



THE TOWN Citizen

ISSUE 4



S U M M E R



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Mayor's Message

Phase 1 of Creston's downtown revitalization project is complete. On behalf of Town Council, I would like to say thank you to residents and business-owners for their patience, to Town crews for working so hard to complete the project on time and to the volunteers on the Downtown Steering Committee for their commitment in bringing our vision of a revitalized downtown to life.

As we head into the summer months, I would encourage everyone to support our Creston merchants by shopping locally and enjoying our new and improved downtown. Why not come downtown on a Saturday morning and enjoy the Saturday Market next to Millenium Park, or the upcoming flea markets at the Spirit Square?

I am pleased to report progress on Council's other priorities for 2008, which include the redevelopment of Cavell Street and upgrades to the Community Complex. These are big projects, and we are excited to cooperate with the Regional District, and to support Town crews and staff in their implementation.

Wishing you a fun and safe summer,

Mayor Joe Snopek



Creston's "green" Mayor Joe Snopek enjoys a ride on an electric bike during the 2008 Blossom Festival Parade.

Update on 2008 priorities

Cavell Street Upgrades

Plans are underway for upgrades to Cavell Street from 10th Avenue to the mall entrance. Changes will include a concrete sidewalk on the north side and a redesign of the intersection at 10th Avenue. Work is planned to begin this summer and be completed by October.

Community Complex Update

Construction on the Community Complex Enhancement Project will soon begin. The past few months have been spent refining the design to ensure the facility will serve the community's needs and at the same time operate as efficiently as possible.

The construction fencing is up at the site and contractors will start by installing the underground services required for the enlarged facility. The new arena change rooms will be built first, with work beginning once the underground work in the area is complete. The curling rink floor will be removed and replaced with a concrete floor prior to the upcoming curling season. The pool, fitness and other new areas are currently being designed, and work will begin on the foundations shortly.

Downtown Revitalization: Phase 1 is Complete!



Residents and visitors alike explored the Lion's Club Street Fair at the newly completed Spirit of Creston Square during Blossom Festival weekend.

Around Town

Take a Hike!

If you haven't done so already, take a walk down the Creston Rotary Club Centennial Loop. The trail, which begins on Cook Street next to Sunset Seed, was officially opened in April. The project was a joint endeavour between Trails for Creston Valley and the Creston Rotary Club, with assistance from the Town of Creston and sponsorship from many community groups and individuals.



Councillor Leon Mueller, Councillor and Rotarian Lawrence Lavender, and Trails for Creston Valley Secretary Ron Sherman unveil the new kiosk on the Rotary Centennial Loop, which acknowledges the many organizations and individuals who contributed to the project.

Make a Splash!



The Creston Rotary Club with support of the Town is hard at work on its next community project: the spray park in Centennial Park. Construction is well underway and is expected to be complete this summer. Watch for announcements of the grand opening, coming soon!

Grants 4 Kids



Members of Creston's Quilts 4 Kids get ready to send 40 quilts to BC Children's Hospital.

Creston's Quilts 4 Kids group was very pleased to hear the news that they had received a grant-in-aid of \$400 from the Town of Creston. The group of avid quilters meets weekly to make kid-sized quilts, which are then sent to children who are facing long-term hospital stays. "The ladies who make these quilts for the children were very excited and pleased to receive the very generous grant from the Town of Creston," member Gail Mason said recently.

The group donates quilts to the Creston Valley Hospital, Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, BC Children's Hospital and Calgary Children's Hospital, as well as to local organizations that serve families in need.

Tourists Welcome

A sani-dump has been constructed on the north side of Millenium Park. Signage and a parking pad will soon be installed, and it is expected that the sani-dump will be in service by the end of June. This free service, for recreational vehicle users, will be maintained by the Town.

2008 Council Meeting Schedule

Regular Committee Meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month. There is a closed portion of the meeting, which begins at 9:00 a.m., and an open portion which immediately follows.

Regular Council Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings

- July – No Meetings
- August – No Meetings
- September 2 (Tuesday)
- September 15
- October 6
- October 20
- November 3
- November 17
- December – No Meetings

Council Meetings

- July 15 ONLY
- August 12 ONLY
- September 9
- September 30 (5th Tuesday)
- October 14
- October 28
- November 12 (Wednesday)
- November 25
- December 1 – Inaugural Meeting (Monday)
- December 9
- December 23 – No Meeting

Both Regular Council and Committee Meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Chambers at Town Hall.

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Mayor: Joe Snopek
Councillors: Len Folkman,
Wesly Graham, Lawrence
Lavender, Leon Mueller,
Ed Vondracek, Joanna Wilson



Green Zone

Water Conservation

During the past few summers, the Town has implemented water restrictions in order to ensure water supply to all residents. However, water conservation is the easiest way to address water shortages. If we all do our part, and use a little less water each time we turn on the tap, we can work together as a community to conserve water.

If water restrictions are needed, notices will be placed in the Advance, and on local websites and radio stations.

Why Save Water?

Did you know that Canadians are among the highest water users in the world? Per capita, we use about twice as much water, per day, as residents of other industrialized nations. High water use results in higher costs of supplying drinking water, treating waste water and maintaining infrastructure. To find out more about the impact of water use, and water saving tips, visit the Environment Canada website at: www.ec.gc.ca

It's Back! – Plastic Recycling

The RDCK recently announced the return of plastic recycling in communities from Riondel to Yahk. Rigid plastic food and beverage containers that display the recycling loop with the numbers 1, 2, 4 or 5 will be accepted. You are encouraged to clean, rinse and flatten any items that are dropped off for recycling. Contact the Recycling Hotline for more information at 1-800-667-4321, or visit the RDCK website at www.rdck.bc.ca.



Make Way for the Pool!

The recycle bins that used to be at the Recreation Complex have been relocated to make way for construction of Creston's Indoor Aquatic Facility. The bins can now be found at 412 Helen Street, behind the car wash.

Are you prepared for an Emergency?

Some items to include in an emergency kit are:

- Water
- Canned food, energy bars, dried food;
- Manual can opener;
- flashlight and batteries;
- candles and matches or lighter;
- battery powered or wind-up radio (with extra batteries);
- Special need items (prescription medication, infant formula);
- Extra keys (car, house);
- Cash.

Visit www.getprepared.ca to make a family emergency preparedness plan



Top Ten Seasonal Fire Safety Tips, from the Fire Chief:

1. Check your barbeque before using; clean excess grease and residue.
2. Check your barbeque fuel connections with soapy water while under pressure. Hoses should be visually checked for cracks and replaced if necessary.
3. Locate your barbeque away from walls, siding and overhead materials that could catch fire. A rule of thumb is 36" of clearance from all sides and 60" clearance overhead.
4. Always open the lid before lighting the barbeque.
5. Keep oven mitts handy to prevent burns and keep children well away while cooking and moving hot foods.
6. Never store propane in your home; store in a secured shed or cabinet with no heat or flame sources.
7. Remove any bark mulch, coniferous trees or shrubs that are near your home. In the event of a forest fire they could ignite your home.
8. Consider changing any wood/cedar shingles to asphalt shingles to prevent ignition during a forest fire.
9. Clean any needles or leaves from your eavestroughs.
10. If you live next to the forest, call Creston Fire and Rescue for a free hazard assessment.

HAVE A FIRE SAFE SUMMER!



Notices and Announcements



Property Taxes

It's not too late to pay your 2008 property taxes on time!
The deadline for payment is Wednesday, July 2, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.



For Dogs Only

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!

Dogs are People Too!

Like people, dogs need plenty of clean cool drinking water to prevent dehydration. Make sure your dog has access to water and shade, to keep cool during the summer months.

Can I See Your License Please?

Please remember that there is a Town by-law that requires every dog living within Town limits to have a license. Annual fees are \$10 for spayed or neutered dogs, and \$45 for unspayed or unneutered dogs. The fee is \$100 for restricted breeds, and guide dogs are exempt from the fee. A license can be obtained at Town Hall. For more information, give us a call at 428-2214.

Population Growth

Please do your part to manage population growth by having your cat spayed or neutered.

Creston Fire and Rescue reminds you that open burning is finished until October 2008. 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.

Be aware of provincial fire bans before lighting a campfire this summer. Up to date information on fire bans and fire danger ratings can be found by visiting www.bcwildfire.ca.



Proud to be Canadian!

The Community Pride Committee will be sponsoring the Canada Day Celebrations at the Recreation Complex on Tuesday, July 1. Festivities will begin with a free swim from 1 to 4 p.m. Games and activities will be hosted by the Creston Museum and Overwaitea Foods and will begin at 4 p.m. And of course there will be fireworks, starting at 10 p.m. See you there!

Are You on the Voter's List?

If you qualify as an elector, you may register in advance for the upcoming Town of Creston Local Government Election. Registration applications are available at Town Hall and can be filled out any time before September 23, 2008. Municipal Elections will take place on Saturday, November 15, 2008. For more information on becoming a registered elector, please call 428-2214.

Free Parking

There will be free parking at all metered parking spaces during the months of July and August.

Extreme Makeover –Cook Street Parking Lot

January 2008



May 2008

