



FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

A MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MARCH 2009

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TERRACE WINS HOCKEYVILLE



ahead of me tell the cashier that all the generators from West Point Rentals had been booked for the weekend. The customer speculated it must be CBC getting ready to set up at the Sportsplex or Hockeyville Headquarters on Saturday night. The rumors were flying around the City, the anticipation was at an all time high. And then it was Saturday night....crushed into the Hockeyville Headquarters, more than 300 people waited, chanted, paced, and collectively held their breath. Just after 8 p.m., on CBC's Hockey Night in Canada, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said these words that will forever change our community, "This year's winning community for Kraft Hockeyville is...**Terrace, British Columbia.**" The cheering will be ringing in my ears for years to come. People were jumping, screaming, crying, laughing, and realizing that as a community we had accomplished something very special together. I am so proud to be the Mayor of this community. I'm so proud to be the Mayor of Hockeyville.

I was working in my home office on Friday morning, one day before the scheduled announcement of the winner of Hockeyville 2009 when a phone call came in from CBC Newsworld Weekend Show. I spent over 30 minutes in a phone interview with the reporter and then was asked to be at the Sportsplex on Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. to take part in a TV interview. After a long pause the reporter added, "IF you are the winning community". That pause had me wondering. Did the reporter just give it away that Terrace had won this thing? Later that day I was waiting in line at a check-out and overheard another customer just



FIRST TOWN HALL MEETING IN TERRACE

Our City has really discovered what we are made of over the past few months. Our victory in the Hockeyville campaign has shown us how effective a community can be when we work together on a common goal. The Town Hall Meeting held on March 10th was another example of how we can share ideas and find creative ways as a community to make things happen. Council unveiled their Top 12 Initiatives for 2009 in front of a full house at the Best Western conference room.

After spending three evenings discussing priorities and with budget meetings still in progress, we were able to refine our list of initiatives to present to the community for feedback: The 12 Initiatives are:

- Create milestones and timelines specific to the Downtown Revitalization Plan.
- Develop a Co-op Property Plan that explores all possible options in a fiscally efficient manner and consider all development proposals for that site.



COUNCIL PRIORITIES & ACTION PLAN 2009

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- Have the Sustainability Task Force provide input to Council on plans and actions to attain sustainability in Terrace.
- Create a Detox Centre and other Addiction Services in Terrace.
- Address the economic development needs of Terrace.
- Develop the first phase of the Skeena Industrial Development Park.
- Develop an affordable housing strategy that includes seniors, low income and citizens with disabilities.
- Establish a regional economic development office which we're calling Invest Northwest B.C.
- Create a Youth Task Force.
- Establish a city-wide waste reduction strategy that includes recycling.
- Accelerate road and sidewalk reconstruction.

You may notice that eight of the twelve initiatives address economic development issues. It is extremely important that we find new investment and business development for our city. This Council is very prepared to explore ways to make that happen.

During the Town Hall Meeting we heard a lot of good suggestions and ideas. We will compile these ideas and make them public in the weeks ahead. The feedback we received on holding this type of community meeting was also very positive. If you were not able to make it out to the Town Hall meeting, please feel free to contact our Talkback line at (250) 638-4778 or email us at city-hall@terrace.ca with your comments. The Town Hall presentation can be found on our website at www.terrace.ca.

TERRACE IN MOTION



At the February 9th Council meeting Council had a presentation from Carol Sabo, from the Ksan House Society. Carol described their Northern Fresh Food Project and asked for Council's support of this initiative. We were very pleased to have a number of Councillors from the Gitwinksihlkw Village Government in the audience at this meeting.

The February 23rd Council meeting had presentations from: a citizen concerned about flooding in her neighbourhood; the Skeena-Nass Centre for Innovation in Resource Economics; and the Uplands Elementary School Jazz Band. Council confirmed it would continue to support Measuring Up the North into year two of its work and Administration was directed to examine

ways to enforce disable parking only spaces on City-owned property and forward these ideas to the Measuring Up Terrace Committee.

The Terrace Fire Prevention Amendment (Fire Department Fee Schedule) Bylaw and the Temporary Loan Bylaw were adopted at this Council meeting.



MAYOR'S SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

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| March 2 - Budget planning session | March 9 - Council meeting | March 20 - Meeting with Dan Doyle from the organizing committee of the 2010 Olympics. |
| March 3 - Welcome and puck drop at the opening ceremonies for the 2009 Coy Cup. | March 10 - Founder's Day celebration at the George Little House | March 23 - Council meeting |
| March 4 - Strategic Planning Session | March 10 - Town Hall Meeting at the Best Western. | March 28 - Earth Hour, turn off all power between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. |
| March 7 - NSIS Community Science Fair awards ceremony . | March 11 - Citizenship Ceremony at the Sportsplex | March 30 - Budget planning session |
| March 7 - Hockeyville celebration party at the Hockeyville Headquarters. | March 16 - Budget planning session | March 31 - Community to Community Forum |
| March 8 - Attend a Sikh Temple service | March 18 - Northern Development Initiative Trust Board meeting, Prince George. | |