



MEDIA ADVISORY

**Cedar Hill Golf Course
Deficit Reduction Public Meeting**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 24, 2012

District of Saanich Parks and Recreation staff are holding a public meeting on Monday, January 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cedar Hill Golf Course Banquet Room to discuss ways the Municipality can reduce the projected 2012 golf course operations deficit. Like all Saanich Departments, Parks and Recreation Services have held the line or reduced operating budgets for the past four years to maintain services and minimize tax increases.

Earlier this month, the Municipality announced the restructuring of golf course food and beverage services from a full service restaurant to licensed light food and beverage operation to address a projected \$521,000 food services deficit in 2012. This restructuring resulted in the loss of six regular full time and part time jobs and a loss of work for another 14 auxiliary employees.

For the past four years, Saanich Departments have been directed to hold the line or reduce their operating budgets to maintain service levels while avoiding large tax increases.

The Golf Course operation alone has a projected \$300,000 deficit for 2012. Municipal staff have discussed a number of golf course operation deficit reduction options with stakeholders including cost reduction, different management models, fee restructuring, fee increases, and continued tax subsidies. They will review these options at the public meeting and invite feedback.

Staff are tasked with bringing forward a recommendation for Council consideration at the February 7, 2012 Financial Plan meeting.

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For more information contact:

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