



# The Board Reports

Regional District of Central Okanagan  
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## Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting– May 12, 2003

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### Coquihalla Highway Privatization Concerns

The Regional Board will send a letter to the BC Transportation Minister expressing extreme dissatisfaction with the announced plan to privatize operation of the Coquihalla highway. The letter will invite the minister and her staff to visit the Okanagan and meet with local governments, agencies and the public in an attempt to come up with acceptable options to replace the privatization plan.

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

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### Joe Rich Hall Service Bylaw

The Regional Board has given three readings to a proposed bylaw establishing a Local Service area for the operation and maintenance of the Joe Rich Community Hall. A counter petition will be used to seek approval from the area's 753 eligible voters. While the Board recently approved a one-year contract with the Joe Rich Ratepayers and Tenants Society to operate the hall, funding is provided through the Joe Rich Fire Department budget. The District suggests by setting up a separate Local Service area for the Hall, it can be maintained and operated without affecting the Fire budget.

Contact: *Bill Vos* 868-5230  
*Director of Parks and Recreation*

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### Letter Supporting Land Titles Office

The Regional Board doesn't support a Provincial Government plan to close the Kamloops Land Title Office. A letter will be sent to Stan Hagen, the Minister of Sustainable Resource Management asking him to reconsider. The government expects to close the office at the end of March 2004, consolidating operations in the New Westminster land title office. District Planning staff suggest the change will result in delays, confusion and diminished service when it comes to registering notices and covenants. Both the Thompson-Nicola Regional District and Kelowna Chapter of the Urban Development Institute have already written letters criticizing the move.

Contact: *Ken Arcuri* 868-5246  
*Director of Planning Services*

### Westbank Highway Entrance Maintenance

The Regional Board approved forming a partnership with the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce and other community groups to maintain and enhance the Highway 97 approaches to Westbank. Final approval will be considered after staff report back on the cost to the Westside Parks budget and present the terms of the partnership agreement.

Contact: *Bill Vos* 868-5230  
*Director of Parks and Recreation*

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### Mt. Boucherie Arena Funds Released

The Regional Board has approved a request to release funds held in trust for the Mt. Boucherie Expansion Society. More than \$77,000 was raised in the community by the Society over the past few years. The money will be released as needed to the Society to fund a public campaign outlining the benefits of upgrading and expanding the facility. The Society hopes its campaign will lead to a projected December 2003 referendum.

Contact: *Harold Reay* 868-5235  
*Director of Finance*

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### Construction Still Building

There isn't any slowdown in building activity throughout the Regional District. Last month there were 98 building permits approved for projects valued at more than \$7.5 million. That's up from the 61 permits given out on projects worth \$4.2 million in April 2002. Residential construction and renovation account for over \$6 million of the projects given building permits last month. So far in 2003, 321 permits have been approved for projects worth almost \$24 million.

Contact: *Kelly Roth* 868-5217  
*Director of Inspection Services*

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### Improved Westbank Library Access

The Regional Board approved up to \$3,500 in funds to the Westbank branch of the Okanagan Regional Library. Equipment reserve funds will be used to pay for installation of an automatic access door.

Contact: *Harold Reay* 868-5235  
*Director of Finance*

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## **Grants-In -Aid**

Westside Electoral Area

- Mount Boucherie Secondary School Dry Grad Committee - \$400
  - Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce 2003 Key Business Awards - \$300
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## **Next Regional Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Regional Board will be Monday May 26, 2003 at 7:00 pm in the Woodhaven Boardroom at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna.

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The Board Report is a bi-weekly publication of the Regional District of Central Okanagan.  
The Regional Board meets every second Monday night at the RDCO at 1450 KLO Road.  
The public is welcome to attend.

*For copies of this publication or more information contact*

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