



THE TOWN Citizen

ISSUE 1

A U T U M N 2 0 0 7

Mayor's Message

Welcome to the Town Citizen! This is our new newsletter, published for citizens by the Town of Creston. It is our way of improving communication with you, to let you know what is going on at Town Hall, what projects we are working on, and how we can all work together to improve the greatest town anywhere!



I was recently part of the Creston delegation that made the trip to our sister city of Kaminoho, Japan, to celebrate the 15th anniversary of our twinning relationship. We had a jam-packed week of official visits, cultural events, and city tours in surrounding Gifu province. I look forward to continuing this

relationship of cultural and educational exchanges with our twin city of Kaminoho.

So far, 2007 has been a very busy and exciting year for the Town. I hope you will enjoy reading about what we have been doing. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or any member of Council at Town Hall.

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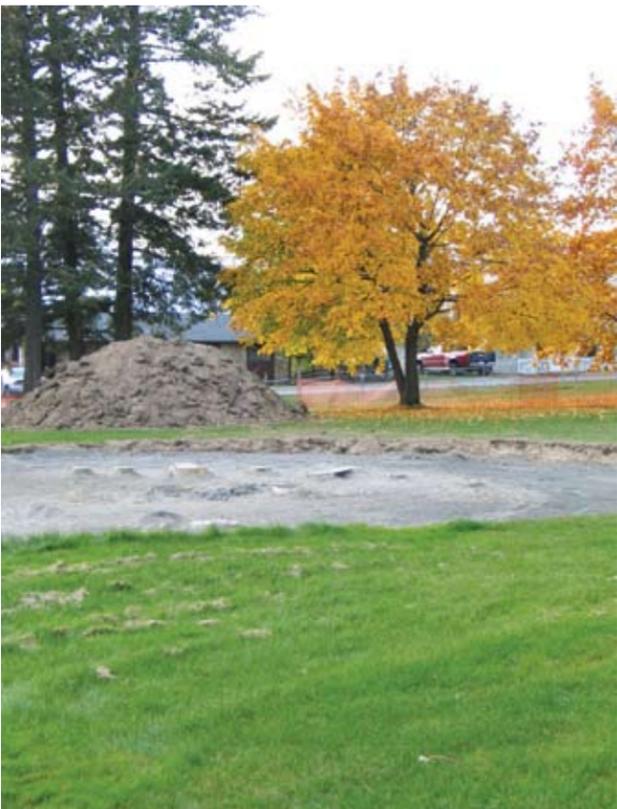
Crawford Hill Completed

"A project well done by the Town of Creston" - Crawford Hill resident

Town crews were hard at work this summer and completed upgrades to Crawford Street. The upgrades were undertaken both to calm traffic flow and to accommodate the installation of a raised sidewalk. Improving pedestrian safety was a major consideration in this project, as many pedestrians use the road. Positive feedback from residents has already been heard at Town Hall, including this comment from Crawford Hill resident, Jasmine Lothien: "Living in the middle of construction, I really appreciated how good the town crew was to us residents, making the construction time seem shorter. Being a walker, I will feel much safer with a sidewalk, particularly at night, when vision is limited."

Having a Splash!

Look forward to fun-filled family entertainment at Centennial Park, starting in the spring of 2008. A 100 ft x 50 ft (30m x 15m) water park is currently under construction by Creston Rotary Club and the Town. Construction is now 25% complete, with the ground excavation finished and concrete footings in place. Once spring rolls around, crews will start pipe work and install a variety of water-spraying components.



By next summer Creston kids will be enjoying their own spray park at Centennial Park (top), like the one pictured in Oliver, BC (top right).

Working Together

Construction has recently started on a project to replace the first two kilometres of water pipeline that supplies treated water from the Arrow Creek Water Treatment Plant. The RDCK, and the Town of Creston, through the Arrow Creek Water Commission, along with the Province and the Federal government, have come together to bring this much needed project to fruition.

The existing two-kilometer section of 1929 pipe was seriously leaking and everyone agreed that it had to be replaced. Construction began on October 22. The project is an investment in the community, and local people and equipment are completing the work. RDCK and Arrow Creek Commission staffs are managing the project. The work is estimated to be completed before Christmas.

For more information, contact Don Nash, Manager of Environmental Services, RDCK at 1-800-268-7325.

Community Housing Forum

A Community Housing Forum was held on October 26 at Creston Community Complex. This was an opportunity for community members to learn about housing initiatives in other places, to review BC Housing and CMHC programs and initiatives around housing, and to discuss housing issues and priorities for the Creston Valley. Approximately fifty people attended, and those interested in helping to mobilize the community around the issues are invited to attend a follow-up meeting at the Creston Public Library on November 19. For more information, please contact Dina Kastelan at 402-6775.

Recreation Complex Update

Construction is estimated to begin late this winter on the Creston & District Facility Enhancement project. Changes will include renovations to the existing complex, and the addition of an indoor aquatic and fitness facility. Look for further information in a community mail out and open house, which will be coming in the near future. Further details will also be available on the RDCK website at: www.rdck.bc.ca



Ready for adventure! Mayor Snopek and the Creston delegation arrive in Japan.

Building Inspector's Update

Creston is enjoying unprecedented construction growth in 2007. A peek into the Building Inspector's files shows the following numbers for the last two years:

Building Permits:	2006 Total	2007 to date*
Total permits issued	82	96
Single Family New Construction	20	37
Commercial/Industrial/Institutional	16	11
Total value * to 10/16/2007	\$6,957,700	\$8,190,200

The largest building permit issued to date this year is for the new Home Hardware store. The long-anticipated expansion will house a 25,000 sq. ft. complex on the site of the old John Deere building on Northwest Blvd.

"We would like to thank the people of the Valley for their support. We are looking forward to serving the community better in our new facility," store owner Rob Schepers said.



The Rotary Centennial Loop is wheelchair and stroller accessible.

Do You Need a Permit?

Residents are reminded that building permits are required, not only for new construction, but for many residential renovation projects as well. Please feel free to contact Town Hall at 428-2214 ext 233, for more information.

Trail Enjoyed by Pedestrians

The Creston Rotary Club Centennial Loop has not yet officially opened, but Creston residents are out enjoying this wide gravel trail, which starts behind Sunset Seed and extends to Cedar Street. Many improvements to the trail are still planned, including a kiosk and a wheelchair-accessible pavilion. The pavilion and benches are being built by PCSS students, with funding from Rick Hansen's Wheels in Motion Campaign and the CIBC.

A Community Making Strides!

Strong participation by Creston residents in the Community Strides Challenge continues. So far, 432 people are taking part and have walked over 194,000 km. Their goal is to walk 384,000 km, which is the distance from Earth to the moon, before November 30, 2007. To follow their progress visit www.communitystrides.ca

Notices and Announcements

Friendly Reminder

Unpaid property taxes and business licenses are past due for 2007.

Creston Fire and Rescue reminds you that open burning is now finished for 2007. Open burning is allowed in April and October of each year, with a permit. Permits are available at Town Hall for a cost of \$10 each. Permits are good for one week.

Santa Claus Parade is coming to town on December 7, 2007. To register, call parade organizer Mel Joy at 428-7088.

Lighten Up!

The Community Pride Committee is pleased to be sponsoring its annual "Light Up" campaign again this year. Residents and businesses alike are encouraged to take part by decorating their homes and storefronts for the Christmas season. Judging will take place on December 14 and 15. Phone Town Hall at 428-2214 ext. 226, to make sure the judges come to your home or store!

Lights Out?

We would like to hear from you if there is a problem with a street light in your area. Please call Town Hall at 428-2214, ext. 0, to report the prob-

lem. We will ask you for the location of the street light and whether it has a metal or wooden pole. Why? Because the Town is responsible for repairs to lights on metal poles, while FortisBC repairs lights on wooden poles. Report the problem to us, and we will advise FortisBC.

Taking Action on Health Care

Representatives from the Town, RDCK, CVDA, IHA and area doctors have come together to help recruit health professionals to the Valley. The Creston Regional Health Services Working Group has been meeting for the past year, with the purpose of supporting economic development and medical organizations in attracting medical professionals to the area.

The current focus of the group is to assist in the recruitment of new doctors to the Valley. A pilot project is underway, and a recruiter has been hired to proactively promote the Creston Valley and region to potential candidates. Building on the success of this pilot project, it is expected that the recruitment service will be expanded to include other health professionals as well.

Winter's Coming!

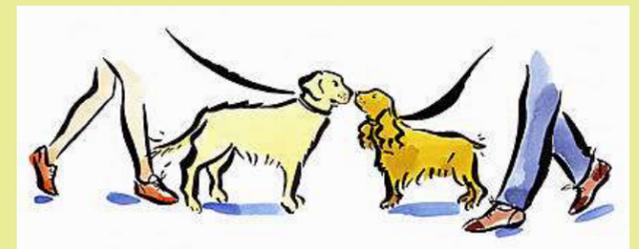
Remember that there is a town bylaw that requires residents to clear snow and ice from the sidewalks in front of their houses. Please do your part to keep

the sidewalks safe for kids, seniors, and everyone out for a breath of fresh air this winter.

Got Garbage?

You are entitled to place two bags or cans of garbage on the curb, per week, for pick-up. Tags for extra bags can be purchased at Town Hall for \$2.00 each. If your bags were missed, please call Ray's Garbage Pick-up at 428-9887.

For Dogs Only



All Creston dogs are asked to remind their owners to scoop up! Don't let your humans leave home without a bag, a spare, and one to share. Remind them to keep the streets clean for everyone out walking, and the parks clean for everyone to play in – whether on four legs, or two!

Restrictions Lifted

Thanks for your help in saving water this year! Water restrictions have now been lifted until further notice.