



## The Peace River Regional District

Regional districts are governed by a group of community leaders that are called a Board of Directors. There are 2 types of Directors that are on the board and Chairperson.

1. **Four Electoral Area Directors** are elected directly, by vote, by people that live in the rural areas. These Directors become members of the Board for 4 years at a time, called a term.

2. **Eight Municipal Directors** are first elected to a municipal council, by the people that live in the cities, towns or villages. These Directors are then chosen, or appointed, by their council to join the Regional District board for a 1-year term.

3. **One Chairperson** is chosen by the Board of Directors in a vote. The Chairperson appoints the Directors to different committees, to make decisions on different PRRD services.

### How Does the PRRD get a New Service?

Generally, a new service begins with an idea. These ideas are then proposed, to the Board of Directors for approval, also known as a resolution. Sometimes, the Board requests more information from the PRRD staff or they may request a research study to ensure that there is enough money to fund the new service. This information is called a feasibility study. Some bylaws can be approved by the Directors while others may have to go out to a referendum process. If the service is approved, a bylaw must be created, shared with the public, and adopted. This bylaw then allows for the new service to be created. To see what a bylaw looks like to the PRRD website <http://prrd.bc.ca/bylaws/>

### Where does the PRRD get its money from?

Regional districts raise funds primarily through property tax. In rural areas, the Province collects property taxes. Within municipal, or town, boundaries, property taxes are paid to the municipality. The Province and municipalities then transfer funds to the regional districts to cover the costs of the services, which are approved by the voters, to provide services. Regional districts also make money from fees and charges, such as sewer and water bills, and money given to the PRRD from the BC or Canadian Government called a grant.

For more information about the PRRD Board visit the website at: <http://prrd.bc.ca/who-we-are/board>

## Regional District Emergency Services

In the Province of British Columbia regional districts and municipalities are required to plan and respond to emergencies in their area. In the Peace River Regional District each of the municipalities are responsible for their own emergency planning, while the Peace River Regional District conducts emergency planning for the unincorporated rural areas (Area B, C, D and E).

### Who do I call if an emergency event happens?

- Dial 911 for Fire, Police, and Ambulance
- To report a wildfire contact 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555 on your cell phone
- To report flood, water storage breach, Oil & Gas, or hazardous material spills contact 1-800-663-3456

### When would an evacuation be ordered and by whom?

When rural residents are at risk due to fire, flood, or TDG (to name a few) an evacuation order could be ordered by:

- The Board of Directors of the PRRD, after declaring a State of Local Emergency.
- The Fire Commissioner, for either tactical or safety reasons or due to the threat of explosion.
- The Ministry of Health or the local Health Authority.
- The Province of BC, after declaring a Provincial State of Emergency.

### How much advanced notice of an evacuation would I receive and do I have to leave my property?

An evacuation order may or may not be preceded by an evacuation alert, depending on the event and how much time is available to clear the affected area. It is preferable to first issue an alert so people can prepare, but this is not always possible. Once an evacuation has been ordered, you must leave your property as the order will be enforced by the R.C.M.P.

### How does the Regional District assist with emergencies?

During an emergency, the PRRD will assist and support responding agencies by coordination of activities through the activation of an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

### How can the PRRD help people who have been affected by an emergency or disaster?

Emergency Social Services (ESS) are available to individuals who have been evacuated from their homes for up to 72 hours after an emergency, and may include food, lodging, clothing, information about the crisis, and family reunification.

For more information on the PRRD Emergency Services visit the website at:

<http://prrd.bc.ca/services/emergency-services>

During an emergency check the PRRD website often for information and updates about the event.

## Contact:

### Head Office:

Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave  
Dawson Creek, BC  
V1G 4H8


Tel: 250-784-3200  
Toll Free: 1-800-670-7773  
Email: [prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca)

### Branch Office:

9505 100 Street  
Fort St. John, BC  
V1J 4N4

Tel: 250-785-8084  
Toll Free: 1-800-670-7773  
Email: [prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca)

View Board schedules,  
agendas & minutes @  
[www.prrd.bc.ca](http://www.prrd.bc.ca)

 Peace River Regional  
District Official Page



## Recycling in the PRRD

Recycling education and promotion in the Peace River Regional District is contracted to the Northern Environmental Action Team (NEAT). For information and helpful hints on reducing, reusing and recycling check out their waste reduction website <http://www.prrrdy.com> or call the Greenline at 1-888-689-6328

## “Got Weeds?” Be ‘Plantwise’

### Ways you can help

- Get involved with local efforts and know your high priority invasive plants.
- Be ‘PlantWise’ and know what you grow. Avoid purchasing, growing, or trading unknown invasive plants. Replace with non-invasive alternatives.
- Deadhead (clip off) flowers, seedpods, and berries of known invasive plants to prevent reproduction through seed spread by birds, wildlife, pets, and people.
- Use wildflower seed mixes with caution, as many contain invasive plant seeds. Read the label and check to be sure they are desirable for your location.
- Avoid picking plants along roadsides, gravel pits, or other disturbed areas. Many wildflowers are aggressive invasive plants.
- Clean recreation vehicles before and after entering a new area.
- Properly dispose of yard, garden, and hanging basket waste into a compost pile or facility. Do not compost invasive plants with seeds; instead, dispose at a local landfill or incineration facility.
- Prior to purchasing seed, ask for a seed analysis report to verify additional seeds that may be present.

<http://prrd.bc.ca/services/invasive-plants>

## What are OCP’S?

An Official Community Plan (OCP) sets out the values of the community or region. It will identify locations for agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial land uses; and it will contain goals and possible future initiatives related to: agriculture; the natural environment; infrastructure; and community well-being.

### North Peace Fringe Area OCP

The Peace River Regional District is updating the North Peace Fringe Area Official Community Plan (NPFA OCP), which will guide decisions about how the North Peace Fringe Area evolves over time. This comprehensive review and update of the OCP is expected to be complete in 2017.

### The West Peace Fringe Area OCP

The Peace River Regional District is updating the West Peace Fringe Area Official Community Plan (WPFA OCP), which covers the rural areas surrounding Chetwynd. This process is expected to be complete in 2017.

### Get involved in the OCP Process near you by:

1. Watching for updates and announcements on the PRRD website <http://prrd.bc.ca/engage/>
2. Follow the PRRD Facebook page.
3. Contacting the Regional District directly: Claire Negrin, Assistant Manager of Development Services  
[claire.negrin@prd.bc.ca](mailto:claire.negrin@prd.bc.ca) Phone: 250-784-3231

## Property Tax Questions

### Does the Regional District issue tax notices?

The Province (Surveyor of Taxes) includes the Regional District and Regional Hospital District on the Provincial Tax Notice. If you have questions contact Service BC (1-800-663-7867).

### Where do I pay my property taxes?

Taxes are to be paid at the Service BC office in Dawson Creek, 250-784-2224 or in Fort St. John, 250-787-3350

### Where can I get a copy of my tax assessment?

A copy of your assessment can be obtained from BC Assessment or Contact the BC Assessment Authority 1-866-825-8322 or 250-782-8515

### Is there a tax rate of the Regional District?

There is no “tax rate” for the Regional District. Regional Districts are made up of “functions/service areas” and each of these 54 functions has its own budget with an applicable tax rate. Some services are applicable to the whole region, some to select areas (municipalities and Electoral Areas) and others just for specific areas within Electoral Areas. The services for a particular property are added together to get the Regional District tax rate for that parcel.

<http://prrd.bc.ca/services/finance/faqs-finance>

## Get Connected



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

[prrd.bc.ca](http://prrd.bc.ca)

Active Development applications can be viewed at:

[http://prrd.bc.ca/engage/active\\_applications](http://prrd.bc.ca/engage/active_applications)

Board Agendas and Minutes can be viewed at:

<http://prrd.bc.ca/agendasminutes/peace-river-regional-district-prrd>



Engage! is your source for information about public engagement initiatives at the Peace River Regional District.

<http://prrd.bc.ca/engage>

Interactive Web Map

<http://prrd.bc.ca/services/mapping-gis/web-map>



YouTube

[www.youtube.com/user/PeaceRiverRegionalD](http://www.youtube.com/user/PeaceRiverRegionalD)



<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD>

**Thank you** Ministry of Finance Property Taxation

Branch for printing and including the Peace River Regional District Spotlight 2017 in the tax inserts.