
ROSSLAND CITY HALL NEWS

Volume 3, Issue 3

August 2008

Water conservation programs

Planning for our future

The City is in the process of implementing a water use management plan that includes the mandatory installation of water meters. Water meters provide information on the use of water at the individual property level and will allow the City to develop equitable pricing structures and demand management programs for future consumption.

The City is also developing a low-flush toilet rebate program for 2009 as an incentive for households to replace older and more wasteful models. Please visit the City's information booth in the arena at the Rossland Fall Fair for more information❖

Official Community Plan update

A new blueprint for growth

Council is continuing its careful review of the public feedback on Rossland's new Official Community Plan (OCP). Council hopes to present the draft OCP in September at a formal Public Hearing before considering the document for adoption. Please visit the Rossland web site: www.rossland.ca for updates on the OCP process.

In addition to the new OCP, the City will soon begin a review of the Zoning Bylaw. This document supports the OCP at a more detailed level. The zoning bylaw sets out detailed regulations for the use and development of land including specifications regarding density, permitted uses, lot sizes, setbacks and building height. The City expects that the new zoning bylaw will be in place in early 2009❖

A new Building Inspector

Service excellence for our community

Jason Ward, AscT, has been hired as Rossland's new Building

Inspector. Jason's drop-in schedule is 8:30 am – 10:00 am Monday to Friday at City Hall with the remainder of the day designated for site visits throughout Rossland. The hiring of a building inspector concludes Council's initiative to reduce costs and to improve the Building Inspection services for Rossland residents. Jason holds a Level II Building Inspection certificate and is progressing to Level III and Level I Plumbing Inspection certification. Jason is originally from Fruitvale, BC.❖

Finance news

Additional cost savings

Council recently appointed Berg Naqvi Lehmann, Chartered Accountants as the City's auditors for a 3 year term. This appointment represents a cost saving to the City and transitions the audit function to a firm that specializes in municipal finance❖

Development Cost Charges

The City has recently embarked on a review of the Development Cost Charge (DCC) Bylaw. DCCs are collected from developers to support future infrastructure requirements by levying a per unit charge on new construction. The most significant proposed change to the bylaw is in the cost per unit, which under the current draft has increased from \$3,329 to \$13,915 for a single family home at Red Mountain. This increased cost is due to a reduction in the population predictions used in previous calculations to 1.5% per annum, and the inclusion of several large water supply and treatment related projects based on our current knowledge of costs and water demands.

A copy of the draft DCC bylaw is available on the City website and comments are welcome. The City is hoping to adopt a revised bylaw this Fall. Please contact Mike Thomas, City Engineer, 250-362-2326, for more information or to submit comments❖

Election time

Looking for community leaders

The next Municipal Election is on November 15, 2008 at the MacLean School Annex (Drill Hall). Advance voting will be on Wednesday November 5, 2008 at the Rossland Seniors Hall and Wednesday November 12, 2008 at City Hall. If you are interested in running as a candidate for Mayor, Councillor or School Trustee please pick up a nomination package at City Hall. Packages will be available on August 22, 2008 and must be received by October 10, 2008 by 4:00 pm. For more information please contact Tracey Butler, Deputy City Clerk @ 250-362-2321 ❖

Message from the Mayor

Last month Red Mountain Ventures formally notified Council that they would not be moving forward with their golf course proposal. For some this is a lost opportunity, for others a hard fought victory and for a few a controversy that they are clearly reluctant to let go. Despite the mistrust and negativity that surrounded this application it is vital that the community re-establishes our positive approach to address issues rationally and in the context of a sustainable future for Rossland.

Our work continues to provide our community with a long-term framework for success. Council is currently establishing a Sustainability Commission to oversee and monitor the implementation of the Visions-to-Action plan. The role of this Commission will be to ensure that the actions documented in the Strategic Sustainability Plan are supported by Council in a meaningful way.

We all have the responsibility to address issues rationally and in the context of a sustainable future for Rossland

In addition to the Sustainability Commission, Council is also establishing three community Task Forces. These are Economic Development, Housing and Affordability and Water. Council will be asking members of the community to volunteer for a position on these Task Forces in the near future.

The result of the Sustainability Commission and supporting Task Forces will be to provide the community with a formal network of individuals who will be taking an informed and balanced approach to implementing specific actions that make Rossland more vibrant and adaptable to change.

This is a positive and innovative approach to incorporating sustainability into Rossland's governance framework. We look forward to your participation ❖

COUNCIL CONTACT INFO

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 8, 7:30 PM – CITY HALL

SEPTEMBER 29, 7:30 PM – CITY HALL

OCTOBER 14, 7:30 PM – CITY HALL (TUESDAY)

OCTOBER 27, 7:30 PM – CITY HALL

ALL REGULAR AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

WWW.ROSSLAND.CA

Please check our website for an up-to-date schedule of upcoming events, notices and Rossland Recreation programming news.