At GVRD, we understand that privacy is an important issue for visitors to the GVRD Web site www.gvrd.bc.ca. The following information is designed to help visitors understand what information we gather for our site, and how we handle the information once we gather it.

#### Information collection and use

GVRD is the sole owner of any information collected on this site. We will not sell, share, or rent this information to others in ways different from what is disclosed in this statement. GVRD may collect information from our users at several different points on our Web site. GVRD may transfer the information collected to any relevant department within GVRD.

## General inquiries

If a user contacts GVRD with a general inquiry, the user may provide GVRD with personal information (for example contact details). GVRD will use this personal information to respond to the inquiry and track further correspondence. Information is also used to compile statistics on response handling, etc. This is done in aggregate, and no individual names or other personal information are retained. Personal information collected is not used for any other purpose.

#### **Browsing**

Cookies are small text files that a Web site transfers to a site visitor's hard disk or browser for added functionality, or for tracking Web site usage. We do not use cookies to gather personal information such as a person's name or e-mail address. In order to measure the effectiveness of our online presence, GVRD may use cookies to identify repeat visitors to our Web site, and to determine the path visitors take on our site. Any information gathered by the use of cookies is compiled on an aggregate, anonymous basis.

## Subscriptions

If a user wishes to subscribe to GVRD information such as press releases, we ask for an e-mail address. GVRD will use this e-mail address only to send the requested information; we will not send other unsolicited information.

How to cancel your subscription? - Users who no longer wish to receive our information may cancel their subscription(s) at any time. You can unsubscribe by replying with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line in the e-mail, or by sending an e-mail to us at webmaster@gvrd.bc.ca.

#### **Surveys and contests**

From time to time our site may request information from users via contests or surveys. Participation in these surveys or contests is completely voluntary and the user therefore has a choice whether or not to disclose this information. Information requested may include contact information (such as name and address), and demographic information (such as gender, age level). Contact information will be used to notify the winners and award prizes. Survey information will be used for purposes of monitoring or improving the use and satisfaction of this site.

### **External links**

This Web site may contain links to other sites. Please be aware that GVRD is not responsible for the privacy practices of such other sites. We encourage our users to be aware when they leave our site and to read the privacy statements of each and every Web site that collects personally identifiable information. This privacy statement applies solely to information collected by this Web site.

# Changes to GVRD's internet privacy policy

GVRD may, from time to time, make changes to this policy. We recommend that visitors to this site re-visit this privacy policy on occasion to learn of new privacy practices or changes to our policy.

## How to contact GVRD about this privacy policy

It's important to us at GVRD to hear what visitors have to say about our services and our policies. If site visitors have any questions, concerns, or complaints about this privacy policy, or want to let us know what they think about our Web site, they can use this e-mail: webmaster@gvrd.bc.ca.

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