## An objective look at the proposed North Cariboo Multi-Centre Project

## "YES" vs. "NO" Vote - Exploring the Options...

A referendum is an opportunity to gain approval from the public on a certain issue. Too often, it is seen as something that is won and lost. But who is to say that a "Yes" or "No" vote is a win or a loss? Our system of representation is built upon the ideal that people are allowed to have their say in how their affairs are managed. It is not up to government to dictate the direction of that management; it is up to government to carry out that direction.

**Source: Community Excellence Awards, Best Practices** 

http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/practices innovations/north cariboo multi centre communications stra tegy--cariboo rd and city of quesnel--2009.pdf

On November 9, 2013 residents of the **North Cariboo Recreation & Parks** function are will be asked to vote in a Referendum relating to **Bylaw 4396**. The referendum question for voting will be presented as follows:

"Are you in favour of the Cariboo Regional District extending its authorization to borrow up to \$15,000,000 to provide for the construction of a new arena, theatre and multi-purpose event space for a further two year period to allow fundraising efforts to continue?"

Bylaw 4396 currently expires on December 12, 2013 and was enacted on December 12, 2008 based upon the following Referendum question being asked in November, 2008:

"Are you in favour of the Cariboo Regional District adopting i) Loan Authorization Bylaw 4396 to borrow up to \$15,000,000 and ii) Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw 4395 to increase the North Cariboo Recreation and Parks function taxation limit to a maximum of the greater of \$3.2095/\$1,000 of assessed value of land and improvements or \$4,900,000 to provide for the construction of a new arena, theatre and multi-purpose event space."

The November, 2008 Referendum passed by 52%. As North Cariboo Recreation & Parks is a shared function of parts of Electoral Areas A, B, C and I and the City of Quesnel the results were pooled and eligible voters could vote at any polling station. Based upon the results of the polling stations, the referendum failed in the Cariboo Regional District and passed in the City of Quesnel. Overall the referendum passed. 1878 (35%) residents voted at the CRD polling stations with 3416 (65%) voting in the City of Quesnel.

## What does YES mean vs NO ... some options

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- Fundraising will continue on for 2 more years (until December 12, 2015).
- Additional pre-taxation funds will be spent on fundraising.
- Local Government Election (fall, 2014).
- If \$15 million is not raised, the Bylaw 4396 will expire.
- Pledged Funds expire if project does not proceed
- If project proceeds, pledgers could receive tax deductible receipt once they make their actual donation

NO

Bylaw 4396 expires on Dec. 12, 2013

- Project in current form ceases
- Pledged Funds expire
- Funds collected by donation over \$100 where no tax deductible receipt has been issued will be refunded.
- "Plan B"
- Different Location
- Different Structure
- Refurbish or Replace Existing Arena
- Renovate an existing building for theatre
- All funds collected not eligible for a refund will go into the NCRP reserve
- Monies raised through events or raffles will not be refunded and will remain in the reserve.
- Remaining funds will remain in the reserve and must be used for capital improvements to recreation facilities that are part of NCRP function.