

ROSSLAND COUNCIL CONNECTS

June 2017

Issue #26

Message from Mayor Kathy

June is the time for graduations all around our region. On behalf of Council I want to extend our heartfelt **congratulations to all the graduates** of Seven Summits Learning Centre, JL Crowe Secondary School as well as those learners at Rossland Summit School and L'ecole des Sept-Sommets. It's a time of transition for lots of young people in our community and we are very proud of every one of you! Rossland has a long history of producing stars in many disciplines so we look forward to hearing of all your future accomplishments!

Sneak Peek Open House at the Miners Hall. We still have a few finishing touches to make but we are too excited not to share! Drop by the Miners Hall this Sunday June 18th between 1- 5 pm for a sneak peek at the Attic Renovation. Then watch for announcements about Grand Opening Celebrations!

Rossland was delighted to host the **Columbia Basin Trust's Board of Directors** meeting May 26th and 27th. The Board is drawn from across the Columbia Basin and meets regularly in different locations throughout the region. Councillor Aaron Cosby greeted the assembled crew and interested public, and then took them for a tour of the almost-completed Miner's Hall, an example of the difference their support has made to Rossland. Rossland Council for Arts & Culture members shared the Hall's history and unique character; the board was particularly impressed with the new top floor space. (and our town in general!)

Council News:

Council is pleased to announce that we have contracted with Selkirk Security to provide **professional bylaw enforcement** for our community. Priorities will be garbage, parking, noise and nuisance complaints.

Speaking of bylaw enforcement, Council recently amended our **Good Neighbour bylaw** to include items such as the prohibition of bear bangers within the City. The bylaw has now been brought up to date and is better organized. It will make the job of our new bylaw enforcement officer easier.

At our recent meeting Council adopted a **Community Food Charter**. Part of the initiative includes a community strategy. To read the full charter go to Rossland.ca and check out the June 12th meeting agenda. Here are some key points. The City will consider impacts on food security in all decisions and is committed to a just and sustainable food system that:

- 1). Provides access to an abundance of nutritious and affordable regional food.
- 2). Supports education on growing and other important areas of food knowledge.
- 3). Enables prosperity for local farmers and success for home-scale growers.
- 4). Increases resilience to change through strong social and ecological systems.

Many thanks to the Sustainability's Food Security Task Force volunteers for their work and for the public input received on this initiative.

The Spokane Street infrastructure improvement project is underway and will be completed in the fall. The project started on Leroi Avenue in lower Rossland. Detours are in effect. Please drive carefully and be considerate of neighborhoods that unaccustomed to a lot of traffic. In case you were wondering, the covered stairway on Leroi will be reopened once construction is complete. Many, many thanks to our contractor, Copcan Ltd., for donating the time and equipment to excavate the Rossland **skate park** bowl. It's very exciting to see this project come to life.

Rossland is doing a **comprehensive sanitary sewer Inflow and infiltration strategy in 2017**. The project has started home inspections in Lower Rossland. The inspector is progressing through town. Storm and groundwater infiltrating into homes and then entering the sanitary sewer system is a common problem in town. The City has retained ISL Engineering and Land Services for this project. The ISL inspector will go door-to-door, to investigate the groundwater issues for every property in town. The inspector will request brief, chaperoned access to your home as well as your assistance to complete a short questionnaire regarding the groundwater and drainage issues on your property. **Residents are not obligated to permit the inspection of their home, but your cooperation and assistance is much appreciated.** If you have any questions or concerns please contact Darrin Albo (250) 362-7396 x1237 or Sean Annan, P.Eng (250) 509-0347. Thanks!

You recently received a notice about our **Streetlight Improvement project**. We are phasing in LED lights, and removing redundant or unnecessary lighting around town. Look carefully at the lights around you. If you see bagged lights, those are slated for removal. Get in touch with City Hall with your comments about lights that impact you. We will soon be rolling out a plan to allow residents to register their approval or disapproval of the removal of those lights. For details read the notice here: <http://www.rossland.ca/streetlight-improvement-project>

Finance Department updates: Property Tax Notices have been mailed. If you have not received yours contact City Hall. Please note that new owners are responsible for paying property taxes. Balances

outstanding on July 5th are subject to a 10% penalty. Home Owner Grant claims can now be made online, click on the "Claim Home Owner Grant" link at www.rossland.ca. We appreciated your patience as we experienced delays in the system update, but it was necessary to provide a more secure online portal. Credit card acceptance: Target date to provide telephone and online credit card payment is June 23rd for property taxes, utilities and pet licences. Business licences may be paid for by credit card in January 2018. The fee for this service will be 1.75% of the payment amount.

Did you know?

Join the **Gold Fever Follies**, Rossland Council for Arts & Culture and the City of Rossland on Wednesday July 5th at 7:30 pm for a celebration of the re-opening of the Miners Hall and the Opening of the Follies 30th season. Watch for details. Reserve your ticket for this special event! 250-362-9063 old_grey_mare_55@hotmail.com)

Join the BC Summer Reading Club 2017 for a Walk on the Wild Side! It's FREE and FUN for ages 0-12. Registration starts June 1st at the library & Farmers' Market and continues all summer. Programs start July 4th

Canada Day Celebrations- Canada 150 Rossland will celebrate Canada's 150th birthday and other milestones on July 1st. This year marks not only 150 years of confederation, but also the City of Rossland's 120th birthday, the Rossland Museum's 50th anniversary and the Gold Fever Follies' 30th anniversary. The July 1st Canada Day celebration at the Museum, 12-4 p.m., will mark each of these occasions with a special cake. The event will include plenty of fun activities and games for kids, including gold panning, face painting and city trucks to climb on. There will be food trucks, a beverage tent and a number of fun and informative booths. Visit the Heritage Commission booth to see a mock up of the brass plaque to honour Ross Thompson, our founding father. Cast your vote for the installation location. Also, record your present day family connections with early Rosslanders: How deep are your roots??

Be entertained! The Gold Fever Follies will perform songs from this year's all new performance "The Red Mountain" and will lead everyone in singing "O Canada." The Golden City Fiddlers will perform and there will be a children's entertainer too. Come check out the newly renovated museum and the new exhibits!

Want to participate in the traditional **hike up Mt Roberts** to raise the maple leaf and sing O Canada? Meet Councillor Morel in the museum parking lot at 8 a.m.

The **recently renovated museum** will hold an official ribbon-cutting event on July 4th at 11am; 50 years to the

day when the museum first opened! The Canadian Coast to Coast Classic Vehicle Tour rolls through town and the Rossland Museum has invited the Coasters to stop by for a visit. Now is a terrific time for everyone to check out the new exhibits and ogle the classic automobiles.

Join Rachael Roussin and the **Sustainability Commission on Saturday June 17 from 10-11 am for Composting Gold: The Art & Science of Composting**. With a Masters in Land & Water Systems and experience as a Bear Aware Coordinator, Rachael has a lot to share about composting successfully and responsibly. She'll talk about the science of composting, composting in bear country and demonstrate how to build your compost heap. Come prepared to get dirty! This event will be held at the Community Garden, North Jubilee Park - rain or shine!

Speaking of the **Sustainability Commission, the Energy Task Force** hosted a very well attended event to discuss the feasibility of solar installations in Rossland. Many thanks to local experts Kelly St John and Jeff Herr for a fascinating presentation. Sixty people from our region showed up to learn more about this sustainable technology. Watch for news of the next energy crawl where you can visit local homes with alternative energy sources.

The Youth Action Network has moved out of the Columbia Avenue YAN Space and is planning a Fall 2017 opening of the new location on the Emcon lot. YAN staff will be hard at work all summer with volunteers and local builders to complete the renovation of the building that was allocated to YAN by the City. Thank you for the great response of in kind and discounted materials and services from our local suppliers and construction companies. You can contribute to the project at <http://yanreno.yodel.org/> or by cheque at City Hall. Donate \$25 or more to receive a tax receipt.

The Creating a Supportive Rossland group, a local LGBTQ+ & Gender issues group, is excited to complete the 'Rainbow Crosswalk' project this summer now that the Washington Street renewal is complete.

FortisBC will be in Rossland during the last 2 weeks of June doing **FREE on-site energy evaluations for small businesses**. Sign up now and receive info on energy-efficient equipment upgrades & rebates, Sign up at www.fortisbc.com/rossland or email businessrebates@fortisbc.com

Be in touch! City Hall 362-7396. Contact Council through www.rossland.ca

Next Council meeting: *June 22, at 3pm*****