



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The District of Vanderhoof Recreation Department is looking for Expressions of Interest from Early Childhood Education qualified instructors for before school, after school and preschool programs. If you are a certified Early Childhood Educator and would like more information, please contact Ashley Kuznak Raby at the District of Vanderhoof Municipal Office at 250-567-4711 or by email at recdir@district.vanderhoof.ca.

SUMMER RECREATION POSITIONS

The District of Vanderhoof is currently seeking a Summer Program Coordinator, Summer Program Leader and a Special Needs Assistant. Job details and deadlines can be found at www.vanderhoof.ca and click on Career Opportunities. For more information contact Ashley Kuznak Raby, Recreation Director at 250-567-4711 or recdir@district.vanderhoof.ca with subject line reading "Summer Employment". Apply via mail, email or fax.

TECH TUESDAYS AT THE LIBRARY

Every Tuesday the Vanderhoof Public Library offers a free computer class from 1:00–2:00 pm. These classes, dubbed "Tech Tuesdays" are open to the general public and run as a drop in—no registration necessary. Email features, navigating and searching the internet, and social networking are just some of the topics covered. Contact the library at 250-567-4060 or by email at vhplweb@telus.net for more information, or visit <http://vanderhoof.bclibrary.ca/>.



READY SET LEARN CHILDREN'S FUN FAIR Saturday, April 16, 2011

Success by 6, in partnership with the District of Vanderhoof Recreation Department, SD 91 and Strong Start are inviting families with young children to join us at the "Ready Set Learn Children's Fun Fair" on Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 11:00am to 3:00pm at WL McLeod School Gymnasium.

You and your preschoolers will enjoy lots of fun activities (including inflatable tent and clowns) and you will have lots of opportunity to check out the many services available to preschoolers in our community. A health screening will be provided for 3 year olds. Free lunch included.

Pro D Day March 4, 2011

Reel Alternatives Presents

MEGAMIND

Movie Time is 1pm at NVSS Small Auditorium

"The supervillain Megamind finally conquers his nemesis, the hero Metro Man... but finds his life pointless without a hero to fight."

EVERYONE WELCOME! \$2/person at the Door
Popcorn, candy, juice and water will be available for purchase.

YMCA Recreation Day!

"REC Room is a youth-driven environment that keeps youth connected, active and free from boredom!" Sign up for a day of rock wall climbing, floor hockey, volleyball and more! We will also do a mock fitness class such as yoga or biking! Bus leaves NVSS at 7:55am returns at 4pm. Cost is \$20/person. Ages 7 - 12. Pack a lunch! **PRE-REGISTER by MARCH 2!**
SPACE IS LIMITED and NOT GUARANTEED UNTIL FEE IS PAID

Norlind Bowling

All families welcome! Enjoy 5 or 10 pin bowling between 11am and 4pm for only \$2.50 per game! Shoes are included!! Everyone is encouraged to come out and have some family fun! Ages 10 & under must be accompanied by an adult.

Drop in Hockey & Skating

Skating 11am - 1pm Hockey 1pm - 3pm
\$2 drop in fee
Come to the arena for free time to play and have fun! Bring your friends and appropriate gear!

Vanderhoof Public Library

This Pro-D day join us at the Public Library! Children ages 5 and up are invited to come to the library for story time, crafts and games from 10am to 12pm. Drop-In, No pre-registration required.
Call 567-4060 for more information

Play Date!

Pre-register you child for a play date at W.L. McLeod! Have fun doing arts, crafts & more! Pack a healthy lunch & snacks! Child must be school age to participate. Limited space. Ages 5 - 8
\$7/half day \$16/full

Neighborhood Space & Youth Centre

A place to play pool, foosball, lounge and watch movies or surf the internet! Everyone is welcome! March 4 open from 9am-6pm! Call 250-567-4879 for more information.

Contact the District of Vanderhoof for more information on these Pro-D Day activities at 250-567-4711, or stop in at the office at 160 Connaught Street.

UPDATER

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For Rent. A snow covered bird house sits empty on a fence post in the middle of a snowy field. Some migratory bird species will start returning to their northern home in Vanderhoof within the next couple of months. The sight and sound of robins, swallows and blue birds is a welcome sign of spring especially after a cold winter such as the one our community is experiencing this year. Photo by Annerose Georgeson.

UPDATER COVER PHOTO CONTEST

The Updater has changed its format to include a big, bright, eye-catching photograph on the cover page. Want to have one of your photographs on the cover? We are inviting residents of all ages from the communities of Vanderhoof and Saik'uz to enter this fun photo contest for a shot at the cover!

The contest subject for the next issue of the Updater is **weather**. Your photo must be taken between now and March 8, 2011—so get out there and start taking some photographs! Email your ONE best photo (minimum 250kb in size) to updater@district.vanderhoof.ca by March 8. One entry per person please. Please include your name and phone number with your entry.

The contest subject will change each month, so make sure to pick up next month's Updater to get the new photo subject, and of course, to see if your photo made the cover!



COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

February 23, 2011

Council reviewed a report from the Kitimat Halibut Allocation Task Force regarding the proposed changes to the recreational and commercial halibut sport fishery. When the 2011 Halibut season begins on March 1, recreational fishermen will be allowed to catch one halibut a day and have a maximum of two in their possession outside of their homes. This catch limit is lower than what it was previously, which was two halibut a day with three in possession. Council will be sending a letter to the Federal Fisheries Minister stating Council's support for an increase in the recreational and commercial halibut sport fishery limit.

Council agreed to a request from the Nechako River White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative to use the Nechako white sturgeon as the Street Banner theme for 2011. This is a program funded by Council and run by Arts Unlimited that produces new banners every year to replace the damaged banners. The banners are hung along Burrard Street.

Council agreed to commit \$992.00 and the staff time of one individual to participate in the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako Tradeshow Partnership. The intent of the Partnership is to market and attract new business, residents and tourists to the region. The Regional Partnership will purchase booth space for three upcoming industry trade shows, for the purpose of cost and time sharing.

Council gave final reading to the District of Vanderhoof Firearms and Hunting Regulation Bylaw No. 1073, 2010. This bylaw is the culmination of months of public consultation and review by the Firearms and Hunting Bylaw Committee.

Monday February 21, 2011 Budget Meeting

Council held a special meeting to review the operations budget for 2011. There were very few changes from previous years. The operations budget as presented would result in a 0.7% increase over last year's expenditures. Council has yet to consider the Capital Budget, the 2011 Budget bylaw must be adopted before May 15.

Reg Mueller and Kevin Wallace make notes before rehearsal starts for the upcoming *Saik'uz and Settlers* play. The play, a comedic as well as dramatic look at the history and diversity of the Nechako Valley, is scheduled for March 18 and 19, 2011 at the NVSS Small Auditorium. A play that relates to all residents of Vanderhoof and Saik'uz, this production is one that you do not want to miss.

UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

District Council Chambers
5:00 pm Wednesday

MARCH 9

MARCH 23

APRIL 13

• COMMUNITY PLAYS •

101 Dalmations and Aristicats

March 10-12, 2011

7pm McLeod Elementary School

Put on by students at McLeod school.

Saik'uz and Settlers

March 18 & 19, 2011

7pm NVSS Small Auditorium

Put on by the Good Neighbours Committee about the history and diversity of our area.



UPDATER

The UPDATER is produced once a month and distributed to all Vanderhoof mailboxes.
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Production: Tom Clement
Send inquiries to
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COUNCIL MESSAGE *Where our tax dollars go*

It is that time of year again when we start to turn the corner away from the heart of winter and begin to glimpse in the not so far distance the flirtations of spring. However, as is the case when dealing with Mother Nature, a couple of not so gentle reminders that winter will not be leaving without a fight is expected. Alas, a large snowfall here and a cold snap there is the norm we have come to expect in our region and community at this time of year. As with the expected cycle of our seasons, it also is the time of year again when Council begins its annual series of discussions and meetings regarding the 2011 budget for our community, the first one of which was held this past Monday, February 21, 2011.

Over the course of the next several weeks Council will divide the budget formulation process into two phases: one dealing with operations; and, one dealing with capital expenditures. As you are aware, Council is responsible for the allocation of tax dollars that support the day-to-day operation of the community, support short term and long term initiatives, and support various community groups and organizations. Council approaches this responsibility very seriously and diligently, and always with the interest of the taxpayer front and centre. Balancing the needs of service and growth with levels of taxation is nothing new, however, Council has and continues to encourage feedback from you—the individual taxpayer, business owner, and community group—to aid in this process.

In regards to taxation, in the first year of this Council's term the portion of your tax bill that the District of Vanderhoof directly influences was reduced by 1%. In year two, this portion was left unchanged with no increase or decrease in taxation. Now, in year three, Council has started discussions related to funding and the associated taxation implications.

To give you a sense of where your tax dollars go, the approximately \$5.1 million budget for 2011 is to be allocated into the following areas: capital projects/initiatives; administration; economic development (examples include financial support for grant writer, tourism marketing tools, industrial land inventory, airport marketing plan); policing reserve (dollars set aside for the day when our population exceeds 5000 persons and a large percentage of policing costs become the responsibility of the community); airport; garbage services; cemetery; parks; arena; cultural (examples include financial support for groups such as the Historical Society, Nechako Valley Exhibition Society, Library, Air Cadets); recreation (examples include financial support for the leisure fair, community leisure guide, recreation programs); fire department; protective services (examples include financial support for Crime Stoppers, Search & Rescue, animal control, Vanderhoof Crime Watch); equipment reserve; water; and, sewer. The examples provided are only a small piece of the overall budget; however, I am confident you, the taxpayer, can readily appreciate the large number of items present in a yearly budget. Each of these will be discussed at length by Council, with input from the community, in terms of how to proceed with either static, added, reduced, or removal of financial support from the District of Vanderhoof. All of this ultimately determines your level of taxation at the end of the day.

Fiscal responsibility and accountability are mandates of Council; however, to facilitate and support Council with such mandates, your feedback and opinion is requested and always welcome. I hope this has provided you a small glimpse into the budget process and a sense of where your tax dollars are allocated. As always, if you have the time, come to a Council meeting and see first hand your local government at work.

Councillor Darren Carpenter



Councillor Darren Carpenter

COUNCIL FACTS: *Being a Delegation at a Regular Meeting*

All Regular Meetings of Council are open to the public to watch your Council at work.

If you have an issue that you would like to present to Council you are requested to appear before Council as a [delegation](#), and to be on the agenda.

Delegations are required to send a [written request](#) to the District's Corporate Officer no later than noon on the Friday before the meeting. It must include:

- A brief outline of the subject to be addressed.
- The date of the meeting you wish to attend.
- Any additional relevant information to the issue.

If there is no room on the next agenda, your request may be moved to a future meeting. We do our best to accommodate delegation requests. The Corporate Officer will contact you to confirm times and dates.

REGISTER TODAY FOR UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Carpentry – Foundation Level: Fraser Lake Campus, 20 Weeks, March 14 – August 5
- Excavator Operator Certificate: Vanderhoof, 9 Weeks, Starting in April
- Road Builder and Heavy Construction – Foundation Level: Vanderhoof, 4 Weeks, April 23 – May 18
- Aviation Business Diploma: Vanderhoof, 20 Months, Starting in May

Call the Vanderhoof Campus today at 250-567-3200 for information or to register.
Course descriptions available at www.cnc.bc.ca/vanderhoof.

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