

OFFICE OF THE ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR

October Update

1.FVRD Soil Bylaw

FVRD is considering adopting a Soil Bylaw. For the past several years illegal dumping has been excessive all throughout FVRD. Much of the dumping is occurring in the rule areas and there are huge negative impacts to the environment and the rural communities. Streams are being filled in, properties are being raised by several meters and have the potential to cause problems on neighbouring properties and truck traffic is excessive. The bylaw, if adopted, will give the FVRD more tools to try and address the illegal dumping. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments on the bylaw.

<https://haveyoursay.fvrd.ca/soil-deposit-bylaw>

2.Columbia Valley Fire Department Update

At a recent Columbia Valley Ratepayers' meeting the following information was shared:

- It's fall, the cooler weather is here, and fireplaces and woodstoves are back in action. Please ensure your chimney is cleaned and checked.
- Please check your smoke detectors, change batteries, and check expiration date. Smoke detectors should be newer than 10 years

New Recruits- The Columbia Valley Fire Department (CVFD) is actively recruiting new volunteers to join our team

CVFD proudly serves our community from Maple Bay to the end of Columbia Valley. When you call 911 📞, it's your neighbours who respond. Our crew of 20+ dedicated members includes men and women of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

This is your call to action — join us!

All training and gear are provided at no cost. We simply ask for your time, dedication, and commitment serving your community.

We train every Monday night from 7–9 p.m., with additional opportunities for specialized training for those who want to expand their skills. Requirements are minimal — enthusiasm and teamwork matter most.

👉 Interested?

Apply directly through the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) website:

<https://www.fvrd.ca/.../fire-protection/Volunteer-ff.html>

3. Cultus Lake Stewardship Society (CLASS)

The Cultus Lake Stewards continue to be very busy in our area. They do a lot of great work to try and protect the Cultus Lake Watershed. To learn more about CLASS please feel free to visit their website or join them virtually at the next meeting. 9:30 am on Wednesday October 29th. This month the guest speaker will be John Paul and he will be talking about composting. <https://cultusstewards.ca/home>

4. Cascade Gondola Feedback-

The province has received an application to build a gondola up Mount Cheam. If you are interested in learning more about the proposed project or commenting, please follow this link.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land-water/crown-land/regional-crown-land-initiatives/cascade-skyline-gondola-project>

5. Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)

I recently attending the annual UBCM Convention in Victoria. This is a large convention of elected officials where we have a chance to connect with others, attend workshops and meeting with provincial ministers and staff. This year I had meetings with Ministry of Environment and Parks to learn more about ways BC Parks plans to manage the large numbers of visitors that come to Cultus Lake each year. We discussed the possibility of them creating a communication method to let visitors know when the parking is full. This year RCMP were more visible and did have a positive impact on keeping the area safer.

I also met with staff from Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to continue to raise awareness of the economic value of Cultus Lake to the province and for the need to dedicate staff and financial support to protect the health of the lake. There is more work to be done.

6. Open Burning is now allowed. Please make sure you have a hose nearby and are burning in a safe area.

7. Coming Events

Race Around the Lake- Saturday October 18th

This exciting event is back for the 22nd year! Approximately 300 people will be racing around the lake, alone or in teams. Spectators are welcome to come and cheer on the runners at Main Beach. The official start is at 9am and front runners usually start coming in at the finish shortly after 11am.

There will be no road closures but there will be flaggers as runners will be crossing the road as follows: Watt Creek - expect crossings starting after 10am to the cut-off time at 11.45am

Edmeston Road (by the condos) - expect crossings starting after 10.30am to approx. 1pm. Good luck to all the participants.

Stillwood Open House- Saturday October 18th 11:00am-4:00 pm

The Community is invited to stop by the Open House at Stillwood. The event is free and there will be music and many activities to enjoy. See the attached flyer for more information.

Fall Harvest Festival- Saturday October 18th 11:00am-3:00 pm



Please join us at Columbia Valley Hall 1202 Kosikar Road, for a fun Harvest Festival. This event is the cumulation of the first Giant Pumpkin Growing contests and we are expecting some monster pumpkins to arrive. Weigh off begins at 12:00. There will be pumpkin pie and hot beverage station and vendors. Costumes are welcome.

Happy Thanksgiving to all. I know I have much to be thankful for. I hope you enjoy special time with family and friends.
Respectfully yours,

Taryn Dixon
FVRD Director- Area H
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