



# UPFRONT

YOUR CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT NEWS  
FALL/ WINTER 2024



## let's TALK budget

### Budget 2025 Consultation

Keep your eyes peeled in January for information about how you can provide us with your thoughts about Budget 2025! As required by law, the CRD consults residents about its budget before it can be adopted, usually in March of each year. While each service budget has separate taxation proposals, the overall changes result in a total increase of 8.5% in the amount of funding required from property taxes. This varies by area depending on which services the property participates in, and can be impacted by different recreation services, fire departments, and other services.

Further review of the budget will be conducted in January following the release of the 2025 Assessment Roll, which informs the required requisition rates to fund services. Business Plans, Finance-Budget Committee agendas, and other information about the budget proposals can be found online.



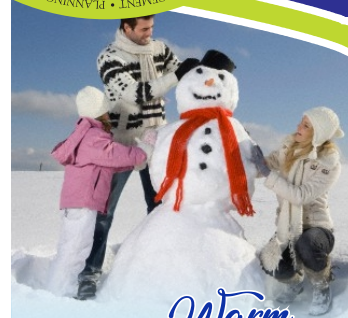
[cariboord.ca/budget](http://cariboord.ca/budget)



### Anahim Lake Airport Terminal Expansion Project Completed

The expansion to the Anahim Lake Airport Terminal building was completed in November 2024 thanks to funding contributions from NDI and the Province of BC. The expansion increases the ability of the airport to comfortably accommodate more passengers, especially in the winter months when outdoor spaces are less available. The terminal building supports not only scheduled passenger movement and medivacs, but also serves as administrative space for the airport and is available as an incident command centre to external agencies such as the RCMP and BC Wildfire Service.

This project recognizes the growing importance of this facility to the Chilcotin region's tourism economy, along with its critical role in connecting the Chilcotin to the world!



### Warm Holiday Wishes

#### Reminder: CRD Holiday Office Closure

The CRD offices in Williams Lake, 100 Mile and Quesnel will be closed for the holidays Wednesday, December 25th through to Wednesday, January 1st. Our offices will re-open on Thursday, January 2nd, 2025. Contact your community library for their holiday hours.

### Did you know that you can subscribe to updates on our CRD website?

#### Subscribe to CRD news that is important to you

Subscribe to news items like:

- CRD News & Newsletters
- Career Opportunities
- Emergency Operations
- Public Hearings and Notices
- CRD Water & Sewer Systems
- Garbage & Recycling
- Calendar Events

You also have the ability to subscribe to specific pages throughout the site to be notified as pages are updated with new information. Look for the subscribe button at the bottom of each page.



[cariboord.ca/subscribe](http://cariboord.ca/subscribe)





How much of what you give will end up as garbage?



**This holiday season, let's commit to creating more memories, and less garbage.**



## Yes, You Need a Building Permit

The Cariboo Regional District provides building inspection services to various areas throughout the region. Residents can visit the CRD website at [www.cariboord.ca](http://www.cariboord.ca) to find out if they are in a building inspection service area or call their local CRD office to speak with someone in the Building Inspection Department.

Depending on the location within the region, building permits may be required for a wide variety of structures. The following summary list offers some common examples of projects requiring permits:

1. New Dwellings
2. Ancillary structures over 20 square metres (215 sq feet)
3. Decks over 0.6 metres (2 feet) in height above the ground
4. Decks "of any height" attached to dwelling
5. Mobile home placement
6. Mobile home additions
7. New Plumbing
8. Modifications "or repairs" to existing plumbing
9. Installation of a wood stove
10. Structural alteration
11. Renovations over \$25,000
12. Demolition
13. Building Relocation
14. Change of occupancy
15. Commercial building

The above list is provided for informational purposes only. We encourage all residents and property owners to check with the CRD Building Department before you start building or renovating. Knowing you have the right answers and the necessary permits before you begin can help avoid needless expense, wasted time, and disappointment.

## Are you registered for the Cariboo Chilcotin Emergency Notification System through Voyent Alert!?

With Voyent Alert!, residents receive personalized alerts tailored to locations important to them, ensuring timely and relevant updates when you need them most.

Whether it's a boil water advisory or an evacuation alert/order, you'll have the information you need to act quickly and confidently.

Don't wait—download the app today or register online.

## Registering Has Never Been Easier

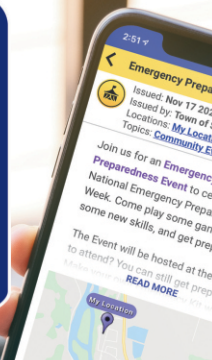
**Mobile app users** - Download and install the Voyent Alert! app from the Apple App or Google Play stores. The app is the most fully featured way to experience the system and manage your information. With the app, you can also register for other locations that use Voyent Alert! throughout the country, for peace of mind while you travel.

**OR register online to receive email, voice or text-based alerts.**

Need assistance? Reach out to your member municipality or the CRD Emergency Program Services department at 250-392-3351.



If we can't reach you, we can't notify you.

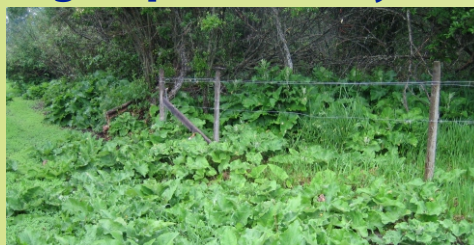


## CARIBOOCHILCOTIN EMERGENCYNOTIFICATIONSYSTEM



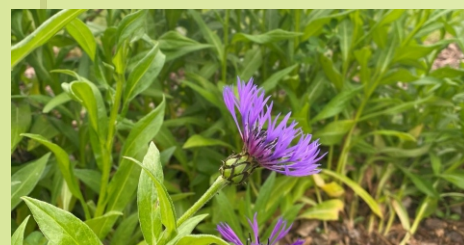
<https://register.voyent-alert.com>

## Sign Up in January for Invasive Plant Services



Do you have invasive weeds taking over your property and are unsure of the next steps? The CRD's invasive plant management program offers free property assessments under our Landowner Assistance program. These take place during our field season from May-September. First come first served, limited spots.

This service is offered to provide tools and knowledge to local landowners in an effort to help protect our ecosystems from invasive plants that threaten the biodiversity of the Cariboo.



Assessments can include: plant identification, information on severity of infestation, integrated pest management strategies (managing pests in an effective, economical and environmentally sound way), best management practices to prevent spread, and time to answer any questions you may have.

Applications open January 1st, 2025. Apply online and see our other treatment services for Landowners at: [www.cariboord.ca/invasive-plants](http://www.cariboord.ca/invasive-plants)



## Help keep history alive in the Cariboo!

The Heritage Steering Committee is looking for volunteer committee members. This is a great opportunity to share your love of local history and preserve it for future generations. If you are interested, submit an expression of

interest and summary of your experience to [mailbox@cariboord.ca](mailto:mailbox@cariboord.ca) for consideration.

Want to know more about Heritage Conservation in the Cariboo? Visit [www.cariboord.ca/heritage](http://www.cariboord.ca/heritage)

## Environmental Services Focuses on Sustainable Utilities with Asset Management Inventory

The Environmental Services Department is embarking on a vital project to strengthen the region's utilities infrastructure. The team is developing a comprehensive asset management inventory—a crucial tool for assessing the condition, capacity, and sustainability of our water and sewer systems.

Asset management involves identifying, cataloging, and analyzing the physical assets that make up our utilities infrastructure, such as water mains, sewer lines, wells, pump stations, and treatment facilities. By understanding the age, condition, and performance of these assets, the department can plan more effectively for maintenance, upgrades, and replacements.

For water systems, this means ensuring a reliable supply of clean, safe drinking water while reducing the risk of costly emergencies

like pipeline failures or service interruptions. For sewer systems, it ensures the safe and efficient removal of wastewater, protecting public health and the environment.

In the long term, this approach will enable the Environmental Services Department to make informed decisions about infrastructure investments, minimize costs through proactive maintenance, and extend the lifespan of critical assets. For residents, this translates to better service reliability, enhanced environmental protection, and more predictable utility costs.

This forward-thinking initiative is a key step toward building a sustainable, resilient utilities systems that supports our growing communities now and in the future. Stay tuned for updates as we continue this important work!



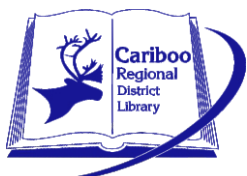
## Know your Zone before you Build!

Even if you are not in a building inspection area, your property is subject to zoning and land use bylaws which restrict what you can build on your property and use land for. Zoning restrictions include limits on how much of your property can be developed, the size of primary and secondary dwellings, and the type of building you place on your property.

Before you consider construction of any structures on your property, we strongly encourage you to complete a zoning request form. This ensures that you are aware of and can comply with all applicable development restrictions before investing significant funding in your project. Properties which are developed contrary to the applicable zoning bylaw may be subject to fines or other enforcement actions.

You can check your property's zoning online using our Property Viewer portal and submit a zoning request form online.

<https://www.cariboord.ca/zoning/>



## Learn to Sign with the CRD Library

The Cariboo Regional District Library is enhancing its offerings by acquiring a subscription to Mango Languages with ASL Inside, bringing a comprehensive American Sign Language (ASL) learning tool to our patrons. This interactive platform allows individuals of all ages to learn ASL at their own pace, directly from their devices. Whether you are a beginner or looking to refine your skills, this user-friendly service caters to all levels of learners. Starting in January 2025,

library members will have free access to engaging lessons and interactive content that emphasizes conversational skills and practical vocabulary in ASL. This innovative resource is designed to foster communication and inclusion, making our community more connected and reaffirms our commitment to improving accessibility within our services. To access the ASL-learning tool, simply visit the library's website or stop by the library for more information on how to get started.

## WE ARE HIRING

The CRD has current career opportunities within our organization. Do you know someone with great customer service skills and a passion for building communities together?



[cariboord.ca/careers](http://cariboord.ca/careers)

Encourage them to visit our website today to discover where they might be a great fit! You can also subscribe on our homepage under latest news to receive emails each time a new career is posted.



# Winter Holiday Safety Tips

Brought to you by your CRD Volunteer Fire Departments



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together; but, that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.
- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Turn off all light strings, tree lights and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## Facts

⚠ More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles.

⚠ More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



## Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Emergency Operations Centre After Action Reviews

As part of continued efforts to improve emergency management in the Cariboo-Chilcotin, the Cariboo Regional District recently completed a series of after-action reviews. These focused on reviewing how the Cariboo Regional District responded to wildfires and the Chilcotin River landslide. Sessions took in feedback and input from individuals representing provincial agencies, First Nations, Indigenous governing bodies, emergency response organizations, and personnel who participated in the CRD's Emergency Operations Center.

Participants spent three days reflecting on aspects of the response which went well, challenges experienced during the response phase, and opportunities to improve emergency response processes and practices going forward. The findings from these after action reviews will be used to assess the Cariboo Regional District's emergency management practices and structure and identify areas for continued development.



**We are actively looking for community minded, motivated individuals to join our VFD & CCSAR teams to provide vital services to our communities.**

Our CRD Volunteer Fire Department and Search & Rescue members are currently needed to provide critical public safety services to their neighbours. Training, equipment, and personal protective equipment are all provided... all you do is provide the time and commitment. To become a member in this industry is to become part of a family of safety professionals. It also provides you with new skills and community building opportunities.

Reach out to your local VFD or CCSAR to consider being part of one of these valuable public safety teams along with your friends and neighbours.



Join your local VFD



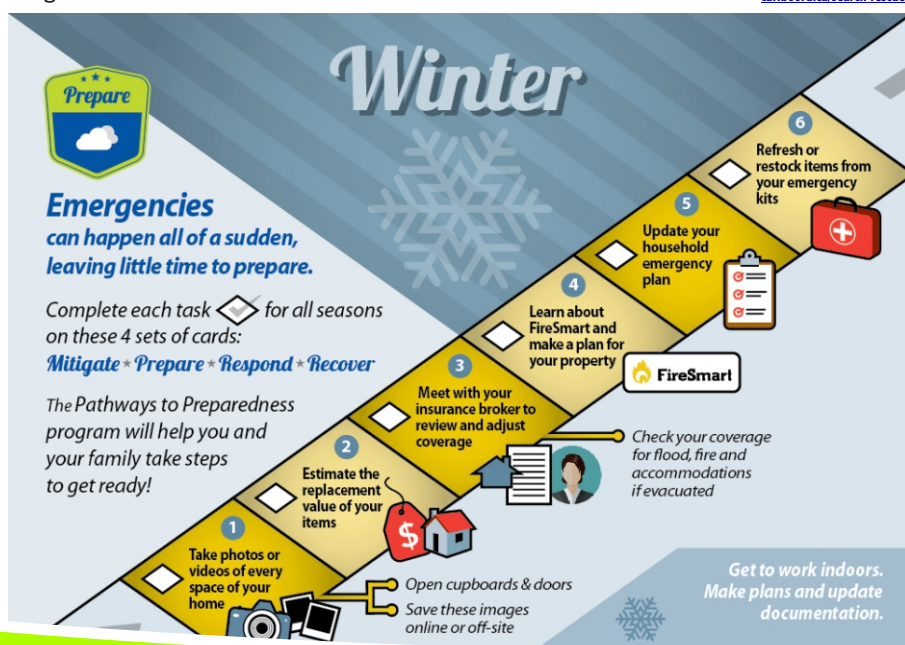
[cariboord.ca/Join-Now](http://cariboord.ca/Join-Now)



Join our CCSAR team



[cariboord.ca/search-rescue](http://cariboord.ca/search-rescue)



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[cariboord.ca](http://cariboord.ca)