



# The Board Reports

Regional District of Central Okanagan  
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## Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting– June 16, 2003

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### Transit Fare and Pass Increases

Kelowna Regional Transit riders and taxpayers will share in the cost of restoring bus services. The Regional Board has approved fare and pass increases, which also require the approval of Councils in Kelowna and Lake Country. Effective September 1<sup>st</sup> the individual cash fare will rise 25 cents, while monthly pass prices go up to \$47 for adults, \$30 for students and \$38 for college students. A monthly pass for seniors remains at \$33. It's the first change in fares since September 2000. One-time supplemental funding of \$600,000 from BC Transit will also help to restore bus service reliability. However, even with the fare increases and money from BC Transit, local municipalities will have to contribute an additional \$67,000 to restore and maintain service.

Contact: *Harold Reay* 868-5242  
*Director of Finance*

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### KGH Maternity Renovations Approved

The Central Okanagan Regional Hospital District Board has approved funding for renovations to the Maternity and Obstetrics area of Kelowna General Hospital. The Regional Hospital District will contribute \$333,000 or 40% of the \$825,000 project. The Interior Health Authority says the work is needed because the current maternity unit is outdated, noisy, lacks privacy and doesn't fit into current methods of care.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

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### Feasibility Study for Lakeview Elementary

With the closure of Lakeview Elementary at the end of the month, the Regional District doesn't want to miss a possible opportunity. The Board has approved a study into the feasibility of operating the school as a satellite community centre. The study will help determine the recreational needs and services for a future centre in Lakeview Heights. The Board will also ask School District 23 to hold off negotiations on any joint-use or lease agreements until June 2004, so the feasibility study can be completed and the results analysed.

Contact: *Bill Vos* 868-5232  
*Director of Parks and Recreation*

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### Recreation Centre Rate Freeze

The Regional Board has approved a recommendation that current rental rates for Mount Boucherie Arena and Community Hall remain in place for another year. The present rate structure expires at the end of this month. The Board has also authorized the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to examine rates and fees for all Regional District facilities and sports fields and prepare a comprehensive manual that will among other things, outline fee and rate increases/decreases through the end of June 2009.

Contact: *Bill Vos* 868-5232  
*Director of Parks and Recreation*

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### Expand Container Refund System

The Regional Board supports a call to expand the beverage container deposit/refund system. A letter will be sent to the Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection, supporting a resolution from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, that deposits and refunds be applied to milk and milk substitute containers. The Regional District Waste Reduction office supports the expanded program saying nearly 85% of beverage containers are being returned for recycling, rather than going into landfills around the province. It says adding milk and milk substitute containers would reduce confusion for consumers and create a consistent recycling environment.

Contact: *Carol Suhan* 868-5250  
*Waste Reduction Coordinator*

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### Myra Access Improvement Funds

The Regional Board has removed the conditions it set out in an earlier decision, regarding funds to improve access to the Myra Canyon hiking trail. The Board has now agreed to release \$7,000 to a third party to be determined by the Administrator, to provide better access to the popular hiking and cycling trail. The Board has also decided that during the 2004 budget process it will consider a long-term business plan and ongoing safe access for the Myra Canyon section of the KVR trail.

Contact: *Wayne d'Easum* 763-4918  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

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