

Highlights from the Thetis Island Improvement District

Over the last several months trustees and staff completed the third rendition of our 10 year capital plan for the Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department. It was during this process that we identified the need for significant repairs and renovations to the main fire hall in order to address Health and Safety Issues and bring it in to compliance with WorkSafe BC Regulations. Once we have completed working drawings, appropriate approvals and a projected budget we will be holding a special general meeting of property owners to review and approve the terms and conditions of the proposed expenditure.

We have come to an agreement with VIHA to contribute \$10,000 annually to assist in funding our first responders program. This culminates more than a years' worth of effort by Trustee Graeme Shelford. A Great Big Thank You to Graeme on a job well done.

Following up on the June 15th CVRD air quality workshop, the trustees asked residents what they thought of restricting backyard burning for the months of December and January. The informal poll results were: 2 for, 18 against and 1 fine either way. There will be no change to our backyard burning criteria. For those of you interested in our local air quality numbers, the school district in co-operation with CVRD Area G have set up a purple sensor at our school. Go to: <https://www.purpleair.com/map>. and see how we compare to the other sensors in the area.

Following a record hot, dry and smoky summer that had Thetis Island in extreme fire hazard for more than 2 months trustees gave first reading to an extreme fire hazard bylaw. Please go to: <http://www.thetislandfire.ca/tiid-legal>. Feedback is encouraged.

On October 24th the board of trustees of the Thetis Island Improvement District gave second and final reading to the 2018 operating plan for the Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department. This approved budget was presented at the Thetis Island Residents and Ratepayers Association General Meeting on October 26th 2017. Please go to: <http://www.thetislandfire.ca/tiid-presentations>, to see the full presentation, which includes concept drawing of the fire hall repairs and renovations. The budget includes an increase of \$50,000 over the 2017 operating plan for a total of \$303,985. The increase is specifically earmarked for plans, surveys and approvals for the fire hall project.

Any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call.

Keith Rush,
Chair, Board of Trustees,
Thetis Island Improvement District