

## Mayor's Communiqué

(October 4, 2009)

SEPTEMBER 2009 was a very busy month with travel to Vancouver to attend the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual UBCM (Union of British Columbia Municipalities) Conference. Over 2,000 were registered representing most Regional Districts, Villages, Towns and Cities in British Columbia. This conference was held at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our Council attended many positive meetings and were able to network with our peers throughout British Columbia.

In addition to the Conference agenda, I was able to participate and attend meetings with Premier Campbell, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure (Hon. Shirley Bond), Minister of Community & Rural Development (Hon. Bill Bennett), Minister of Agriculture & Lands (Hon. Steve Thomson), Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Hon. Kash Heed) and have discussions with the Chair of the ALC (Agricultural Land Commission), and many Ministerial staff members. The purpose of these meetings is to explain the needs and visions of our citizens in the Creston Valley. Upgrades and improvements to our drinking water delivery system, better policing protection and fire protection services, improved highway safety and truck traffic movement through our downtown area and health care improvements by establishing a local WELLNESS CENTER FACILITY. Special congratulations to Councillor Wesly Graham for his successful re-election as a UBCM Director-at-Large.

Our Town Council and staff were successful in receiving application approval from the ALC for the development of a new hotel and conference center facility as well as future commercial development. This is a major step forward for our entire community to provide facilities for future agriculture and business meetings.

Another positive announcement was the \$2.5 million Build Canada Fund “top-up” grant towards our Waste Water Treatment Plant, which means the citizens of Creston will only need to provide funding of 33% of the \$2.5 million project cost.

Phase 2 of our Downtown Revitalization project is almost complete and the new Recreation Center Complex is taking shape with the roof completed and soon the Aquatic pool facility will be enclosed and we look forward to the opening by early March 2010.

October tentative schedule:

October 6	Committee of the Whole meeting
October 8	RD General Affairs meeting in Nelson
October 9	KERHD meeting in Cranbrook
October 12	Thanksgiving Day
October 13	Town Council meeting
October 14-15	RD Budget meetings in Nelson
October 19	CVR Airport Society AGM
October 22	RD Board Meeting in Nelson
Oct 23 to 31	away in Mississippi

### ***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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