

QUARTERLY UPDATE

April 1 - June 30, 2023



The Quarterly Update is released four times yearly to communicate progress on active projects and initiatives in the Fraser Valley Regional District.

ADMINISTRATION

A review of the FVRD's Code of Responsible Conduct Policy was completed. Adopted in 2018, this policy promotes responsible and ethical conduct by local government officials and establishes shared standards and expectations, and acknowledges that individual elected officials are committed to conducting themselves responsibly and ethically.

An Accessibility Advisory Committee has been created to make recommendations to the Board on the development of an accessibility plan. This plan will help identify, remove, and prevent barriers that keep individuals from full and equal participation in all FVRD programs and services.

The Board of Variance heard an application for a property at 7-8953 Shook Road in Area G to allow the property owner to complete a structural alteration to a non-conforming structure. To learn more about the Board of Variance, visit fvrd.ca/bov.

CORPORATE SERVICES

Finance

The Finance team focused on financial reporting this quarter and some of the highlights include:

- » The 2022 Audit Finding Report was presented to Board along with the 2022 Consolidated Financial Statements for both the FVRD and FVRHD.
- » The Local Government Financial Report was compiled and submitted to the Province
- » The Community Works Fund Annual Expenditure Report was completed and submitted to UBCM
- » The Statement of Financial Information was compiled and presented to the Board in June

In addition to reporting, budget preparation began this quarter. Other projects included finalizing asset appraisals, asset management, and preparation for asset retirement obligation reporting.

We also welcomed an Assistant Controller to work with our team, managing accounts payable and receivable, cash receipting, payroll, and general financial reporting.

Human Resources

Recruitment was in full swing in the Q2 with job postings in Animal Control, Engineering & Infrastructure, Integrated Planning and Engagement, Recreation Services, Building and Bylaw, and the Parks departments. Find current job opportunities at fvrd.ca/careers.

The FVRD also welcomed a new North Fraser Fire Chief and an Assistant Controller in the Finance Department.

FVRD staff also completed annual safety training this quarter.

Communications

This quarter, the Communications Department designed and produced two major publications: the Annual Report and the Hope & Area Summer Recreation Guide. The team also designed new and improved safety signage for the Fraser Valley Regional Airpark and produced fact sheets for the electoral areas to help better understand taxes. We also provided communications support for the Planning Department through web updates, mailers, Have Your Say, and public information meeting signage.

We also supported the Emergency Management Department with a successful public engagement contest for Emergency Preparedness Week in May. The team worked with other departments on communications plans and engagement support for major projects, such as the Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring Website, and the Cultus Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Have Your Say FVRD Statistics*

- » Current Projects: 8
- » Total visits: 2.3k
- » New registrants: 16
- » Engaged visitors: 13
- » Informed visitors: 614
- » Aware visitors: 1,328

Social Media Statistics*

The total number of social media posts in Q2:

- » FVRD: 178
- » Care Centre: 105
- » Hope Recreation: 19
- » Vedder River Campground: 1

Website Statistics*

- » Users: 53k
- » New visitors: 80.7%
- » Returning visitors: 19.3%
- » Page Views: 139,589

Media Relations*

- » News Stories: 13

*data collection period April 1 – June 26, 2023



A Facebook post about a long-term resident at the CARE Centre was the top-performing social media post during Q2 with 1,168 engaged users.

Fire Dispatch Management

Discussions with electricians are in the works for grounding electrical equipment at the fire halls. Work is expected to be completed in Q3.

The team re-wired and cleaned up the Abbotsford POC paging equipment at Abbotsford City Hall.

Radio filters were installed at North Fraser Firehall No. 3 in Area F.

Information Technology (IT)

Coordinated the installation of four new TELUS fibre optic lines at Yale Firehalls 1 & 2, Yale Pumphouse, and the Dogwood Valley Pumphouse.

Geographic Information Mapping (GIS)

The team supported the new floodplain bylaw by providing mapping.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Electoral Area Planning

EA Planning had a busy quarter including the processing of three development permits, two development variance permits, four subdivision review letters, one floodplain site-specific exemption, five ALC referrals, and four Crown referrals.

The Floodplain Management Bylaw and the Development Fee Bylaw were both adopted by the Board.

One major development rezoning application and the Housekeeping Zoning Bylaw amendment were brought in front of the Board for consideration and one rezoning application was adopted.

Public Hearings for the Cultus Lake Zoning Bylaw update and the Accessory Dwelling Unit implementation were held. Area C Official Community Plan Public Information Meeting #2 and Harrison Mills Neighbourhood Plan Public Information Meeting #6 were also held this quarter.

Bylaw Enforcement

The Bylaw team opened 35 new files and conducted 107 inspections this quarter. The team conducted 62 file reviews and mailed 26 letters to aid in closing or cancelling 16 files. The team is currently managing 432 active bylaw files.

Building Inspection

22 building permits were issued worth \$6.1 million in construction value and 335 inspections were completed.

Emergency Management

This quarter, the department received grant approvals for our Community Emergency Preparedness Fund EOC and ESS grant applications.

Emergency Management Program, a policy foundation, was approved and implemented.

In coordination with the Communications Team, we held a preparedness contest on Have Your Say FVRD during Emergency Preparedness Week in May.

An update to our Hazard Report and Emergency Management Plan is underway.

A hazard map that will visually show the intersectionality of hazards in our electoral areas overlaid with incidents during disasters is almost complete.

ENGINEERING & UTILITIES

The Cultus Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Validation Report was completed by the FVRD and its project partners and approved by the Board. The contractor is scheduled to mobilize into the site in early July.

The Engineering Team completed an update to the Chaumox Landfill Design Operation and Closure Plan.



Installation of an odour control unit on the holding tanks in Sunnyside Campground was completed and it improved the odour nuisance significantly.

Canyon Lanes' operating agreement between the FVRD and the Boston Bar/North Bend Bowling Association was renewed this quarter.

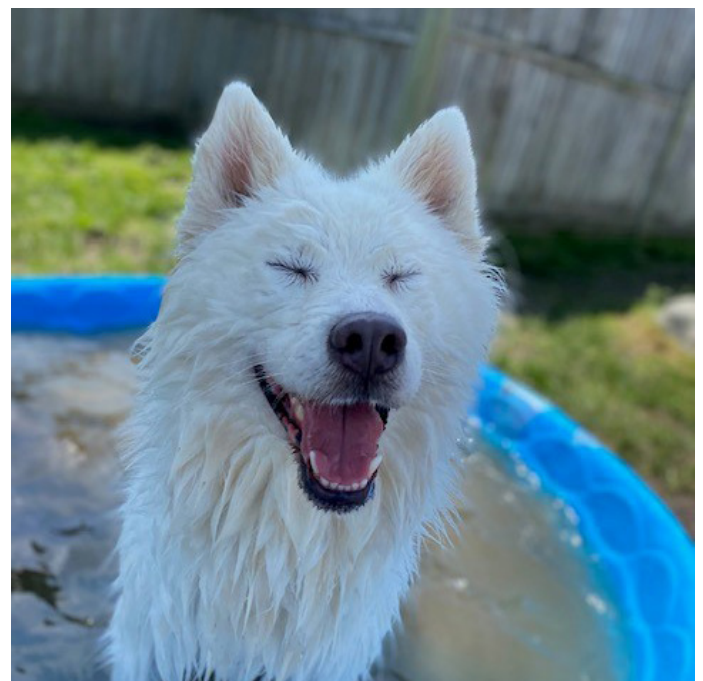
The Utilities Team completed the annual maintenance of valves, air releases, and hydrants and conducted several meter readings this quarter. The bulk water meter at Eagle Point Subdivision in Morris Valley in Area C was replaced. The department also conducted its annual physical and chemical water quality testing of all 14 FVRD water systems.

REGIONAL SERVICES

Animal Control

The Animal Control team impounded 100 dogs in the second quarter — a slight, but welcome reduction in numbers!

14 happy dogs left the CARE Centre for new homes and Animal Control officers conducted almost 600 park patrols this spring. A temporary part-time patroller position was added to assist with this growing need.



Precious Piper needs a home! Piper is a spayed female Samoyed & Husky mix who has been at the shelter since November 2022. Call 1-844-495-CARE or email adoptadog@fvrd.ca to inquire about Piper.

Environmental Services

The team has been working closely with Morrow Bioscience, the contractor for our Nuisance Mosquito Control Program. Their mosquito control technicians have been actively monitoring and treating floodwater mosquito breeding habitats in the region since May. To report unusually high levels of mosquitoes, please call Morrow Bioscience at 1-888-733-2333 or email mosquitoes@fvrd.ca.

Invasive weed season is underway, focussing on knotweed, wild chervil, tansy ragwort, and giant hogweed. To request a pickup of weeds you have collected and bagged from your property, contact the Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society at info@fviss.ca or 778-548-3847.

Air quality monitoring continues at the six air quality stations within the region. Two air quality advisories were issued this quarter due to exceedances of either ground-level ozone (May 15) or ozone and fine particulate matter (June 7).

Fire Protective Services

Fire departments attended 284 calls:

- » Fires: 82 calls
- » Medical emergencies: 113 calls
- » Assist public or other agencies: 14 calls
- » Motor vehicle incidents: 51 calls
- » Alarms: 21 calls
- » Mutual aid: 3 calls

Popkum, Yale and Hemlock Fire Departments held fundraiser events at their halls and material was provided on FireSmart, the Province's wildfire mitigation program.

Fraser Valley Regional Airpark

This quarter, improvements were made to the parking lot and a dedicated emergency lane was created.

A new outhouse facility was installed by the parking lot.

Integrated Planning and Engagement

Both the EA E & H and Chilliwack Tourism Partners Committees met twice this quarter to discuss destination management for the upcoming summer season.

The Request for Proposal for the Architectural Design for the Renovation and Restoration of the Boston Bar CN Station House was issued in May and closed in June.

In May, we welcomed a new Planner I, Indigenous Relations to the team.

The Cascade Lower Canyon Community Forest issued a record-setting \$175,000 disbursement to each of its three partners (the FVRD, District of Hope, and Yale First Nation).

In June, a Request for Proposals for the FVRD Active Transportation Network Plan was issued.

Recreation Services

In the arena, the ice was removed and we are now offering dry-floor rentals and a wide range of activities, including the ever-popular pickleball, as well as other drop-in sports.

Our aquatics program continues to make a splash with our Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross programs filled to the maximum capacity. This overwhelming response reflects the community's strong commitment to water safety and lifeguarding.

Fitness enthusiasts have been flocking to our facility, and the new TRX fitness class has been a resounding success. The class has attracted an increasing number of participants looking for a challenging and versatile total body workout. Additionally, our Blended Aquafit program continues to maintain a steady attendance, providing a refreshing and engaging water-based exercise experience for all.

We are thrilled with the success of our recent Little Chefs and Mad Scientist program. These engaging programs offer children the chance to explore their culinary and scientific interests in a fun and educational setting.

Move for Health Day on May 10th was a tremendous success with an incredible 71 memberships purchased in a single day, surpassing any other day of the year. It was inspiring to see our community come together and prioritize their health and well-being. Furthermore, we are excited to share that Hope is actively participating in the ParticipAction Community Challenge, striving to become the most Active Community in Canada this year.

We are currently in full planning mode for our exciting summer day camps. Among the themed weeks, we are excited to offer Little Picasso, where campers can unleash their creativity through a variety of art-related activities. Additionally, we are organizing captivating trips to the zoo and the Vancouver Aquarium, providing campers with unforgettable experiences and unique opportunities for learning and exploration. Stay tuned for more details, and secure your spot to ensure your child's spot in an extraordinary summer adventure.

Regional and Community Parks

High water from Freshet closed Dewdney Regional Park in Area G for a couple of weeks and it reopened on June 1.

Gatehouses open for the season on June 26 and fees will be in effect at Island 22 and Dewdney Regional Parks.

At Cascade Falls, bridge infrastructure repairs and parking lot improvements were completed.

In Area H, the Lakeside trail section from Sunnyside Campground to Entrance Bay was completed which was made possible by a provincial grant.

We also completed the planting of an additional 26 street trees in the community of Popkum in Area D.



The Boardwalk at Popkum Community Trail in EA D was replaced, the trail section was improved and the parking area was expanded.

Regional Strategic Planning & Initiatives

Work on the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) update continues with the newest draft of the plan (December 2022) posted at haveyoursay.fvrd.ca/rgs. This quarter, we continued meeting with staff from member municipalities, representatives from Indigenous communities and others to share the latest draft. It is hoped that the Board will begin the adoption process for the Fraser Valley Future 2050 RGS in mid-2023.

The RGS Monitoring Report was presented to the Board in early Q2. The monitoring report is the main component of the RGS monitoring program, which is a requirement of the Local Government Act. The objective of a monitoring program is to assess the progress of the RGS by observing and evaluating trends associated with its goals and policies. In late June we launched our RGS monitoring program website, fvrd.ca/rgsmonitoring, which provides an introduction to RGS monitoring indicators and links visitors to more detailed reports containing analysis and evaluation of monitoring indicators.



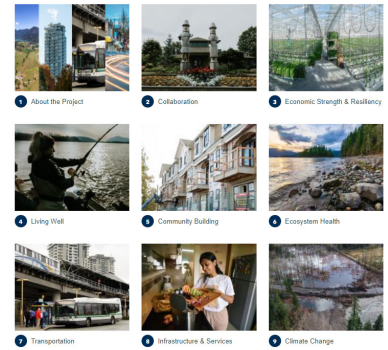
COLLECTION

RGS Monitoring

Explore the monitoring indicators and interactive maps associated with the goals and policies within the Fraser Valley Regional District's Regional Growth Strategy (RGS).

Last updated: June 2023

Get started



Visitors to the RGS monitoring website can explore interactive maps and embedded content to further their understanding of the region.

Work continues with BC Transit to finalize the FVRD components of the Chilliwack and FVRD Transit Future Action Plan (TFAP). The focus of the TFAP is on ridership recovery and continued improvement of the Chilliwack, Agassiz-Harrison, Hope, and Fraser Valley Express (FVX) transit systems over the next five years. Work has started on the introduction of BC Transit's UMO electronic fare system. More information will be coming over the next few months about this exciting initiative which will launch in the fall of 2023. The Board also endorsed adding bus capacity for the FVX to address capacity issues, especially between Abbotsford and Burnaby, which we hope to implement in the fall of 2023.

Vedder River Campground

The campground opened for the season on March 31. Phase one of repairs/improvements were completed which included the A-Row redesign, a new basketball court and a new playground. The newly redesigned A-Row opened to campers on April 6, in time for the Easter long weekend.