

COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

September 23: Regular Council Meeting

Council received a delegation from the RCMP, and Staff Sergeant Keays was pleased to inform Mayor and Council that violent crimes are lower than they have been in seven years. Next, Council discussed the proposed changes to the Canada Jobs Grant. Council

then adopted Terms of Reference for the Brownfield Committee, and appointed additional members to the Committee.

Council then approved upgrades to the referee room at the arena. Finally, Council discussed the creation of a community award.

October 15: Regular Council Meeting

Council received a delegation from Costal Gaslink about their proposed pipeline project. Council also received a delegate from Seniors Connected who thanked the District for the services of the District's Grant Writer. A final delegate presented about upgrades

to Willow Road. Council approved the Chamber of Commerce's request to use Riverside Park for the Pumpkin Walk. Council also approved Stuart Nechako Lake Regional Parish's request for the use of Riverside Park.

October 21: Committee of the Whole Meeting

Council received a delegation from the Nechako Figure Skating Club about opening the arena 30 minutes earlier. Next, Council discussed the Vanderhoof housing strategy.

Council also discussed the creation of municipal grants, and arena advertising. Finally, Council discussed renovating council chambers.

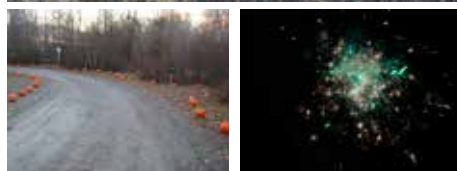
October 28: Regular Council Meeting

Council received a delegation from the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. Council adopted the tax exempt bylaw for 2014. Council also discussed the location of

a new boat launch. Finally, Council agreed to Minerals North's request to waive fees for the portable stage.

PUMPKIN WALK

This year's Pumpkin Walk was a great success. Due to the hard work of our volunteers, set-up was finished on time and the Walk started off without a hitch. Lots of help stayed throughout the night and made sure the pumpkins were kept bright and happy. The few minor hick-ups throughout the night were dealt with fast and efficiently by those that were around. Thanks to our sponsors, and all of the donations, everyone could enjoy the pumpkin walk with a fresh cup of hot chocolate and a bag full of candy. With the beautiful weather and excitement in the air, this was a Pumpkin Walk to remember!



UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

District Council Chambers
5:30 pm Mondays

**TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 12
NOVEMBER 25**

**• SMALL TOWN LOVE
OPEN HOUSE •
Wednesday, November 20
6-8 pm Friendship Centre**

The community is invited to this great event that will showcase many of our unique and local businesses in Vanderhoof. A great opportunity to learn more about local businesses as well as to learn how to get involved in this project. Free event with food and door prizes!!

**• MIDNIGHT MADNESS AND
THE PARADE OF LIGHTS •
Friday, December 6**

Join the fun on December 6 and come out for the Parade of Lights. The parade starts at 7:00 pm at the highschool and travels down Stewart Street, Lampitt Avenue, Douglas Street and Burrard Avenue. After the parade, spend the night catching all the great deals at downtown stores. The best deals of the year and stores are open until midnight.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

What's up and what's been done!

There is a lot of activity happening around Vanderhoof this summer with construction on a new home for the Co-op, Omineca Sports, AMS Construction's new location, St. John's Hospital expansion, and the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre.

The aquatic centre has been getting a lot of attention from Council, and the design is well under way. Hopefully the preliminary design will be completed by Christmas, and we will be able to have a public meeting to discuss it. Topics such as the number of swimming lanes, and the depth of the pool have already seen a lot of interest.



Recently I did a walkthrough of the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre with Minister John Rustad and Cory Williamson, manager of the Centre. The building should be closed in by the end of November, and in operation by the end of February. This project will be a great addition to all the other educational and environmental programs currently happening in Vanderhoof. The facility will be using water out of the Nechako River to ensure the sturgeon identify with our river.

Because the river intake valve is only a few feet from the boat launch, Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC has urged us to move the boat launch. They worry that if the launch is not moved, it could have a negative impact upon the young sturgeon. Input from the community will be vital as we go through this process.

Last February Minister Thomson (Minister of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations) wrote a letter to the District of Vanderhoof which gives us the opportunity to obtain a community forest. We have chosen to partner with L&M on this exciting project, and hope to have the project completed by summer 2015.

Many of you may have noticed the new washrooms in Ferland Park. In the last 6 years we have seen more families using this park, and have recognized that the quality of washrooms needed to be brought up to a higher standard.

To increase the District's capacity to fight fires on our boundaries, we have installed water tanks on Loop Road, and in the Derksen-McDonald Area. Last year we installed new tanks at the airport. This along with our new tanker truck should help in any firefighting challenges we face in the future.

These are just some of the things we have worked on the last couple of months, we encourage everyone to come to our meetings which are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

~ Thanks, Mayor Gerry Thiessen



Mayor Gerry Thiessen

COMMUNITY GROUP

Vanderhoof Music Teachers Group

The Vanderhoof Music Teachers Group is a small association of piano and voice instructors. We meet once or twice a year to stay in touch with what is happening musically, and to participate in workshops.

We currently have two vocal teachers and seven piano teachers; one of the piano teachers is a trained and registered Suzuki teacher. This instructor uses a method whereby the young child, as young as three, learns to play the piano by ear, then reads music later with parental involvement- very new to Vanderhoof.

We are a Royal Conservatory Theory Exam Centre in December and May. This allows our students to take their theory exams in Vanderhoof, and not have to travel to Prince George. The Music Teachers group instructs about 140 students, and this is not including the Northern Orchestra or strings students.



Also offered each year are five Music for Tweens classes, open to any student, of any instrument, at any level, in school grades 4-7. This year the theme is music appreciation, and students will learn about 5 composers, while doing fun activities and listening to great music- snacks too! All are welcome to attend. For more information on each teacher, please see the Vanderhoof Recreation Guide; for more information on the Suzuki Method, please see www.swanstudio.musicteachershelper.com; for any questions about music lessons, the Royal Conservatory, or to join our group, please call Swan Kiezebrink, 250-567-9501. New faces are always welcome!



SUPPLY CHAIN CONNECTOR

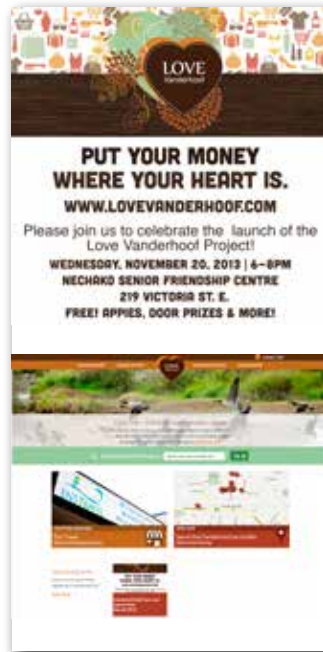
Working with Northern Development Initiative Trust (www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca) the District of Vanderhoof is collaborating on the development of the Supply Chain Connector – a searchable, easy-to-use database of industrial supply and service companies throughout central and northern B.C.

There is no cost associated with registering your business on the Supply Chain Connector. This is a value add service for our local businesses. Contact Erin Siemens at edc@district.vanderhoof.ca for more information.

TOASTMASTERS

Vanderhoof has a Toastmasters club once again! Toastmasters is a not for profit organization with clubs all over the world. A Toastmasters meeting is a learn-by-doing exercise in which participants practice their public speaking skills in a no-pressure environment. Participants learn to think on their feet, improve their verbal grammar, and time keeping skills.

If you want to improve your public speaking skills and have some fun, stop by a meeting. The Vanderhoof chapter meets every Wednesday at 7:00 pm at the College of New Caledonia. For more information, email Wendy at wendy44@telus.net.



Congratulations to **Ethan Janzen** for this great photograph that truly depicts what we love about spring in Vanderhoof. Ethan won the People's Choice Best Photo during the District of Vanderhoof Photo Contest. Voting for the People's Choice photo was done on the District of Vanderhoof Facebook page. Go there to view all the other fantastic photos that were submitted in October. Stay tuned for future photo contests hosted by the District of Vanderhoof.

SNOW REMOVAL

With the recent snowfall, the District would like to remind everyone that it is very important that streets and curbs be clear of obstacles. Please remove basketball hoops, and other items to allow for efficient snow removal. Items left on the street or curbs can be unintentionally damaged, cause damage to District plows, and pose a risk to residents and District workers.



UPDATE

YOUR AMAZING PHOTOS!

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for the District of Vanderhoof photo contest last month. Through this process we realized two things - that our community has many talented photographers, and that we live in a truly beautiful place.

Congratulations to **Dyanne Dimassimo** for this stunning photograph taken in Vanderhoof. Dyanne won the District's Choice for this photo during the District of Vanderhoof Photo Contest that was held in October.

NEW GRANT POLICY

The District of Vanderhoof has just finalized a new grant policy. This policy allows community groups to apply for onetime funding from the District. Grants will be awarded for cultural, charitable, sporting, recreational, special events, and service activities that benefit the community. Groups will be able to apply for grants starting in January.

The grant application form is available from the front desk of the municipal office. For more information contact the Director of Community Development at community@district.vanderhoof.ca.

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