



Council Meeting Notes - April 22, 2009

Nechako Valley Food Network proposal for a farmer's market—Council agreed to donate the use of Riverside Park on Thursday afternoons.

Nechako Valley Community Services Society Council agreed to forward a letter to the Nechako Valley Community Services Society in support of its grant application to HRDC to improve physical accessibility to its building.

Anglican Church Diocese Development Variance Permit
The District of Vanderhoof Council issued Development Variance Permit No. 2009-01 to the Anglican Synod Diocese of Caledonia to facilitate the construction of a new church hall located at 2556 Burrard Avenue in Vanderhoof, BC.

SD #91 Transformable Trades Facilities
Administration will continue to work with SD #91 to identify possible sites for the trades training facility.

Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw 1046
District of Vanderhoof Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw No. 1046, 2009 was passed

Council Meeting Notes - May 13, 2009

Marker Installation fee waived: Council waived the headstone placement fee for Neighbourlink who is arranging a burial service for a resident with no family.

Bylaws Passed:
Sewer Frontage Tax Bylaw No. 1048, 2009 reduces the maximum frontage on any one property to 500 feet.
Water Frontage Tax Bylaw No. 1050, 2009 reduces the maximum frontage on any one property to 500 feet.
Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1049, 2009 which is the annual operating budget for the municipality.
2009 Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1051, 2009 establishes the tax rates for the coming year. The municipal rate is 1% lower than last year.
Garbage Collection Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1053, 2009 establishes new rates for garbage collection, each household will increase by \$4.00 per year. Each household pays \$1.55 per week for garbage pickup.

Message from the Mayor



A pool committee has been started with Councillor Steve Little accepting the Chair and Councillor Darren Carpenter acting as Vice Chair. Councillor Louise Levy is working with the Nechako Valley Waste Initiative and with the support of the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako it is our hope to have a funded recycling program for at least the next 2 years.

Over the past few months we have had a number of delegations presenting their concerns to Council. From these presentations we have revised bylaws, helped community groups and worked with the business sector. We are pleased to see members of the public take the time to attend council meetings and take an interest in the process.

Since taking office in December the District of Vanderhoof Council has been very busy. In the past few weeks we have been conscientiously working on a new budget for 2009. I am happy to report that Vanderhoof may possibly be the only community in the north to have a budget with a lower tax rate than last year. We will be approving a 1% decrease in the municipal tax rate for 2009.

Throughout the duration of our term we will be faced with many decisions which will require as much input as possible from the community at large. Community input is vital in the future development of our Airport and other exciting projects including a swimming pool and a recycling program. We are already seeing community volunteers rise to the occasion with offers of valuable time, effort and know-how.

In closing, it is one of Council's main priorities to communicate effectively with residents of Vanderhoof. We want to make you aware of our successes, keep you informed of our initiatives and seek your input on issues that are important to all of us. This newsletter is one of the many tools we will be using to reach out to you. In return we want to hear from you. Please take the time to check out our web site at www.vanderhoof.ca, and then be our guest at council meetings which are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month starting at 5:00 pm.

I look forward to hearing from you. Don't hesitate to give me a call at 567-0567 or email me at mayor@district.vanderhoof.ca

Gerry Thiessen

Community to Community Forum



Vanderhoof Mayor Gerry Thiessen presents Saik'uz Chief Jackie Thomas with a small token of appreciation. The forum was an opportunity for the two councils to share stories and discuss issues of common interest.

Sprinkler Restrictions

We remind you that sprinkling restrictions are in effect from June 1 to September 30 for all residents.

Lawn and yard sprinkling can only be done from:

**7:00 am to 10:00 am and
7:00 pm to 10:00 pm**

Even numbered address on even numbered days

Odd numbered address on odd numbered days.

Find Sammy the Sturgeon for a chance to win
Look through your 'UPDATER' and find (the other) Sammy - five prizes to be won.



Name: _____

Phone _____

Drop off at District Office

Visit www.vanderhoof.ca for more information, events and updates

Upcoming Recreation Events

Friday, May, 29 & June, 5th Roller Skating & Tunes Drop In

(6:30pm-7:30pm)
Vanderhoof Arena
Bring your roller skates and skate to the music!
All ages welcome
\$2.00 per person

Friday, May, 29 & June, 5th Ball Hockey Drop In

(7:30pm-8:30pm)
Vanderhoof Arena
Come out and play!
Bring out your friends or just drop in and make some friends!
Bring your own stick
Gloves, helmets, safety gear recommended
Teens and Adults
\$2.00 per person

Ball Hockey Teams

Pee Wee 10 & 11
Bantam 13 & 14
Midget 15, 16 & 17
And 18 and up mixed leagues
Start recruiting your team now!
Contact Sarrah or Shallon for more information
250-567-4711 or 567-4555

Building Inspection Services

Mr. Garry Stevens is the new building inspector for Vanderhoof.

Garry is in the office:
Tuesday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
He is available on Wednesday by appointment.

Garry can be reached at
(250)570-9134

Community & Recreation Leisure Guide

- Recreation and community submissions published free and due by June 1st
- Advertise your business in the guide this year for a low rate!

Please contact Sarrah for more information 250-567-4711
or email: recdir@district.vanderhoof.ca

Vanderhoof Trivia

The first truck in Vanderhoof was a 1920 Model T Ford and was owned by the same man who owned the first school bus. He was:

- A) Len Fox
- B) Warren Johnson
- C) George Loper
- D) Albert Lee

** Answer on bottom of page*

Wood Stove Exchange Program



Wood Stove Exchange Program every old stove that is exchanged must be destroyed. The remains will be sent to a scrap metal dealer to be recycled. The program will be available again in September.

Council Passes 1% Tax Cut

The 2009 Financial Plan calls for \$3.054 million in municipal taxes. This is down from \$3.065 million in 2008. The difference will be realized in a 1% decrease in municipal taxes.

All tax rates will be lower than last year. The municipality establishes a tax rate for every one thousand dollars of assessment for all properties within the District boundaries. For residential properties, the rate in 2008 was 4.5174, in 2009 it will be 4.4722. A \$100,000 home in 2008 would have paid \$451.74 in municipal taxes and in 2009, the same home will pay \$447.22. In Prince George the same home will be paying \$701.00 in 2009.

Individual municipal tax bills will vary depending on the assessed value of the home or business. Overall the 2009 municipal portion of a Vanderhoof Property Tax Notice will be very similar to last year. Many will see a reduction.



Left to right: Louise Levy, Steve Little, Jim Woodruff, Gerry Thiessen, Jack French, Frank Read, Darren Carpenter

Despite reducing the tax rate, the Financial Plan calls for over \$19.9 million in spending, one of the largest financial plans created by the District of Vanderhoof. This is possible because of the more than \$10.0 million in government grants that has been secured for 2009.

The District will be undertaking or completing the following projects in 2009

Airport Lighting/GPS	\$1,581,500	Fire Department	\$67,200
Historical Park Project	\$512,410	Community Trails Phase 1	\$630,410
Riverside Park Info Kiosk	\$5,000	BMX Park	\$22,200
Green Lighting Energy Conservation	\$28,100	Sports Field Project	\$487,750
Ball Park Bleachers	\$30,000	Highway16 Park	\$20,000
Burrard Street Revitalization	\$155,000	Dyking Project	\$1,750,000
4th Street Improvements	\$5,139,800	Sidewalks	\$20,000
Electrical Sign	\$26,000	Water Treatment Plant	\$1,720,000
Road Improvements	\$200,000	Arena Ice Plant/other upgrades	\$440,300

District of Vanderhoof Grant Writer

Is your organization or society looking for funding assistance with a community project?

Contact Fiona Lamprecht at 250-567-1172 or grantwriter@telus.net

2009 Vanderhoof Trade Show

Saturday May 22 and Sunday May 23 at the Vanderhoof Arena

"Going Green, Living Green"

Bring the family for an exciting two-day event, where you can view countless products, win some prizes, eat to your heart's content, visit your neighbours and make some new friends!

Drop by and visit the District's Booth at the Trade Show!

Booths Sold Out!

Trivia Answer: (b) Warren Johnson

If you would like to receive the "updater" by email please email: depadmin@district.vanderhoof.ca