

DIRECTOR'S NEWS MARCH 2011
AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR,
DONNA SHUGAR



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In Person: Gumboot Restaurant 1st Saturday
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STYROFOAM RECYCLING

Don't throw away that Styrofoam! Styrofoam is now accepted for recycling at the Sechelt Landfill for a minimum charge of \$2 per shopping bag or \$4 per garbage bag. The costs cover the process of compressing the material into dense blocks that can then be diverted to a variety of building uses instead of taking up valuable landfill space. There are two types of Styrofoam that you can recycle - EPE (washed meat trays and egg cartons) and EPS (large bricks of packing material). Styrofoam is also collected for recycling at the Gibsons Recycling Depot on Venture Way. Similar charges will apply at that site as well.

CLIFF GILKER PARK

Due to safety concerns, the old slide has been removed from the playground at Cliff Gilker Park. Rather than simply replacing it with a new one, I would first like to hear from families with young children whether this has been a facility that they use, what kind of other amenities could we be looking at for the area, and is there some interest in creating a working committee to fundraise and plan for something more like an adventure playground in that part of the park? I have heard suggestions that more picnic tables, a BBQ and/or a covered picnic

area would be of interest. Please contact me with your ideas!

EARTH HOUR

Please mark Saturday, March 26, 8:30pm on your calendars to join others around the world in turning out the lights! This is a light hearted way to raise awareness about energy consumption. Make a note that Earth Day is April 17 at the Pier. More details will be included in the April newsletter.

PURCHASING POLICY

The SCRD Board has recently adopted a new purchasing policy to provide direction on decision making around the procurement of goods and services. The purpose of this policy is to set out clear guidelines and standards for procurement to ensure we receive the best overall value in the most cost effective and efficient manner, and that the methods used are open, fair, consistent and support our commitment to sustainability. Sustainable Procurement ensures that the Regional District's procurement activities support the organization's commitment to integrating economic, environmental and social factors into the calculation of the total cost of our purchases over the full life cycle of those products and services. Demonstrating sustainable procurement practices will also help us support and mentor our suppliers toward extending these sustainability principles throughout their organizations. In addition, the Regional District recognizes the importance of economic development within the Sunshine Coast communities it serves. With this in mind, should all economic, environmental and social

requirements of the procurement be equal, the contract shall be awarded to the local bidder.

BIKE LANES

I have mentioned many times the problems we have with the contract between MOTI and Capilano Highways for road maintenance. One problem that we could use help with is bike lane sweeping. The contract provides for this to be done only once a year which is clearly not adequate. However, if those people who live adjacent to bike lanes could sweep the area fronting their lots, the bike lanes would be a lot safer to use. The worst areas are where drive-ways intersect with the bike lanes. So at least getting those swept would be a huge help. Thank you!

BC TIMBER SALES

Recently the SCRDR was invited to review and comment on the Mt Elphinstone five year plans of BC Timber Sales, the Crown land logging wing of the provincial government. I am very pleased that BCTS agreed to take this step which is not required under the legislation that governs their work. To assist the Regional District with making meaningful comments, the plan was referred to the Advisory Planning Commissions of Areas D, E and F, and the Natural Resources Advisory Committee as well as our own Planning Dept. staff. Several members of the Roberts Creek APC have really extensive knowledge of the area and the group was able to provide some valuable comments... thank you! The SCRDR has made 16 recommendations which we hope BCTS staff will adopt. They include establishing conservation areas for the Coastal Tailed Frog, substantial no-harvest buffers around protected areas, connectivity for the three sections of Mt Elphinstone Provincial Park, forest management practices that protect water quality and quantity, attention to non-timber values such as recreation and wild crafting, an invitation to discuss old growth values which the SCRDR wishes to protect and the removal from the plans of the cut block that lies within one section of the Mt Elphinstone Park.

BCTS has also agreed to discuss a communications protocol with the SCRDR. A draft agreement has been prepared and will be sent to BCTS for their input.

DAKOTA RIDGE

I hope some of you have managed to get up to enjoy the fabulous conditions at Dakota Ridge this season! Saturday, March 5, Off the Edge is sponsoring the Snow Shoe Challenge with 5 and 10km races. Fun to participate or watch! 10:00am registration, races 12:00-3:30pm. Check out www.offtheedge.org or call 604-741-0767.

SCRDR BUDGET

Please add your voice to the decision making process and attend the SCRDR budget presentation on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 1:30pm in the Boardroom of the SCRDR office at 1975 Field Road, Sechelt. This presentation will be taped by Coast TV and aired on Thursday, March 3 at 7:00pm on Channel 11. SCRDR Directors will be present on the TV show to answer your phone-in questions.

The final round of the 2011 budget process will be held March 7-9, 9:30am at the Field Road office. These meetings are open to the public. By law the budget must be finalized and adopted by March 31.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations and thank you to Edna Naylor who celebrated 40 years as a volunteer fire fighter with the Roberts Creek Fire Dept in February. I am told that Edna is the longest serving female fire fighter in Canada! Thank you also to Andy Dube who has celebrated 37 years with the fire dept! What an amazing achievement and contribution to our community.

