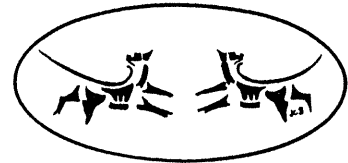


**REGIONAL DISTRICT
OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN/
PENTICTON INDIAN BAND
PRESS RELEASE
February 23, 2009**



PENTICTON INDIAN BAND

Regarding Wild Horses

Director Michael Brydon, Electoral 'F' Director, will bring a Notice of Motion to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen February 26, 2009 Board meeting requesting staff to investigate the Wild Horse issue and create a task force to facilitate a solution to this issue.

Director Brydon stated, "This has been a long-standing problem along the west side of Okanagan Lake and previous Area F directors have invested significant time and effort looking for a solution. But what I am hearing more and more is that the status quo is unacceptable."

Although roaming horses are regulated Provincially under the Livestock Act, regional districts in British Columbia are permitted to provide any service approved by a majority of residents in the service area.

"My own view is that the time for finger-pointing is over," said Brydon. "Residents of Area F are looking to the RDOS take a formal leadership role. We can do this—we can bring all the stakeholders to the table and make sure all the alternatives are carefully considered."

The Penticton Indian Band Chief and Council are in agreement with the RDOS to act on this matter towards finding a solution concerning the wild horses. Chief Jonathan Kruger states, "The Penticton Indian Band has discussed this matter with the RDOS and are in favor of a collaborative process to address this issue for the best outcome for both communities."

The Regional District Board meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 am on February 26th at the Regional District Office, 101 Martin Street, Penticton, BC.



D. Ashton
RDOS Board Chair

"J. Kruger"

J. Kruger
PIB Chief

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