

Clean Air Task Force **Terms of Reference**

Purpose/Mandate:

To explore all options to improve air quality in the Village of Valemount, and to make recommendations to authorities having jurisdiction to take positive actions to reduce negative influences on air quality in the valley.

Goals:

1. To improve air quality in the community,
2. To create awareness of best practices to avoid, reduce or eliminate activities and/or sources which degrade air quality in the community,

Tasks:

- to create educational awareness for responsible practices in wood burning for home heating;
- to work with the Province of B.C. to institute an Air Quality Monitoring Program (install air quality monitoring equipment) in Valemount;
- to reduce root causes of negative air quality contributors in the Canoe Valley; and,
- to develop an effective 'Idle Free Zone' program in Valemount.

Rules of Procedure:

The Clean Air Task Force will follow the Rules of Procedure set out for Village Council for all of its meetings.

Meetings:

Meetings of the Clean Air Task Force will be held on the third Tuesday of January, March, June and October each year. *Additional meetings may be scheduled as agreed upon by the committee; notice will be provided as per section 44 of the Village of Valemount Council Procedure Bylaw.*

Membership:

The Task Force shall be comprised of at least two members of Council as well as:

- up to 6 resource persons from affected public sectors (i.e. Ministry of Environment, Northern Health, BC Wildfire Service, Robson Valley Community Services, Valemount Tourism, Valemount Community Forest);

- up to 2 members of the public, as approved by Council resolution. Appointments of the public to the committee will be for a 1-year term; and
- Municipal Staff

Actions:

Education:

- create educational promotions to make the general public aware of air quality issues in Valemount and negative air quality contributors;
- create awareness of alternative home heating options/programs.

Wood Stove Replacement Program:

Recommend re-establishing woodstove exchange program in concert with Province of B.C.

Air Quality Monitoring Program:

Pursue permanent, or temporary, air quality monitoring equipment in cooperation with the Province of B.C.

Air Quality Reduction Initiatives:

Create recommendations to Authorities Having Jurisdiction in relation to reducing negative air quality contributors such as:

- paving unpaved Streets;
- annual surface treatment for unpaved roads (and bi-annual where required);
- paving parking lots; and,
- reducing smoke generation.

Industrial Wood Burning:

Strengthen industrial (lot clearing) wood burning regulations to reduce/eliminate large scale land clearing burning in Valemount

Reporting:

The Clean Air Task Force is a reporting Committee. Reports with recommendations for actions shall be forwarded to Village Council for approval, except for matters regarding the conducting of research.