

# NORTH CEDAR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2013

### MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHAIR

Hello friends and neighbors, Trustee Bob Loos acting Chair here. This past AGM brought out quite a few people to inform themselves and listen to the reports of the Districts business this past year. Four Trustee positions needed to be filled for those retiring or their terms were up. Our thanks go out to, Lenie Johnson, Rick Hyne and Grant Vizely that gave of their valuable time and skills for the many years they represented the ratepayers of NCID.

We welcome three new Trustees to the Board, Pat Merkel, Margaret Mulholland and myself, Bob Loos. Re-elected to the Board is Peter Johnson who was also voted in as Chair of the Board at the first meeting of the Trustees. I would also like to extend my appreciation to Henrietta Murdoch, Helen Edwards and Rosmy Jean Louis who still represent the ratepayers of NCID, for their hard work and dedication. Accolades are extended to our wonderful hard working staff. Lots of work has been done on behalf of the Ratepayers and that being said, there is much more to do with the growth of the district and water maintenance following the guidelines and requirements of the Vancouver Island Health Authority. NCID also oversees the North Cedar Fire Department and our sincere appreciation to the firefighters who put in long hours to serve our community.

It is with great sadness that one of our 15 year veterans', Captain Brad Coulter lost his battle after undergoing a bone marrow transplant earlier this year. Our community is at a great loss for the skills, direction and dedication Brad brought to his friends and neighbors and our community. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Our deepest condolences go out to his wife Lesley and their two sons.

Bob Loos, Trustee

### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

I am very pleased we had such a large turnout at the last AGM Meeting. At the meeting four Trustees were elected and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them.

Consultation meetings with the union have begun and I hope bargaining for the new contract will begin in the near future.

Thank you to our staff for doing such a great job for the district.

I hope you and your loved ones have a very safe and enjoyable summer.

Henrietta Murdoch, Trustee

### BUDGET MEETING FALL 2013

The North Cedar Improvement District will be holding a meeting on September 26, 2013 at 7pm to present the draft budget for 2014. The public is invited to attend, should a resident wish to comment on the budget they must contact the office one week prior to be added as a speaker at the meeting.

### OUR WATER SYSTEM

As you are aware, the last three years the district has increased water tolls and taxes to cover operating, administration, and repairing and/or replacing our aging infrastructure.

There was an article that was very well written, in the Winter 2012/13 BCWWA Watermark magazine, regarding forward planning. The article reported that in order to accurately perform forward planning, water systems need to account for the full life cycle costs of their systems.

As a starting point, the District needed to gather the following information; what assets we have, where they are located, their age, and condition. Most of this information was gathered in 2010. Using this information the district is able to begin planning for our current and future costs for maintenance management, asset replacement, systems improvements and financial planning.

Like us many small water systems struggle to make ends meet, especially with funding for operations and maintenance. We are not eligible for government grants; our only source of revenue is from you our ratepayers. The revenue received from you must cover all costs associated with providing water, fire protection and street lighting services; this includes costs associated with current and future capital improvements, operations, maintenance, administration and borrowing costs.

## EMERGENCIES

If there is a water main break outside of office hours please call the emergency pager at:  
250-716-0223 After Hours Pager

## WATERING RESTRICTIONS

### Stage 2 Watering Restrictions June 1, 2013

Please remember to watch the Restriction indicator at the Cedar Bridge, NCID Offices and online at [www.ncid.bc.ca](http://www.ncid.bc.ca) for changes.

## WATER METER ACCESS

It is that time of year again when water meters become overgrown with vegetation. Maintenance staff require your help in maintaining access to be able to read meters, perform maintenance and emergency shut offs. For those of you who already keep the meter clear and accessible we thank you for your cooperation in helping us.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Peter Johnson, Chairperson  
Helen Edwards                      Rosmy Jean Louis  
Henrietta Murdoch                Margaret Mulholland  
Bob Loos                                Patricia Merkel

## DISTRICT CONTACT

2100 Yellow Point Road  
PO Box 210  
Cedar, BC V9X 1W1  
Phone: 250-722-3711 Fax: 250-722-3252  
Email: [info@ncid.bc.ca](mailto:info@ncid.bc.ca) Website: [www.ncid.bc.ca](http://www.ncid.bc.ca)  
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday

Regular Board Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.

## THE FIRE CHIEF

Greetings from the Fire Department

As many residents of our district already know, the Fire Department and community recently lost a friend and colleague, Brad Coulter. Brad had been working through recovery from a bone marrow transplant and leaves behind a wife and two sons, many friends and co-workers as well as his fire department family. Brad worked full time for BC Ferries and was a Paramedic with the BC Ambulance Service. As an active member of the North Cedar Fire Department, Brad had a thirst for learning and was always willing to share with others what he had learned, always strived to help the department be successful and did so with his own brand of humour. A void has been left by Brad's passing and the thoughts and prayers of the members are with the Coulter family.

At the May 1<sup>st</sup> District AGM, three new Trustees were elected and I would like to welcome Bob Loos, Patricia Merkel and Margaret Mulholland to the Board of Trustees. The fire department is looking forward to working with these community members as they join the rest of the NCID Board.

As summer approaches the department is busy planning a series of training sessions geared toward wildland/forestry response. During our brief warm dry spell in April, the department attended several forestry related calls both within our district and with our mutual aid partners in Cranberry. Hopefully it will be a quiet year for these types of calls and of course residents can play a huge roll in ensuring the risk associated with hot dry weather is reduced. Remember, burning permits are free of charge and are available at the Improvement District office and be sure to check the fire danger rating sign boards at the Nanaimo River Bridge and in front of the fire hall.

A number of residents have enquired about fire department access to properties that have controlled gates. If you have a controlled gate and would like to find out more information on fire department access, please contact me at 250-722-3122.

Percy Tipping  
Fire Chief  
North Cedar Fire Department