

PROPOSED NEW RECREATION SERVICE FAQ



South Cariboo Recreation & Culture



100 Mile House

QUICK FACTS

- The proposed new service will pay for existing South Cariboo Recreation & Culture services, plus include the ability to pay for a new major project, such as an aquatic facility.
- The new service will include all of Electoral Areas G, H and L and the District of 100 Mile House.
- Under the new service, we are asking for permission to tax up to \$100 per \$100,000 for all Area G, H, L and 100 Mile area properties.
- A referendum is planned for 2022 and all eligible Area G, H, L and 100 Mile House residents and property owners will be able to vote.

What is the proposed change to recreation services in the South Cariboo? The Cariboo Regional District is proposing to create a new South Cariboo Recreation and Culture service that includes all of South Cariboo Electoral Areas G, H and L and the District of 100 Mile House. This new service would support existing recreation facilities, such as the South Cariboo Recreation Centre, Martin Exeter Hall and the soccer fields, and be able to support construction and operation of a major new facility, such as an aquatic centre.

Why is the new service being proposed? The new service will more accurately reflect all the residents that benefit from the recreation facilities and activities that are important to the quality of life in the south Cariboo. These benefits can be direct for residents that use the facilities, or indirect such as through the important role recreation and culture plays in attracting and retaining people to the area, especially for locally underserved professions such as health care. The new service will also include a new taxation limit that can accommodate construction and operation of a major new facility such as an aquatic centre.

Current Services in the South Cariboo Recreation & Culture budget:

- South Cariboo Recreation Centre arena
- Martin Exeter Hall theatre complex
- Curling rink
- Ball fields
- Equestrian grounds
- Agriplex
- Walking trails
- New dog park
- 100 Mile and District Soccer Park fields
- Forest Grove curling club
- 108 Mile Lake beach maintenance





Why establish a new service rather than expand the existing one? Based on feedback from the public during initial consultation, the South Cariboo Joint Committee felt the proposal needed to include the potential for a major new recreation facility, such as an aquatic centre. A new service is required in order to accommodate the construction and operation of a major project that would provide benefits to all areas of the South Cariboo. The new service would replace the current South Cariboo Recreation and Culture service.

Where is the current boundary? The attached map shows the current sub-regional recreation taxation boundary, which includes communities such as the District of 100 Mile House, 108 Mile Ranch, Lone Butte and parts of Forest Grove, but does not include places like Lac La Hache, Canim Lake or the Interlakes area along Highway 24.

The map also shows the boundary for the proposed new recreation and culture service, which includes all of Electoral Areas G, H and L and the District of 100 Mile House.

What is the cost of the current recreation services? To deliver recreation and cultural services at the current facilities, \$740,000 is collected annually in taxation by the Cariboo Regional District. In 2020, this equated to a residential property taxation rate of about \$42 per \$100,000 of assessed value. This taxation revenue is supplemented by user fees and grant funding to complete the recreation and cultural services budget.

What will the cost be of the proposed new service? The new proposed annual taxation limit is \$3.75 million, which works out to a residential taxation rate of about \$100 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The cost of the new service will include delivering existing recreation and cultural services as well as the ability to increase taxation enough for the construction and operation of a major new facility, such as an aquatic centre.

The initial tax rate won't be \$100 per \$100,000 but the referendum will allow us to tax up to that limit. Any significant increase in taxation will only take place

when an aquatic centre or other major facility is constructed and in operation, or when contributions to capital reserves are increased in advance to prepare for construction.

How does this taxation for recreation and culture services compare to other areas of the Region? The North Cariboo Recreation and Parks function, which covers the Quesnel sub-regional recreation area, has a taxation limit of \$4.9 million and a 2020 taxation amount of \$3.99 million. The Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services function, which covers the Williams Lake sub-regional recreation area has a taxation limit of \$3.5 million and a 2020 taxation of \$3.14 million.

The 2020 residential tax rate for sub-regional recreation in the North Cariboo is \$138 per \$100,000 and the Central Cariboo is \$112.

When would the new service and taxation increase happen? If the proposed new service passes in the 2022 referendum, it will be in place for the taxation year of 2023. Initially, the current budget for recreation and cultural services will not change, meaning the

South Cariboo residents	Current Tax Rate	Proposed Tax Rate
Currently in the service	\$42 per \$100,000	Up to \$100 per \$100,000
Not currently in the service	\$0	Up to \$100 per \$100,000

Will recreation access passes still be required to use the facilities?

No. The intent of the rec passes is in lieu of taxation to share the cost of services with those facility users that currently live outside the taxation area. If the new recreation and culture service is established to include all of Electoral Areas G, H and L, the passes will no longer be required.



taxation rate will reflect only the costs of existing services. Any significant increase in taxation will only take place when an aquatic centre or other major facility is constructed and in operation.

Does this proposed new service include building an aquatic centre? The proposed new service taxation can accommodate the construction and operation of an aquatic centre. The intent is to develop an aquatic centre project as the second step to this process.

However, for an aquatic centre project to move ahead, a separate referendum will be required to finance construction. We expect to need significant grant funding along with up to \$15 million in borrowing to complete the project.

We will start working on an updated aquatic centre design and cost estimate if the 2022 referendum to establish the new recreation and culture service is successful.

Will any other recreation facilities or services be added? This proposed new service is focused on providing support for existing recreation and cultural facilities and establishing the taxation ability to accommodate the construction and operation of a major new facility such as an aquatic centre. However, we do plan to have discussions with stakeholder groups to determine whether other facilities may be appropriate to include in the future, including recreation and cultural assets in rural areas.

What is the process for establishing this new service? The initial direction for this change comes from the South Cariboo Joint

Committee, which is comprised of the Regional District Directors for Areas G, H and L along with the District of 100 Mile House Council. The recommendation from the joint committee was endorsed by the Regional District Board in March 2020.

When will the referendum take place? A referendum on the proposed new service is targeted for June 2022.

Originally, the goal was to hold a referendum on the topic in June 2020, but it was postponed to 2022 to make sure residents have the time they need to get information about the project and make an informed vote in a referendum.

The Cariboo Regional District will start public engagement on the project in 2021 and leading up to the referendum in 2022.

Who will get to vote in the referendum? All eligible voters that live or own property within the proposed new taxation area, which includes all of Electoral Areas G, H and L and the District of 100 Mile House, may vote in the referendum.

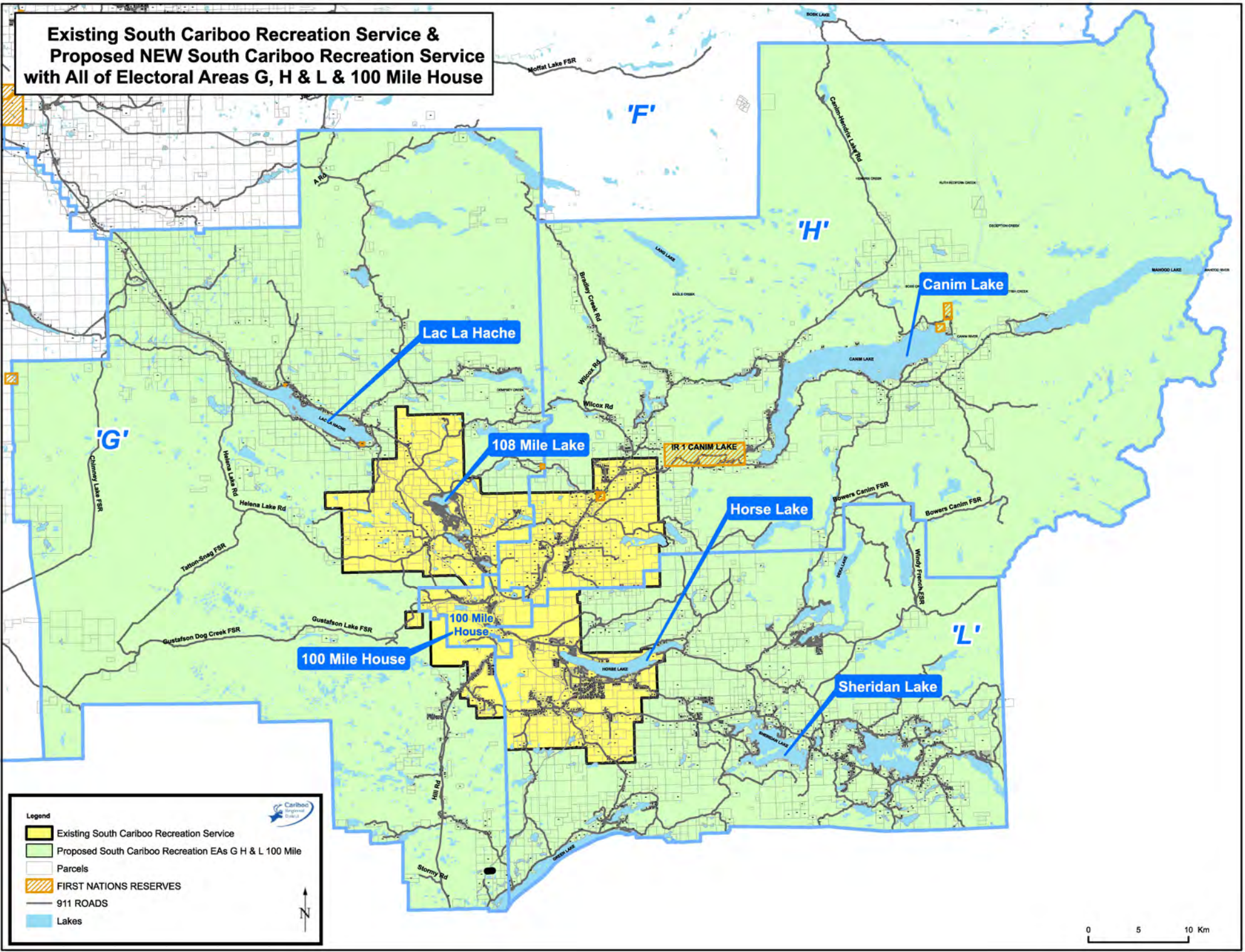
Seasonal residents that own property within the area, but live elsewhere, will be notified of the referendum via addressed mail and have the opportunity to register one vote for their property.

Where can I get more information? For more information, contact the Cariboo Regional District Manager of Community Services at 250-392-3351. Or visit our web site at cariboord.ca/southcariboorec or Facebook page at facebook.com/caribooregion.

South Cariboo Recreation & Culture activities:

- Theatre performances or concerts
- Dance classes
- Fitness classes
- Pickleball
- Volleyball/ basketball
- Teen yoga
- Baseball
- Soccer
- Hockey
- Trade shows and fairs
- Graduation
- Curling
- Archery
- Dog obedience or agility training
- Outdoor walking trails
- Equestrian events

Existing South Cariboo Recreation Service & Proposed NEW South Cariboo Recreation Service with All of Electoral Areas G, H & L & 100 Mile House



Legend

- Existing South Cariboo Recreation Service
- Proposed South Cariboo Recreation EAs G H & L 100 Mile
- Parcels
- FIRST NATIONS RESERVES
- 911 ROADS
- Lakes

