



**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013**

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**SUBJECT    GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**ISSUE**

To update the Environmental Services Committee on Environmental Services Department initiatives.

**BACKGROUND**

**K-12 Education Initiative**

Similar to the "Green 365" campaign (presented earlier this year) in support of implementing the new integrated departmental approach, the Environmental Services Department has also created the Environmental Education Development Initiative and has recruited a two-year term position, hosted in the Environmental Partnerships Division.

The position supports Capital Regional District (CRD) strategic priorities, in particular fostering regional environmental stewardship by engaging youth and educators in our region. This initiative will build relationships with regional educators to raise awareness of current local environmental issues, regional services and educational resources; promote, develop and enhance existing CRD learning resources, ensuring provincial prescribed learning outcomes are incorporated with the CRD's integrated and holistic approach; and provide opportunities to collaborate with external education agencies, to leverage CRD campaigns and promote other educational opportunities. The goal is to ensure the CRD develops engaging and inspiring educational resources for youth in our region, while working collaboratively and supportively with regional educators.

Highlights to date:

- **Creation of the My Green High School Plan Campaign**, a new initiative building on the residential Green 365 fall themed campaign. This campaign offers regional secondary school teams an opportunity to create, submit and implement green plans with a chance to be granted funds to implement sustainable programs in their schools. This is a partnership between the CRD, BC Hydro and the Community Social Planning Council
- **New partnership with the University of Victoria Education Department**, making CRD learning resources available and accessible for teachers in training.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Environmental Services Committee receive the General Manager's Report for information.

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Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager  
Parks & Environmental Services