

**DIRECTOR'S NEWS FEBRUARY 2012**  
**AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR,**  
**DONNA SHUGAR**



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**CONTACT**

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**SCRD BUDGET**

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SCRD Board members and staff began 2012 budget deliberations in January, meeting for 6 full days to examine every aspect of SCRD operations. The 2012 budget is presenting some real challenges. We are in labour negotiations and we will not know the financial impact until those conclude later in the year. Aging infrastructure needs to be upgraded and maintained. The Board is examining ways to phase projects so that the financial impacts can be spread over a period of time. Our new Zero Waste Management Plan is now in the implementation phase. We know we must make some needed changes to our recycling programs, but we are trying to accomplish these changes with the most minimal impact on property taxes. 2012 budget discussions continue Feb 13-15 at 9:30am. Budget meetings are open to the public. Listening to the budget discussions is a very good way to become familiar with the services and the processes of your local government.

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**SCRD MEETING SCHEDULE**

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The February meeting schedule of the SCRD has been altered to accommodate Directors' attendance at training sessions in Vancouver. *Community Services* (Parks and Recreation,

Emergency Services) Feb 2, 9:30pm; *Infrastructure* (solid waste, water, transit) Feb 2, 1:30pm; *Planning and Development* (zoning, bylaws and building) Feb 16, 9:30am; *Corporate and Administrative Services* (finance and governance) Feb 23, 1:30pm. *Board meetings* are at 7:30pm on Feb 16 and 23. *Policing and Transportation Committees* meet bi-monthly: Monday Feb 27, 9am and 10:30am respectively.

All these meetings are open to the public. If you wish to make a presentation or speak as a delegation at one of these meetings, you must contact (Angie.Legault@scrd.ca) 10 days prior to the meeting. If you wish to film a meeting you must make prior arrangement with Angie at least one week in advance.

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**CHAPMAN CREEK WATERSHED**

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The Sunshine Coast Regional District, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health, has prepared a management plan for drinking water protection of the Chapman Creek watershed. This plan, called a Source Assessment Response Plan (SARP) is mandated under the *Drinking Water Protection Act*. Development of the draft SARP was overseen by a technical working group composed of First Nations and stakeholders who have a physical presence in the watershed and/or the ability to implement watershed management measures. I was the Board representative on the TWG.

The purpose of the SARP is to enhance the protection of drinking water in the Chapman watershed by minimizing risks (both natural and the result of human activity) to drinking water quality through best management practices and a set of proactive measures.

The Chapman watershed is a critical community resource and we want to hear your thoughts on this important document. On the SCRCD homepage ([www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca)) there is a link to the draft SARP, an information sheet, and a public feedback form.

Everyone is invited to attend a public presentation of the SARP. There will be 2 opportunities, both on Feb 4: at the Sechelt Indian Band Hall 10am-1pm and at the Gibsons Community Centre 3-6pm. These presentations will be taped and will be posted on the SCRCD website. Comments or questions can be emailed to [sarp@scrd.ca](mailto:sarp@scrd.ca) until March 9.

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### **OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN**

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Plans for public consultation on the Draft OCP are still being prepared. Meanwhile you can view the plan on the SCRCD website at [www.scrd.ca/Roberts-Creek-OCP-Review](http://www.scrd.ca/Roberts-Creek-OCP-Review)

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### **RECYCLING**

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Did you know that you can responsibly recycle unwanted or broken electronics through the Provincial electronics stewardship program? Since the program began in 2007, over 61 million kg of unwanted electronics have been recycled instead of ending up in BC landfills or exported to become someone else's problem. Collected items are sent to 5 approved North American recyclers where they are broken down safely to be reused as raw materials in the manufacture of new products. The collection location on the Sunshine Coast is at Gibsons Recycling Depot 1018 Venture Way. There is no charge to drop off your electronics or small appliances. The latest edition of British Columbia's Recycling Handbook produced by the Stewardship Agencies of BC can be viewed at <http://www.bcstewards.com>.

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### **PEDESTRIAN PROJECT**

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Pedestrian improvements in the village core are well underway. This project resulted from community concern about pedestrian safety.

Representatives from the Community School, RC PAC, OCPC, and area residents worked with SCRCD staff on the design which had to conform to requirements of the Ministry of Transportation (e.g. concrete curbs). All walkways will be permeable crusher, not concrete. Plantings undertaken by community volunteers will soften the look. Funding came from Federal Gas Tax grants. Although the project is not yet complete, I am getting really positive feedback from people who enjoy walking in the area and who no longer have to walk in the middle of the road.

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### **LIBRARY**

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The Roberts Creek Library is one of our community hubs. 718 households (including 1123 adults and 550 kids) are active library users. The collection includes over 12,000 volumes of fiction and non-fiction for both adults and children and new books are purchased every year. In 2011 the total circulation was 9454 books! Thanks to 32 dedicated library volunteers, the library is open 4 times a week year round: Tues. and Thurs. 2-8, Wed. 3-6, and Sat 10-2. Library visitors may also use the computer and internet service for a small fee. Special thanks to Rhona Kelly, outgoing President of the library committee, and congratulations to 2012 President Yvonne Norman!

The library was built on RCCA land in 1967 with the help of a Federal Centennial grant. Not only do the library volunteers manage the collection and circulation of books but they also maintain the interior of the building. The exterior and grounds are maintained by the Community Association. The library receives an annual grant from the SCRCD thanks to the property taxpayers of Roberts Creek so there is no membership fee. Donations are also an important revenue source for the library.

