

DIRECTOR'S NEWS JUNE 2010
AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR,
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RECYCLING



**How much of your garbage
is really garbage?**

By now you will have received this booklet on recycling in your mailbox. There is a lot of important information in it that I hope you will read. The purpose of the booklet is to raise awareness about recycling and to prepare people for the survey the SCRD is conducting in the electoral areas. If you get a call, please don't hang up! We need your input so please take the time respond. The booklet is available online www.scrd.ca

SHORELINE BYLAWS

The Roberts Creek Shoreline Bylaws have been approved by the province and adopted by the SCRD Board. Waterfront property owners will be receiving an information brochure that outlines the reasons for the bylaws and what you need to do if you are considering a construction project on the Roberts Creek shoreline. It has been a long and involved process. Thank you to all the people who contributed information and opinion on this topic, especially the Shoreline Committee who spent many months researching, becoming informed and developing recommendations.

COMMUNITY ENERGY & EMISSIONS PLAN

The SCRD, in partnership with the Town of Gibsons, the District of Sechelt, and the Sechelt Indian Government District, is taking a leadership role in addressing climate change. The Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) aims to reduce energy use and GHG emissions throughout the community by implementing a range of actions.

Taking action to reduce energy use and GHG emissions is not only our region's moral responsibility, but provides many opportunities for the Coast. By taking action on climate change, we are also creating healthy communities for our residents, supporting local economic development, taking advantage of new technology solutions, preparing for the effects of globalization on our economic and energy security, and meeting regulatory commitments set by the province of British Columbia.

The GHG reduction target in the CEEP is to reduce emissions by 7% below 2007 levels by 2031. This target rises to 10% when the emissions of Howe Sound Pulp and Paper (over which we have no control) are removed from the calculation. This may seem like a fairly gentle target but it is what we believe is reasonable to achieve without creating a stringent regulatory regime. The target will be reviewed in May of 2012 and revised if necessary. The main actions in this plan include developing better alternatives to private automobile use, changing our OCPs to create denser more walkable communities, exploring renewable and alternative energy systems, and encouraging energy efficiency in new construction. During the 2010 budget cycle we decided to hire a Community Energy Manager for a 2 year contract to get the plan underway. This position is 50% funded by BC Hydro.

BIKE LOCKERS

Bike lockers have been installed at the bus stop at Roberts Creek Road and Hwy 101. These lockers will enable cyclists to store their bikes in a secure, dry place while they use transit for the rest of their

journey. The lockers each hold two bikes and have dividers that provide exclusive access to each compartment. Please contact Cal Bowles to find out how to rent a space. Cal.Bowles@scrd.ca.

BEACH FIRES & FOREST FIRES

The SCRD has received provincial approval to include the entire Roberts Creek beach within the Roberts Creek Fire Protection District. This change will give the SCRD Fire Dept jurisdiction over fires on the beach. Signs have been erected at the beach to advise about safe beach fire activity. Please read the information and respect the instructions so we can have a safe summer season. Please do not have a fire that is close to combustible beach material, keep your campfire small and ensure it is out and cold before you leave the beach. You should come prepared with a bucket if you plan to have a beach campfire.

The same cautions apply if you are camping. If you spot a wildfire, report it as soon as possible by calling 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your cell phone.

If you live in or near a forested area make sure your home is protected by removing debris from the roof and maintaining a safety zone around your house clear of flammable debris, shrubs or trees. Move other flammable materials like woodpiles or propane tanks well away from your house and outbuildings.

Check your home insurance policy to make sure that you have the appropriate coverage. Now is also a good time to ensure that you have a family emergency kit and be prepared in case you are required to leave your home on short notice.

Some useful information Links:

Ministry of Forests and Range Protection

<http://www.bcwildfire.ca/>

Fire Danger Rating

http://bcwildfire.ca/Weather/Maps/danger_rating.htm

Homeowners FireSmart Manual

<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/firecom/pdf/>

[homeowner-firesmart.pdf](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/firecom/pdf/homeowner-firesmart.pdf)

Personal Emergency Preparedness

http://www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/

[Personal_Safety.html](http://www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/Personal_Safety.html)

Evacuation Information

http://www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/

[Wildfire_Information.html](http://www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/Wildfire_Information.html)

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Many of you may know that the average age on the Sun-

shine Coast is one of the oldest in Canada. Although we all know this is a great place to raise children, after graduation many young people move away to attend post secondary school or to gain new experience and do not return. I recently attended a very interesting and valuable workshop sponsored by the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation on attracting, retaining and employing youth. Youth was defined as between 18 and 35 and encompassed young families as well as young single adults. The next step is to create a task force that will be developing a plan of action that local governments, non profit agencies and businesses can take to address this issue.

ROBERTS CREEK READING ROOM

Congratulations to the Roberts Creek Reading Room volunteers on the grand opening of the new library room! It looks terrific and the new space feels luxurious! Great prizes were donated by local businesses and every raffle ticket was sold raising \$1500 for the library. Thanks to the generosity of our local businesses an additional \$500 was also donated.

Sheila Carlson gave attendees a history of the Roberts Creek library which was started in 1944 without either a building or a cataloguing system. The great foresight of the Community Association resulted in the eventual purchase of the two properties that now hold the library and the gazebo park beside it, properties that we would likely not be able to acquire today.

SOUTH COAST DROP OFF EVENT

By now you will have received your clean up coupon which was sent out with your utility bill. This coupon entitles you to take one pick up load free of charge to the landfill between now and the end of April 2011. As an alternative there will be one day towards the end of June when you will be able to use your coupon to take your stuff to a location in the Gibsons area. Please keep your eye out for information on the date and location.

OCP REVIEW

The OCP Review Committee has nearly finished the section on agriculture and food production. This section is focussed on enhancing the community's ability to protect our agricultural land base and increase local food production. Another subcommittee has begun looking at the forested uplands. The committee expects to be able to present its proposed draft plan to the community at the end of the year.