

GREETINGS FROM YOUR MAYOR AND COUNCIL

THE MAYOR IS IN

Mayor Granstrom will be available Tuesdays from 10am till noon at City Hall starting March 2, to meet with any person wishing to have an informal exchange.

PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Council has now adopted a new Procedure Bylaw allowing for a public input period at the beginning of each Council meeting. Those wishing to bring a matter to Council are welcome to show up at 7:00 pm without having to be on the formal agenda.

NEW CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Mayor and Council, along with Staff, are pleased to welcome Victor Kumar to the team. Victor comes to the City with over 30 years experience as a City Manger and we are all looking forward to his leadership and innovative ideas.

113th ROSSLAND WINTER CARNIVAL

Wow! What a weekend. An enormous thank you to the Winter Carnival Committee (Kelly Acheson), City's Public Works crew, Tourism Rossland (Deanne Steven) and all the volunteers who made this weekend memorable and fun! And let's not forget a thank you to Rick Mercer for the excellent coverage and added excitement during the celebration. We all look forward to next year!!!!

ROSSLAND SCHOOLS

Rossland has been actively involved in the School District's "Planning For the Future 2" planning process. This process was initiated by the School Board and the three district meetings were well attended. Rosslanders attended the RSS meeting with enthusiasm and respectfulness, delivering interesting questions and comments in order to better understand the scenarios presented in the document. As mandated in the Official Community Plan for Rossland, it was clear that K-12 education in our community is preferred, for the future. The City of Rossland has submitted two letters to the Provincial Government's Ministry of Education and to the School Board. Find those on the City's website for perusal.

To date, there are a number of community members working to explore some options that can keep our schools open and our community sustainable. As citizens, you're all encouraged to be proactive, by attending meetings, being informed, and submitting an individual or group submission to the Board with your ideas and possible future scenarios for success. February 28, 2010 is the submission deadline. For example, one of the ideas emerging is a possible centre of learning or what is called the "Neighbourhoods of Learning" concept. A small group has met to explore this idea and any stakeholders who wanted to attend were given the opportunity to share in a brainstorming session. The process is ongoing and all citizens of Rossland are invited to contact Councillor Jill Spearn, Education Liaison, with any questions or comments.

CRAZY DRIVERS

Caution: reverse turns are not permitted in any business district or at any intersection controlled by lights. Also, the RCMP have had reports of several accidents relating to "j" turns, reverse turns in the middle of the block, these are

also illegal. The Motor Vehicle Act Sec. 168 explains the do's and don'ts. The RCMP will be issuing traffic citations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of Rossland is participating in a new economic development function for our region. The City along with our neighbours, City of Trail, Villages of Warfield, Montrose, Fruitvale, as well as Regional District Areas A and B have all come together to support this new initiative. The Lower Columbia Initiative Corporation has been formed under the auspices of the Lower Columbia Community Development Team, and funding will be through the RDKB. All 7 jurisdictions have committed to a 3 year funding agreement. Rossland will be well represented on the 11 person board of directors by Mayor Granstrom, Mr. Don Thompson of Red Mountain Ventures, and Mr. Bob Reardon of the Rossland Economic Development Task Force. All participants recognize the benefit of economic activity across the lower Columbia region. The goals of the LCI include attracting and supporting new businesses, building on existing assets and knowledge and supporting development projects.

2010 FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN AND BUDGET

The second budget and five year financial plan is currently being prepared for Council's approval. A financial plan questionnaire was distributed in October/November 2009 with some positive results and feedback. You can see the results from the questionnaire on page 37 and 38 of the Public Information Package regarding the Draft 2010 budget and Five Year Financial Plan on the City website. We hope those who attended the Financial Plan Public Presentation at the Prestige Inn on Monday, February 15 found it informative. The finalized Plan will be presented to Council for adoption in the next few weeks.

WATER, SEWER AND WASTE COLLECTION INVOICES

The annual Water, Sewer and Waste Collection invoices will be mailed in the second week of March and will be due by April 30, 2010. A 15% penalty will apply to all outstanding amounts after the due date.

2010 water rates will remain at the 2009 level but the 2010 sewer rate will increase by \$29.00/year to fund an operating reserve. You will also notice an increase of \$12.75 in your Waste collection invoice. This increase has been implemented to pay for a spring and fall yard waste collection program.

City Hall: 250-362-7396

Mayor: Greg Granstrom, 250-231-6525 mayor@rossland.ca

Councillors:

Laurie Chariton, 250-362-9461 laurie_chariton@telus.net

Kathy Moore, 250-362-3319 kathymoore27@gmail.com

Hanne Smith, 250-362-7767 smilhanne@gmail.com

Jill Spearn, 250-362-5367 jspearn@telus.net

Andy Stradling, 250-362-9626 andy.stradling@gmail.com

Kathy Wallace, 250-362-7362 kwallace307@gmail.com

GO PAPERLESS! Contact Traceybutler@rossland.ca
www.rossland.ca

ROSSLAND CITY HALL NEWS

Issue 6

February 2010

BUILDING PERMITS – OLD AND NEW(ish)

Have you taken out a building permit and completed the work? The Building Department would like a call. We have an excess amount of outstanding permits that need to be closed. If you are one of the many...please call City Hall to book an appointment to close your file. Outstanding or open building permits can impact mortgaging and/or the sale of your home.

THINKING ABOUT BUILDING?

The construction season is well underway!! If you are thinking about building, renovating or doing some energy improvements, now is the time to start planning and acquiring the appropriate information and permits. The Building Department has a wealth of information and knowledge to assist you. It is also the time to put the 'buzz' in local contractor's ears about your project.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you have the misfortune of an unexpected failure, damage or catastrophe in your home that requires you to make an insurance claim you are required to have a building permit for the remediation. Ask your contractor if they have applied for a permit. Building Bylaw 1978(1998) requires a permit for any works in relation to insulation and vapor barrier, plumbing and structural repairs which are the most common remediation issues.

RECREATION NEWS

The Spring Brochure is currently under construction and will be available March 15, 2010. If you are interested in running a program and would like more information, please contact the Recreation Department at 250-362-2327.

Interested in trying a new activity? Check out one of these great drop-in options!

For Preschoolers – Tumbalina!

Tumbalina is a diverse program for children between ages 0-4 years. The class includes learning about gymnastics apparatus in a fun, unstructured environment. There are several circuits set up for children to explore with their parents and teacher assisting at times. This 45 minute fun activity session will encourage large motor activity and hand eye co-ordination while learning how to maneuver over gymnastics apparatus in a fun, beginner format. The last 15 minutes of the program will involve a song and movement circle for children and parents to participate in.

TIME: Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm

DATES: running until April 21st (no classes over Spring Break – March 17 & 24)

LOCATION: MacLean Annex

FEES: \$6.00 Drop -In

Love to Dance? Try Zumba!

Zumba is a mix of music and dance. It includes a variety of international styles and music—salsa, meringue and cumbia, reggae ton (a mix of hip-hop and Spanish dancing), belly dancing and reggae. These classes are for all ages—no experience necessary! Zumba is an easy to follow, high energy workout where you have fun smiling, laughing and moving your hips. Songs are pre-choreographed, so the more classes you attend, the easier it gets!

TIMES: Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 am
Tuesdays, 5:15-6:15 pm

LOCATION: Miners' Hall

FEES: \$55.00/10 classes or \$7.00 drop in
Seniors/Students - \$45.00/10 classes or \$5.00 drop in

Yoga

This class has great focus on alignment and breath and is ideal for those looking for a therapeutic stretch. This is an excellent class for athletic people who need to release tension from overworked muscles, as well as those looking to deepen their practice. The environment is serene, soothing and safe. There is no pressure in this class and Norma ensures people move safely through the basic Hatha/Ashtanga/Anusara template. A great way to unwind after work!! Please bring a mat & blanket.

TIMES: Mondays, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:45 pm

FEES: \$80.00 / 10 punch pass
\$40.00 / 5 classes, either night over 7 weeks
\$10.00 Drop In (Adult)
\$8.00 Drop In (Student & Seniors)

LOCATION: MacLean Annex

ROSSLAND YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

Registration starts February 15 and is done online, at www.kootenaysouthsoccer.com.

ROSSLAND SWIMMING POOL

As the snow starts to melt and the days get longer, it's time to start thinking about summer! The Rossland Pool will be accepting applications for employment until April 1, 2010. If you are a local youth with the necessary certifications, please drop off a resume at the Recreation Department.

TENNIS

Three recently resurfaced, 100 year old courts are located in a quiet setting near the corner of Park St. and LeRoi Ave. Annual membership dues can be purchased at Rossland Recreation. Memberships: Junior \$20, Family \$70, Adult \$40, Couple \$60.

EARTH HOUR – MARCH 27, 2010 8:30pm

C'mon Rossland! Join your community for one hour to show your support for the environment. In 2009 hundreds of millions of people turned out their lights for one hour to show their support for climate action. Check out www.earthhour.org for more information.