



**CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
OCTOBER 2014 REPORT**

TO: Darla Blake, CAO
CC: Board Chair Reginald Moody and Board Members
DATE: November 6, 2014
FROM: Ken McIlwain, R.P.F. Public Works Manager
SUBJECT: Public Works Monthly Report

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the October 2014 Public Works Report be received.

THAT the Board of Directors approves and signs the attached letter to Minister of Environment, Honourable Mary Polak in support of Multi-Material BC and the need for stewardship plans to support collection of recyclables in all of B.C., including rural and remote areas.

THAT the Board of Directors, in the event the CCRD is unable to obtain fair market value for the two surplus fire trucks of the Bella Coola Fire Department, approves the CAO to sell the two fire trucks to the charity organization Firefighters Without Borders for the amount of one dollar (\$1.00) each.

THAT the Board of Directors approves an application for membership with BC ONE CALL.

**PUBLIC WORKS FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES
OCTOBER 2014 HIGHLIGHTS**

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Landfill contractor Don Nygaard & Son Ltd. continues to address issues identified in the Ministry of Environment 2013 Inspection Report. This includes transfer of ash material from the burn pile to the active face and removal of vegetation from the landfill site.

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2. Public Works Manager Ken McIlwain attended the Coast Waste Management Association annual conference in Victoria. The conference is well attended by coastal regional districts and municipalities. It was an opportunity to discuss current waste management challenges and initiatives underway in other regional districts.

From our Regional District the Heiltsuk First Nation were well represented and gave a presentation on their community composting program in Bella Bella. While not necessarily applicable to larger centers, this type of composting program has a practical grass roots approach that smaller communities could find inspiring. The presentation focused on the value of generating rich soil in an area of the province where good top soil is almost non-existent. The diversion of organics from the waste stream is critical in this small community where all waste is shipped to Washington State for disposal. Composting not only reduces outgoing waste, but also leads to greater agricultural independence and a reduced reliance on shipping of fresh produce.

There was a presentation by Multi-Material BC (MMBC) regarding the roll out of their recycling program of which the CCRD is a partner. Businesses that sell packaged goods or supply printed paper to British Columbia residents are classed as stewards under the BC Recycling Regulation, making them legally and financially responsible for the costs of recycling the packaging and printed paper supplied to residents in BC. Unfortunately many businesses are not in compliance and have not signed on with MMBC. The Ministry of Environment is issuing letters to these companies notifying them of their non-compliance and directing them to meet their obligations under the BC Recycling Regulation.

Multi-Material BC is a 'not for profit' organization and has designed its Stewardship Plan as a Province wide program that would provide service to remote communities such as Bella Coola, despite the very high unit cost. The reality is that MMBC could most likely meet the required 75% capture rate by just targeting large municipalities where recycling collection and processing is far more efficient. The fact that MMBC chose to include small remote communities in their program is what has enabled our Regional District to provide a viable recycling program to the residents of the Bella Coola Valley.

Currently MMBC is unable to sign further collection contracts with Regional Districts, Municipalities or First Nations until they have signed up the remaining producers of packaging who are currently out of compliance with the BC Recycling Regulation. Many Regional Districts, remote communities and even large municipalities were unable to sign up with MMBC during the first round of contracts, but are now keen to participate. Until the Ministry of Environment forces producers of packaging to comply with the existing regulations, MMBC will not have the necessary revenue stream to be able to issue further collection contracts.

A company called Steward Choice has recently submitted a stewardship plan to the Ministry of Environment for review and approval. If given approval, this would enable them to sign up producers of packaging that are not currently with MMBC. Steward Choice is focused on providing collection in high density population areas that are lucrative and have

a low cost per unit for collection. This would enable Steward Choice to offer lower fees than MMBC to producers of paper and packaging.

It is important that the Regional District support MMBC in their efforts to provide a Province wide program that does not discriminate against rural regions of the province. One method of support is to emphasize to the Ministry of Environment the value of MMBC to our communities and the recommendation that stewardship plans be required to address recycling collection in ALL areas of the province, including remote communities.

ACTION ITEM: To provide support to MMBC it is recommended the board review and approve that the attached letter of support be sent to BC Minister of Environment, Honourable Mary Polak and copied to Spencer Chandra Herbert, NDP Environment Critic, Allen Langdon, MMBC Managing Director.

3. At the request of the Regional District, the Municipal Insurance Association of BC retained the services of Risk Management Services Inc. to conduct a Risk Control Survey of our landfill and recycling operations. We have received the report generated from the September inspection. The following recommendations were made:
 1. that more directional signage be installed to ensure that the public know exactly where to go when dropping off waste,
 2. that guardrails or chains be installed in front of the putrescible waste drop-off area in order to reduce the possibility of a person falling over the edge into the garbage bins, and
 3. that more signage be installed all along the electrified fence to ensure that the public are aware of the electrified fence and do not touch it.

Staff and contractors will work to implement these recommendations. They are not cost prohibitive and will be achievable within the existing budget.

4. Deposit containers received at the Thorsen Creek Recycling Depot are currently being donated to Sir Alexander Mackenzie School Outdoor Ed. and Science Program fundraising activities. Valley Ridge Riders have expressed interest in participating but have not confirmed.
5. In accordance with **Board Resolution 14-10-11**, a funding proposal has been submitted to BC Used Oil Management Association. We expect to hear back from them following their November board meeting.
6. A contract was signed with Thorcan Crane and Equipment Repairs Ltd. for provision of hourly equipment maintenance and repair services. This is to facilitate repairs and maintenance to the packer truck at the landfill.
7. Significant Expenditures: No significant expenditures occurred this past month.

RECREATION FACILITIES

1. **Walker Island & Snootli Parks:** The facilities are in good condition going into the off season.
2. **Centennial Pool:** Winterization of the facilities is underway. The Public Works Manager has expressed safety concerns to the Pool Commission over the high algae content in the pool water and lack of visibility over winter months.
3. **Nusatsum Park:** A member of the public notified the Public Works Manager that the existing benches are rotting and should be removed and replaced. This will be considered in the 2015 budgeting process.
4. **Significant Expenditures:** No significant expenditures occurred this past month.

BELLA COOLA TOWNSITE WATER SYSTEM AND FIRE PROTECTION

1. One new hook up was completed.
2. The Nuxalk water systems crews completed cleaning of both water reservoirs above the townsite.
3. **ACTION ITEM:** CCRD administration intends to advertise for sale the two surplus fire trucks from the Bella Coola Fire Department as per :

Board decision:

14-10-12 M/S Directors McCullagh/Lande that the CCRD advertise for the sale of surplus fire trucks per the Asset Disposal Policy – A20.

CARRIED

In the event that the CCRD is unable to obtain fair market value (as determined by CCRD administration and Fire Chief Fred Sorensen), CCRD administration recommends the two trucks be sold to the charity organization Firefighters Without Borders for one dollar (\$1.00) each. This is consistent with the wishes of Bella Coola Fire Department.

Donation of CCRD assets is not spoken to directly in our Asset Disposal Policy, however section 3 of Asset Disposal Policy – A20 which states: "The Chief Administrative Officer and/or designate be authorized to receive any and all offers and to accept one offer that would provide the most benefit to the Regional District, up to an amount of \$10,000.00" gives the CAO the flexibility to assess which offer might be in the best interest of the CCRD.

Sections 24,25 and 26 of the Community Charter govern the disposal of municipal assets. Provided that the CCRD follows rules of publication and notification, we will be in compliance with the Community Charter.

4. **ACTION ITEM: BC ONE CALL:** The BC One Call 'Call Before You Dig' program is a non-profit organization originally set up by the large utility companies in the Province. They offer a computerized geodatabase service to all municipalities and utility companies, whereby if someone has to complete any digging or excavation work, they simply call BC ONE CALL, give their location, and any municipalities or utilities with infrastructure registered in the area are given a notification of the proposed works.

This service is offered at a very minimal cost and offers a very cost effective way to help protect infrastructure. The cost is \$2.75 every time BC ONE CALL issues a notification to us that someone is excavating or completing work that could potentially impact our water system. It is our anticipation that this would only happen several times a year. A conservative cost estimate for being part of this program is \$100.00 per year.

This past summer we sustained damage to some of our townsite water system infrastructure as a result of grading operations taking place. Interior Roads was very helpful and covered the cost of the damage, but mentioned it would have nice if the CCRD were part of BC ONE CALL, since they always call in before a project to see if there are affected parties.

It is the recommendation of CCRD administration that we apply to become a member of BC ONE CALL to reduce the chance of future damage to CCRD infrastructure. The financial implication is minimal and the risk factor to CCRD infrastructure is reduced.

BELLA COOLA AIRPORT

See Transportation Report.

STRATEGIC PUBLIC WORKS INITIATIVES

DENNY ISLAND / SHEARWATER WATER SYSTEM

John Motherwell, P.Eng has provided the CCRD with a draft Design Brief containing the conceptual design and cost estimate for a water system to service the Shearwater area. Staff are currently reviewing the draft document and providing their feedback. The project is proceeding on schedule and on budget.

TOWNSITE WASTE WATER

The Nuxalk Nation have informed CCRD administration that they are proceeding with a downsized version of the project and are not able to include the off-reserve portion of the townsite at this point. They intend to include the hospital in the project.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken McIlwain, RPF
Public Works Manager



P.O. Box 186, Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0
Phone (250) 799-5291 Fax (250) 799-5750 Email: info@ccrd-bc.ca

Encompassing the Coastal Communities of Ocean Falls, Bella Bella, Denny Island, Oweekeno and the Bella Coola Valley

November 6, 2014

Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment
PO Box 9047
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B. C.
V8W 9E2

Dear Ms. Polak:

Re: Success of Multi-Material BC in small rural BC communities and the need for any future stewardship plans to address needs of remote and rural BC communities.

The Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) would like to express gratitude to the Ministry of Environment for approving and supporting the Multi-Material BC (MMBC) paper and packaging recycling stewardship program that seeks to offer collection services to all corners of the province, and specifically small remote communities that are now able to recycle paper and packaging for the first time ever.

There is little doubt that servicing our small remote communities is extremely expensive for MMBC and contributes little towards meeting their target of 75% capture rate. MMBC should receive accolades for creating an inclusive program that avoids discrimination based on geographical isolation or population.

Many stewards (producers of paper and packaging) have refused to abide by the BC Recycling Regulation requiring them to be part of an approved stewardship program. The CCRD urges the Ministry of Environment to support recycling stewardship programs by enforcing compliance with the BC Recycling Regulation. MMBC needs the support of all producers of paper and packaging in order to continue to expand its program into remote areas.

There may be the temptation for some organizations to submit stewardship plans to the Ministry of Environment that focus on collection from high density population areas with low unit costs. This will only serve to undermine the viability of existing product stewardship organizations like MMBC that offer a province wide solution. The CCRD asks that the Ministry of Environment reject any stewardship plans that fail to provide for collection from all areas of the province.

Yours truly,

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

Reginald Moody Humchitt
Board Chair

Cc: Allen Langdon, MMBC Managing Director
Jennifer Rice, MLA North Coast
Spencer Chandra Herbert, MLA Vancouver West End, NDP Environment Critic