

## **ROSSLAND COUNCIL CONNECTS** **February 2015**

### **Note from Mayor Kathy**

Hello Rosslanders! Your council has been hard at work. The focus has been on our financial plan and defining our strategic goals for this year. Of course, I took time out from the serious stuff to join the Eager Beavers in the bobsled race. What a great Winter Carnival! Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who donated countless hours and a special shout out to Big Red Cats, Impact Equipment, RossVegas and those city employees for their volunteer efforts on the event.

**Mayor Kathy Moore**

### **Did you know?**

- You can pay your utility bills on line!  
Contact city hall to find out how.  
362-7396
- The Museum has winter hours:  
Wed-Sun. 12-5pm
- The library is starting their renovation fundraising project.  
<http://www.rosslandlibraryrenewal.com>
- The Heritage Commission has a new website!  
<http://www.heritagerossland.com>
- Guess how much it costs to keep our streets clear of snow? \$400k per year!  
Thank a city worker after the next big storm! (if there is one).

### **Be in touch!**

Please contact us at any time with questions or concerns:

[mayor@rossland.ca](mailto:mayor@rossland.ca) 362-3319, cell 521-1500  
[CouncillorCosbey@rossland.ca](mailto:CouncillorCosbey@rossland.ca) 362-2275, 521-3059  
[CouncillorKruysse@rossland.ca](mailto:CouncillorKruysse@rossland.ca) 362-9078  
[CouncillorZwicker@rossland.ca](mailto:CouncillorZwicker@rossland.ca) 231-9878  
[CouncillorMorel@rossland.ca](mailto:CouncillorMorel@rossland.ca) 362-5042, 231-7168  
[CouncillorMcLellan@rossland.ca](mailto:CouncillorMcLellan@rossland.ca) 362-5557, 364-8918  
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City Hall 362-7396

### **Council News:**

**Council Plan Finalized for 2015** Council has been listening carefully to the concerns of Rossland residents and businesses. On February 5th, Council and staff finalized the priorities to be resolved this year within the context of serious financial challenges facing the City. The following initiatives form Council's strategy for ensuring Rossland's viability. They will determine the tax rates, quality of services, good management, staff work plans and good governance. Council priorities, many of which are now underway, are:

- Review and establish fees, taxes and charges that are competitive with comparable communities.
- Invest in specific road, water and sewer projects critically necessary to keep the city functioning well.
- Establish a robust reporting system for all significant capital projects to ensure proper oversight and accountability.
- Continuous process improvement of selected services to increase quality of service and reduce costs.
- Complete proper business planning for the arena, Miners' Hall and our swimming pool that will ensure quality service at a lower taxpayer subsidy.
- Resolve the CAO issue.
- Negotiate equitable access for Rossland residents to Trail Aquatic Centre.
- Analyze the value of Rossland's land and building assets with the objectives of increasing revenue, improving services, and reducing costs.
- Prepare a model procurement bylaw to ensure purchases are made in best interests of taxpayer.

These are only some of the many responsibilities the City needs to address; however, every organization needs to set priorities. These priorities reflect both resident and financial

viability concerns. Your Council has begun a regular communication program that seeks to share information about City activities and obtain input from citizens on city matters. If you have any comments about the priorities, please contact us. Finally, please note that Council will be undertaking a more detailed planning process later this year to drive progress and change over the remaining Council term of 3.5 years. Public engagement will be an important component of our long term plan.

**Congrats to Councillor Kruyssen:** He was honored with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Volunteer of the Year award for his economic development work, mostly in Asia.

**Bright Council Chambers:** Many thanks to local artists Andy Holmes, Claude Stormes and Richard Soltice. Their beautiful work is on loan to the city and available for purchase. It makes the atmosphere in chambers completely different. Feel free to visit.

**Rossland Mountain Winter Market** has been a wonderful success. Come shop local and visit the council table to share your ideas or concerns. Feb 21st & Mar 21st 2-7pm Miners Hall.

**Urban Trail Grant:** Twenty BC communities will receive more than \$3.69 million in BikeBC funding this year to expand and build, trails and paths for B.C. families. Rossland got \$24k to build a trail to connect Pinewood and downtown.

### ***Committee News***

**Local Advisory Committee members needed!**  
Join a committee to advise the Steering Committee on issues related to the development of a new sewage treatment plant for our area. Details and applications are available at City Hall.

**Communications Committee news:** Council is very proud of our new Communications Plan: Copy this into your browser:

<http://tinyurl.com/CoRCommPlan2015>

### ***Community Q & A***

**Q:** Are you working on a deal with Trail for the Aquatic Centre?

**A: Yes,** Council members Cosbey, McLellan, Zwicker and Moore will be working with Trail's representatives. Our discussions will be based on mutually agreed principles.

**Q:** Can I still have input into the financial plan?

**A: Yes!** Even if you didn't participate in the first phase you are welcome to jump into Phase 2. Everyone can prioritize the ideas that have been submitted to Thoughtexchange. It's easiest if you can do it online [bit.ly/rosslandbudget2](http://bit.ly/rosslandbudget2) (due by Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>) but hard copies are available at City Hall or go to the Legion Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 12:45-2:45 to get some help with the process.

### ***What's up in the neighbourhood?***

Here is the latest Lower Columbia Initiatives Corporation statistic:



### ***Next...***

**Newsletter:** In an effort to save paper, we want future newsletters to be electronic. Please go to [www.rossland.ca](http://www.rossland.ca) to sign-up for newsletters in 'E-Mail Updates' on the bottom right of our main page. But, don't worry, some copies will always be available in printed form.

**Council Meetings:** Will generally be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month, **starting at 6 pm.** See [www.rossland.ca](http://www.rossland.ca) for a complete schedule.