



The Board Reports

Regional District of Central Okanagan
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Highlights of the Regional Board Meeting– November 17, 2003

Parks Fire Management Plan

The Regional Board supports the development of a fire management plan for Regional Parks. The Parks Department says while some fuel modification has been done in parks in the past, it's been limited to the existing maintenance budget and staffing levels. The Department will come up with a plan for Board approval, outlining the costs and operational details of possible efforts to prevent, control and limit the effects of fire in Regional Parks. A fuel modification standard will be developed for each class of Regional Park, work will be prioritised and a public education program will be developed.

Board Concerned About Bill 75

The Regional Board is concerned about a bill introduced by the provincial government. It will write Minister of State for Deregulation Kevin Falcon asking that local governments be removed from the Significant Projects Streamlining Act. The Board says the legislation intrudes into local government affairs as Cabinet Ministers may replace any local bylaw, regulation or policy to facilitate the approval or development of any project the province determines to be provincially significant.

Development Permit in West Kelowna

The Regional Board has approved a Development Permit for the second phase of a residential-commercial project in West Kelowna. The developer of the Rose Valley Estates subdivision plans to build a 1,446-square foot swimming pool, change room facilities, pool mechanical building and tennis court for the use of residents in the subdivision.

Water Line Right of Way Through Park

The Regional Board supports giving the West Kelowna Estates Water Utility a right of way through Rose Valley Regional Park. A new water line will link the Regional District utility with the Lakeview Irrigation District system on a trail through the park from Klein Road to Westlake Road. The trail will be restored, three fire standpipes will be installed in the park and a parking lot will be built off Westlake Road, south of the Rose Valley pond.

Fire Fuel Modification Crew

The Regional Board has approved an application for a Human Resources Development Canada grant to allow creation of a fire fuel modification crew. It will consist of 15 people and equipment that will work on reducing the threat of fire and building trails in Regional, Westside and Eastside parks. The program will cost \$632,508 and will begin in January, running for 48 weeks. The Regional District will contribute \$158,933 towards the project, that's \$89,976 more than currently proposed in the 2004 budget.

Environmentally Sensitive Area Permit

The Regional Board has approved an Environmentally Sensitive Area Development Permit for Catana Developments Ltd. The approval is subject to the developer meeting several conditions, including a "no build-no disturbance" restrictive covenant to protect a 30% plus slope area of the property adjacent to Shannon Lake Road and Shannon Lake Golf Course. Habitat restoration and sensitive natural features preservation work is also required in some areas that have already been disturbed. A Zoning Amendment is still required for the anticipated future development.

Westside Recreation Needs Study

The Regional Board has approved \$7,800 for a joint feasibility study with the Kelowna Family YM-YWCA. The Y has received HRDC funding to hire a Coordinator and Program Assistant to look into the future recreation needs and programs for the entire Westside that could be offered through a Lakeview Wellness Centre in the former Lakeview Elementary School.

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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Proposed Park Sculpture

The Regional Board has approved in principle, placing a sculpture in Kaloya Regional Park. The Lake Country Public Art Advisory Committee asked to place the marble sculpture called "Dancing Goose" in the lily pond at the Regional Park. Artist Ede Axelson created the sculpture during the 2002 International Sculpture Symposium. An agreement must be reached between the Regional District and the District of Lake Country that resolves land tenure issues and exempts the Region from all costs associated with placing and maintaining the artwork.

Building Statistics

The Inspections Department issued 110 permits during October for building projects valued at more than \$7.1 million. That compares with 82 permits totalling \$6.6 million during the same month of 2002. In the first ten months of 2003, 862 building permits have been approved for projects valued at more \$62.4 million.

Proclamation

The Regional Board has proclaimed the week of November 24th to December 1st as Canadian HIV-AIDS Awareness week in the Central Okanagan. December 1st has also been proclaimed Worlds AIDS Day.

Next Regional Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Regional Board will be Monday December 8th, 2003 at 7 pm in the Woodhaven Room at the Regional District office, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna.
