



Thompson-Nicola Regional District

2012 Annual Report

Thompson-Nicola Regional District
www.tnrd.ca





Table of Contents

Message from the Chair	1	Environmental Services	
		Environmental Health Services	13
TNRD Overview	2	Utility Services	19
Board of Directors	4	Thompson-Nicola Film Commission	23
Electoral Area Map	5	Development Services	
		Planning Services	27
Corporate & Community Services	6	Building Inspection Services	31
Finance & Information Technology Services	10	Legislative Services	33
		Library Services	35

2012 Annual Report

Message from the Chair

We set our sights on change at the Thompson-Nicola Regional District in 2012 and the major staff restructuring transition that began early in the year picked up steam as the months went by. The project resulted in the creation of a new senior Human Resources position, and the strength that brings to the organization, along with department realignments to better serve our constituents. Retirements and position changes resulted in welcome new perspectives on the executive team with the hiring of Doug Rae (Director of Finance), Marc Saunders (Director of Libraries) and Debbie Sell (Manager of Human Resources).

This past year was busy and some of the highlights include the launching of a new website (www.tnrd.ca) with direct feedback options, the sod-turning on two new library complexes (Logan Lake and Cache Creek), exploring the Ajax mine potentials, performing a capacity review of more than 115 services, reviewing and resetting our strategic board priorities, supporting numerous film and commercial productions through the Thompson Nicola Film Commission, bringing welcome additional revenue to many TNRD areas, unveiling a new, fresh-look library website (www.tnrplib.ca), and reaching a three-year collective labour agreement.

The Federal Gas Tax fund continues to be a valuable tool in the TNRD, helping our rural areas undertake upgrading projects like the Pritchard Community Hall, Upper Clearwater Community Hall, the Spences Bridge Community water system and the Nicola Lake watershed sustainability management plan, to name a few.

Our leading-edge work within the Solid Waste Management Plan continued at the Lower Nicola and Hefley Creek landfills in 2012 with the installation of weigh scales, new recycling centres and streamlined waste drop-off areas. The process of closing landfills and various transfer stations continued, however,

and replacing them were Eco-Depots that are more environmentally friendly, recycling-friendly and user-friendly waste-disposal sites. The Clearwater and Louis Creek Eco-Depots were opened in 2012.

“ We are committed to building new partnerships and reinforcing existing ones as we face local government challenges with the strength of collaboration.”

In 2012, the provincial government approved funding for the long-awaited redevelopment of Royal Inland Hospital (RIH), which will see a dramatic change in health-care delivery in the TNRD. The Regional District’s contribution will be \$100 million in support of this new facility in the coming years. We are looking forward to multi-story street accessible parking, new surgical towers and all that is detailed in the Master Plan for RIH.

We are committed to building new partnerships and reinforcing existing ones as we face local government challenges with the strength of collaboration. None of us can operate in isolation and a dedication to the strategic sharing of ideas and resources is well under way. It is our relationships, as we reach out together for success, that will lead to solid, sustainable governance. At the end of my first year as Chair and the beginning of my second term, I am proud of the Directors on the Board and the dedicated staff at the TNRD who serve you. The strong relationships we have forged are exemplified by the resolve and thoughtfulness shown when facing difficult issues. It is through mutual respect and open communication that we maintain our goal of being a high-performing organization striving for future excellence.

Warm Regards,
Chair Randy Murray (Electoral Area “M”)

TNRD Overview

Encompassing an unparalleled geographic region in the heart of the British Columbia interior, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District offers the best of both worlds. Urban life within vibrant communities, and outlying rural regions that showcase the region's beauty — pristine but rugged mountains, rolling grasslands, lush evergreen forests and both historic and modern areas all within approximately 45,000 square kilometres.

Incorporated in 1967, the Regional District functions as a partnership of our member municipalities and electoral areas. With a population of over 132,352 (2011 census), the TNRD incorporates 11 municipalities (Ashcroft, Barriere, Cache Creek, Chase, Clearwater, Clinton, Kamloops, Logan Lake, Lytton, Merritt and Sun Peaks) as well as 10 electoral areas whose voices at the Board table is representative of many small unincorporated communities.

The Regional District is active in providing over 115 services including planning and building inspection, emergency preparedness and 911 services, recreation, utilities, television rebroadcasting, river buoys, transit, tourism, economic development as well as environmental health services which include waste reduction, mosquito and weed control. Library services and a very active Film Commission also fall under the Regional District.

BACK ROW: John Sternig, John Ranta, Jim Rivett, Bill Kershaw, Nancy Bepple, Ronaye Elliott, Steven Rice, Al Raine, Willow Macdonald, Andy Anderson.

MIDDLE ROW: Tina Lange, Ron Anderson, Tim Pennell, Susan Roline, Jessoa Lightfoot, Sally Watson, John Harwood, Patricia Wallace, Marlon Dosch, Herb Graham.

FRONT ROW: Ken Gillis, Bill Humphreys, Randy Murray (Chair), Peter Milobar, Ken Christian, Marg Spina.



Board of Directors



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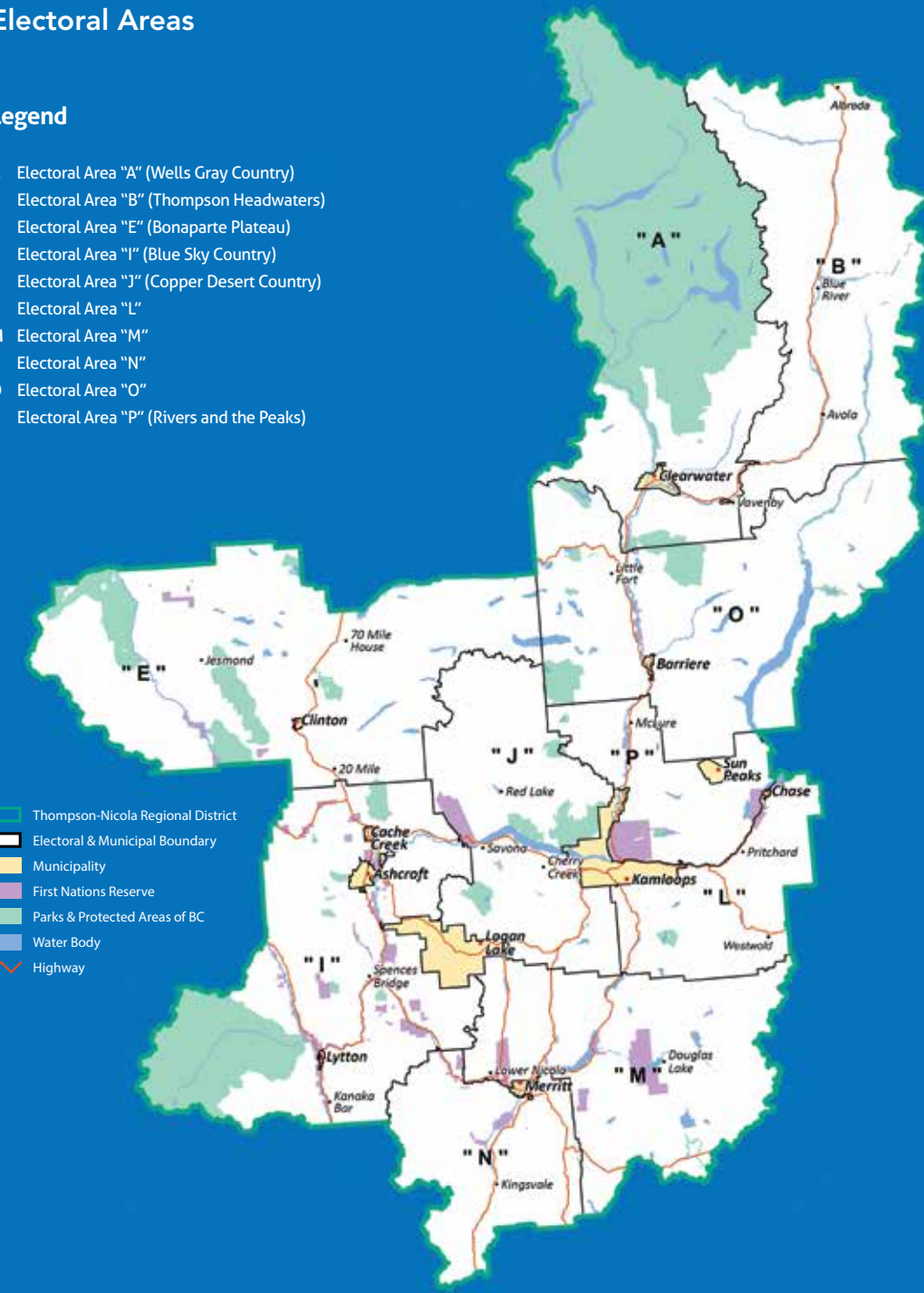
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Electoral Areas

Legend

- A Electoral Area "A" (Wells Gray Country)
- B Electoral Area "B" (Thompson Headwaters)
- E Electoral Area "E" (Bonaparte Plateau)
- I Electoral Area "I" (Blue Sky Country)
- J Electoral Area "J" (Copper Desert Country)
- L Electoral Area "L"
- M Electoral Area "M"
- N Electoral Area "N"
- O Electoral Area "O"
- P Electoral Area "P" (Rivers and the Peaks)

- Thompson-Nicola Regional District
- Electoral & Municipal Boundary
- Municipality
- First Nations Reserve
- Parks & Protected Areas of BC
- Water Body
- Highway





The Birch Island Picnic Shelter.

2012 Annual Report

Community Services

Ron Storie Manager of Community Services

- New and existing community services, e.g. fire protection, train whistle cessation, cemeteries, defined economic development, street lighting, parks, numerous grants-in-aid services, E911, transit, river buoys,
- Grant funding applications
- Emergency Operations Centre

2012 Key Activities and Accomplishments

Economic Development

- \$105,000 in grants levered for developing Invest TNRD an Economic Development Portal

Services

- Explored Fire Protection in Rural Rosehill (Electoral Area "L")

- Whistle cessation occurred at VLA Flats near Chase
- Emergency 911 upgrades completed for Logan Lake and Blue River, a preventative maintenance schedule is being adhered to for all sites

Parks

- Entering into a partnership agreement with STAR Lake Women's Institute to develop a community park in Blackpool
- Shelf ready plans being developed for parks in Blackpool, Eleanor Lake, and Avola
- Completed dock at Eleanor Lake in Blue River
- Completed post-and-beam picnic shelter in Birch Island

Capital Projects

- Installed raised garden beds at Avola School house
- Cell sites have enabled rural residents at Avola, Blue River and Vavenby

Service Establishment

- Explored service establishment for first responders, fire protection, transit, park services

2012 Emergency Services Activities and Accomplishments

Emergency calls

- 4 house fires
- 1 interface fire
- 2 RCMP standoffs
- 1 cattle liner incident
- 35 freshet incidents

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Prescription Completions
(Provided Through Grants)

• EVERGREEN	-29.2 Ha	(\$4,586.48)
• RED LAKE	-18.2 Ha	(\$5,279.61)
• MAPLE MISSION	-05.8 Ha	(\$4,381.52)
• LOON LAKE	-16.7 Ha	(\$8,343.00)
• WATSON LARSEN	-34.9 Ha	(\$4,425.00)
• BOTANIE	-14.8 Ha	(\$9,191.31)

Search and Rescue (SAR) Capital Grant Funding

• Barriere	\$10,878.00 (spring)
• Kamloops	\$17,175.00 (spring) \$9,686.99 (fall)
• Logan Lake	none
• Nicola Valley	none
• Wells Gray	\$13,471.00 (spring)

SAR Operational Funding

- 5 x \$7500
- 1 x \$2500 (South Cariboo)

Investment Agricultural Foundation B.c. 100 Per Cent Funding

- Mass Carcass Disposal Plan implemented (\$9,912 through grant)
- Applied and approved for a GIS study grant to determine possible sites for emergency mass livestock carcass disposal (\$31,040)

Emergency Training

- Nine training exercises – Blue River, Clearwater, Barriere, Chase, Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Clinton and TNRD staff (x2)

2012 Funding Applications and Approved Grants

In 2012 the TNRD applied for \$3.38 million in funding from a variety of sources. \$2.03 million were approved. Decision is still pending on \$100,000 in funding requests.

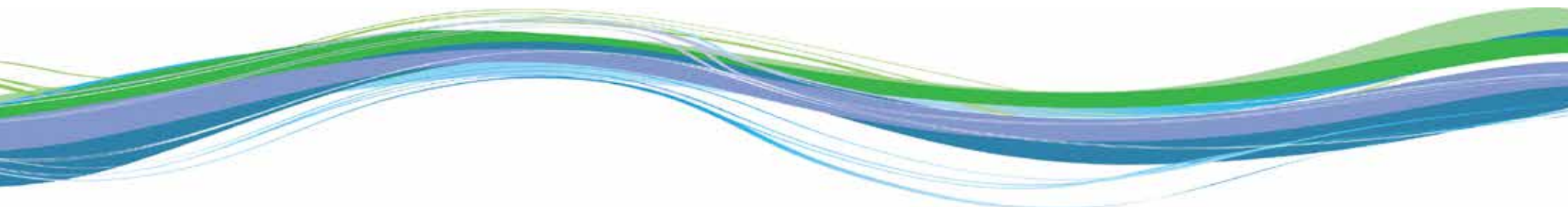
- More than \$125,000 was secured for economic development projects.
- More than \$1.45 million for Environmental Health Services. This includes \$1.4 million for the development of septage receiving station in Clearwater and Barriere. With the closure of septage pits in Barriere, Blue River and Clearwater this collaborative project between the regional district and municipalities provides a environmental sound solution for septage disposal in the North Thompson Valley. Applications to the Job Creation Partnership Program have resulted in training opportunities for two people looking to diversify their skills that will assist them in re-entering the workforce. Benefits to the TNRD include increasing staffing levels to deal with a backlog of work without impacting the tax payers.
- More than \$239,000 in approved Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund projects. Approved projects include upgrades to TNRD-operated water systems as well as upgrades to community association owned infrastructure.

Community groups are vital to maintaining the social fabric of rural B.C. Over the years Federal Gas Tax funding has revitalized community participation and volunteerism in unincorporated areas by providing for green upgrades which reduce annual operating expenses. Without this funding maintaining buildings such as community halls would become financially unsustainable for the limited tax base. In early 2012, the McLure Fire Volunteer Fire Department took delivery of a more fuel-efficient fire truck which replaced and 1979 model.

- More than \$214,000 was approved through the Community Recreation Program to fund improvements to Smith Pioneer Park. With an additional \$40,000 contributed by the Lower Nicola Community Association, installed was new playground equipment, a walking track, resurfaced tennis court, retraining walls and fencing. A limited use playing field was revitalized to become a multi sport venue. Smith Pioneer Park has now become the focal point of the community.



New playground equipment at Smith Pioneer Park in the Lower Nicola.



2012 Annual Report

Finance and Information Technology Services

Douglas Rae Director of Finance

Finance

- Accounting and Financial Reporting – Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Thompson Regional Hospital District, Thompson-Nicola Regional Hospital District
- Budgeting and Investments
- Payables/Receivables
- Payroll
- Purchasing
- Utility Billing

Information Technology

- Computer Information Services
- Data Programming
- Website Development and Maintenance

2012 Key Activities and Accomplishments

The Finance and Information Technology (IT) department provides support and service to all departments of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District as well the Board of Directors and the general public. Our chief goal is to ensure good stewardship and accountability over all financial matters and to provide clear, transparent reporting. In 2012 Finance and IT worked closely with the other departments on the implementation and maintenance of various programs and services, as detailed below.

Finance Activities in 2012 Included:

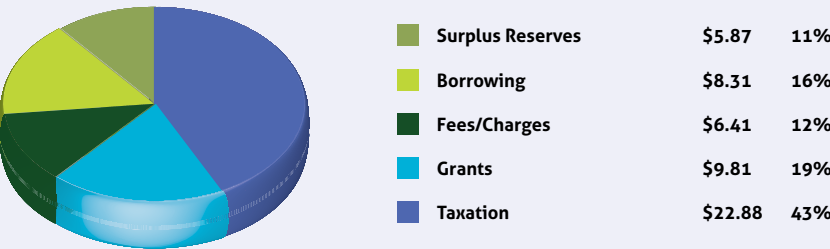
- Continued to focus on moving to electronic, paperless processes
- Prepared 2012 provisional and annual budgets
- Provided professional advice to elected officials and other departments
- Prepared year-end annual financial statements
- Reported as required for the \$9.4 million in grant funding received
- Other reporting as required by legislation

2012 Budgeted Revenue and Expenses Charts

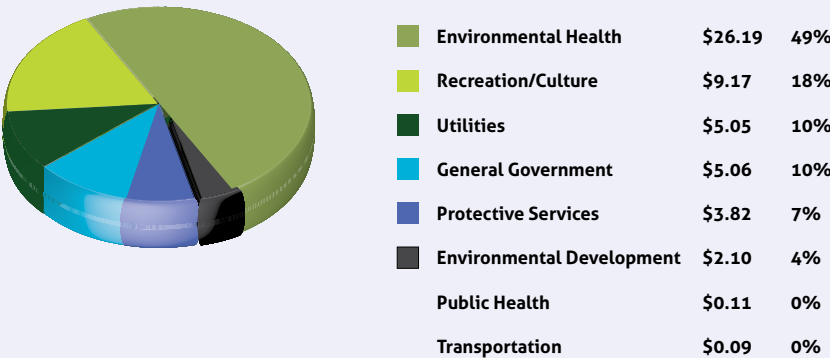
The following graphically summarizes the budgeted sources of revenue, along with a breakdown by function of the expenses budgeted for 2012.

Expense figures are inclusive of operating reserves and net of collection and debt payments, etc.

2012 Budgeted Revenue (in millions)



2012 Budgeted Expenses (in millions)



Information Technology Activities in 2012 Included:

- Provided technical support for all TNRD departments
- Upgraded and re-designed the TNRD web site
- Implemented new Library System web site
- Upgraded intranet staff web sites
- Assisted EHS with new Eco-Depot systems
- Replaced systems/equipment with Energy Star compliant systems/equipment

Key Initiatives for 2013

Finance

- Implement paperless electronic purchase order system
- Transition to new integrated payroll accounting and reporting system
- Assume billing responsibilities for Blue River water system
- Smoothly transition systems back to PST and for penny phase-out
- Continue to support all departments with advice and analysis
- Policy development and implementation

Information Technology

- Creation of IT Department strategic plan
- Online streaming of Board meetings
- Merge of Library System e-mail and TNRD e-mail systems
- Continue assisting EHS with new Eco-Depot systems set-up for remaining sites
- Policy development and implementation



2012 Annual Report

Environmental Services – Environmental Health Services

Environmental Services manages the TNRD Solid Waste and Recycling programs, Invasive Plant Control programs, the Mosquito Nuisance Control and West Nile Virus prevention programs.

Peter Hughes *Director of Environmental Services*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Solid Waste Management | • Mosquito Control |
| • Electoral Area Waste Collection | • West Nile Virus Prevention |
| • Noxious Weed Control | • Septage Disposal |

2012 Key Activities and Accomplishments

Solid Waste Management

Launched a seasonal resident and visitor recycling pilot project in Electoral Areas “E”, “I”, “M” and “N”. Program materials for the target audience were available at 40 locations retail locations and TNRD facilities in the target area.

Majority of capital works completed at new Eco-Depots and upgrades to existing transfer stations. Capital works focused on: Clinton Transfer Station; Lytton Transfer Station; Logan Lake Transfer Station; South Thompson Eco-Depot; Clearwater Eco-Depot; Louis Creek Eco-Depot; Heffley Creek Eco-Depot; Lower Nicola Eco-Depot.

Closure of three landfills with ongoing work to reclaim and cap the old landfill properties.

Continue mitigation of greenhouse gases (methane) from landfills through methane oxidation beds. Constructed new larger oxidation beds to further reduce greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. Ongoing monitoring to ensure this is an effective process.

Released Requests For Proposals (RFPs) and successfully negotiated a new contract with Belkorp Environmental Services for providing site attendants, equipment, and hauling of waste and recycling at TNRD waste management facilities.

Released RFP and successfully negotiated contract with South Cariboo Ventures for the operations of TNRD landfills (Heffley Creek and Lower Nicola).

Awarded contracts for the closure work at the Clearwater and Barriere landfills.

Bylaw 2389 regulating the TRND waste management facilities was adopted by the Board of Directors.

Hosted eight household hazardous waste round-up events in communities throughout the TNRD. Events were run in co-operation with product stewardship organizations such as Encorp Pacific (electronics recycling) and Product Care Association (paint, lights, small appliances). Events were held in Merritt, Logan Lake, Pritchard, Lytton, Blue River, Clearwater, Ashcroft and Kamloops.

Held \$20 free disposal days at many waste management facilities throughout the TNRD.

Recycling rates continue to increase and new diversion initiatives continue to be pursued to work towards our goal of 30 per cent waste reduction.

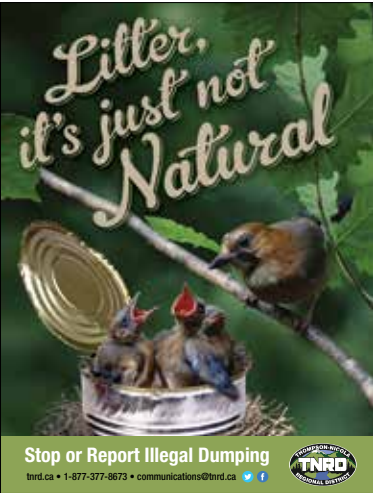
Illegal Dumping

Began creative work and messaging for “Litter isn’t Natural,” a new TNRD illegal dumping campaign scheduled to launch in Summer 2013.

Worm and Backyard Composting

Sold 77 backyard composters and made donations to various not-for-profit organizations and educational institutions throughout the TNRD.

29 worm composters were sold or donated through the TNRD worm composting workshops. Workshops and worm composters were again made available to elementary schools within the TNRD.



Communications and Education

Engaged and educated TNRD residents from the District of Barriere, Village of Chase, District of Clearwater and areas on the transition of service from their closing local landfills to new Eco-Depots.

Continued the promotion and delivery of “The Incredible Waste Race” educational resource for primary grade teachers.

Delivered waste-reduction education workshops throughout school districts 58, 73, 74 and First Nations schools.

Communicated waste-reduction education to TNRD residents through various media options such as print, radio, television, high tech, “Recycle Now and Save” newsletter, and the Environmental Health Services Road Show.

Bear Aware

Delivered presentations at council meetings in Merritt and Clearwater, and community meetings in Blue River and at the Kanaka Bar Indian Band.

Gave school presentations in Merritt, Cache Creek, Lytton, Westwold and Lower Nicola, Sun Peaks and Clearwater, as well as Pathfinder groups.

Conducted a study in City of Merritt neighbourhoods examining the effects of educational campaigns on residents’ garbage management and compliance. Each of the three educational campaigns showed an increase in compliance over time, even when initial compliance was high. No change was seen in the control group, where no education was performed in the neighborhood.

Communicated with residents on how to avoid human/bear conflict through door-to-door outreach and various media options such as print, radio, television, high tech and the Environmental Health Services Road Show.

First Nations

Signed refuse and recycling agreements with 16 First Nations and Indian Bands based on the user-pay concept.

Operating agreements were maintained with Lytton First Nation, Upper Nicola Indian Band and the Simpcw First Nation for shared use of their transfer stations.

Continued working with the Coldwater Indian Band to upgrade its transfer station. These upgrades will benefit the Band’s membership as well as TNRD area residents of Brookmere and Kingsvale when the Brookmere transfer station is consolidated in 2013.

Continued working with regional First Nation schools to deliver waste-reduction and environmental education.

Nuisance Mosquito Control

The TNRD administers a Nuisance Mosquito Control (and West Nile Virus (WNV) Risk Reduction Program when funding allows) that focuses on environmentally sound practices of controlling mosquito larval populations before they emerge as adults. 2012 saw peaks of the North and South Thompson rivers that were the third and second highest in 40 years. Snow and melt pods were near average this year.

For 2012 the TNRD was advised by Interior Health that it would not be receiving grant funding via the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for WNV mitigation activities. As a result of this decision the TNRD was not able to provide WNV surveillance and education activities anywhere

in the TNRD and only conducted nuisance mosquito control within the service areas of the Nuisance Mosquito Control Program.

A record total of 16,192.66 kg of larvicide with the active ingredient Bacillus thuringiensis var israelensis was applied to 3,198.86 ha of larval habitat. 30 kg of Altosid Pellets was applied to three hectares of standing water in the Cinnamon Ridge and Pritchard areas.

Seven light traps were stationed throughout the North Thompson watershed and sampled on a weekly basis to estimate population sizes and determine species distribution. A total of 11,591 mosquitoes representing 20 different mosquitoes were trapped and identified.

Received and responded to approximately 55 telephone calls through the TNRD Mosquito Advisory Line.

Communicated with residents about nuisance mosquito control and WNV risk reduction through various media options such as print, radio, television, high tech and the Environmental Health Services Road Show.

No adulticiding was performed in 2012.

Invasive Plant Program

Continue landowner assistance programs. Rebates available for noxious-weed treatment on private land as well as free equipment loan-out for noxious weed treatment.



Continue to work closely with the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee on a co-ordinated effort with provincial ministries, municipalities and First Nations to most effectively use resources for noxious weed control on public lands.

2013 Key Activities

Solid Waste Management

Open all five new Eco-Depots to the public.

Increase recycling and diversion opportunities at the Eco-Depots.

Begin work on new transfer stations in Blue River and 70 Mile House.

Resume the Seasonal Resident and Visitor Recycling pilot project in Electoral Areas “E”, “I”, “M” and “N”. Program materials for the target audience will be made available at 40 locations retail locations and TNRD facilities in the target area.

Finalize upgrades and negotiate an operating agreement with the Coldwater Indian Band to jointly offer enhanced refuse and recycling options for the Band’s membership and TNRD area residents in Brookmere and Kingsvale.



Introduce the TNRD’s “Recycle Now and Save” user pay initiative to residents of Brookmere and Kingsvale and transition service from Brookmere to the Coldwater transfer station.

Nuisance Mosquito Control

Deliver the TNRD Nuisance Mosquito Control Program within the service area that is comprised of portions of Electoral Areas “A”, “O”, “J”, “L” and “P”. Member municipalities that are also included in the service area are Barriere, Chase, Clearwater, Kamloops, Logan Lake and Sun Peaks.

Provide treatment updates and increase correspondence with TNRD residents inside the boundaries of the Nuisance Mosquito Control program.

Develop a mosquito-control and mosquito-borne disease educational resource for horse owners and equestrian centres in the region.

Broadcast the new TNRD Mosquito Control commercials and promotional video segments on local television and video-sharing website YouTube.

Continue familiarizing field staff with Sentinel GIS data recording and management tool. Applications are based on industry standard Esri ArcGIS and ArcPad software.

Host a field day in April where TNRD residents are invited to spend one day learning about mosquito biology, control methods and day-to-day mosquito control operations.

Worm and Backyard Composting

Partner with select regional retailers to offer the suite of home-composting and organics diversion resources available through the TNRD. Additionally, communicate these offerings and related information through the TNRD website and social media services.

Launch the Green Cone food digester pilot project to determine whether or not it is a viable option for TNRD area residents to use as an alternative to backyard composting.

Communications and Education

Communicate the openings of new TNRD Eco-Depots and upgraded transfer stations to TNRD residents and update them on the new procedures for solid-waste disposal and recycling at these sites.

Launch a two-phase educational campaign introducing the TNRD Solid Waste Disposal and Facilities Bylaw No. 2389. This campaign will update the all members of the public on the TNRD service for the regulation, storage and management of solid waste and recyclable material, including the regulation of facilities and commercial vehicles used for related purposes.

Complete and begin distribution of “Beyond the Bin” educational resource for intermediate grade teachers and students.

Work with TNRD member municipalities to offer community based waste reduction events and initiatives during events like Waste Reduction Week in Canada and Earth Week.

Issue 2 of “Recycle Now and Save” newsletters.

Continue public education and community outreach throughout the TNRD by way of the Environmental Health Services Road Show.

Bear Aware

Create public education material to distribute when there are many Problem Wildlife Occurrence Reports generated from a particular neighborhood, or when residents contact staff with complaints of their neighbours’ poorly-managed attractants.

Establish relationships with regional interest groups and associations that have a wide audience to incorporate the Bear Aware message into their literature.

Work with TNRD member municipalities so that the TNRD Bear Aware Community Co-ordinator is enabled to incorporate an element of the respective community’s distinction and local needs.

Increase door-to-door outreach, garbage tagging and public education in targeted areas of the TNRD where population and history of human-bear conflict continue to be a concern.

Continue to collect valuable statistics, conduct public presentations, and recruit volunteers to enhance the current TNRD program.





2012 Annual Report

Environmental Services – Utility Services

Utility Services currently oversees the operation of 11 water systems and two wastewater systems within the Regional District. The TNRD continues to apply for federal and provincial infrastructure grants, as programs become available, to assist with the improvements required to meet provincial guidelines and to provide quality water and sewer services to residents on TNRD systems. Proactive maintenance has resulted in a general reduction in the number of boil-water notices and water-quality advisories issued in 2012 compared to 2011. Several projects are under way that will help reduce this number further and improve long-term efficiency.

2012 Key Accomplishments

The challenge of ensuring a reliable source of clean and safe drinking water is one of the largest and most important services the TNRD provides for 11 water systems in the region. Operating these water systems, working to meet provincial health standards and making plans for future necessary improvements are just some of the tasks involved in managing these multi-million dollar resources.

Peter Hughes Director of Environmental Services

Water Systems

- Black Pines
- Blue River
- Del Oro
- Evergreen
- Loon Lake

- Maple Mission
- Pritchard
- Savona
- Spences Bridge
- Vavenby
- Wallachin

Sewer Systems

- Paul Lake
- Pritchard



New, safe vehicle access to the Evergreen pumphouse.



A new well pump installed in Blue River.



New Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) panel installed at Pritchard sewer plant.



Loon Lake reservoir access road and parking area safety upgrades.

Water

- Implemented the first stage of the new Water System Acquisition and Sustainability Strategy to ensure financial sustainability for all current and future TNRD owned water and sewer systems
- 6 Boil Water Notices issued (7 in 2011)
- 1 Water Quality Advisories issued (0 in 2011)
- 6 Rescinds issued (4 in 2011)
- Started engineering design for a replacement intake in Black Pines
- Project in Spences Bridge started (completion in Spring 2013)
- Completed \$1,000,000 in improvements to the water systems in Savona and Walhachin
- Completed the \$610,000 installation of the online turbidity/chlorine/ system monitoring of all water systems (Spences Bridge installation to be done this year with the current grant project)
- Continued reducing overall operating costs by obtaining new suppliers and securing lower materials and services costs
- Improved operational efficiencies that reduced power consumption and improved system reliability

Sewer

- Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems installed at Pritchard sewer system
- Started engineering design for upgrades at Pritchard sewer plant
- Installed concrete floor in Paul Lake sewer plant
- Additional drainage improvements in Pritchard sewer collection system
- Reduced overall operating costs by obtaining new suppliers and lower materials and services costs
- Improved operational efficiencies that reduced operating costs
- Identified problems and began upgrades to the Paul Lake lift station

2013 Key Activities

We will continue to seek efficiency improvements to further reduce our ongoing operating costs in 2013.

Water

- Spences Bridge project completion
- Start Blue River project
- Engineering design for Black Pines
- Completion of upgrades to Savona
- Continue implementation of a Water Conservation Plan for all TNRD owned water systems

Sewer

- Engineering design for Pritchard sewer
- Continue lift station improvements to Paul Lake sewer system
- Pre-engineering on solids handling at Pritchard sewer plant



New raised manhole lids in Pritchard eliminate surface water infiltration and cut operating costs.



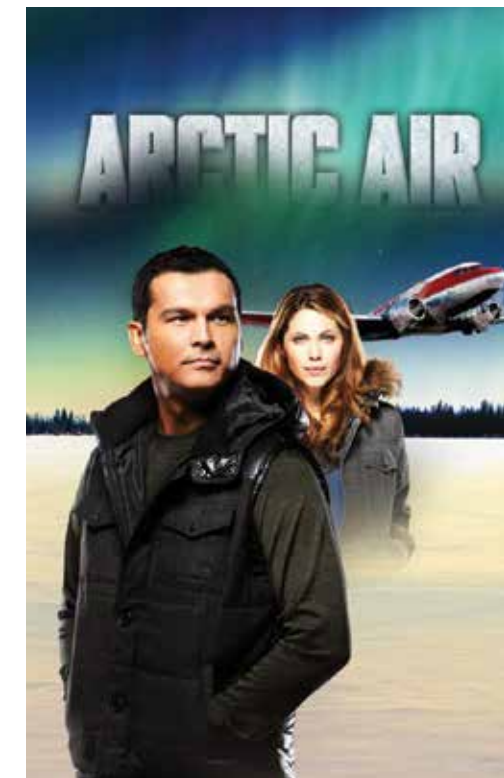
2012 Annual Report

Thompson-Nicola Film Commission

Victoria Weller Executive Director of Film

The TNFC represents and promotes locations, services, amenities and talent within the TNRD to the motion picture industry.

The Canadian TV series *Arctic Air* was the first production to film in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District in 2012. Two episodes were filmed west of Clinton near the Echo Valley Ranch and Spa (EV Ranch) – the finale of Season 1 and the first episode in Season 2 – because the landscape resembles the Northwest Territories, where the story takes place. Cast and crew stayed at the EV Ranch and in Clinton for 8 days. *Arctic Air* was created by Kamloops screenwriter, author and playwright Ian Weir and inspired by *Ice Pilots NWT*. The series airs on CBC and stars Adam Beach, Pascale Hutton, Kevin McNulty and Stephen Lobo. Hutton and Lobo also starred in *Afghan Luke*, which filmed in the Cache Creek area in 2010 and was shown at the 2012 Kamloops Canadian and International Film Festival.



Two other series filmed in the region: USA Network's *Psych* filmed at Campbell Hill Airstrip in Cache Creek/Ashcroft area. The series is a quick-witted comedy-drama about a young police consultant who solves crimes with the powers of observation so acute that Santa Barbara PD detectives think he's psychic.

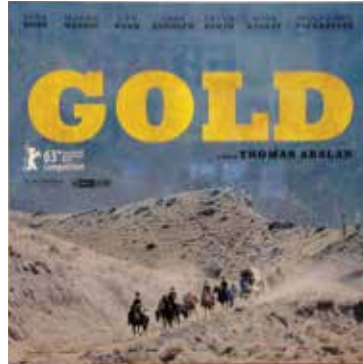
Plus, thanks to Tourism Kamloops, KTLA's *Travelling with Tanya* (Memme) – *Best Vacations in the World* travel series highlighted the Rocky Mountaineer and the City of Kamloops.



The TNRD landscapes were the backdrop for European feature films from Switzerland, Germany and France. The Swiss film *Shana: The Wolf's Music* filmed in Lower Nicola and Merritt. The project is based on a Swiss children's book by Federica de Cesco and is about a 15-year-old Canadian Aboriginal girl and her extraordinary gift as a violinist. The Lower Nicola Indian Band provided the film's positive cultural framework. Production worked hand-in-hand with the LNIB, hiring many band members as talent and crew, as well as Merritt locals, and used the band office as its base. The crew stayed in Merritt at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology residence, and the Swiss director, Nino Jacusso, drew on the LNIB and NVIT resources and expertise. All in all, the director spent more than three months in the Nicola Valley/Lower Nicola writing, rehearsing and filming the cast of local non-professional actors.



The German language historical drama *Gold* takes place during the Klondike Gold Rush era and is about a German woman who journeys to Ashcroft to join seven German gold seekers travelling to the Klondike by horseback. Altogether more than 52 TNRD locations were shown in the film. In Kamloops, production filmed the 2141 steam train on the Tk'emlups Indian Band reserve, near Cache Creek at the Historical Hat Creek Ranch, and for several weeks in and around the Big Bar Guest Ranch, Crows Bar and Jesmond areas, which are located west of Clinton. The background talent and some speaking roles were cast locally and production hired local crew, artisans and historical artifact collectors. *Gold* stars Nina Hoss, who is Germany's top actress, and the film had a prestigious premiere at the 2013 Berlinale Film Festival.



The Young and Prodigious Spivet second unit team filmed railroads and landscapes in 3-D throughout the region. Using state-of-the-art technology, the footage will be used as the background for when the 12-year-old cartographer (TS Spivet) travels by freight train across the country from Montana (Alberta) to the Smithsonian Institute. The crew of 15 filmed in and around Kamloops, Tobiano (Cherry Creek), Walhachin and Lytton.

The TNRD scenery and highways enticed major car and truck commercial campaigns such as Ram Truck (5 commercials all together), Ford Fusion, Lincoln, plus an international Nestle Water commercial. They were filmed in Clinton area along Highway 97 (running horses by the highway), climbing rocky hills (Batchelor Hills, Kamloops), along Highway 5A (Douglas Lake Road and by Stump Lake and the Jackson Cliffs), on ridges in Quilchena, and in Ashcroft and Merritt. It is estimated that all four projects combined required 30 full scouting days. Next time you see one of the Ram truck commercials, look for deserts and grasslands – that's us.



From a promotional and economic development perspective, the TNFC executive produced several vignettes (small commercial-like films that run about two-and-a-half minutes) which were funded by the Northern Development Initiatives Trust (NDIT). Kamloops' Joy Factory directed and edited the following projects:

- [The Making of the German film *Gold*](#)
- [Explore Gold Country's new geocaching adventures in Clinton and Big Bar](#)
- [Spences Bridge and Desert Daze](#)
- [The Ashcroft Terminal](#)
- [The District of Logan Lake and Logan Lake Days](#)
- [The Echo Valley Ranch & Spa](#)
- [70 Mile House – Cariboo Trails Combined Racing at Huber Farms](#)

The TNFC also:

- [Augmented its website](#)
- [Published its new *Locations* brochure](#)

To meet its educational goals, the TNFC sponsored the Knowledge Network's two-day *Storyville* workshop for aspiring filmmakers. The TNFC ran a Motion Picture Industry Orientation course for the Thompson Rivers University Theatre Department as well. The TNFC also supported many community endeavours, such as the annual Kamloops Canadian and International Film Festival and Merritt's Great Canadian Bike Rally (Biker TV). The film commission provided a bursary for the filmmaker who participated in the annual Kamloops Film Society's Short Shorts Competition and best promoted TNRD stories.

With an eye towards enticing visitors to tour the region (and satisfying the curious), the TNFC produced a locations movie map in partnership with Ragan Advertising: Strategy + Design, with NDIT and TNFC funding. The web-based interactive map allows visitors to see what and where movies, TV programs and series, commercials, documentaries and other media were filmed. It also shows where movie stars ate or stayed or visited and provides little-known, behind-the-scenes-trivia, as a matter of interest. The TNFC looks forward to hearing from the public about places and projects that may have been missed, which can be added to this incredible resource. Have a look and enjoy:

www.tnrdlocationsmoviemap.com



2012 Annual Report

Development Services – Planning Services

The Planning Services Department is responsible for land use planning for all unincorporated Electoral Areas within the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. It also provides planning services on a contractual basis for some member municipalities. The primary purpose of Planning Services is to encourage growth and manage development in a sustainable manner throughout the TNRD.

Regina Sadilkova Director of Development Services

- Long and short range planning
- Development applications/permits
- GIS (mapping and spatial analysis)
- Bylaw enforcement
- House numbering (E911 Support)



2012 Key Activities and Accomplishments

Applications

Planning Department staff processed 173 zoning bylaw amendments, Official Community Plan (OCP) amendments, subdivision applications, ALR applications and inter-agency referrals during 2012. This year’s activities levels remain more or less unchanged from that of 2011. In addition to applications and referrals, 31 Bylaw Enforcement files were also processed and completed.

Long Range Planning

The majority of the groundwork and background studies for the Regional Growth Strategy was completed, including an Urban Futures Institute, meetings with all member municipalities and interested First Nations and other stakeholders.

Geographic Information Systems

In the GIS division, staff continued implementing and administering the region’s new land management and permit tracking systems. Staff are also finalizing the development of a web-based mapping program, with a public launch confirmed for early 2013. This system includes various baseline information for TNRD smaller member municipalities and additional detailed information for all electoral areas.

Contract Planning Services

Staff provided ongoing contractual support for the Districts of Barriere and Clearwater, and for Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality. We completed the District of Clearwater Official Community Plan as well as providing support for any member municipality on an as-needs basis.

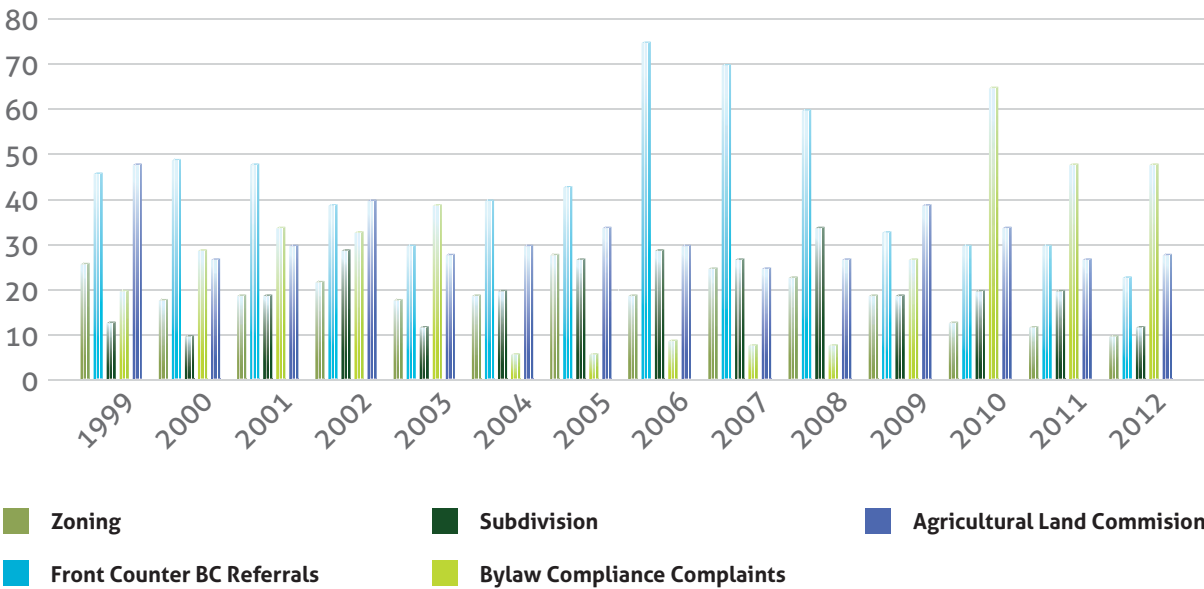


Planning Activities in 2012 Included:

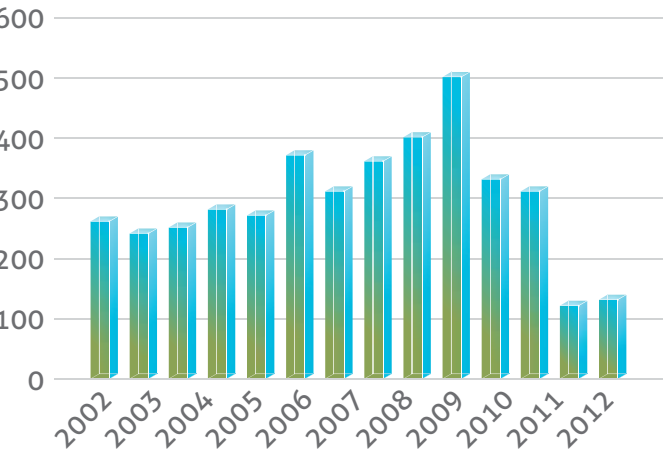
- Completed Zoning Bylaw 2400
- Completed Green Lake & Area OCP
- Continued Planning/GIS support for the Regional District’s smaller member municipalities, as well as contractual service
- Continued support for the Regional District’s Emergency Management and E-911 programs
- Commenced co-operation with Nicola Lake Integrated Plan
- Participated in Kamloops airshed working group
- Participated in Kamloops Area Agriculture Plan
- Continued upgrades to our property information, permit tracking, web-mapping and GIS operating programs
- Continued support for the Board of Directors and member municipalities’ Planning and Sustainability initiatives
- Proposed simple subdivision at Lac le Jeune project completed public hearing and second and third readings
- Processing of complex multi-lot subdivision proposals at Little Shuswap Lake



Activity Levels 1999 to 2012



Total Applications / Referrals



Key Initiatives for 2013

- One-year review of new Zoning Bylaw 2400
- Complete the updates to Cherry Creek/Savona Official Community Plan
- Complete the TNRD’s Regional Growth Strategy acceptance process
- Evaluate a new of format for the Regional District’s 10 OCPs to provide better consistency
- Continued participation on the Ajax Mine Project Working Group – provide planning advice to the provincial and federal Environmental Assessment agencies
- Complete a comprehensive review of all Board policies including the Regional District’s Fringe Areas Policy
- Rewrite our Development Procedures Bylaw
- Complete a sustainability checklist
- Improve Development Services communication via our ads, web page, and mail outs



2012 Annual Report

Development Services – Building Inspection Services

Ron Popoff Manager of Building Inspection Services

- Building and Plumbing Applications and Permits
- Building and Plumbing Inspections
- Building Bylaw Enforcement

Building Inspection Services administers Building Regulations Bylaw No. 2066, 2005 within all electoral areas of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. Building Inspection activities are undertaken to provide a monitoring function for reason of health, safety and the protection of persons and property related to building construction.

TNRD building inspection services are contracted out to the municipalities of Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Chase, Logan Lake, Clinton, Lytton and Clearwater. Each municipality has its own building and zoning regulations. All building permit applications for these member municipalities are processed through the main TNRD office located at 300-465 Victoria Street in Kamloops.

In addition to the main Kamloops office, the TNRD provides scheduled services to the public out of satellite offices located in Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Chase, Logan Lake, Clinton, Barriere, Lytton, Clearwater and Merritt.

During 2012, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District experienced a moderate increase in construction activity compared to 2011. The total construction value at \$40.31 million was virtually equal to the previous year's total of \$40.34 million with a difference of less than one per cent. Total permits issued were up by 34 per cent and residential units created were up 24 per cent over 2011. These figures indicate a reduction in larger scale commercial projects, but stable residential development with an increasing emphasis on alterations and renovations.

Overall construction activities remained fairly evenly distributed across the Regional District. The more notable increases were centered in Chase, Logan Lake and Electoral Area "A" (Wells Gray Country), which all produced increases in construction values of 100 to 250 per cent over the previous year.

Building Inspection Services staff issued a total of 427 building permits throughout the year. The average time taken to process these permits

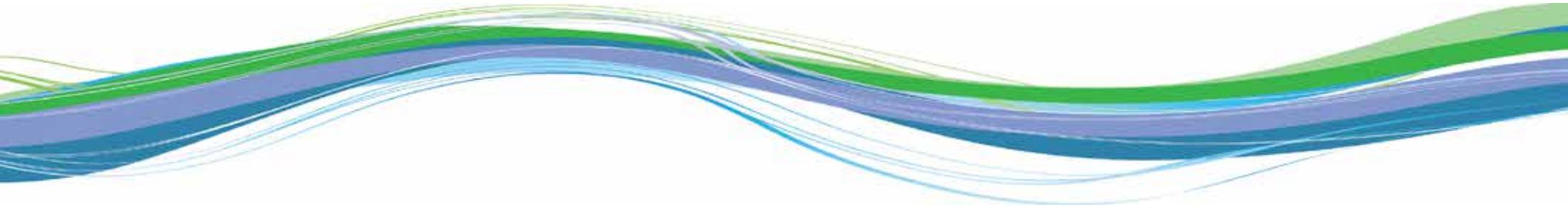
from application to approval date was 3.3 weeks. Seventy two per cent of the permits issued were processed in four weeks or less. A total of 313 building permit files were closed during 2012. This compares to 247 in 2011. With the aid of the Tempest computer tracking system, staff were able to establish a more proactive approach to dealing with active permit files by automating the process of notifying clients of pending expiries. This process has proved to be extremely beneficial in encouraging voluntary compliance and completion of final inspections prior to expiration and is beginning to lessen the need for bylaw enforcement.

Major Non-Residential Projects Issued in 2012

- 6344 Stagecoach Trail – Golf Course Lodge
- 4820 Kamloops Shuswap Road – Dairy Barn
- 1685 Duck Range Road – TNRD Eco-Depot
- 130 Chartrand Avenue – TNRD Library

2013 Key Activities

- Building Bylaw housekeeping amendments and changes to align with the new BC Building Code adopted in December 2012
- Increase file closure rate through optimized tracking and proactive maintenance of expired files
- Complete orientation and training on the 2012 BC Building Code for staff, the building community, and the general public
- Continue the permit issuance and inspection process for new construction within the TNRD



2012 Annual Report

Legislative Services

Liz Cornwell Corporate Officer/Manager of Legislative Services

- Corporate and Legislative Services
- Board and Committee agendas and minutes
- Corporate records and information
- Elections and Referendums
- Risk Management
- Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy
- Central reception and support services
- Preparation of bylaws
- Establishment of new services

Legislative Services serves as a link between the Board of Directors, staff and the general public. The department also helps to ensure that the regional district adheres to provincial and federal legislation as well as its own bylaws and policies. Legislative Services is led by the Corporate Officer who oversees the safekeeping of official records,

conducts elections and referendums, and manages the information and privacy program under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

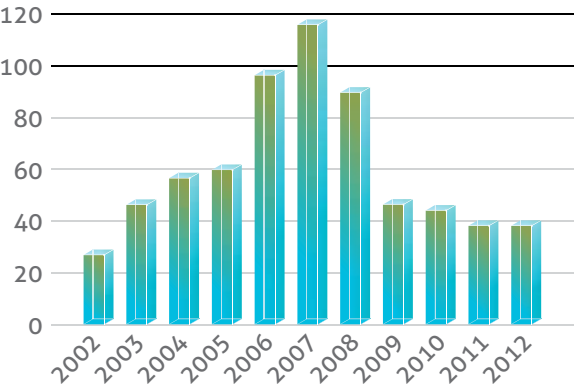
The TNRD provides services to the 10 electoral areas, and additional services in co-operation with its member municipalities and First Nations groups. Legislative Services works in conjunction with the Community Services department to establish new services and prepare any contracts and agreements for the service delivery.

2012 Key Activities and Accomplishments

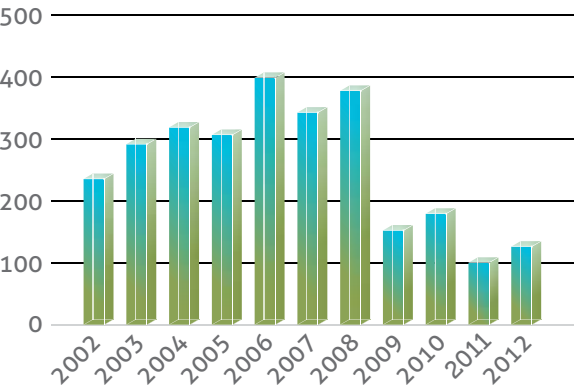
Electoral Area “O” (Lower North Thompson) By-Election

Due to a vacancy in the TNRD, a by-election in Electoral Area “O” was held on November 17, 2012, for the remainder of the three-year term of office of the Electoral Area Director. The election was conducted according to the rules and regulations set out in the Local Government Act, which governs local government elections throughout B.C.

TNRD – Total Construction Value



TNRD – Residential Units Created



The TNRD handled nomination packages, set up various voting places, and tallied the ballots and declared the official result. Director William (Bill) Kershaw was sworn in and took office at the Dec. 6, 2012, Board of Directors Inaugural Meeting.

Bursary Program

In November 2012, the TNRD Board of Directors adopted a Bursary Program that would assist youth with post-secondary education. This program is applicable to each of the four School Districts within the boundaries of the TNRD and a \$1,000 bursary will be offered to one student per School District, annually. Legislative Services provided research on implementing a bursary program and liaised with the School Districts to co-ordinate the adjudication and administration of the program.

Website Enhancements

Legislative Services provided training to all staff to further enhance and organize the information that is made available on the TNRD website and in its public file tree. Board agendas and minutes, bylaw and department-specific information is now more readily available.



Legislative Services has also enabled a direct link between the public and the TNRD to ask questions and provide feedback online.

Member Municipality Financing

Regional Districts finance long term debt through the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia for their member municipalities for capital projects. In 2012, the TNRD financed the City of Kamloops and the City of Merritt in a combined amount of \$10,0183,023 to upgrade water and sewer infrastructure, to construct a fire hall and mechanical shop, to purchase a fire pumper vehicle, and to finance the Rayleigh Slo-Pitch Park.

iCompass for Internal Efficiencies

Improvements to the Board Agenda and Minute process were introduced and rolled out this year. The new process allows for proper tracking and follow-up



on board resolutions which ensures the next steps in the approval process of bylaws, agreements, grants, etc. are completed. This program has created time and cost efficiencies as the tracking feature also applies to other records such as insurance certificates and bonds related to contracts. Notifications and reminders are sent directly to staff responsible for follow-up on all types of records.

Communications

Developed and began implementation of the TNRD Communications Strategy, which includes the launch of a monthly internal newsletter as well as quarterly meetings with department heads to be more proactive about communicating TNRD matters. Communications assisted with the redesign of the TNRD website, which went live in September. The redesign team was headed by iCompass and Communications helped co-ordinate the flow of content from various departments. A Submission Enquiries section has been added to the website for the public to make general enquiries or other enquiries related to environmental services, records requests, or to provide input regarding the TNRD financial plan illegal dumping sites or nuisance mosquitoes.

The Western Canada Theatre (WCT) and the TNRD once again partnered to give away Adapt Passes for any WCT production through an essay-writing contest run in conjunction with the Library System. Social media accounts established on Facebook and Twitter continued to provide a valuable link for feedback from stakeholders and the public.



2012 Annual Report

Library Services

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System

“...resources for a lifetime of personal growth,
learning and enjoyment.”

MARC SAUNDERS Director of Library Services

Library Branches:

Ashcroft, Barriere, Blue River, Cache Creek, Chase, Clearwater,
Clinton, Kamloops Downtown, Kamloops North Shore, Logan Lake,
Lytton, Merritt, Savona, Bookmobile

2012 Accomplishments

- Started construction of two new libraries in Cache Creek and Logan Lake
- Launched a new library website
- Enhanced the Internet and wireless services at the North Kamloops Library

- Significantly increased programming at the North Kamloops Library
- Hired a new Director of Libraries
- Hired new branch heads for North Kamloops, Cache Creek, Savona and Ashcroft Libraries
- Reconfigured the reference area at the Kamloops Library
- Secwepmcstin collection was catalogued and distributed
- Implemented a new Internet access library card
- Reduced wait times for patrons with holds
- Customer service workshops for staff across the system
- Non-violent crisis intervention training for staff
- Training for staff on e-books, basic hardware, and e-mail
- Ratification of the BCGEU collective agreement
- Mobile e-book computer training lab (8 laptops)
- Flooring replaced at Merritt
- Storytime room and Children's area were refurbished at the Kamloops Library
- New 3G network in the Bookmobile
- E-books circulation increased 136 per cent
- Quick Reads circulation increased 190 per cent
- Added self-check machine in Merritt



2012 Activities

- Molly the Story Dog program at the Kamloops Library
- Summer Reading Club was offered at all branches
- Weird Science programs at various branches
- Celebrated Family Literacy Day
- Expanded author tours for adults and children
- Expanded book clubs
- Canada Reads author Richard Wagamese at the North Kamloops Library

2012 Partnerships

- Books for Babies with Interior Health
- Thompson Rivers University Library
- Success By 6
- Scides
- KELLI – Mother Goose Programming
- Strong Start
- Sk'elep School of Excellence
- Family History Society
- School Districts throughout the TNRD
- Welcome Wagon
- Skulula
- LinK
- Aberdeen Mall
- Canada Post
- Merritt Friends of the Library
- Raise A Reader
- Dolly Parton Foundation



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