

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

February 27 Meeting

Council provided a donation of \$500.00 to Vanderhoof Minor Hockey to purchase red hockey pant shells for the Tier 4 Bantam Boys Hockey Team.

Council put forward Councillor Brian Frenkel's name to be nominated for the position of 2nd Vice President on the NCLGA Board of Directors for consideration at the 2012 NCLGA AGM.

Council adopted the Summary Report of the District of Vanderhoof Strategic Planning Session January 2012 and the Strategic Action Plan.

Council adopted the District of Vanderhoof Cemetery Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1108, 2012, this establishes rates for the columbarium.

Councillor Frenkel was appointed as the Council representative for the District of Vanderhoof on the Mount Milligan Community Sustainability Committee.

March 12 Meeting

Council approved the request from the Walk for Justice – An Ear to Hear & Death to Violence group to hold a walk from the Arena area south on Recreation Avenue to Highway 16, west to Burrard Street, east on Stewart Street returning to the Arena area on Saturday April 28th, 2012 starting at 12:00 noon.

The Mutual Aid Agreement between the District of Fort St. James, the Village of Fraser Lake and the District of Vanderhoof has been adopted by Council and the agreement will be signed by the Mayor and Administrator.

Council approved that Thorn & Associates Inc. be hired to develop a Post-Secondary Education Plan for the Nechako Valley. Funding for this project has been received from CNC, the private sector and OBAC.

Council adopted the District of Vanderhoof Fire Department Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 1109, 2012. This establishes that the Vanderhoof Volunteer Fire Department will from now on perform road rescue services. Previously this was done by the Vanderhoof Volunteer Road Rescue Society. This change was made primarily for liability reasons.

Council accepted the terms and conditions of the Strategic Community Investment Fund and directed the Corporate Officer to sign the agreement. This ensures the continuation of the small community grant that the District of Vanderhoof receives from the Province.



Go Bears Go! Congratulations to all the participants, organizers, officials and fans who were all a part of the exciting Bantam Provincials March 18-22 at the Vanderhoof Arena. Our Bears came in 4th place overall. Well done! The Bears played their hearts out winning their first 2 games, but taking a loss to Juan de Fuca for the Bronze. Vanderhoof went out in an exciting third period against Juan de Fuca, taking the fourth place position overall. Good job Bears!! Photo submitted by Tracey Syrota.

UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

District Council Chambers
5:30 pm Mondays

APRIL 10

APRIL 23

BC Arts and Culture Week

April 22-28 is Arts and Culture Week. Within that week there are a number of arts and culture activities happening in Vanderhoof, including Taste of Culture, Soul Script, Philosophers' Café and a Coffee-House. Other art related events in Vanderhoof in April include:

• NECHAKO VALLEY FESTIVAL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS •

**April 16-26 &
Final Concert April 29**
Music and voice performers from the Nechako Valley compete.

• FIDDLER ON THE ROOF •
April 26-28 & May 3-5
20th Anniversary performance of Fiddler on the Roof. Presented by the VCTS and NVSS.

• ARTS FEST •
April 27-May 25
Public art show of artists from around the north. Go to www.nechakoarts.com

UPDATER

The **UPDATER** is produced once a month and distributed to all Vanderhoof mailboxes.
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COUNCIL MESSAGE

"The community which has neither poverty nor riches will always have the noblest of principles"
~ Plato

With the ever-changing world around us, we as a community are expected to adapt to increased demands in our lives, whether those demands involve the climate, economy, technology or our environment. Vanderhoof is a community that has continually risen to the challenge.

During the past couple of months Council has developed a new strategic plan, in part to adapt to increased demands, but mostly to give us some guiding principles for the next three years. Strategies have been developed to guide us through four main categories: Environmental Sustainability, Economic Development, Social and Cultural Diversity and Governance.

While strategic planning is one effort that Council uses to help guide our community though some of these hurdles, we depend on the residents and volunteers of the community to keep us informed.

Communication is always key to success and our Council is diligent in maintaining open communication. We realize that every resident of Vanderhoof may not be up to date with what Council is trying to accomplish and in turn, Council does not assume to know all that may be impacting our residents. We depend on each other to exchange information and provide direction.

We are energized as a Council and look forward to facing new challenges such as: mid-term timber supply, health care, mining development, agriculture opportunities, attraction and retention of our workforce, recreation and public safety. Together we will make Vanderhoof a better place to be.

We encourage you to ask for a copy of the strategic plan and direct any questions or concerns to Mayor and Council or a municipal staff member.

Have a great spring! ~ Councillor Brian Frenkel



Councillor Brian Frenkel

Council Facts! Communicating to Council

There are a number of ways that you can keep informed about your Council and the decisions that are being made.

The UPDATER has the highlights from the most recent Regular Meeting of Council. All agendas and minutes of Regular Meetings can be found at http://www.vanderhoof.ca/District/Council/Council_meetings.html. Agendas are also posted and Agenda Packages are available to be picked up at the District Office on the Friday before the meeting date. **If you would like to have the agenda emailed to you before each meeting please send an email to depadmin@district.vanderhoof.ca with District of Vanderhoof Agenda Request in the subject line.** You will then get each meeting's agenda.

You are also welcome to attend a Council Meeting in person. Council holds a regular meeting on the second and fourth Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. On the third Monday of the month Council holds a Committee of the Whole Meeting starting at 5:30 pm. All of these meetings are open to the public and Council encourages you attend. Each agenda allows for anyone attending the meeting to address Council on any issue that is on that agenda.

If you have an issue that you would like to present to Council you must request to be a **delegation** on the agenda. Delegations are given 15 minutes to make their presentation to Council. Delegations are required to send a written request to the District's Corporate Officer no later than noon on the Thursday before the meeting. Your request should:

- Be addressed to Mayor and Council.
- Provide your contact information.
- State that you want to be a delegation to Council.
- Provide the date of the meeting you wish to attend.
- Provide a brief outline of the subject to be addressed.
- State clearly what it is you are asking of Council.
- Provide any additional relevant information to the issue you may feel Council should have.
- Be signed.

If there is no room on the agenda for the meeting you requested, 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.



The swans are arriving back in Vanderhoof, along with Canada Geese and other migratory birds such as red-winged blackbirds and American robins. Photo submitted by Wayne Carlton. Email your best photo of In the Greenhouse to updater@district.vanderhoof.ca for a chance to have your photo featured in the next Updater.



COMMUNITY ACHIEVERS

Richard Wruth

In 1999, Richard Wruth developed the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre, an organization that puts on numerous performances in Vanderhoof and Prince George each year. A sort of organization that requires much time, effort, creativity, patience and fun. Why did he do this? Because Richard is passionate about theatre and the community.

Richard is the Director of Vanderhoof Children's Theatre, which mean he oversees everything from the "beginning to the end - auditioning, casting, rehearsals, keeping volunteers on task, sets, props, choreography". You name it, if it has to do with theatre, he does it. He also has some "amazing parents that are... great helpers, and of course (his) family members". Richard says that his family does not have much of a choice, they all have to help him out for each play! The Children's Theatre takes on 30 volunteers, if not more, for each play. It takes, on average, 75-100 people to put on one performance.

Richard is very grateful for all of the volunteers he gets for the theatre - parents of children in theatre, graduates returning from university to help the end of the season, and most certainly his family. But, he is also grateful for the children who sign up every year! This year one of his performers will be graduating Grade 12. This student in particular has been a part of Vanderhoof Children's Theatre since Grade 2. That is great dedication as an actor, and equally so for a volunteer Director.

Along with deciding which script to perform, designing sets and costumes, casting and directing, there is also the hard work of fundraising. Vanderhoof Children's Theatre averages 4-5 fundraisers per play. The types of fundraising varies from bottle drives, chocolate sales, fashion shows, high school dances and community events. The Vanderhoof Children's Theatre is everywhere, and with that, so is Richard. This year he is hoping to raise \$6,000 during Westline Ford's "Drive for your Community" on April 21st in the Co-op parking lot. For every family that test drives a vehicle, Ford will donate \$20 to the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre. This will take approximately 300 test drives.



Richard Wruth as Cogsworth in the 'Beauty and the Beast' production of the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre, directed and produced by Richard.

In 2013, Richard would like the group to return to Kelowna for performances. The group went almost 3 years ago, where they performed in Kelowna's Play House for 6 schools over a one week period. The funds raised during the 'Drive for your Community' would help support the costs of group traveling to Kelowna.

Along with Directing the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre, Richard also operates the family business, California Dreamin' and he directs the Dinner Theatre for the Grade 7s at Sinkutview Elementary. He knows how to keep himself busy, and the reason why he does it all, he says "Because I just love it."

Richard is hoping in the future they can find a home for the Children's Theatre. There is an estimated 200+ costumes for each play, plus all of the set displays. There are approximately 9000+ items that are in storage in several different places throughout the community. One day he hopes there will be a location for Vanderhoof Children's Theatre.

Our community has much to be proud of, particularly community achievers like Richard. When asked if he'll ever stop volunteering his time for the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre he responds with a chuckle, "When I am 6 feet under" that will be a good time to rest."

UP D A T E R



4TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

Saturday April 21 will be Vanderhoof's 4th Annual Community Clean-Up day. Organized by the Nechako Waste Reduction Initiative (NWRI), residents are encouraged to meet at Riverside Park at 10am to choose a route and pick up gloves & bags. Folks that lend a hand making our town beautiful are welcomed back for a complimentary local food BBQ organized by the Nechako Valley Food Network (NVFN). The entire event is a green event, which highlights locally produced food and minimal waste. Hope to see you there!

Check out www.nechakowri.ca for more information.

Poster from the 2011 Community Clean-Up day held at Riverside Park.

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