

Mayor's Communiqué

(February 2010)

My schedule in January was occupied with several Regional District budget meetings and these will continue in February. In addition, the Town of Creston will start their own budget process; these sessions are very important because they eventually affect our tax rates.

During January, utility invoices for water and sewer were distributed and sizeable increases were outlined. The reduction of the pre-payment discount was another indirect increase. While individually we do not want taxation increases, we do understand the need to provide safe and clean drinking water and to remove our waste safely. Our Town Council has been charged with conducting the Town's business in a responsible and prudent manner and, in some cases, we are required to be the messengers of taxation increases.

During the course of a year, I receive many requests for improved services. Most of these requests are related to localized projects (snow removal of driveway entrances, installation of new or replaced sidewalks, repaving of a street, removal of water restrictions, etc). While all of these requests could be accommodated, they would reflect tax increases to the community as a whole. Your current Town Council is endeavouring to shape the long-term infrastructure needs of the community while, at the same time, considering more localized requests. Importantly, projects and services need to be balanced with the realities of cost.

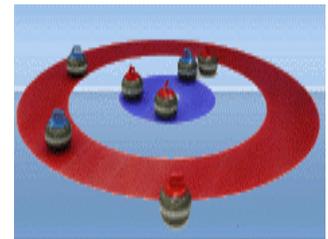
With an eye to the future, growing our Valley with more residents and businesses will greatly assist in increasing the tax base and associated revenue. These moneys can, in turn, be reinvested into the Community.

My tentative February schedule is as follows:

Feb. 2 Committee of the Whole meeting – Michelle Mungall (MLA) attending
Feb. 4-5 Regional District meetings in Nelson
Feb. 8 RD CV Services Committee meeting
Feb. 9 East Resource Recover meeting and Town COUNCIL
Feb. 10 Network Society meeting

Feb. 12-14 Creston Ladies Valentine BONSPIEL at Curling Club
Feb. 12-28 Olympics in Vancouver and Whistler, BC

Feb. 16 Committee of the Whole meeting
Feb. 20 Airport Society meeting
Feb. 23 Town COUNCIL meeting
Feb. 25 Regional District Board meeting in Nelson



I want to hear from you:

Please share your concerns, your experience, your issues (both positive and negative) on how we can improve the quality of life in our community (the Town and the Creston Valley).

Thanks

Mayor Ron Toyota
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