINE ADVENTURE CAMPS AT VIU DEEP BAY MARINE FIELD STATION 6-12YRS

Campers will become scientists for a week as they learn how to take care of marine animals and explore amazing life in our tanks and on the beach.

A healthy and delicious lunch is included in the registration fee. Daily or weekly registration is available.

9:30 am-3:30 pm \$55/1 or \$250/week
Choose from Fishy Fun Camp for 6-8yrs (Mon-Fri July 6-10 or Mon-Fri August 10-14) or Ocean Adventures Camp for 9-12 yrs (Mon-Fri July 27-31 or Mon-Fri August 24-28)

HENRY MORGAN PARK FAMILY PICNIC AND PLAY

This is a FREE fun family evening and a great way to appreciate your community. Games and activities provided by RDN Recreation and Parks leaders, but if you have a favorite family game bring it along! Propane BBQs are welcome.

5-8 pm on Fri. June 26, Fri. July 24 and Fri. August 28

To register, visit www.rdn.bc.ca/recreation or call Chrissie at (250) 757-8118. There is no need to register for the three Picnic and Play events at Henry Morgan Park—just bring your family and enjoy.

Meet the Area H POSAC

Meet the members of the Area H Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee at the Lighthouse Community Centre Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 10. This is your opportunity to meet the members of the POSAC and let them know the direction you would like to see the RDN take for our community parks and trails. The pancake breakfast runs from 8 am to noon.

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 the Comox Valley and the RDN and Ladysmith. 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 Electoral Area H workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, from 6-8 pm at the Lighthouse Community Centre, 240 Lion's Way.

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

Changes to Septage Fees

The RDN is transitioning to a user-pay system for septage disposal as of July 1, 2015.

Septage, which is the sewage from septic tanks, is taken to RDN wastewater facilities for treatment and disposal. The RDN currently recovers the treatment and disposal costs through both user-fees and a property tax; it costs 23 cents per gallon to treat septage, but users pay 18 cents per gallon, and the five-cent per gallon difference is recovered through taxes. Once the transition to a fully user-pay system takes effect, the tax will be eliminated and septage costs will be recovered entirely from user-fees.

contacts

Electoral Area Director | Bill Veenhof
bill.veenhof@shaw.ca

Regional District of Nanaimo Website | www.rdn.bc.ca
250-390-4111 1-877-607-4111 (Toll-free access to all departments)

