



Have a Program That May Need Some Grant Funding?

DID YOU KNOW? The RDN provides annual grant funding throughout the region for programs and services? These grants must be used to serve a local community within the RDN or provide a regional benefit.

The Northern Community Economic Development Grants have contributed over \$300,000 toward projects in the past 5 years. These funds are used to support emerging entrepreneurs, connecting small business owners, creating new employment opportunities, and providing other measurable economic benefits to the communities. This year's grants were disbursed in the spring of 2018.

Currently accepting applications are the District 69 Community Justice Service Grants, District 69 Recreation Grants, Community Grants, and Electoral Area A Recreation and Culture Grants.

For more details on the process, criteria and 2018 deadlines visit: rdn.bc.ca/grants

2018 Rebates Are Still Available: Act Now!

The RDN offers various rebates and incentives related to energy and water conservation. Residents may be eligible for funding to help make their home and property more environmentally friendly. We are more than half way through 2018 and our various rebates programs with the RDN have been busy all are still open however some are closer to reaching their allocation capacity for this year. Funds are limited and are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested be sure to visit rdnrebates.ca to learn more and complete your application!

Irrigation Upgrade & Soil Improvements	\$675
Rainwater Harvesting	\$750
Septic Maintenance	\$100-\$700
Well Water Testing	\$150
Wellhead Upgrade	\$650
Woodstove Exchange	\$250 or \$400
Graded Site-Cut Timber	\$250
Renewable energy Installation	\$250
Oil to Heat Pump	\$250
Home Energy Assessment	\$150
Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Station	\$250
Renewable energy systems	\$250
Sustainable Development Checklist	\$500-\$1000

DID YOU KNOW? The Regional District of Nanaimo is comprised of 7 Electoral Areas and 4 Municipalities which hold the remaining 12 Director positions. The 4 Municipalities are the City of Nanaimo, City of Parksville, District of Lantzville and the Town of Qualicum Beach. Each Municipal Director on the Board of Directors is appointed by their respective Council from amongst their elected members.

Watch for RDN updates in your upcoming newspapers for important dates and information as we get closer to the election.

Leading the Way in Reducing Marine Plastics for the Country

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Board was pleased to lead the country in urging the Federal Government to develop a national strategy to manage marine litter earlier in 2018. At the annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference, a resolution was passed with 94% in support of urging the Federal Government to create a strategy to support coastal clean-up, an education campaign and to look collaboratively with partners to reduce marine litter and plastics.



Moorecroft Regional Park, Nanoose Bay – owned and managed by the RDN

South Nanaimo Transit Local Area Plan

The RDN and BC Transit are working to improve the Local Area Transit Plan for the South Nanaimo area. The plan will focus on improvements for transit service over the next 7 years. The information will be collected and analyzed to support the future growth of the South Nanaimo Local Area Transit Plan. The information could assist in short and medium term transit service changes to continue to improve transit ridership in the area. Find out more information about where we are at in the project and what we have heard to date at: getinvolved.rdn.ca/rdn-transit-south



NextRide

Transit riders in the RDN are now able to plan their trips more easily and see where their bus is along its route, from their smart phone or computer. Customers will now be able to see and hear upcoming stop information as they approach the next stop making transit accessible to all riders. Find out more information at: nextride.nanaimo.bctransit.com

2019 Transit Expansion

The RDN Board voted to approve a 5,000 hour annual conventional transit expansion for Route 40, VIU Express. The January 2019 expansion will decrease wait times in the morning to every 10 minutes, every 15 minutes for midday, and every 30 minutes in the evening. This increased frequency will lead to less congested rides and that riders will not be by-passed at their stop due to a full bus on Route 40. To learn more about when and how expansions and routes are determined visit: getinvolved.rdn.ca/rdn-transit

Interested Candidate for the RDN Board?

You have until September 14, 2018 at 4:00pm to declare if you intend to be a candidate for a RDN Electoral Area Director. If you are not sure, or want more info on what the job entails, you can visit: rdn.bc.ca/2018elections

Get Involved RDN and Monthly Updates

Want to know what is happening in the RDN or upcoming engagement opportunities? We currently have 16 active projects, check them out, register and have your say at Get Involved RDN at getinvolved.rdn.ca! We also publish monthly RDN Updates on the first Tuesday of every month, in the Nanaimo News Bulletin, the Parksville Qualicum Beach News and the Gabriola Sounder to communicate about upcoming events, projects and community meetings.

**Your Region.
Your Vote.**

Mark October 20, 2018 on your calendars!

That is the day you can have your say and vote in the next local general election.



Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre Receives \$6 Million in Grant Funding

The RDN was recently approved for up to \$6 Million in funding from the Federal Gas Tax Fund to complete the \$81.7 Million Secondary Treatment Upgrade project at the Greater Nanaimo Pollution Control Centre. The project is well underway and on schedule. The major excavation and ground stabilization is complete, new buildings are currently being built, and the secondary treatment process tanks are taking shape. We thank our neighbours for their patience as construction continues into the fall of 2019.

This important project is the largest in the RDN's history, and will provide improved effluent quality, protect our environment and provide treatment capacity for the future.

The active construction site can be viewed live at: rdn.bc.ca/secondary-treatment-upgrade-project. The live feed shows a high resolution video of the work underway at the future secondary treatment plant area in real time.



Board Approved Solid Waste Management Plan – Making it Happen: 90% Solid Waste Diversion

RDN has reached a big milestone in the journey to divert 90% of solid waste! With the help of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee, comprised of community representatives and the input of other stakeholders, the Regional Board approved a Solid Waste Management Plan this June.

The Plan will now be forwarded to the Provincial Minister of Environment & Climate Change for final approval. This approval process is expected to take four to six months. In the interim, a Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee will be established in place of the RSWAC to ensure that Plan implementation continues to meet the needs of the community. For more details visit: getinvolved.rdn.ca/swmp

The Future of Curbside Collection in the RDN

In 2002, the RDN Board adopted the Zero Waste Plan as the waste management strategy. This plan outlines the key components to achieve Zero Waste through waste reduction, reuse, recycling, redesign, composting and other actions in accordance with the Zero Waste Hierarchy. In July 2018, the RDN Board adopted a new target to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by 90% by 2028, which is equal to an average of 109kg of garbage per capita per year.

The RDN is currently exploring options for curbside collection. We are seeking resident feedback on the current state of service delivery and what you would like to see in the future curbside contract. This also serves as a great opportunity to look at the amount of waste we generate in our households and continue to work together to divert as much waste as possible to help achieve 90% diversion by 2028.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We want to hear from you! We are engaging with the community about the preferred method of collection for waste, recycling and organics. The consultation process runs from August to September 2018, and will include an online survey and focus group opportunities.

Please check our Get Involved page for more details at: getinvolved.rdn.ca/beyondrecycling

Your feedback will be used to help influence the future of curbside collection of residential waste, recycling and organics collection.



NEXT STEPS

We will compile all feedback from the online survey and focus group, and make a recommendation to the Board for the future curbside collection contract. The feedback summary will be available in Winter 2018.

RDN CURBSIDE APP
Simplify your life with the RDN Curbside App

Never miss a collection day!

- View, download or print your collection schedule
- Sign Up for Reminders



- EMAIL
- PHONE CALL
- TWITTER
- ICALENDAR
- DOWNLOAD THE APP

Visit www.rdn.bc.ca/curbside for a link to download the app.
Need help setting up a reminder? We are happy to help.
250-390-6560 Toll free 1-877-607-4111

Bowser Village Centre Wastewater Project

This project will provide sewer services to the Bowser Village Centre.

- This project has been awarded approximately \$7.6 million in federal/provincial funding under the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund, with an estimate total capital cost of \$10.7 million to be recovered through grant funding, Development Cost Charges and property taxes.
- The project is designed to meet or exceed all federal and provincial regulations and will produce secondary treated effluent with additional UV disinfection, to ensure protection of human health and the environment.
- A Public Information Meeting (May 2018) and a Public Hearing (July 2018) were recently held at the Lighthouse Community Hall regarding a zoning amendment application for the proposed site of the wastewater treatment plant.
- The project is currently in the detailed design, permitting and approvals stage. For more information and project updates, visit: getinvolved.rdn.ca/bowser-village-sewer

New Online Property Info Tool

The RDN has designed a mobile friendly, interactive utilities property information map that is now available for use. This single purpose web map was designed to provide RDN residents and businesses with information about RDN managed utilities and how they relate to specific properties.

This new reference tool is based on a simple search bar function, using address, parcel identifier (PID), or road name. Search results provide water and sewer service area

information for properties within RDN Electoral Areas, including active water & sewer connections to RDN managed utilities.

Check out this new feature on the RDN website at: rdn.bc.ca/gis-mapping

Building Permit and Economic Development in the Region

Construction activity was strong in 2017 in the RDN and this trend has continued in the first half of 2018. Building activity is an indicator of the strength and diversity of the economy within the Region.

January to December 2017

- Building Permit applications: 858 applications
- 21% increase over 2016
- Construction value of permits issued to date: \$121.7 million
- 29% increase over 2016

January to June 2018

- Building Permit applications: 443 applications
- Construction value of permits issued to date: \$83.6 million

The RDN is pleased to be doing its part to ensure permits are approved in a timely fashion as well as planning ahead to improve service and move towards innovative solutions to streamline processes.

For more information please visit: rdn.bc.ca/building-inspection-services

Emergency Notification Sign Up

The RDN's emergency alert system lets residents and visitors sign up to have area-specific emergency alerts sent to their home and/or mobile phones. Areas covered include the District of Lantzville and all RDN Electoral Areas. Thank you to those that have signed up already! If you have not, be sure to sign up at: rdn.bc.ca/emergency-notifications

Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP)

In the RDN, there are natural hazards, such as rain, wind, earthquakes, and wildfires that can make life difficult in a hurry. When one of these emergencies happens, it is best for residents to stay close to home as much as possible. This can be done by first preparing your own homes, and then planning with neighbours using the Neighbourhood Emergency Prevention Program so that neighbourhoods can 'weather the storm' together. Check out getinvolved.rdn.ca/nepp for resources, ask us a question and show us on a map if you have a neighbourhood team or are interested in being part of one.

Cannabis Retail Licensing

With the Federal Government announcing October 17, 2018 as the official day that recreational cannabis will be legal in Canada, the RDN has updated a number of policies and bylaws in preparation for this change. Once legalized, the Province of BC, through the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB), will be responsible for issuing and regulating cannabis retail store licenses as cannabis will be available for purchase at designated stores throughout the Province, similar to how alcohol is sold now. All proposed stores must have the support of local governments before the LCRB can issue a cannabis retail license.

The RDN has adopted a policy to address the siting of cannabis retail stores to help guide the RDN Board in reviewing and providing a recommendation to the LCRB on proposed cannabis retail store license applications. The policy outlines the public notification process and provides guidance to applicants. The policy is designed to address potential community impacts of cannabis retail stores, including the inappropriate exposure of minors to cannabis and undesirable concentration of these retail stores.

For further information on the steps the RDN has taken to prepare for the legalization of recreational cannabis please visit: rdn.bc.ca/cannabis-retail

French Creek Pollution Control Centre Expansion and Odour Upgrades

The French Creek Pollution Control Centre (FCPCC) must be expanded to meet the needs of a growing population. The planned expansion will be completed in early 2022 and increase the plant by about 30% to provide capacity to the year 2035. For an additional benefit, the project will include extensive odour control upgrades for the existing plant, as well as odour controls for the expansion site. The project will also upgrade the existing plant to improve operational efficiency and replace aging infrastructure.

The expansion site will be on the same property, next to the existing plant at 957 Lee Road. Preliminary design has been completed and recommends providing secondary treatment using activated sludge technology in the plant expansion.

The contract for the detailed design, tendering and construction services was awarded in July to AECOM for \$2,506,980. Wastewater from approximately 27,000 people and businesses from Parksville to Qualicum Beach flows to FCPCC. FCPCC also treats trucked waste from homes with septic systems and holding tanks. FCPCC currently provides Secondary Treatment with Trickling Filters to meet provincial and federal environmental regulations. FCPCC produces Biosolids used in the RDN's Forest Fertilization Project.

More information on FCPCC is available at: rdn.bc.ca/french-creek-pollution-control-centre

*Thank you
RDN Volunteers!*

In April 2018, we celebrated National Volunteer Week at the RDN. Thanks were given to over 1,000 volunteers who help generously by providing their time and energy, such as maintaining our parks & trails, shaping regional growth, assisting local community groups, protecting our water supply and those that help during emergencies. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated all year round, in the RDN.

Coastal First Nation Art Project

The RDN is situated within the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation, the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation, each of which has villages and other lands under their jurisdiction within the region, as well as the Stz'uminus First Nation, Hupačasath First Nation and K'ómoks First Nation, whose traditional territory extends into the Regional District of Nanaimo.

In recognition of this, the RDN has commissioned original artwork to express respect for the Indigenous cultures and traditions of this land, to tell the story of a shared future built on understanding and cooperation, and to reveal the RDN as a place that creates opportunities for community, inclusion and collaboration. The intent of the work is to honour, acknowledge and include Coast Salish history, heritage values, and memory practices into our regional heritage and history; to tell the story of a shared future built on understanding, respect and cooperation; and to reveal the RDN as a place that creates opportunities for community, inclusion, collaboration and reconciliation.

The artists selected to produce work are:

- William Good
- Noel Brown
- Brian Bob
- Jessie Recalma
- the father and son team of James Johnny and James Johnny Jr.

The pieces are to be completed and installed in the Fall of 2018, with a celebration to mark this important acknowledgment of regional First Nations and culture.

Why Water Restrictions Are Important

For the major community water systems in our region, watering restrictions happen each year, regardless of weather conditions. In essence, Stage 1 or Stage 2 are simply watering schedules that allow for smooth operation of our community water systems when water use is the highest. Spacing out the peak water demand allows pumps to keep up, reservoirs to fill overnight, and fire water storage to be preserved. Water use is not heavily restrictive until Stage 3 or Stage 4, which are only rarely imposed during drought conditions, emergencies or temporary interruption in service due to operational work such as new watermain connection.

To see our interactive watering restrictions map to see what Stage your area is currently at visit: rdn.bc.ca/watering-restriction-map

Watering restrictions are a way to remind residents to practice water efficiency outdoors during the months when demand is the highest and supply is naturally the lowest.

Residents on private wells are not subject to watering restrictions, though water conservation is always encouraged as water is a shared resource, across communities and with freshwater ecosystems.

Check out our website for more info on what watering restrictions are in place in your community and tips on outdoor water efficiency: teamwatersmart.ca

Team WaterSmart - Out in the Community

The summer sun is shining and that means the RDN's Team WaterSmart summer event season is in full swing! With more than 20 summer event appearances scheduled, Team WaterSmart will be participating in fun community gatherings throughout the regional district all summer long. If you catch us at an event, come say hi and learn about how you can help to conserve and protect our freshwater resources. Our interactive booth features helpful conservation tips, great educational materials, fun displays, a contest to win a rain barrel, information on rebate programs, and more! Check out our Get Involved page at: getinvolved.rdn.ca/team-watersmart for a schedule of all of the events Team WaterSmart will be attending and for digital copies of all of our helpful brochures and handouts. See you out there!

WATERING RESTRICTION STAGE	1	2	3	4
EFFECTIVE DATES	April and October	May to September	Only as Required	
Frequency	Any Day	Every Other Day: Even# Houses – Even# Days Odd# Houses – Odd# Days	↑ Voluntary Reductions on top of Stage 2 ↓	SPRINKLING BAN: Lawn Watering NOT PERMITTED
Watering Times	Between 7pm and 7am	Between 7-10am or 7-10pm for 2 hrs MAX		Between 7-10am or 7-10pm
Hand-watering, drip irrigation, micro irrigation	ANYTIME	ANYTIME		NOT PERMITTED
Washing vehicles, boats, houses (siding)	ANYTIME	ANYTIME		NOT PERMITTED
Filling fountains, pools, hot tubs	ANYTIME	ANYTIME		NOT PERMITTED
New lawn permits	Can apply for a permit	Can apply for a permit		NO PERMITS ISSUED
Pressure washing walkways, driveways, siding	ANYTIME	ANYTIME		ONLY prior to application of paint, preservative, stucco, or sealant
Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions, even Stage 4.				



District 69 Recreation Services Master Plan - THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

The RDN has completed the final phase of developing a Recreation Services Master Plan for District 69 (Oceanside). In May of 2018 the RDN Board approved as a guiding document the District 69 (Oceanside) Recreation Services Master Plan for 2019 - 2029.

We wish to thank all those who provided feedback during the creation of the Plan that will serve the northern communities within our region, from Nanoose Bay to Deep Bay and west to Coombs, Hilliers and Errington. Not only will this provide a long-term strategic plan for the delivery of recreation services but will also help guide future decision making and actions in a number of key areas including recreation infrastructure needs and programming partnerships.

Over 1,687 resident surveys were completed, 60 community group questionnaires submitted and over 30 discussion sessions with stakeholders along with a number of open houses held through all the Oceanside communities provided feedback and comments during the planning process.

The District 69 Recreation Commission and RDN Board are now reviewing and prioritizing potential capital infrastructure projects.

For more information please visit us at: rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Big Changes for Huxley Community Park

Following the vision set out in the Huxley Community Park Master Plan, the first phase of Park improvements were completed by the RDN earlier this year and include a new playground and upgrades to the existing tennis courts and sports court on Gabriola Island. The projects were funded from the Electoral Area B Community Parks Budget and Community Works Fund with contributions towards the playground from the Gabriola Lions Club and by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between the Nanaimo Foundation, and the Government of Canada. The tennis and sports court improvements were supported by the Gabriola Ball Hockey Association and Western Economic Diversification Canada's - Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

Detailed planning for the next phase of park improvements is underway and will include a new concrete, cast-in-place skatepark and parking lot. The community has recently launched the Keep on Pushin' fundraising campaign with a goal to raise \$72,000 towards the construction of the skatepark. For more information please visit: rdn.bc.ca/huxley-community-park

New Sports Court for Dunsmuir Community Park in 2018

This summer, Dunsmuir Community Park upgrades begin with the construction of a new parking lot and a new, fenced, sports court that can be used to play pickleball, ball hockey and basketball. The project is funded from the RDN Electoral Area H Community Parks Budget and Community Works Fund. Detailed planning for the next phase of park improvements is underway and will include a new

playground. Future park development will focus on creating a network of park trails/boardwalks through the Park. Dunsmuir Community Park is located at 326 Horne Lake Road near Qualicum Bay in Electoral Area H.

For more information please visit:

rdn.bc.ca/dunsmuir-community-park

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park

Improving access within Benson Creek Falls Regional Park is currently being explored by the RDN. Conceptual design options for improving safety and environmental conditions at Ammonite Falls, a popular destination located in the park, as well as two options for a recreational bridge across the Benson Creek ravine were reviewed by the public from Feb 9 to Mar 16, 2018. The two bridge options received almost equal support. At Ammonite Falls, many respondents preferred a new trail or combination of trail and stairs to improve the descent, while some preferred a staircase at the existing descent site. The RDN Board will be reviewing the options this fall/winter and will provide project direction for moving forward into detailed design.

Mt. Benson Regional Park – Parking Infrastructure

Site design is progressing for a new parking lot at 2761 Benson View Road to serve Mount Benson Regional Park and the surrounding recreational trails. The property was purchased by the RDN in early 2018 to help resolve the parking congestion at the current Witchcraft Lake trailhead and to provide an improved recreational access point to the popular hiking and biking trails in the area. It is expected that the project will be tendered in late 2018 and the parking lot will be open by summer 2019.

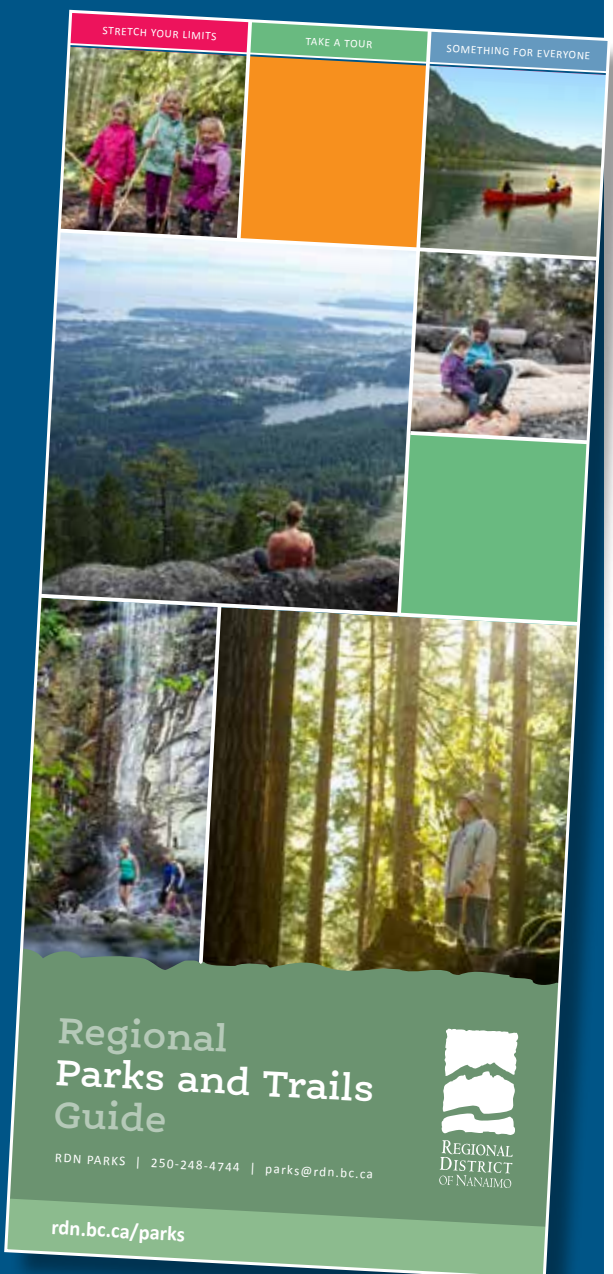
Signage Strategy for Community Parks and Trails

The RDN has developed a signage strategy for its community parks in all Electoral Areas. The intent is to provide a District-wide, unifying design that identifies community parks and trails at a glance. Vibrancy and a friendly presentation were key, as well as legibility upon approach. The new signs will be integrated into park and trail site planning through pilot parks and trails over the next couple years. The RDN will evaluate the signs' performance, from an information perspective as well as from durability and maintenance perspectives, before integrating the new signage throughout all community parks and trails in the District. Keep an eye out for the new signs in your community and let us know what you think!



Updated Regional Parks and Trails Guide

Grab one at a local aquatic centre, tourism or visitor centre or the RDN facilities and office. Each regional park has a new map, icons to show you what you can enjoy in that park and much more.



Check out the new look and info in the Regional Parks and Trails Guide at rdn.bc.ca/rdn-regional-parks-and-trails-guide



250-390-4111 or 1-877-607-4111



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