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## Happy New Year!

On December 2, 2008 Union Bay Improvement District representatives met with Minister Blair Lekstrom, Ministry of Community Development, to discuss outstanding concerns regarding infrastructure challenges and the consideration of restructure. A response was received on December 22, 2008 which indicated funding may be available via Regional District for infrastructure and that restructure would not be considered until after all the Regional District initiatives have been completed. Copy of the Minister's letter is available under NEWS at [www.union-bay.ca](http://www.union-bay.ca) or may be viewed at the Improvement District Office, 5539 S. Island Highway, Union Bay, BC. The Minister suggested working with the Regional District Area 'A' Director, Bruce Jolliffe and the Comox Valley Regional District staff to explore future possibilities.

Infrastructure challenges include fire hall replacement and water treatment to meet Ministry of Health standards. More information may be available for the Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7 p.m. Persons interested in becoming a trustee should contact the office to obtain more information.

Included with this newsletter is the water bill for January and February, the parcel tax bill for 2009 with the increased rate and revised payment schedule (more information on second page of this newsletter). **Please make note of due dates.**

### **Important Items to remember:**

- **People using direct debit for payment of PARCEL TAXES will have \$100 deducted on April 1, and September 1, 2009 unless the office is notified.**
- Visible house numbers – 4" inches high on houses or at the roadside for emergency response purposes are suggested.
- Meter boxes are to be clear of all items. Failure to do so will result in a service charge to clear the box. Notices will be given with a time frame for completion.
- Landowners are not to tamper with the meter boxes or shut off the valves in the meter boxes. Call the waterworks department 250-703-8078 to make required arrangements.
- Chimneys should be cleaned on a regular basis during the season. Chimney brushes are available at the Union Bay Garage.
- Visit the website [www.union-bay.ca](http://www.union-bay.ca) to keep current on the bylaws, meetings and other improvement district information.
- Send us your email address if you would like to receive updates by email.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Union Bay Improvement District has been mandated by legislation – Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulations to provide water under the 4-3-2-1 Treatment Policy as adopted by the Vancouver Island Health Authority in November 2007. In order to meet that mandate water filtration is required for the water being drawn from Langley Lake due to the high turbidity levels, colour and organics.

The Minister of Community Development mandated that the Comox Valley Regional District would implement a regional water commission, similar to that of the Capital Regional District. While the implementation process is underway it is yet to be determined if the existing water source for Union Bay will be included in that regional system or will remain to stand alone system.

Therefore it is imperative to take steps to prepare to take the appropriate action to meet the requirements of the regulations and the mandated actions. The increase in parcel taxes is necessary to acquire funds for these upgrades of the existing system.

New development in the area will provide infrastructure and additional funds to supplement improvements in the treatment process. The initiation of development is still an unknown at this time and the UBID must provide a plan to address the outstanding issues.

The parcel tax increase will support the annual payments for a \$500,000 loan over 20 years or provide approximately \$70,000 in annual income to acquire funds for renewal and required upgrades.

### **UNION BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BYLAW NO. 216**

#### **Taxation Bylaw 2009**

A bylaw for imposing taxes upon lands in the District and to provide for imposing a percentage addition to encourage prompt payment thereof.

The Trustees of the Union Bay Improvement District **ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

1. For the year 2009 there is hereby levied the following taxes:
  - (a) A tax of \$200.00 on all parcels of land classified into Group "A".
  - (b) A tax of \$0.00 on all parcels of land classified into Group "B"
2. The first installment of \$100.00 shall be due and payable on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2009. The second installment of \$100 shall be due and payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2009 and a percentage addition of 10 per centum of the amount thereof shall be added to all taxes remaining unpaid after the said dates.
3. In addition, taxes remaining unpaid on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March next following the date upon which taxes are levied shall bear interest at the rate prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under the Taxation (Rural Area) Act, as set out under Section 760 of the *Local Government Act*.
4. This bylaw may be cited as the "Taxation Bylaw, 2009".