



From the Mayor's Chair

A monthly report from the Office of the Mayor

May 2009



Inside this issue:

NCMA Conference	1
Northern Transmission Line Update	1
Deputy Minister Don Fast Visits Terrace	2
Terrace in motion	2
Mayor's schedule	2

NORTH CENTRAL MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The 54th Annual North Central Municipal Association (NCMA) AGM & Convention was held in Dawson Creek May 6, 7 & 8th at the Encana Events Centre.

Councillor Brian Downie and I travelled out to the conference. We were there to elect a new Board for the NCMA, to hear and vote on resolutions that would be moved to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for consideration and to attend workshops and meetings.

This was a very well organized and informative conference. The agenda was packed with guest speakers and workshops that focused on issues important to all of us in Northern B.C. We heard about creating green economies from our MP Nathan Cullen. A representative from the National Energy Board discussed the Joint Panel Review process that would have to happen around the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipelines Project. Former B.C. Premier Mike Harcourt addressed the conference during a keynote presentation on Thursday. We also had a presentation on engaging First Nations which was very interesting.

The Resolutions section of our conference included 50 separate resolutions that were voted on to be moved to

the UBCM Board. Some of the resolutions put forward at this year's conference included: a resolution that the NCMA and UBCM lobby the Provincial and Federal Governments to make the electrification of Highway 37 a high priority, that NCMA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government of British Columbia to change the funding formula to Regional Hospital Districts for capital expenditures to a more equitable share, that the NCMA and UBCM encourage the Province of B.C. to implement legislation that would allow local government jurisdictions that wish to do so, to reinstate a corporate voting category so non-resident business owners can vote and participate in the business of the community as full-fledged taxpayers.

One other resolution that was approved was to change the name of the NCMA to NCLGA, North Central Local Government Association to ensure the Association encompasses all of the various types of local government including First Nations.

Encana Events Centre, Dawson Creek



NORTHERN TRANSMISSION LINE UPDATE

Developing power infrastructure along Highway 37 is critical to our success not only in the Northwest but for the entire Province. The City of Terrace and the Highway 37 Coalition have been lobbying relentlessly for the continued environmental assessment process of a 287 KV line right to Dease Lake.

During a recent trip to Vancouver to meet with Federal Minister, Hon. Jay Hill, representatives from the Prime Minister's office, mining executives and representatives from the Association of Mining Exploration, First Nations leaders, and others from the Coalition, we were able to show the benefits of this development at the Federal level.

And our efforts have paid off.

Recently the Hon. Jay Hill forwarded a letter to Brian Jean, the Parlia-

mentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communities in Ottawa, to showcase the many benefits of this infrastructure development.

In his letter, Mr. Hill refers to a recent study by Macquarie Capital Markets Canada Ltd. that shows this power line has the potential to attract over 15 billion dollars in investment, create over 10,000 jobs, generate over 300 million dollars in tax revenue to Provincial and Municipal Governments, reduce carbon emissions and create opportunity for over 32 hydro and wind power generation projects that would provide additional taxes in the range of 50—60 million dollars per year.

The Northern Transmission Line is the catalyst for renewable energy and sustainable development for all of Northern B.C.

DEPUTY MINISTER DON FAST AND SENIOR STAFF VISIT TERRACE

Last month, Deputy Minister Don Fast from the Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development, Michael Track from Invest B.C., Sylvia Selig from the Ministry's Special Projects Group and Janine North, the Executive Director of the Northern Development Initiative Trust travelled to the Northwest to tour our region and hear first hand what economic opportunities were available to us here.

We invited guests from around our area to join us during this three hour morning meeting held at the Terrace Sportsplex in the Rich McDaniel Conference Room. At the table were representatives from Kitsumkalum, Kitselas, Nisga'a, Tahltan, Gitksan, and Gitanyow First Nations communities, the District of Stewart, as well as the City of Terrace Chief Administrative Officer, our Economic Development Officer, and representation from our business community and our community college.

Deputy Minister Fast commented a number of times that he was impressed with the level of collaboration and respect our communities have for one another.

During the meeting, Minister Fast expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to hear the many benefits Northwest B.C. has to offer our region as well as the whole Province, in terms of natural resources and the potential for growth.

After our morning session, I was joined by Councillor Brian Downie to tour our guests around Terrace to show them the amenities Terrace has to offer that would be of interest to potential developers and investors. The Deputy Minister found this tour to be very beneficial.

This was an important meeting that allowed us to showcase our region to the people who have a direct influence over British Columbia's economic development and business investment.

In a letter sent by Deputy Minister Fast to me shortly after our meeting he says his department will continue to work with us and do their best to identify appropriate investment leads and prospects.

TERRACE IN MOTION



At the April 14th Council meeting we were joined by a delegation from the New Aiyansh Village Government and had presentations from James Casey of the World Wildlife Fund, Diana Penner of the South Side Flood Protection Committee and Rick McDaniel. Council approved the Terrace Regional Transit 2009/2010 Annual Operating Agreement and approved the purchase of two new City vehicles. Council accepted the recommendation from the Forestry Task Force that the Task Force be dissolved. It

was announced that the City will partner with BC Housing by providing appropriate Municipal lands for a seniors' housing development.

At their April 27th meeting Council welcomed Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett who gave a presentation on the Kitselas First Nation's recent trade mission to Japan. Two road reconstruction contracts were awarded at this Council meeting and the City agreed to enter into a one year agreement with Kermodai Tourism

Society to operate the Visitor Centre. The Council approved a grant application to educate and promote healthy food and beverage choices in conjunction with healthy lifestyles. The Parks and Public Places Bylaw was adopted as was the Ticket Information Utilization Amendment Bylaw. Also at the April 27th Council meeting it was announced that the City will be calling for nominations to the Order of Terrace. This honour is awarded to individuals in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the well-being of the community.

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email each month? If so, please email me at City Hall and I'll add you to the newsletter email list. My email address is cityhall@terrace.ca.



MAYOR'S SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2009

May 1 - meeting with Council & Dr. Appleton to discuss the state of health care in Northwest B.C.

May 1 - Cambria Gordon Business After Hours open house.

May 2 - Volunteered at the Relay for Life and walked with our city team, the Kermodai City Slickers.

May 2 - Northwest Music Festival Gala Night @ the REM Lee Theatre.

May 3 - Terrace & District Chamber of Commerce Trade Show.

May 6, 7, & 8 - North Central Municipal Association Annual Conference in Dawson Creek.

May 8 - Kickstart Motor Sports Business After Hours

May 9 - Children reading session at the Early Years Reading Fair.

May 9 - M&M Meats BBQ fundraising event.

May 11 - Regular Council meeting.

May 12 - Youth Task Force Steering Committee meeting.

May 14 - Caledonia High School Mock Accident demonstration.

May 16 - Salvation Army 50th Anniversary Dinner.

May 19 - 2010 Winter Games Key Volunteer Rally -

Best Western, Terrace.

May 20 - City Hall & Fire Department Tour with Grade 3 students from Veritas School.

May 22 - Northern Development Initiative Trust Regional Advisory Council meeting.

May 25 - Regular Council meeting.

May 26 - Youth Task Force Steering Committee meeting.

May 26 - Kitimat/Terrace City Council Joint Meeting - Kitimat.