



Hornby Island Fire Hall Renewal Select Committee Adjustment

During the Hornby Island Fire Hall Renewal Select Committee meeting in January of 2015, it was decided that the Select Committee be adjusted as follows:

Jim Garton, Chair & Hornby Resident

Bruce Jolliffe, Vice Chair & Area A Director

Andrew Carmichael, Hornby Resident

Tony Quin, Hornby Resident

The Select Committee recommended and the Board approved replacement of the Fire Chief position on the Select Committee. The Chief had been removed when he became an employee of the Comox Valley Regional District.

HORNBY ISLAND FIRE HALL PROJECT UPDATE

February 2015

Referendum Scheduled for April 18, 2015 After Alternate Approval Process Results

An alternative approval process (AAP) was conducted to seek elector approval to borrow \$1.6 million to help fund the new fire hall project. The AAP closed on January 15, 2015 and more than 10 per cent (83 or more electors) of the electors submitted valid response forms opposing the bylaw to borrow the funds. 212 valid elector response forms, which represent slightly more than 25% of the total electors, were submitted by the deadline.

Of the 212 valid response forms received, an additional eight forms were received; however, the electors who submitted those forms had subsequently asked, in writing, to have their forms removed from the count. Those additional forms are not included as part of the total number of valid forms.

A Select Committee meeting was held following completion of the AAP and, based on the results, the Committee requested that a referendum be held in the spring. A referendum is the mechanism by which the CVRD board must obtain assent of the electors if it wishes to proceed with the bylaw. After discussion, Saturday, April 18th, 2015 was chosen as the date for the referendum. We hope you come out to vote!

Questions & Answers

Q. Who gets to take part in the referendum process?

A. All qualified voters in the Hornby Island fire protection service can vote. That includes resident electors and non-resident property electors.

Q. What is the current status of the road access grade?

A. The select committee reviewed a report that investigated various guidelines for access/egress grades for emergency services vehicles. These guidelines ranged from 2% to 23%. The proposed driveway slopes up to Central Road at a maximum grade of 7.5%. The fire department and the select committee are com-

fortable that emergency services vehicles will be able to respond without time delays using the proposed driveway. The civil engineer for this project is doing further reviews on the proposed driveway grades. This information should be available on the web site in the next couple of weeks.

Q. Why has the construction cost estimate varied through the process?

A. The design process has been reviewed and changed throughout the past year in response to fire hall committee design changes and community feedback. The CVRD website has reflected these changes as the process evolved. The present cost estimate is \$1.9 million, which includes \$200,000 in grants from

the Community Works Fund (Gas Tax) and \$100,000 from reserves.

Q. Do the firefighters support the present design of the fire hall?

A. At the present cost estimate of \$1.9 million, the fire department fully supports the design.

Q. During the open house in November, there was some discussion about the roof line options - flat vs sloped. Is there an update?

A. At the open house, there was general support for the sloped roof option if there was no or minimal cost increases for this option. The design team has submitted drawings of the two options to Passive House suppliers for costing feedback and are awaiting a response.

Hornby Island Fire Hall Project

The website link is available at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/hornbyisland-firehall

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