

Kelowna News



RDCO board meeting highlights

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Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting – August 12

Future School Site Acquisition Charge Policy

The Regional Board has adopted a recommendation from School District No. 23 regarding implementation of a new School Site Acquisition Charge (SSAC). The proposed charge, which would be required under pending Provincial legislation would apply to future development in the Central Okanagan East and Central Okanagan West Electoral Areas and would be collected for the School District to fund future school site purchases. Each member municipality will also consider implementing and collecting a similar charge on new development for the School District to fund future school site acquisition.

UBC Okanagan Water Resources Chair

The Regional Board has agreed to support the establishment of a BC Regional Innovation Chair in Water Resources and Ecosystem Management at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. The Okanagan Basin Water Board will contribute a total of \$500,000 over five years to help create the research position and fund its work. The North Okanagan and South Okanagan- Similkameen regional districts will also be asked to provide support through the water board in order to leverage a \$1.25-million contribution from the BC Government Leading Edge Endowment Fund in establishing the position. With development pressures and Climate Change, the Board agrees that this UBC-O Innovation Chair will help find practical solutions to water supply and ecosystem management issues which are a high priority throughout the Okanagan Valley.

Proposed Cat Bylaw Not Supported

The Regional Board has agreed with a staff recommendation not to proceed with any further investigation of bylaw regulations for cat owners as it is not seen as a problem affecting either of the Electoral Areas. Information will be provided to each member municipality and the Westbank First Nation for possible consideration with each jurisdiction.

Woodstove Exchange Funding Letter

The Regional Board supports a recommendation from the Okanagan Similkameen Airshed Coalition regarding funding for the Provincial Woodstove Exchange Program. The Regional District will send a letter to the Minister of Environment urging continued Provincial Government funding of the program. Each member municipality will also be encouraged to write a letter of support for the province-wide initiative. The program, supported by province, local

governments and the industry, provides incentives for people to replace old air-polluting wood burning appliances with newer model clean burning ones.

August 23rd Board Meeting Cancelled

The Regional Board has agreed to cancel its regular meeting that was scheduled for Monday, August 23rd.

Updated Regional Board Meeting Schedule

The next regular meeting of the Regional Board will be Monday, September 20 at 7 p.m. in the Woodhaven Room at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna. Residents are welcome to attend.

A Special Regional Board meeting will be held following the Governance and Services Committee meeting on Thursday, September 9 in the Woodhaven Room at the Regional District office.

Governance and Services Meeting

The Governance and Services Committee will meet Thursday, September 9 at 8:30 a.m. in the Woodhaven Board Room at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna. Residents are welcome to attend.