

THOMPSON-NICOLA REGIONAL DISTRICT

The Region of BC's Best

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NOTICE

Fall 2024 Public Meeting Dates for Official Community Plan Consultation in Four Electoral Areas

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) is continuing public consultation for planning of a new Official Community Plan (OCP) in four Electoral Areas with community meetings scheduled to take place throughout October 2024.

The TNRD is in the process of creating a new OCP for Electoral Areas "L" (Grasslands) and "P" (Rivers and the Peaks), and also for Electoral Areas "M" (Beautiful Nicola Valley – North) and "N" (Beautiful Nicola Valley- South). These two new OCPs will cover the entirety of each Electoral Area and replace existing OCPs that cover only portions of these areas.

An OCP is the vision a community has for its future. It contains goals and policies that will shape future land use to reflect the community's long-term expectations. An OCP influences many aspects of a community including infrastructure, recreation, and land uses such as residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural. Updating current, outdated OCPs in the affected Electoral Areas will ensure consistent development guidelines and reflect new growth that has occurred over many years. Public engagement is an important part of this process to understand the priorities of each community, which form the foundation of an OCP. Engagement opportunities are available throughout this planning process.

Community meetings will take place between October 1 and 17, 2024. All meetings are scheduled from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Meeting dates and locations are as follows:

Electoral Areas "L" and "P" OCP:

- October 1: Chase Community Hall
- October 2: Rivershore Clubhouse
- October 3: Pritchard Community Hall
- October 7: Westwold Community Hall
- October 8: Pinantan Elementary School Gym* (6:30 to 8:30 pm)
- October 9: Knutsford Hall
- October 10: Heffley Community Hall

Electoral Areas "M" and "N" OCP:

- October 15: Lower Nicola Community Hall
- October 17: Merritt Civic Centre

Each community meeting will begin with an open house for participants to learn more about the OCP project through interactive poster boards, and engage staff on specific topics. Open house MUNICIPASARSIONS will be followed by facilitated conversations about different aspects of the OCP.

Kamloops | Logan Lake | Lytton | Merritt | Sun Peaks

Through a survey launched in the spring 2024, more than 350 combined responses have been received from residents in affected Electoral Areas, and information and key summaries from responses received to date will be included in the facilitated conversations portion of these community meetings.

In addition to in-person meetings, at least one online meeting session will be scheduled in the coming months for those who cannot attend in-person meetings and would like to provide input on the OCP process.

Feedback through our survey and upcoming in-person events will be summarized in a What We Heard Report, which will be available publicly later this year.

For more information, visit each of the OCP project webpages: <u>tnrd.ca/lp-ocp-2024</u>, or <u>tnrd.ca/mn-ocp-2024</u>.