



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **YOUR VOICE, YOUR NORTH COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT: PLACESPEAK OFFERS INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

With the launch of the community engagement platform, PlaceSpeak, the North Coast Regional District (NCRD) is making it easier for residents to have their say in how the NCRD changes and grows. Starting this week, people can register for a free PlaceSpeak account and get familiar with the platform, which will allow residents to contribute and share their thoughts and ideas with the NCRD and their neighbours.

PlaceSpeak is a citizen-centric online tool that transforms the way people interact with local decision-makers by allowing them to meaningfully contribute to critical issues facing the NCRD simply by logging in from their computer or mobile device.

“The NCRD benefits every time a resident or business-owner is engaged,” said Chair Barry Pages. “Your feedback and participation in the decision-making process of the Board helps make our region a better place for everyone.”

Residents and businesses are encouraged to visit [www.placespeak.com/en/login](http://www.placespeak.com/en/login) and register for a free PlaceSpeak account. Once logged in, users can become familiar with the platform by participating in a welcoming socialization topic ([www.placespeak.com/topic/5605](http://www.placespeak.com/topic/5605)).

For the coming month, the NCRD will be inviting residents to post about their favourite places to spend time in the NCRD. In late 2017, residents will be asked to join a budget consultation topic to help identify priorities and generate consensus regarding fiscal planning into 2018.

“Our goal is to use PlaceSpeak to facilitate resident-led solutions and feedback related to financial planning, community services and other planning,” said Daniel Fish, Corporate Officer, NCRD. “This approach will allow residents to not only identify issues that matter to them, but suggest solutions and weigh in on issues identified by their neighbours.”

Registered users will be notified of future topics, including the launch of the NCRD’s budget consultation topic in December 2017.

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#### **For more information:**

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