

Mayor's Communiqué

(August 1, 2009)

In early July, requests to meet were sent to several new BC Government Cabinet Ministers and a response was received from the Solicitor General's office (Hon. Kash Heed) that he would meet with me on July 29th at his office in Victoria. In addition to this meeting, the Minister of Transportation's office (Hon. Shirley Bond) gave me a meeting time on the same day. Also I was able to meet the new Executive Assistant (Richard Davis) of the Hon. Bill Bennett's office.

I was pleased with the opportunity to have a 30 minute session with the Hon. Kash Heed and his 2 staff members to review our Regional Policing model for the Creston Valley. He was very supportive that our community is promoting a model that is creative and addresses some of the rural policing issues that the Province of BC is concerned with.

On the same day, I had a 30 minute session with the Hon. Shirley Bond and her 2 staff members to explain our Downtown Revitalization Program and the urgent need to move heavy truck traffic off of our main street (Canyon Street) for safety reasons, for community enjoyment and carbon footprint reduction. By creating a true highway intersection at Pine Street with Railway Ave and routing the truck traffic along Cook Street we could go from 4 current traffic lights to only 2. With the support of the School District Board and the Highways Department, this could become a reality within the next 2 years. Minister Bond was very supportive of this approach and she encouraged me to continue the pursuit to make this happen..

The next day, I attended the Highway #3 Mayor's Coalition Committee meeting held in Rossland, BC. The purpose of this Committee is to address the quality and conditions of the Highway #3 corridor from Hope to the Alberta border. Mayor's and RD Chair's from Princeton, Osoyoos, Penticton, Grand Forks, Rossland, Trail, Castlegar, Fruitvale, Creston, Fernie, Sparwood and Crowsnest Pass were in attendance. In addition 3 representatives from the Ministry of Transportation also attended. The number 1 priority is to request a re-alignment of the Sunday Summit area (between Manning Park and Princeton) to improve the safety and time issues to travel from the lower mainland to the BC southern interior.

Highlights:

- Opening of the Rotary Splash Playground at Centennial Park
- Opening of the Goat Style Bike Jam event at the Creston Rec Grounds
- The launching of the Alexander Keith's product at Columbia Brewery
- Meetings at the BC Parliament Buildings in Victoria
- Attending the Highway #3 Mayor's Coalition Committee
- Opening of the Creston Museum's – Founders Hall

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

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