



From the Mayor's Chair

A monthly report from the Office of the Mayor March 2011



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COMMUNITY LIVING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE PURCHASING POWER THAT PACKS A PUNCH

Terrace is a beautiful community. We all know that. I'm not talking about just the scenic beauty. This community has beauty in its people as well. This is a City of cultural richness. We welcome diversity. We are inclusive and accessible.

This is "Community Social Services Awareness" month and it's a good opportunity to recognize the contributions and efforts of the various social services organizations that do so much good in our community.

In my role as a Supported Employment Coordinator with Provincial Networking Group, I work with people who have developmental disabilities to help them find employment in the community. Through this work my eyes have been opened to just how important it is to be inclusive and accessible. It has been a wonderful experience to see the change in people when they are participating and contributing to the community.

Many businesses in Terrace have already discovered the benefits of tapping into this skills rich workforce. They understand that people with developmental disabilities are motivated and have abilities that make them valuable members of their work place. Research shows that 80 per cent of consumers prefer to support businesses with diverse workforces and that our participating

local businesses reap the rewards.

Information was recently gathered on the purchasing power of people involved with Community Living organizations in Terrace. As an industry, Community Living is an important economic sector in Terrace, employing over 320 people directly with an annual payroll of over 8.4 million dollars. In a recent survey of Community Living organizations here, it was found that the agencies had office related expenses that exceeded \$200,000.00 per year. The 320 employees of the Community Living companies are also purchasers of supplies and services. Their individual purchasing power was not reflected in the above survey.

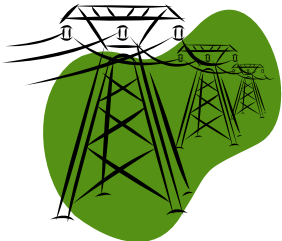
Businesses have a huge opportunity to tap into this purchasing power by opening up their business to be inclusive and accessible.

So during Community Social Services Awareness month and beyond, I encourage all businesses to consider the benefits of demonstrating diversity at your workplace. Consider how you can add a skilled employee to your payroll. Consider how you'll be improving that persons quality of life and then consider how you can grow your business by tapping into the purchasing power of the Community Living organizations that work so hard to make Terrace an inclusive and accessible city.



City of Terrace Talkback Line: (250) 638-4778

Website address: www.terrace.ca



NORTHWEST TRANSMISSION LINE — THE TIME TO BUILD IS NOW

The announcement that the Federal Government was calling a general election has not been met with much enthusiasm. Our concern in this region is the affect the election will have on a timely start to the construction of the northwest transmission line.

With this concern in mind, I arranged a telephone meeting with MP Nathan Cullen. I asked Nathan how the federal approval process for the transmission line will play out with the pending election and possible change in government. He said that the project is still in the Canadian Environmental Assessment office, it will give that group time to complete their work while the politi-

cal campaigning ramps up.

The election date of early May still puts the transmission line project on track for a spring construction start. This start date is important to match timelines proposed by proponents who need access to power by 2013, like Imperial Metals and Alta Gas. It's important to realize the economic impact the power line will have on our region. The City of Terrace and the Northwest Powerline Coalition will continue to push for a spring start to this project when talking with our federal government party leaders during their campaigns.

The Northwest Transmission Line will be built. The time to build is now.



TERRACE IN MOTION

Terrace City Council passed the following resolutions at the March 14 and March 28, 2011 meetings: (full details can be found on the City of Terrace website at www.terrace.ca)

- that the City of Terrace demonstrate support for Friends of Shames
- that the City of Terrace register to participate in Earth Hour 2011 and encourage Terrace residents to participate
- that the City of Terrace approve first, second, and third reading of a bylaw to add the right of refusal to release from impoundment and to permit the keeping of backyard hens
- That the City of Terrace approve first and second reading of the bylaw to regulate pesticides for cosmetic use and that a corresponding education program be implemented
- That a resolution be approved for consideration at the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) 2011 Annual General meeting and convention to have NCLGA and Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) lobby the Provincial Government to renew its commitment to heritage conservation
- that the City of Terrace purchase a membership in the Greater Terrace Food Association, and to appoint a staff member and re-appoint Councillor Leclerc to represent the City
- That the bylaw process be initiated to establish a Business Improvement Area in downtown Terrace
- That the City of Terrace approve third reading of the bylaw, as amended to regulate pesticides for cosmetic use and that a corresponding education program be implemented
- That the Animal Control Amendment Bylaw (Right of Refusal to Release and Backyard Hens) be adopted

25th Annual Garbathon April 17th, Noon - 4 p.m.

Please help out if you can!

The annual Garbathon is a great family friendly event that has such a huge impact on our community. Come to McDonald's on Lakelse Avenue in your work clothes and work gloves and we will provide you with bags for litter pick up. Register your group or specific location in advance with Chris at 250-638-1049 or register at the event on the 17th. Help us fill the giant dumpster and we will reward you with a McDonald's treat.

MAYOR'S SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 2011



March 1 - Lunch meeting with City Freeman Bill McRae, Happy Gang Centre

March 1 - TEDA Forum on First Nations Joint Venture Partnerships, Skeena Jr. Secondary School meeting room

March 3, 4 - Northern Region Mayor's & District Chairs Transportation Roundtable, Prince George Civic Centre

March 5 - Northwest Science & Innovation Society Science Fair - Awards presentation, Veritas School Auditorium

March 7 - Dinner meeting with Business Council of BC, President Greg D'Avignon, RTA Director of Government Relations, Richard Prokopanko and other community leaders, Blackstone Restaurant in the Lodge at Skeena Landing

March 10 - Meeting with Minister Steve Thomson, Minister of Energy, Terrace/Kitimat Regional Airport boardroom

March 10 - City of Terrace Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Presentation, Terrace Sportsplex

March 11 - Northern Development Initiative Trust Regional Advisory Committee meeting, City Hall

March 12 - Kinsmen Founder's Dinner, Northern Motor Inn Banquet room

March 14 - Federal Transportation Announcement—Partnership with Kitselas and Kitsumkalum

March 14 - Regular Council meeting, City Hall Council Chambers

March 15 - Avanti Mines Open House, Best Western Hotel Gators Room

March 16 - Terrace & District Chamber of Commerce Luncheon with Swift Power

March 17 - Lunch meeting with UNBC, Mr. Mike's

March 18 - Bill C606 Open House with Liberal MP Joyce Murray, Best Western meeting room

March 22 - BC Hydro Integrated Resource Plan open house, Terrace Sportsplex Banquet Room

March 23 - Meeting with Lesley Wood, BC Hydro Stakeholder Relations, NTL Project, Mayor's office @ City Hall

March 24 - Meeting with Minister Naomi Yakamoto, Minister of Advanced Education, Bear Country Inn

March 24 - Telephone meeting with Nathan Cullen, NTL update relating to Federal Government approval

March 24 - Celebration for the Provincial Hockey Champions, Bantam Boys Tier 3 Team, Terrace Sportsplex parking lot

March 25 - Northwest Community College luncheon with President Denise Henning

March 26 - Earth Hour

March 26 - My Mountain Coop membership drive and BBQ, Kwinitsa Building Office

March 28 - Tax Review Panel meeting

March 28 - Regular Council meeting

March 29 - Committee of the Whole meeting

March 29 - Canadian Cancer Society Luxury Lockup, New Attitudes & Hairwaves

March 31 - Budget meeting, City Hall