

Celebrate 90 - How Vanderhoof got its name...

In 1920, Herbert Vanderhoof of the Canadian Grand Trunk Pacific Development Company was assigned to officially plan a town site here, as people were arriving daily by train to the area to farm and log. The vision of Herbert Vanderhoof was to develop an artists' community. In 1926, five years after Herbert Vanderhoof died, the Village of Vanderhoof was established taking his name, which means "of the farm" in Dutch.

» MAKE A SPLASH!

Wow – our fundraising total is now over \$395,500.00. (Or say "is dollars away from \$400,000!") December was our most successful month to date! A huge "Thank you" goes out to our many supporters, including the Vanderhoof & Districts Co-operative Association for their wonderful donation of \$25,000! The holiday season was a busy one for all with the Alumni Hockey Game and the House of Christmas at the Museum. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported these wonderful events, bringing in more than \$13,000 for the pool! The community support has been truly remarkable. Let's see if we can hit the \$500,000 mark before May!



The Kinettes and Kinsmen are hosting a **Wine and Cheese Gala** at the Vanderhoof Friendship Centre on March 5 at 7:00pm. A Silent Auction will be held at the event to help raise funds for the Aquatic Centre. We are currently looking for donations. If you have any items in mind, please feel free to contact us at vhfaquatic@hotmail.com.

Please visit us on Facebook and check out our website at www.vanderhoofpool.ca. If you would like to join the Aquatic Centre Society or have a fundraising idea, join us on February 18 at Community Futures (2750 Burrard Ave) at 7pm. Make a Splash!

» Council Message

Mayor Gerry Thiessen



Mayor Gerry Thiessen

As we go into a new year it is great to have a fresh blanket of snow to remind us that we are truly into a new start. We at Council have been taking a lot of time to reflect on the past year and work on our strategies for this one.

After spending the holidays with family and friends we are now into the hard work of getting our 2016 budget ready in the next couple of months. We were happy to see that the Canadian Federation of Independent Business reporting that we were the 3rd lowest taxes in northern BC, and when you consider snow clearing we were on top. We have to make sure that not only have we paid off our debt, which we have, and have low taxes, which we have, but that we have great services in our community, since that is what will bring people to Vanderhoof, and call this valley home.

This coming weekend the District of Vanderhoof will turn 90 years old and we would like to invite you to **Celebrate 90** at Riverside park. On New Year's eve I was out of the country on a holiday, the first song the band played was 'The Summer of 69', it is in large part was written about Vanderhoof that year by Jim Valance who went to NVSS. There are so many great things that have happened in this town in the last 90 years, sometimes I think we don't realise how fortunate we are and how many great things have happened here.

We appreciate the feedback we receive regarding how we can make our community a better place. In addition to attending Council meetings, we encourage people to visit our website at www.vanderhoof.ca and as always feel free to contact me personally at mayor@district.vanderhoof.ca. I look forward to hearing from you.

» Snow Removal from Municipal Streets

The District of Vanderhoof would like to remind the public that – no person shall stop, strand or park a vehicle in a position that causes it to interfere with the removal of snow from a roadway. Residents are also reminded that sporting equipment, such as basketball hoops and hockey nets are not permitted on public streets. This restriction is necessary to facilitate snow removal by the Municipal works crew during the winter months. Vehicles or equipment found to impede snow removal will be towed at the owner's expense.

Your assistance in keeping our streets free of parked vehicles permits snow-clearing operations to proceed safely and efficiently, saving your tax dollars.

VANDERHOOF

1926 **90** 2016
YEARS

“AT THE CENTRE OF IT ALL”

» Celebrate 90 - Event Schedule

On January 22, 2016, Vanderhoof will celebrate its 90th birthday, and the District of Vanderhoof is hosting two major events to mark the occasion! At the first event we'll wish Happy Birthday to Vanderhoof at the arena, and the following day we'll celebrate at Riverside Park with sleigh rides, live music, and fireworks.

FRIDAY, January 22nd – Vanderhoof Arena

Local school children will be invited to the Vanderhoof Arena at 12:30pm; cupcakes will be served and everyone will gather on the ice to sing "Happy Birthday". Seniors are invited to join for tea & coffee, cake, and to enjoy the historical photo series. Members of the public are welcome to join in the festivities, with a free skate happening from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

SATURDAY, January 23rd – Riverside Park

Join us at Riverside Park for food, music, and fireworks! Beginning at noon, the Nechako Nordics Ski Club is hosting a cross-country ski tournament until 2:00pm. Then, gather around a bonfire for chili dogs, bannock, and hot chocolate. Enjoy horse-drawn sleigh rides and a historical photo series of Vanderhoof since its incorporation. Live music will begin at 3:00pm with speeches at 5:30pm. The afternoon will end with a bang when the fireworks kickoff at 6pm.



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 2016 •
THE UPDATER IS A DISTRICT OF
VANDERHOOF COMMUNITY PUBLICATION
WWW.VANDERHOOF.CA

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UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

MONDAYS, JANUARY 25 & FEBRUARY 9
5:30 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
160 CONNAUGHT STREET

Inquiries to the UPDATER can be made to:
Chad Stewart 250-567-4711 or
updater@district.vanderhoof.ca

» Council Meeting Notes

November 23, 2015 Regular Meeting of Council

Council received a delegation from the Greater Nechako Animal Welfare Society (GNAWS). GNAWS requested \$3,777.40 in funding to contribute to a Trap-Neuter-Return program in order to prevent the reproduction of feral cats in the community. GNAWS requested a letter of support from the District of Vanderhoof for the TNR program; resumption of work for the revised Animal Control Bylaw Amendment and a letter of commitment for the funds for the TNR program. Council will discuss financial support during the budget discussion. Mr. Terry Broomsgrove, Chernoff Thompson Architects, reviewed his letter dated November 20, 2015 with Council. Council requested Mr. Broomsgrove to provide the costs associated with the YMCA requirements and the cost of new multi-purpose building if a new build. Mr. Broomsgrove stated he would have to review his file but could provide for Council possibly end of this week. The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the new Deputy Director of Community Development, Ms. Hilary Irvine to Council and gallery.

Council received a letter from Multi Material British Columbia (MMBC) and has placed the District of Vanderhoof on a waiting list in order to gain acceptance into the MMBC program.

The Chief Administrative Officer reviewed the Vanderhoof Vision correspondence provided for Council, discussed the six stations that will be staffed with one Staff member and one Councillor to address public questions or receive comments.

Council approved the sale of Lot 5, Section 21, Township 11, Range 5, Coast District Plan BC49115 located at the Vanderhoof Airport to Guardian Aerospace Holdings Ltd. for \$43,000.

Council received a report regarding the repair of School District (SD91) Tennis courts. Staff was directed to obtain a quote for the cost of laying asphalt in the tennis courts.

Council received a request from Hillview Motel to extend a new construction permit. Council resolved that the Hillview must apply for a new application with all fees waived and the paving requirement extended to 2019 pending a legal agreement.

December 7, 2015 Special Meeting of Council

Council received documents for the Integris Recreation Centre illustrating possible scenarios regarding pricing for the future development of the building. Council directed staff apply for grant opportunities to further support the YMCA with this project. Council decided to secure the Kwik Save building and to protect it until a decision could be reached over a possible use. Council discussed possible uses for the Kwik Save and scheduled a meeting on January 13, 2016 to discuss the matter further.

Council received a report regarding solid waste collection and instructed staff to get a firm cost for a suitable solid waste collection vehicle with a cart tipper function along with the cost for individual solid waste carts for our customers for the next budget meeting. Council further instructed staff to draft a report that includes the entire municipality and all areas that are currently serviced by private contractors.

Council received a report regarding recycling options and has committed to implementing a suitable recycling depot system that is capable of handling the recycling needs of the community of Vanderhoof in a cost effective and appropriate manner.

Council received a CNC Board of Governors Meeting Request and attended the CNC Board of Governors meeting on January 16, 2016. Council provided a letter of support to accompany the UNBC Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium's grant application to the Real Estate Foundation of BC.

December 14, 2015 Regular Meeting of Council

Council received a delegation from Sgt. Svend Nielsen of the Vanderhoof RCMP Department who discussed the November 2015 RCMP statistics. Sgt. Nielsen fielded requests for commercial vehicle speed zones on Burrard Ave. requesting the limit of commercial vehicle speeds to not exceed 30 km/h. Requests have been made to create safer pedestrian traffic intersection at Riley St. and Hwy 16 by working with the Ministry of Transportation.

Council received a request from the Nechako View Senior Citizens Home Society's property to be exempted from paying municipal property tax in 2017. Staff has been instructed to explore additional options that would allow for Council to support seniors development through other means such as the exemption of permit fees.

Council approved the request for the Christmas festival to use Riverside Park campground on Saturday, December 19, 2015 to hold its annual Christmas Festival and furthermore, that power be made available to the campsites and the campground plowed of snow prior to the event, if necessary.

Council supported the application from Freshwater Fisheries BC for a grant of up to \$10,000 for the Interpretive Centre from Northern Development Initiative Trust's Capital Investment Analysis Program to help cover the cost of an advanced business case study.

The District of Vanderhoof provided a letter of support to the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition for continuing its unique role as a single, cohesive and informed voice that articulates regional communities, interests, priorities and good ideas to government and business; and continuing to be a catalyst for projects that contribute to the region's capacity to adapt, innovate, and achieve its long-term objectives.

Council agreed to provide a letter of support for GNAWS funding request to BCSPCA for a grant of \$6,201.00 to initiate a Trap-neuter-release feral cat program within the District of Vanderhoof and further that the request from GNAWS for funding up to the amount of \$3,777.00 be matched by the District in accordance to a dollar per dollar matching for the funds that GNAWS has generated.

The District of Vanderhoof has agreed to put \$373,752 towards securing "shovel ready" schematics in order to accompany a \$100,000 grant from the Nechako-Kitimaat Development Fund for the Vanderhoof Aquatic Centre.

Council denied the request made by The City of Prince George Stage Request to use the Portable Stage. Staff was directed to amend the policy regarding the recovery of labour costs associated with rentals in addition to the use of sound equipment in adverse weather conditions.

Council instructed staff to draft a Commercial Vehicle Speed limit on Burrard Ave and Hwy 16 limiting commercial traffic to 30km/h.

January 11, 2016 Regular Meeting of Council

Council received a delegation from the Nechako Valley Search and Rescue (NVSAR). NVSAR President, Chris Mushumanski, reviewed the activities of the organization for 2015. NVSAR is requesting \$5000.00 for their 2016 operational budget. Council deferred the NVSAR funding request due to a lack of quorum as Councillor

Moutray removed himself due to a conflict of interest.

The second delegation, Vanderhoof Air Cadets 899 - Cathy Ray, requested Council's permission to place a 40' shipping, storage container at the Vanderhoof Airport. Council approved Air Cadet Squadron 899 to work with staff to place the shipping container subject to a fire inspection for ventilation and a right to occupy agreement with the District of Vanderhoof.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding from Ducks Unlimited was received for the future development of the Redmond Pit Wetlands. Staff was directed to outline the preliminary forecasted projects, costs and if the maintenance of the site belongs to the District or the Vanderhoof Fish & Game Club, before finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding.

Council authorized the payment of \$25,000 to the YMCA of Northern BC to cover equipment and supplies for the 2015 calendar year.

Council supported the District of Vanderhoof's Canada Cultural Spaces Fund application in the amount of \$290,000 to be used to renovate the Integris Community Centre.

Council received and approved District of Vanderhoof Taxation Due Date and Penalty Bylaw 1151, 2016 for the first and second reading, this amendment corrects the business hours at the municipal office.

Council approved District of Vanderhoof OCP Amendment Bylaw No. 1152, 2105 for the first and second reading. Council approved the District of Vanderhoof Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1153, 2105 for the first and second reading. These bylaws apply to 2010 Mill Road, located behind Nechako Mechanical.

Council approved the Nechako Valley Rodeo Association grant application for \$2500.00.

Council supported the May 13, 2016 Sturgeon Release at Riverside Park and agreed to assist the NWSRI by sponsoring the BBQ lunch in the amount of \$2,200 and to provide labour and equipment at a cost of \$2,000 towards the event.

The Water and Sewer Frontage Court has been set for Monday, February 22, 2016 at 5:00 pm in Council Chambers and further that Mayor Thiessen, Councillors Little and Murphy be appointed as members and that Councillor Carpenter be appointed as an alternative to any member.