



April 2023 Newsletter

Hello Fellow Northwest Nanoose Residents,

The RDN is holding a Special Board Meeting at the Qualicum Civic Centre at 130pm on this **Tuesday, April 18th** to hear any delegations appearing in regards to the proposed amendment to the service area, and taxation formula for the **Ravensong Aquatic Centre**. They will also be receiving the consultant's report that has been done along with the RDN staff report. These are the only items on the Agenda.

Your Board will be appearing as a delegation and we are aware of 3 other delegations that plan to appear. All known delegations are from Area E, Nanoose Bay, and are opposing being included in the service area. **You are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting to show support for the delegations**, and even better if you were to apply to appear as your own delegation.

Also:

The Board of Directors of the Northwest Nanoose Residents Association met on March 27th and therefore we are taking this opportunity to give you an update. In this email update you will find a link to the minutes and topics included, though not limited to:

- 1) Treasurer's Report
- 2) Membership Level Update
- 3) NNRA Secretarial Office Appointment
- 4) Update on a Delegation appearing at the RDN Board meeting on March 28th
- 5) Meeting with MLA Adam Walker
- 6) Meeting with Mayor Doug O'Brien
- 7) Ravensong Special Board Meeting April 18th
- 8) Application for Emergency Preparedness Funding
- 9) FireSmart Program

You will find the minutes of the meeting posted on the Association's web page at http://www.nnra.ca/meetings/NNRA-March_27_2023_Minutes.pdf

Members of the Board since met with the MLA Adam Walker and the following week with the Mayor of Parksville, Doug O'Brien. Both meetings were received very well and went for an hour each rather than the scheduled 20 minutes. Both seemed interested in our position and were understanding our frustration with the process and potentially being forced to be included into the service area.

Membership

The annual membership for a Household remains at \$10 annually. If you would like to be a member so that our voice represents a larger number of residents in the area and to support the Board in its endeavours please give your \$10 to one of the Board members noted below or contact the treasurer Michael Kosich at mksosich@gmail.com.

Ravensong Aquatic Centre Background Information

*** The RDN is trying to add Area E (Nanoose Bay) to surrounding areas in order to expand their tax base to help pay for the Ravensong Aquatic Centre in Qualicum by amending Bylaw 899**

*** Nanoose has not been contributing to the pool since its inception in 1993, we were excluded by request;**

*** Nanoose has 13% of the area's population;**

*** Nanoose has 18% of the area's property assessment;**

*** 3.9% of the usage was by Nanoose residents in 2015 (down 18% from 2010);**

*** under the proposed formula Nanoose will be paying 12% of the cost of the pool;**

*** the RDN is using the 2022 budget for calculations and there is forecasted to be a 43.4% increase in the pool budget by 2026;**

*** with 2022 (last year) budget numbers Nanoose property owners will be paying \$8.82 per \$100,000 of assessment (2023 budget forecasts \$9.70 per \$100,000 = 11% increase)**

*** the change will be mandated by the balance of the area as we only have 1 vote at the table, or only 13% of the population if it goes to referendum;**

The equitable solution would be for the formula to be based 100% on usage, and updated every 5 years;

The Northwest Nanoose Residents Association did a presentation to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, the Fairwinds Community Association participated in the presentation, the Bylaw amendments needs to be approved by the Inspector of Municipalities.

The process and formula it is not Transparent, Equitable or Democratic as the voice of Nanoose residents only have 1/6 of the say at the Board, or 13% in a vote.

Steps You can take

- Appear at the Special RDN Board Meeting at 130pm Tuesday, April 18th at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre as support;
- Join the Association to show your support, and increase the numbers we are representing;
- Have your neighbours join;
- Apply to be a delegation at a RDN meeting and let them know your opinion;

Thank you for your interest, together we can get our Voice heard,

Rudi Widdershoven

on behalf of

The Board of Directors of Northwest Nanoose Residents Association (NNRA)

www.nnra.ca