

Birch Island Fire Protection Area

Thompson Nicola Regional District

Electoral Area Director Forum

March 2026

# Background – Vavenby FD

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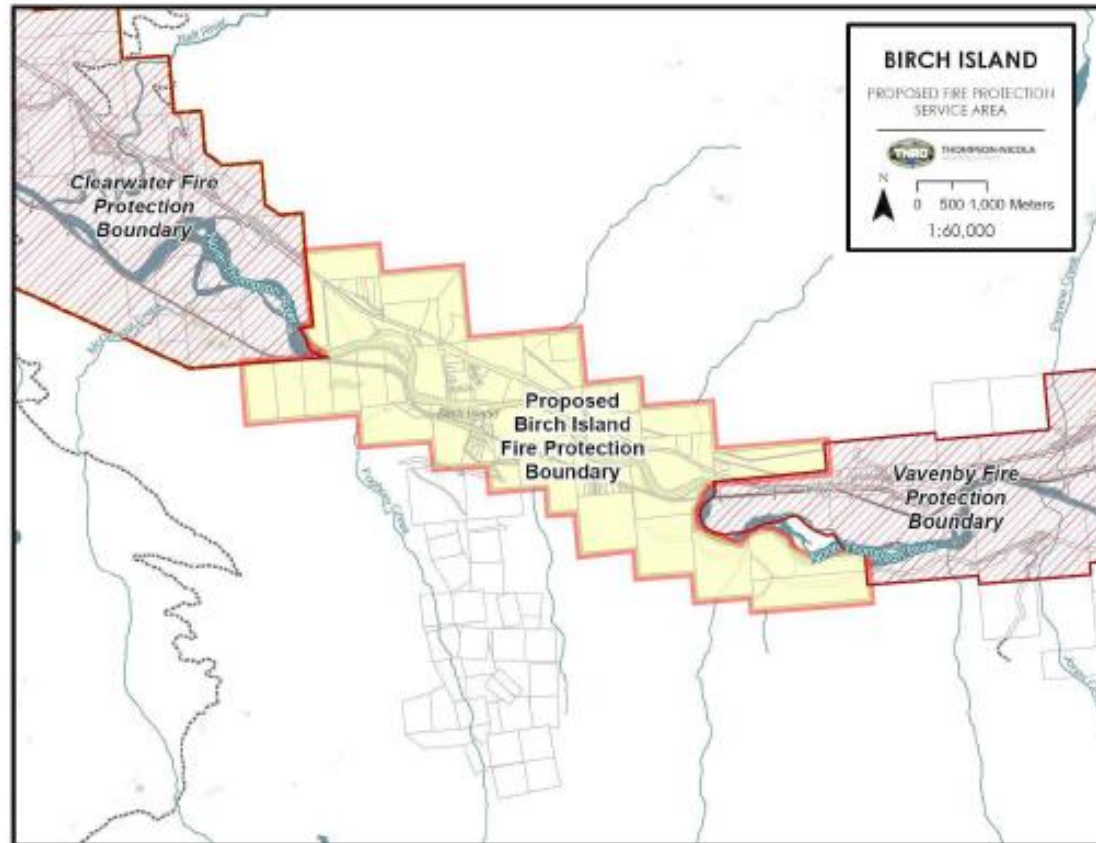
- Vavenby Fire Department is administered by the TNRD
- Has been in place for approximately 50 years
- The department is professional and well trained
- Presently there are 21 members
- There is a duty officer on call 24/7
- Newly renovated Vavenby Fire Hall
  - 6,100 Square Feet
  - Four Truck Bays
  - Training / Recreation area
  - 9 pieces of apparatus and special equipment



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# Proposed Service Area

The number of addresses in the proposed service area is 131.



# Community Survey

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Should the TNRD go ahead with an assent process?



[surveymonkey.com/r/birchislandfireprotection](https://surveymonkey.com/r/birchislandfireprotection)

## Public Assent

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Section 332 of the *Local Government Act* provides the TNRD with the authority to provides services.

Section 338 of the *Local Government Act* states that the Board must adopt a services establishment bylaw.

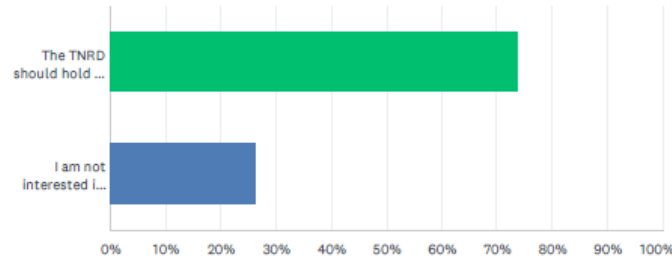
Confirmation of public assent to authorizing taxation is required



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### Q3 Please select the response that best describes your opinion on fire protection in Birch Island:

Answered: 65 Skipped: 0



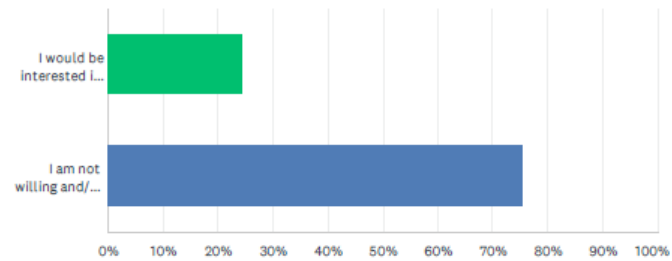
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
The TNRD should hold a public assent process (referendum or petition) to expand fire protection services to include Birch Island properties	73.85% 48
I am not interested in paying additional taxes for fire protection services	26.15% 17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65</b>

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):	DATE
My insurance company has said I will see no savings on insurance	
If we have fire protection we would expect to pay more taxes	Date-time stamps withheld under s. 22(1) of FIPPA
Should fall into our taxes as is (note: this paper copy selected both options for question #3)	
Unless house insurance goes down	
s. 22(1) the birch Island campground there is 6 residents that would want fire protection then the campground	
Desperately needed in our area please!	
Birch island needs fire protection with the amount people that live in the area!	
The cost running the services, in the future. Cost maintainance of equipment and building of upkepts.	
Unless my house insurance will go down significantly	
Please hold a referendum rather than a petition. Those of us that live full time here, even if not a property owner need to be heard as well. It also concerns our lives and wellfair.	
Referendum preferral	
100% absolutely	
Which ever one is most cost-effective an accurate	
By Petition	

Birch Island Fire Protection Community Survey

Q4 Please select the response that best describes your ability, or availability, to be a firefighter

Answered: 65 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
I would be interested in becoming a firefighter with the Vavenby Fire Department (paid-on-call) if a public assent process were to succeed for Birch Island	24.62% 16
I am not willing and/ or able to be a firefighter	75.38% 49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65</b>

COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):	DATE
age	
do to medical conditions	Date-time stamp withheld under s. 22(1) of FIPPA
Was a firefighter in the past. JIBC trained and hold a valid basic fire investigation cert as well.	
Depending on times for practice I would be all for it	
We have Health issues so we couldn't join the fire department	
we are too old	
I would but I'm to old (72)	
Not at this time possibly in the future	
Physical check up with doctor. Dangerous material on site. Home or barns.	
I am physically unable to participate but would if I could.	
I'm 75 yrs old.	
Not Sure Yet	
Not able	
Still serving in Army Reserve. Time during initial few years would be limited. Should increase after 2027.	
Have some physical limits but heard there is a job for everyone so yes!	

# Public Assent

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**REFERENDUM:** A formal vote process is conducted in the same way as an election. A one-day polling station is set up in the community and eligible voters cast a ballot indicating either “YES” (I am in favour) or “NO” (I am opposed). All residents within the service area eligible to vote

**PETITION:** Petition forms are provided to each property owner. Property owners who are in favour of establishment of the service complete and submit their petition form before the deadline.



# Stay Connected

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TNRD.ca has page devoted to this topic

- Community survey
- Interactive map of service area
- Copy of this presentation
- Electronic copy of information sheet
- TNRD contact info
- Other info will be posted as process proceeds
  - Survey results
  - Public assent info



# Tax Implication – Operating Budget

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Properties within the service area would pay the same tax rate as Vavenby Fire Protection Service



Residential Tax Rate = \$1.07 per \$1000 assessment



Formula: (property assessment) x (tax rate) = annual fire protection property taxes



## NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING

# PROPOSED BIRCH ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE

*When:* Wednesday, August 28, 2024

*Time:* 6:00 pm

*Where:* Birch Island Community Park (1685 Birch Island - Lost Creek Rd)

### Who should attend the meeting?

Residents of the proposed service area within Birch Island. The proposed service area includes all properties between the current Vavenby Fire Protection Area and the District of Clearwater boundaries.

### What is the meeting about?

The public assent voting process will now be a Petition instead of a Referendum for the proposed expansion of the existing Vavenby Fire Protection Service Area to include the community of Birch Island. The Province of BC has advised the TNRD that in order for this public assent voting to be conducted with only residents of the proposed expansion of the service area, and to align with Provincial legislation, the public assent vote must be carried out by petition instead of referendum. The petition period will be open from August 28 to October 4, 2024.

Petition forms will be available at this meeting for residents to sign if they choose. For residents who do not sign the petition at this meeting, a petition form will be mailed to addressed properties within the proposed service area. Please note there has been no change to the proposed service expansion. This change affects only the voting process for residents.

### About the Petition process:

In order for a Petition to be successful, a petition form must be submitted by property owners who represent at least 50% of the assessed value of land and improvements within the proposed service area (Birch Island). Each property has a single vote irrespective of the number of owners. In the case of multiple owners, the majority (more than 50%) of owners must sign the petition form that is being submitted.

### Contact: TNRD Fire Protection Services

[fireprotectionservices@tnrd.ca](mailto:fireprotectionservices@tnrd.ca) | 250-377-6309

[tnrd.ca/blrch-island-fire-protection](https://tnrd.ca/blrch-island-fire-protection)



THOMPSON-NICOLA  
REGIONAL DISTRICT





## PETITION

### Vavenby Fire Protection Service Area Amendment Community of Birch Island and Adjacent Properties

I/We the undersigned, hereby petition the Board of Directors of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District to include the following parcel into the Vavenby fire protection service area as established by "Vavenby Fire Protection Local Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1194, 1990".

The boundaries of the proposed amendment to the service area are as shown on the reverse of this petition.

By signing this petition, I/We acknowledge that all parcels included within the proposed service amendment area will continue to be funded by way of a property value tax, charged to both land and improvements. Taxation rates are subject to change each year.

Roll Number:	Net Taxable Value:
Parcel Civic Address:	Parcel Legal Description:

Owner(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Owner(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Two (2) owners of the property? Both parties must sign the petition.

More than 2 owners of the property? A majority of the registered property owners must sign the petition.

**If the owner is a corporation, the petition must be signed by the duly authorized signatories.**

DATE RECEIVED

This Petition must be received by the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Corporate Officer 300-465 Victoria Street, Kamloops BC V2C 2A9 by 4:00 PM Friday, October 4, 2024.

The signed petition may also be returned by the closing date and time by email to [glowis@tnrd.ca](mailto:glowis@tnrd.ca). Please follow up by mailing the original petition to the Regional District office for the permanent record.