

From the Chair

Welcome to the first issue of the CCRD newsletter, **Community Connection!** We are thrilled to launch this newsletter in response to your feedback. Many of you have expressed the need for a better communication about district happenings, and we're here to meet that demand. This is a step forward in our efforts to foster transparency and collaboration.

The intent of this newsletter is to highlight current and upcoming issues within the CCRD.

If you have a content suggestion, please email info@ccrd.ca

Together, we will continue to build a stronger and more connected regional district.

Thank you for your input and engagement.

Jayme Kennedy,
CCRD Chair and Area C Director

Thorsen Creek Waste And Recycling Centre

The Thorsen Creek Waste and Recycling Centre provides a vital service to Valley residents but there are challenges in providing those services effectively. These include a new provincial operating certificate, a limited lifespan remaining to the current footprint of the landfill, limited-service hours, and the cost of the Closure and Post-Closure liability.

The current taxation levels, combined with contributions from the Nuxalk Nation and user fees, means that the service operates on a thin margin and doesn't fully fund the Closure and Post-Closure Liabilities. Complying with the new Operation Certificate comes with an additional operating cost of \$87,000 per year and must be maintained to keep the landfill open.

The landfill is projected to reach capacity in the early 2030s which poses a challenge for how future waste disposal needs are met and significantly reduces the amount of time to raise funding needing to fund Closure and Post-closure deficit and liabilities.

The limited funding, along with the current challenges, increases the risk of reduced operating hours, negative environmental impacts, and strained community relationships. Budget decisions have become increasingly challenging and require careful consideration of operational costs and potential service cuts.

The Closure and Post-Closure Liabilities are unavoidable - these are costs associated with the eventual closure of the landfill on remediation and environmental monitoring. The only effect we can have on these costs are finding sustainable ways to extend the life span of the landfill. This would allow the costs to be spread out over more years and would lower the cost per year. The estimated amount of these liabilities is \$2,773,489 and the current amount set aside as of the end of 2023 is \$628,341, with most of the balance being set aside over the previous 4 years.

To address these issues, the CCRD embarked on an advocacy project, requesting \$5,000,000. Advocacy efforts from the Board to the provincial government resulted in an allocation of \$2.3 million with \$1.15 million toward Closure and Post- Closure Liabilities and \$1.15 million for capital projects working for a more sustainable landfill. While this falls short of the requested funds, it represents a significant step towards ensuring the landfill's sustainability.

The support of Minister Kang and MLA Rice have been instrumental in advancing towards a sustainable future for the region. While challenges remain, this funding represents a positive development in the ongoing efforts to ensure waste management services meet the needs of the community now and in the future.

Join the Accessibility Committee

Are you interested in ensuring the CCRD is accessible for all?

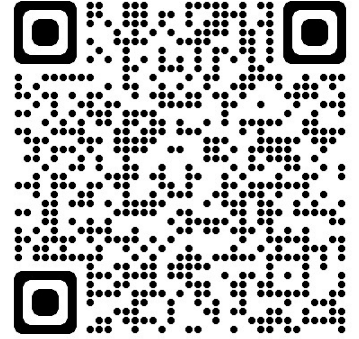
Would you like to provide recommendations to the Board to make the CCRD more accessible?

Email enevison@ccrd.ca or call the number below for more information on how to join the CCRD's Accessibility Advisory Committee. Meetings are roughly every 3 months.

Feedback Needed: Dog Control

The CCRD has received complaints and concerns for a number of years on dogs. The Electoral Area E Director submitted a Notice of Motion to begin exploring regulating dogs after feedback from area residents. The Board reviewed the motion and expanded the initial explorations to the whole valley area. The intent of the survey is to receive further feedback on dog interactions and initial views on how dog control regulations, if any, should be implemented within the valley.

This would be the first step of many. Once the survey results come back, they will be reported to the Board. Your input will help inform decisions about how to move forward with a potential Dog Control Bylaw. If there is support from the community to move forward with a form of dog control, the cost associated with implementing a dog control bylaw would be explored and reported back to the Board and community. To complete the survey, scan this QR code or go to www.ccrd.ca



The survey closes May 20, 2024.

Events

Small Business Emergency Preparedness Info Session

May 5, 2024

From 10:00 to 11:00 a.m

Come to Lobelco Hall and learn how to prepare your business for an emergency event.

Emergency Preparedness Fair

May 5, 2024

From 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Learn from various local organizations on how to be more prepared in the event of an emergency at the Lobelco Hall.

Grant-In-Aid

Applications for Grant-in-Aid are due June 4, 2024.

New this year: Grant-in-aid applications are due on June 4, 2024. The Board will consider applications at the July Regular Board Meeting (July 11, 2024) with funds being dispersed to successful applicants in August 2024.

Applications can be found on our website, or a paper copy can be obtained by visiting the CCRD Office.

<https://www.ccrd.ca/services/community-and-economic-development/grant-aid> .