



## From the Mayor's Desk

BY RON TOYOTA  
Mayor - Town of Creston

### My "Mayor's Fire Fund"

Since my last article, the highly anticipated construction of the new Creston Emergency Services Building (CESB) has begun! In just a few short weeks, the foundation, external doors,

walls and the roof of CESB, located at 1505 Cook St., next to Pealow's Your Independent Grocer supermarket have been completed, and it is anticipated that the facility will be fully functional by Spring 2022. I am so excited that this project is well underway for some of the first responders of our community who provide the Creston Valley with such an invaluable service!

The Town of Creston has automatic aid agreements in place with the communities of Erickson, Lakeview-Arrowcreek and the Creston Flats, and contract service agreements with the communities of Canyon/Lister, Wynndel and West Creston. At any given time, we have up to 50 firefighters and almost 20 ambulance service personnel in the Creston Valley

providing first responder services.

Now that we can see a clear path to the finish line for the CESB, I would like to re-establish a proposal that I first made to the community in 2017 – my "Mayor's Fire Fund". My "Mayor's Fire Fund" proposal is to raise monies to support our volunteer firefighters by completing the Creston Valley Regional Fire Training facility located on Davis Drive (next to Pine Profiles). The Creston Valley Regional Fire Training

### My "Mayor's Fire Fund" proposal is to raise monies to support our volunteer firefighters

facility provides a location for our firefighters to engage in physical training activities to prepare for major incidents such as structure fires, vehicle fires, auto extrication, propane fires and more. The "fire training grounds" as they are referred to by the firefighters, are invaluable in that they allow our

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volunteers space and time to train to respond to these potential life-threatening situations.

My simple math is that if 100 donations of \$1,000 each were received, or if 200 donations of \$500 each were received, or if 500 donations of \$200 each were received (or any combination of the above), this would raise \$100,000 to go towards the completion of these important facilities for all our Creston Valley first responders. Any donations over \$20 will receive a tax receipt that you can claim personally.

Since 2019, I have personally donated \$1,000 to our new Fire Hall and \$1,000 to our Training Center and I commit to donating more in 2021 and in 2022. If you are interested in providing donations to the Mayor's Fire Fund, please contact me via email or phone, or stop in and see me at Town Hall. I am generally in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. I look forward to speaking with you!

This December, it will be 13 years since I was first elected to be your Mayor. I am truly honoured to have had the opportunity to serve the Town of Creston, and one of the ways that I have chosen to "give back" is to donate a portion of the pay that I receive for the Mayor's stipend to local organizations in the Creston Valley. This is a small gesture that I can make to support our volunteers that donate their time and efforts to this community that we call home. ♥

Don't hesitate to contact me by: Visiting me at my office in Town Hall, email at [ron.toyota@creston.ca](mailto:ron.toyota@creston.ca) or call 250 428 2214 (extension 227)

