



CITY OF TERRACE FLAG RETURNS FROM AFGHANISTAN JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

Back in the spring of 2010, Bev Bujtas, an Order of Terrace recipient, contacted City Hall to ask if we could give her a City of Terrace flag to send to her son Jordan who was serving with the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan.

We don't normally give out City of Terrace flags and rarely do we have extra flags available to hand out. But this situation was different. We had a local hero fighting in this war. The City of Terrace was proud to answer Ms. Bujtas' request.



Sergeant Jordan Bujtas (middle) with the City of Terrace flag at his post in Afghanistan



That's Sergeant Jordan Bujtas with Mayor Dave Pernarowski along with City Councillors Carol Leclerc and Brian Downie accepting the return of the City of Terrace flag that flew in Afghanistan.

Now some six months later, Jordan Bujtas has returned safely to Canada and is spending a few days back in Terrace from his base in Edmonton, visiting family and friends during the Christmas holidays. He's brought us back the City of Terrace flag which he flew at his post in Afghanistan. It will truly be an honour to find a safe place for this flag at City Hall and to tell the story of how it travelled to a war and back bringing with it the safe return of a Canadian soldier.

Welcome home Sergeant Bujtas!

OUR COMMUNITY AT WORK - SKEENA CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

By Alexander Pietralla

The 2nd annual Skeena Christmas Festival was held at the Spirit Square in George Little Park on December 10th and 11th. I brought the idea and concept of a Christmas Festival to Terrace City Council shortly after moving here from Germany in the summer of 2009. These seasonal Christmas markets have a long lasting tradition in central Europe and function as a cultural and societal cornerstone leading towards Christmas Eve.

In the spirit of these markets, the organizing team for this year's festival included some new features. The Knox United Church Choir performed on stage with enchanting carols and a live nativity scene was in place, reminding all visitors of the true meaning of Christmas. The Friday official opening included the Christmas tree lighting, hot chocolate, a warming fire pit and carollers.

All vendors were out in full force on Saturday selling their locally produced food and arts and craft items. In order to add to the atmosphere and the sheltering of vendors, the organizing commit-

tee added 14 wooden booths, formerly used for the Thornhill Fall Fair, which were refurbished and 'winterized' by Northwest Community College Carpentry Students.



Surrounded by festive lights and decorated Christmas trees, Santa Claus made an appearance and brought smiles and sparkling eyes to all the kids. The Christmas trees were auctioned off later in the evening. The Parade of Lights modified their route this year to accommodate the festival and ended their parade at the park. A lot of parade followers used this opportunity to spend time at the Festival, taking in the atmosphere, listening to live music and participating in the Christmas Tree Auction. As 50% of the auction proceeds were donated to the Salvation Army Christmas Fund, this event closed in the spirit of giving.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers, local businesses and the organizing team, in making this event the success that it was. Merry Christmas to all of you!



TERRACE IN MOTION

At the last Council meeting of 2010, Council received a presentation from a group of residents who requested a letter of support for an Integrative cancer care workshop which they propose to hold in Terrace in 2011. Council moved to provide a letter of support for their workshop.

At the same meeting, Beth Ann Derkson from the Northern Health Authority gave an update on their addiction treatment programs currently running in Terrace. The Addiction Day Treatment Program for Adults is currently running three days per week at the Elks Hall. An Addictions Day Treatment Program Co-occurring group has also been operating one afternoon per week at the same location. This group provides addictions treatment services for those struggling with chronic addictions and persistent mental illnesses. In October 2010, the Terrace Youth Addiction Program was launched. More details and statistics on this program will be reported to Council in the new year. Plans for 2011 include continued collaboration with community partners, a survey of the graduates of the program, and participation of experts from community agencies and NHA internal service partners.

The Terrace Child Development Centre requested a letter of support for an addition to their Eby Street facility and to upgrade the playground there. Council agreed to provide the letter of support.

A bylaw to rezone a residential property on Monroe Street received first and second reading. There will be a public hearing at a future date to allow for public input before the bylaw proceeds to third reading and adoption. This bylaw is to change the property from R1 Single Family Residential to R1-A Single Family Residential allowing for smaller lots on this parcel.

Council also adopted the 2011 Community Grants and amended the 2011—2015 Provisional Budget to remove the Industrial Tax Revenues for 2011, 2012, and 2013.

Council agreed to send a letter to our Federal Government representatives regarding concerns over the rising costs of RCMP policing services. The Operating Agreement with Kermodei Tourism Society was renewed for a three-year term. The 2011 schedule of regular Council Meetings was established as were the Deputy Mayor assignments for 2011.

Terrace City Council Talkback Line : (250) 638-4778 Website address: www.terrace.ca



MAYOR'S SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2010

December 2 - Christmas Decorating at City Hall

December 2 - Terrace Economic Development Authority Christmas Open House, TEDA office

December 2 - Community Dialogue on the former Co-op property, Sportsplex Banquet Room

December 3 - Graydon Securities Christmas Business After Hours, Graydon Securities office

December 7 - Kermode Friendship Centre Youth Advisory Committee meeting

December 9 - AGAT Laboratories grand opening celebration, AGAT Labs offices on Highway 16

December 10 - Spirit Bear Gallery & Boutique Christmas Business After Hours, Spirit Bear Gallery & Boutique, Lakelse Avenue

December 10 - Skeena Christmas Festival opening, Spirit Square, George Little Park

December 11 - BBQ Fundraiser for the Ames family, M&M Meats

December 12 - Reading of a Christmas Carol, read by Councillor Brad Polard, Knox United Church

December 13 - Kermodei Friendship Centre Annual Christmas Dinner, Sportsplex Banquet Room

December 13 - Regular Council meeting, City Hall Training Room

December 15 - Interview with Dr. Kyla Tienhaara, Regulatory Institutions Network, Australian National University, Green Stimulus Research Project, City Hall, Mayor's office

December 17 - Nechako Northcoast Construction Christmas Business After Hours

December 17 - Skeena Wild Open House, Skeena Wild office on Greig Avenue

December 20 - MLA Robin Austin, Christmas Open House, Constituency Office, Lazelle Mini Mall

December 21 - Presentation of the City of Terrace Flag originally given to Sergeant Jordan Bujtas during his tour in Afghanistan