



# PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT *Board Newsletter*

Highlights from the Peace River Regional Hospital District Board and the Peace River Regional District Board Meetings, held January 29, 2009

## Ministry of Forest and Range

District Manager Dale Morgan, Peace Forest District attended the meeting to update the Directors regarding forest management in the region. He explained that the Peace Forest District is in the process of a Timber Supply Review. They will gather information and data to determine the timber supply in the area. After a review and the consultation process, the Chief Forester will determine an Annual Allowable Cut for the region.

He also stated that, with the economic down-turn forcing mills to shut down and with the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation, the outlook for 2009 is not promising; however, he is hopeful a turn around will begin in 2010.

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## TransCanada

Project Manager Sandeep Mann and Brenda Walton, Community Relations Consult of TransCanada advised the Directors on the status of the Groundbirch pipeline Project. The proposal is to construct 85 kilometers of pipeline for the purpose of transporting natural gas from the Groundbirch area to a tie-in point on TransCanada's existing Alberta System adjacent to the Gordondale Meter Station. Involvement of the stakeholders will continue throughout the life of the pipeline.

A National Energy Board application is planned for the first quarter of 2009 with construction of the proposed facility scheduled to begin in the summer of 2010.

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## EPCOR

Mr. Gary Bouwman, Lead Engineer and Mr. Jay Sukin, Public Affairs Manager of EPCOR and Ms. Lisa Hewitt of Hemmera Consulting presented information regarding the Environment Assessment for the Quality Wind Project, a 142-megawatt wind project proposed to be located about 10 kilometers northeast of Tumbler Ridge.

EPCOR anticipates beginning the Application Review process during the first quarter of 2009. They will attempt to recruit locally, which could permanently employ eight to ten people.

## Other Highlights

- ★ The following Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) applications were supported and authorized to proceed to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC):
  - Subdivision - 06/2009 (Pedersen); and
  - Subdivision - 07/2009 (Tower).
- ★ The Directors expressed congratulations to the Honourable Blair Lekstrom on his appointment as Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.
- ★ Any rural directors wishing to were authorized to attend the following meetings:
  - the Local Government and Climate Change - Current Law and Urgent Action sponsored by UBC;
  - the 2009 Council of Forest Industries Convention (COFI); and
  - Creating Universally Designed Healthy Sustainable Communities Conference (Measuring up the North).
- ★ There were no objections to the Dawson Creek Ski and Recreation Association's application to the Liquor Control Board to amend their liquor licence to include minors in the licence area until 8 p.m.
- ★ Director Ackerman will represent the Regional Board at the Inaugural Meeting of the newly-formed Rockies Regional Municipality in Fort Nelson.
- ★ The Regional Board recommended that Director Karen Goodings be nominated as president of the North Central Municipal Association for 2009-2010.
- ★ Approval was given for mileage to be paid to all volunteer members that attend Regional District committee meetings.
- ★ Staff to apply to Emergency Management BC for operational funding for the Rolla Dyke feasibility study.



## Next Regional Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Regional Board will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 10 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Peace River Regional District office, at 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC.



*For additional information, please contact the Peace River Regional District at:*

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