

NORTH CEDAR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Pursuant to the Letters Patent of the North Cedar Improvement District and the *Local Government Act*, the Board of Trustees has called for the:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the LANDOWNERS of the NORTH CEDAR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

to be held at **7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at the Fire Hall, 2100 Yellow Point Road, Cedar, BC** for the following purposes:

- a) to receive from the trustees reports on the condition of the works and a statement of the financial condition of the District;
- b) to fix trustee remuneration for the ensuing year;
- c) to elect **two (2)** trustees to succeed those whose terms of office expire and to elect a trustee or trustees to fill any other vacancy;
- d) to discuss with the trustees any matter relating to the business of the District.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This year has started off with many challenges for the Board and District staff. As many of you may be aware, in January the District had a Water-main Break on Woobank Road that left many customers without water. I want to personally thank all of you for your patience and understanding. The repairs to the Glynneath Reservoir have now been completed. The District is in the process of performing a Well Yield study, this should be completed soon.

If you get the opportunity, please check out our new Web page for up to date information.

I wish you all a safe and happy spring.
Peter Johnson, Board Chair

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The board is still working very hard on labour issues and are preparing to start negotiating a new union contract.

The AGM Meeting is just around the corner and will be held on April 23, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. This is your opportunity as a rate payer to come out and ask questions or voice your concerns. There are several positions to fill and remember, these are volunteer positions that involve a great deal of time.

My thanks to the staff for their hard work and dedication to the district. I would also like to thank the families of the firefighters for understanding and supporting these men and women.

Last but not least to our firefighters. You spend many hours training, volunteering and protecting our homes and properties. No doubt there has been a lot of sleepless nights over the years, as well as missed family outings. I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that although it is not said often enough, YOU ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Please have a safe and Happy Easter and I will see you at the AGM Meeting.

Henrietta Murdoch, Trustee

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Hello one and all, Trustee Bob Loos here. It is that time of year again for the North Cedar Improvement District AGM, **WEDNESDAY APRIL 23, 2014 7PM at the District Offices 2100 Yellow Point Road.**

It has been a busy year at the District Board table. Lots of time has been spent addressing issues and the future of our District. There is a lot more to do, as our community is growing. With growth, good planning and laying the proper foundation for our community to sustain itself fiscally. Fiscal responsibility and keeping a close eye on expenses will make our community a great place to live and enjoy all it has to offer for years to come. With the right planning and preparation less maintenance, repairs equals less expense, hence less taxes and costs!

Two trustee positions are coming open this year. With that, an opportunity for **YOU** to bring your expertise, skills, knowledge and forward thinking to assist in the shaping and guidance of our Cedar Community. I call upon all ratepayers to come forward, bring your

history, passion, dedication and common sense to shape our community for the future. I look forward to fresh thoughts and open minds as we move forward for **OUR** community.

Thank you
Bob Loos, Trustee

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Look for a finance chair report on the district website www.ncid.bc.ca two to three weeks prior to the AGM.

EMERGENCIES

Water main break outside office hours please call the emergency pager at: **250-716-0223 After Hours Pager** Please note that when staff are busy isolating and fixing a major watermain break, they cannot always respond to all pages. If you do not receive a call back please call the office during business hours should you require more information.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

Water restrictions begin April 1st and will remain the same as last year. Should you require a copy please contact the office or visit the website for a copy at www.ncid.bc.ca/water-restrictions.

THE FIRE CHIEF

Smoke Detectors

I know I have previously written about the importance of having working smoke detectors in residential dwellings but a number of recent fires provincially, where serious injury or death has occurred has prompted me to post the following from the Fire Chiefs Association of BC website. The article was written in 2012 but the message is still relevant in 2014.

Research reveals a strong link between working smoke alarms and reduced fatalities from residential structure fires.

A study of almost 50,000 fires in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario from October 2006 to 2011 showed:

- The death rate per 1,000 fires was 74% greater when a working smoke alarm was not present than when one was present.
- Greater risk of fatality from residential structure fires for households with at least one young child, older adult, or person with disability; rental units;

and households in low-income areas, rural communities and First Nations reserves.

- Fire damage was reduced by 19% when a working smoke alarm was present.

Given that these three provinces are home to 62% of all Canadians, it was extrapolated that 69 deaths (a decrease of 32%) could be prevented each year if all Canadian homes had working smoke alarms. Smoke alarm legislation varies from province to province. Since mid-2010, the B.C. Fire Code has required all homes, hotel and motel rooms to have a working smoke alarm (battery-operated or hard-wired). However, this is not systematically enforced on residential properties.

Smoke alarm function is another challenge. Models with removable batteries can be easily disabled during cooking, and also require the occupant to be diligent about replacing batteries at regular intervals. While this problem is addressed by hard-wired and long-life lithium battery models, their seemingly “care-free” status may result in neglected maintenance and use beyond the functioning lifespan.

A coordinated, sustained and multi-faceted approach – consisting of education, enforcement and changes to the environment – is required to ensure every Canadian home has a working smoke alarm. B.C.’s Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Fire Chiefs’ Association of BC, with assistance from the Surrey Fire Service and other champions, are spearheading a local, provincial and national movement in 2012 to achieve this goal. This will include a national injury reduction forum on October 12, 2012, hosted by Surrey Fire Service in partnership with the Canadian Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Smoke Alarms Work, But Not Forever (January 2012) was written by Fire Chief Len Garis and Dr. Joseph Clare of the City of Surrey Fire Service for the University of the Fraser Valley School of Criminology and Criminal Justice’s Centre for Public Safety and Criminal Justice Research.

On another note, all residents are reminded that burning permits are required for all open air burning from April 15th to October 31st. Permits are free of charge and can be obtained from the District Office Monday thru Thursday, between the hours of 08:30 am and 4:00 pm.

Until next time, stay safe.

Percy Tipping

Fire Chief, North Cedar Fire Department