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2020 Malcolm Island Recycling Depot Information (250) 956-3301						
Allowed Metal Packaging						
• Metal Cans						
• Metal Lids & Closures						
• Metal Aerosol Cans						
• Aluminum Foil						
• Spiral Wound Cans (Steel Ends)						
Paper/Cardboard Packaging						
• Corrugated Cardboard						
• Paper Cups						
• Milk Cartons						
• Aseptic Containers						
• Multi-laminated Paper Packaging						
• Boxboard						
• Moulded Pulp						
• Paper Bags						
Plastic Packaging						
• Types 1,2,3,4,5,6 & 7 plastic packaging.						
• Bottles, Jars, Clamshells, Trays, Tubs & Lids, Drink Cups, Pails & Planter Pots						
Printed Paper						
• Newspapers & Inserts						
• Magazines, Catalogues and Telephone Books						
• General Use Paper, Envelopes, Greeting Cards						
Other Materials						
• Glass Packaging (bottles, jars, etc)						
• Polystyrene (Styrofoam but NO Packing Peanuts)						
• Plastic Film (Frozen Vegetable Bags, Plastic Grocery Bags, etc)						
• Electronics and Appliances						
• Household Chemicals / Used Oil						
• Batteries						
• Light Bulbs						
• Scrap metal						
Depot Hours						
Tuesday 10am-1pm Wednesday 6pm-8pm Sat 10am-3pm						

“Malcolm Island Mailout”



APRIL 2020



COVID-19 IMPACT ON MALCOLM ISLAND SERVICES

The COVID-19 Pandemic has had an enormous impact across the globe, including on the services provided to Malcolm Island by the RDMW. In this issue of “MI Mailout,” we will provide you with an outline of the status of various Malcolm Island services and how they may have been impacted, as well as news of any changes that were already in the works. In addition, the newsletter includes updates on important RDMW initiatives that are still ongoing, but at a slower pace, including the Waste Management Planning Process and the Regional Housing Needs Report.

Like most organizations, the RDMW is having a challenging time to adapt to the necessary changes in practices to deal with the emergency, including less in-person meetings and new protocols related to greater physical separation for staff, cleaning etc. While the main office is now closed to the public, we are endeavouring to continue to provide essential services with minimal impact to the public who depend on them. Please continue to follow the advice of Island Health, <https://www.islandhealth.ca/> to keep yourselves and the community healthy and safe. Now more than ever, we will all need to continue the North Island tradition of resilience in times of need, coupled with generosity to friends and neighbours, while, for now, keeping physical distance. -Greg Fletcher, CAO

EMERGENCY PLANNING

For now, the Sointula Fire Hall is the muster point for community emergencies and the SVFD will issue evacuation orders. The North Island Regional Emergency Plan (<http://www.rdmw.bc.ca/our-communities/coal-harbour/>) calls for Emergency Social Service Volunteers in each community...to find out more or to volunteer, please call REPC Coordinator Cathy Denham @250-230-1519.

Rural Tourism Action Grant - Now Accepting Applications!

The Regional District is now accepting applications for the 2020 Rural Tourism Action Grant. Community groups and organizations can apply for up to \$2,500. In funding to support projects including trail head signage, festival and events promotion, and community tourism initiatives. Application deadline is September 30th, 2020. For grant guidelines and application package, please visit:

<http://www.rdmw.bc.ca/regional-services/regional-economic>

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■ Garbage Collection Day

UTILITIES BILLING 2020

Accompanying this newsletter is your annual utility bill. Residents are reminded of the following:

- ◆ Avoid in person payments, please use online banking with CIBC, CCCU or Scotiabank. E-Transfer to bsinclair@rdmw.bc.ca (be sure to phone or send an email with the password). Call 250-956-3301 to pay using a credit card.
- ◆ When paying your bill, please make sure to reference the account number on your invoice.
- ◆ Our mailing information comes from BC Assessment. If we did not send your invoice to your current address, you need to update your info. Please go to https://eforms.bcassessment.ca/address_change_form.asp
- ◆ Outstanding amounts as of Dec 31, 2020 are transferred over to your Rural Property account with the Province of BC.

*If you have questions or concerns regarding your invoices or would like to receive your invoice via email, please email bsinclair@rdmw.bc.ca. Please include your name and folio number along with the email address you would like to have on file. Enjoy the day!



Mount Waddington Transit/Volunteer Transportation Network (VTN)

COVID-19 Service Impacts: To keep Transit operating as an essential service, BC Transit has eliminated fares for until at least April 30th.

Thanks to NI volunteers, the VTN Service is available to Malcolm Island residents who may have mobility issues. More volunteers are always welcome. Call Mary Mavis at 250-956-3151 for further information.

MALCOLM ISLAND RECREATION/PARKS

Due to COVID-19, all Malcolm Island Recreation Service facilities and programs have been closed to the public. However, the volunteers are actively working on some community initiatives: Contact Michelle Pottage (974-4445) for more information. The Bere Point Regional Park is also officially closed, and all regular campground users have been notified accordingly. Parks staff are completing the replacement of a washroom there and will continue to monitor the situation.

MOUNT WADDINGTON REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS REPORT PROJECT

The Province of British Columbia now requires each local government to collect data, analyze trends and prepare a report that identifies current and anticipated housing needs, for the purpose of considering these needs when creating policy and making decisions about development. The housing needs report process will examine such things as:

- Population trends (Who is living in our communities? How fast is the population increasing?)
- Affordability (How much does it cost to live here?)
- Future demand (Who will live here in the future, where will they live and in what types of housing will they live?)

The Regional District of Mount Waddington and its four municipal partners (District of Port Hardy, Town of Port McNeill, Village of Alert Bay and Village of Port Alice) were awarded a grant of \$120,000 to undertake the project jointly. A project steering committee has been established and consultants, Urban Matters CCC Ltd. and M'akola Development Services, have been chosen to undertake the project. They are currently undertaking phases 1 and 2 of the project which includes the following four phases:

- 1) Data Collection, Compilation & Analysis: Conduct background document review, collect and review available data, conduct need, demand and supply analyses of the spectrum of housing types, tenures and affordability, including market and non-market housing.
- 2) Community Consultation & Public Engagement: Prepare and implement a consultation and engagement strategy to achieve collaboration with a variety of stakeholders
- 3) Preparation of the Mount Waddington Regional Housing Needs Report and community profiles for the eight planning areas (four municipalities and four electoral areas of the RDMW).
- 4) Capacity Building: Capacity building with local government staff on: a) implementation measures that are designed to satisfy housing needs; b) planning for subsequent housing needs updates in order to undertake future housing needs assessments and reports; and, c) connection with provincial housing entities and initiatives.

The project was originally expected to be completed by the end of July, 2020. However, due to the recent coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, project completion will be late. See the RDMW's website at www.rdmw.bc.ca for updated information on the project as it unfolds. Be on the lookout for an upcoming housing questionnaire and public engagement opportunities associated with this project.

SEWER SERVICE

The sewer service for Sointula continues to do well with Alden Barnett recently updating his certification. The RDMW plans on making some additional upgrades through Gas Tax funding, to further improve its performance. There will be no fee increases in 2020.

STREETLIGHTS

The planned BC Hydro conversion of streetlights to low energy LED technology will be delayed due the COVID-19 emergency.

WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING NEWS

The RDMW continues to operate the Malcolm Island Recycling Depot (MIRD) at its normal operating hours. Given the risks associated with COVID-19, the attendants have been instructed to adjust how they interact with the public for the safety of all involved. Depending upon how busy the depot is, to keep within the safe 2 m distancing, visitors may have to wait outside of the recycling shed until sufficient spacing allows for safe entry. The attendants have also been instructed to not correct misplaced items in the recycling bags. Given this limitation, users of the recycling depot are being asked to be especially diligent in how they sort their recyclables. Finally, the attendants have been provided with sanitizer for personal use and disinfecting the facility. Given the limited supply, these materials are not available for public use. It is strongly recommended that all visitors to the MIRD carry out thorough sanitizing efforts upon returning home, or bring their own sanitizer with them, if they wish to sanitize their person at the depot.

It should also be noted, that the solid waste fees have gone up in 2020. The annual residential garbage and recycling fees are now \$75.60 and \$95.50 respectively, with the 3 yard bin fee now \$205/3 months. The tipping fee at the transfer station is now \$3/bag or \$30/pickup load.

In regards to the [Regional Solid Waste Management Plan \(RSWMP\)](#) update, many Malcolm Islanders submitted responses to the community questionnaire, which are posted on our website <http://www.rdmw.bc.ca/regional-services/solid-waste/>.

The Regional District is committed to continuing the RSWMP process with meetings of the Advisory Committee to resume in a manner that is safe for participants, given the COVID-19 situation. For updates, including meeting minutes and other information, go to the link noted above.



Sointula Volunteer Fire Department—Recruits Wanted!

FIRE PROTECTION

Hey Sointula, look who is getting a Tesla! In 2020, the RDMW will be upgrading the fire hall with solar panels using Gas Tax funds. It allows the hall to function during emergencies by having reliable power during prolonged power disruptions. Anchoring the solar panels will be a Tesla Powerwall. Funding by Gas Tax means there will not be a hit to the fire department's budget!

In 2019, the current fire truck's debt was paid off in full. While paying off a large debt is usually a cause of celebration, it is also a cue to look to the future. The truck was built in 2006 and the usual expectation is that the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) will direct the department to replace the vehicle after 20 years of service. With limited use, excellent maintenance and operational testing, the RDMW is confident that we can get the FUS to approve the truck's service life being extended till 2031, an extra five years. The extension is critical as the community needs to build its reserves, which are just over \$35,000. It is projected that a pumper will cost about \$590,000 in 2031. In addition, the operational funding for the department needs help. New training guidelines have increased the expectation for fire fighters to complete courses, and equipment constantly needs to be maintained, or replaced. The department is very responsible in it's spending, having members in courses held on the North Island as opposed to paying for travel costs. Equipment has been purchased used from other departments, when possible, saving tens of thousands of dollars.

RDMW staff have proposed a financial plan that doubles the current tax requisition over six years. After this increase, the expectation is that funding will only be raised in proportion to inflation putting the department on a sustainable financial heading. The current funding bylaw for the fire department is insufficient to allow for this increase, so it will be updated in 2020. The RDMW will keep Sointula residents informed as to the process.

Finally, with COVID-19 raging, demands on the Fire Department could be immense so more volunteers are critical to spread the load. Whether 19 years old or recently retired, there is a need for the extra help. Contact Chief Tom Trimmer or Deputy Chief Glen Watson to see what you can do support the Sointula volunteers.

Electoral Area A Director	Volunteer Fire Department:	Planning & Development Services	Streetlight Service	Sewer Service
Sandra Daniels (250)-902-9131	Hall Fire (250)-973-6840	Jeff Long (250)-956-3301	Patrick Donaghy (250)-230-1505	Alden Barnett (250)-974-7074