



THOMPSON-NICOLA
REGIONAL DISTRICT

tnrd.ca

AREA "M" & "N"
FALL 2023

NEWSLETTER

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE TNRD BUDGET

The TNRD is in the process of building the 2024 Budget, and we want you to learn about the budget, ask questions, and offer feedback.

Did You Know? Property owners only pay the TNRD for services that they receive, whether they are within an Electoral Area or Member Municipality. A large portion of your TNRD tax bill goes towards solid waste management and library services. Further, you may also pay larger portions for fire protection, community parks, or curbside waste collection. All service areas contribute to overall administration costs which are necessary to provide these TNRD services.

To learn more, visit: tnrd.ca/budget2024. On this webpage, you'll also find crucial information such as budget highlights, general budget information, key meetings dates about the 2024 budget, and information on contacting staff, providing general feedback, or asking questions. This page will be continually updated in the coming months as more information is available. Alternatively, you can contact the TNRD at finance@tnrd.ca or 250-377-8673.



KEEPING MORE WASTE OUT OF THE LANDFILL

The TNRD is working to prevent hazardous waste and recyclable materials from being landfilled or disposed of improperly. Currently, the TNRD is looking to expand products that are included in Mandatory Recyclable Materials Bylaw No. 2743, to include all materials within the extended producer responsibility (EPR) program. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an approach to recycling that requires producers, such as manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to take responsibility for the life cycle of the products they sell.

As part of the proposed bylaw amendment, mandatory recyclables would include EPR products such as: antifreeze and antifreeze containers, batteries, flammable liquids, fluorescent lights, gasoline and diesel, residential pesticide products, refundable beverage containers, pharmaceutical products, oil, oil filters and containers, paint, electronics and electrical products (including metal appliances), thermostats, and tires. The

proposed amendment to the bylaw would also include residential packaging and printed paper.

What does this mean? The expanded disposal ban would be enforceable at solid waste facilities in the Thompson-Nicola region. Collectors and haulers will be responsible for the contents of the loads of refuse that are brought to facilities for disposal. If the bylaw is amended, loads containing EPR materials, or more than 10% being residential packaging, printed papers, cardboard, or beverage containers, may be subject to a fine. Loads containing large and hazardous EPR materials such as electronics, outdoor power equipment, small electrical appliances, paint, etc. may be subject to a fine per item.

Expanding the disposal ban for recyclables will also help bring down the TNRD's per-capita waste generation. In 2020, the per-capita landfill disposal rates of TNRD residents was 671 kilograms per year, which

is 34% higher than the per-person average across B.C. and makes the TNRD the fifth-largest waste producer, on a per-person basis, compared to all 27 regional districts.

The Mandatory Recyclable Materials Bylaw was implemented over three phases in 2022, following public consultation, and currently only includes corrugated cardboard. This bylaw is a key waste reduction strategy that was identified in the TNRD's 2018 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

The TNRD held four online public information meetings in fall 2023, conducted a public survey, and developed a resource package for commercial haulers of waste. Opportunities to ask questions and learn more are always ongoing. For a full list of products, to keep up to date on implementation, and find answers to frequently asked questions, visit: tnrd.ca/mandatory-recycling, or contact us at recycleright@tnrd.ca.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place in the TNRD Boardroom at 465 Victoria St., Kamloops B.C. You can participate in all TNRD board and committee meetings in-person or online. Meeting information is subject to change. Visit tnrd.ca/meetings for the most up to date information.

Committee of the Whole (Budget Meeting)

November 8, 2023: 10:00 am

Thompson Regional Hospital District Board Meeting

November 9, 2023: 10:00 am

Regular Board of Directors Meeting

November 9, 2023: 1:30 pm

Finance Committee

December 14, 2023: 10:00 am

Regular Board of Directors Meeting

December 14, 2023: 1:30 pm

Committee of the Whole

December 15, 2023: 9:00 am

ASSESSING OUR ACCESSIBILITY

The Accessibility Advisory Committee is now in place, with 11 members who are advising on accessibility needs within the TNRD. The regional district is in the process of creating an Accessibility Plan with guidance from this committee, which will identify barriers to accessibility and inclusion that may be experienced by the public or regional district staff.

As part of this process, the TNRD will be evaluating accessibility in its facilities and digital platforms. Public facilities that are within jurisdiction of the TNRD include libraries, Eco-Depots and Transfer Stations, several parks, community halls and cemeteries, and the TNRD Civic Building.

To learn more about the TNRD's work on accessibility, and the Accessibility Advisory Committee, visit: tnrd.ca/accessibility, or email accessibility@tnrd.ca.

HELPING YOU GET FIRESMART

The TNRD FireSmart program has been exceptionally busy in 2023 to help residents keep their property safe from the threat of wildfire.

FireSmart Coordinator Dan Funk has spent many weeks providing educational fire risk assessments for private property owners in TNRD Electoral Areas, and has had a booth at several dozen community events throughout the regional district. Dan has given FireSmart presentations to communities within the Wildland Urban Interface, visited 10 area fire departments, set up a booth at 10 Thompson-Nicola libraries, and answered hundreds of FireSmart inquiries.

To learn about FireSmart initiatives anytime, visit: tnrd.ca/firesmart.

YOUR LIBRARY NEWS

This fall, the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library is proud to introduce 1001 Before Grade One!

Make reading fun! Take our challenge to read 1,001 stories with your child before they enter the first grade.

Along with building critical literacy and language skills, reading regularly to your child will spark their imagination, improve their listening and language abilities, teach them about the world around them, give them a strong foundation for success in school, promote the bond between you and your child, and help them sleep better (yes, really). Plus, it's fun!

Parents can pick up your child's 1001 Before Grade One reading package at your local Thompson-Nicola library.

To learn more, visit: tnrl.ca/1001.

LIBRARY DAYS OF OPERATION:

Logan Lake: Tuesday – Saturday

Merritt: Tuesday – Saturday

For all TNRL locations, hours and Mobile Library stops, visit: www.tnrl.ca/locations

GREAT TIMES HAD AT GARLIC FEST

The Lower Nicola Garlic Festival was a hit in 2023, with live music, cool cars, good food, various vendors, and more than enough garlic to go around! With many improvements done recently to Smith Pioneer Park, this event served as a great way to showcase the park space.

We thank residents who visited our information booth to learn about TNRD services. Thank you to the Lower Nicola Community Association and local vendors who make this annual event possible. See you next year!



BOOK THE BANDSHELL!

As you plan for 2024, consider hosting your event in Lower Nicola! Smith Pioneer Park has all the amenities you need and user groups may apply free of charge to use this space. Take advantage of the newly-completed bandshell,

a concession, washrooms, tons of open green space, and the many other park features that are available. Please note that submitting an application does not guarantee approval will be issued. To apply, please contact TNRD

Community Services at 250-377-8673 or csadmin@tnrd.ca. Additionally, you can find the Application Form online at: tnrd.ca/smith-pioneer-park.



GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!

How did you like this newsletter? We want your feedback. Contact Us at: communications@tnrd.ca