



From the Mayor's Chair

A monthly report from the Office of the Mayor

January 2010



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COMMUNITY TRANSITIONAL PLANNING UPDATE

On November 7th, community stakeholders from both Kitimat and Terrace met to engage in a Strategic Planning/Priority Setting exercise to begin to identify and address community impacts from the Eurocan closure. Since that time many meetings and discussions have taken place to formalize the transition process that will need to happen in both Kitimat and Terrace.

The transition strategy will be set up with short, medium, and long-term actions. To summarize on these three time horizons, the short-term actions will focus on creating stability, strengthening networks and advisory circles with community partners. This will ensure critical services are available for worker adjustment, personal, family, mental health, health care, crisis counselling, and education. Medium-term planning will focus on actions like identifying potential opportunities for economic development and job creation, re-checking critical services availability, and continued consultation with community and regional stakeholders. With the long-term planning we would be looking at ensuring our planning was leading to the end result of maintaining and building on having a resilient, viable, thriving community.

To address short term strategies the City of Terrace held a community transition planning session on Friday January 15. Attendees included: service providers and community partners from Terrace and Kitimat, Carole Gagnon, the Transition Coordinator from Eurocan, and Lori Henderson, Manager of Community Transitions, RuralBC Secretariat. Tom Jensen, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ministry of

Community and Rural Development was also in Terrace and Kitimat to meet with our Councils. He was joined by Sarah Fraser and Dale Richardson from the RuralBC Secretariat office.

To assist in the short and medium-term planning, a "Community Services Guide" for Terrace and Kitimat is being produced to act as a comprehensive resource to help displaced workers affected by the Eurocan Pulp Mill closure. The contents of this catalogue will include special programs available in the region, employment services, community and social services programs, worker adjustment and retraining opportunities, and financial planning and investment advisor contacts. We will produce enough Guides to blanket both Terrace and Kitimat through a Canada Post residential and business distribution ensuring everyone affected by the closure has access to this information. The catalogue will also be added to all community partner websites in Terrace and Kitimat.

To work on medium and long-term strategies, I'll be meeting in Victoria with the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDI) Board of Directors and CEO Janine North along with invited Northwest Mayors Joanne Monaghan, Jack Mussallem and Cory Delves. We'll be presenting economic opportunities and policy change initiatives for the Northwest to the NDP Rural Caucus and the BC Liberal Northern Caucus on January 20th and 21st.

I believe these efforts will help us achieve our long term strategy of ensuring that Terrace and Kitimat remain resilient, viable, thriving communities.



TERRACE CELEBRATES SPIRIT OF OLYMPIC FLAME

On February 1st, Terrace will be able to experience what could be a once in a lifetime event. The Olympic Torch will make its way down Keith Avenue, across the Sande overpass, over to Kalum Street, and finally onto Lakelse Avenue where it will be carried to a grand celebration stage set up right in front of City Hall.

The Olympic Flame symbolizes so much more than just a sporting event. This flame connects people from across the country and

around the world. The flame is a source of inspiration, hope and peace. It will be a truly emotional experience as the Torch works its way through our community.

The Olympic Torch relay begins at 11 a.m. when the Torch bearers begin winding their way through the city, followed by performances on the Celebration Stage in front of City Hall at 12:30 p.m.

I encourage everyone to come out to witness this event. I promise it will be a memorable moment for us all.



GENERAL BIOFUELS CHOOSES TERRACE FOR PELLET PLANT

The City of Terrace and General Biofuels Canada (GBC) has reached an agreement on terms to purchase property for a wood pellet facility in Terrace.

GBC will be utilizing wood supply obtained throughout the region to manufacture premium wood pellets. The wood pellet facility will be operating with an initial capacity of 150,000 - 200,000 metric tonnes per year, David Smith, Vice President of Corporate Development, states, "General BioFuels Canada is committed to developing a significant presence in the wood pellet industry in Northern British Columbia. We're excited to be working with the City of Terrace

and look forward to a successful partnership and future."

GBC hopes to start construction of the plant by the middle of 2010, with production starting in 2011. The plant will employ an estimated 40 people, with additional indirect employment in fibre supply and transportation.

GBC is committed to long term relationships in the Northwest region and is focused on leveraging underutilized fibre supply ensuring the sustainable management of the forest.

GBC's mission is to create fuels that reduce

greenhouse gasses globally. These fuels will supply a full range of demand, including transportation (bio-diesel), electric generation (bio-fuel and bio-mass), and heat generation (bio-mass).

GBC aims to operate a network of facilities supplying sustainable harvested fuels to energy consumers around the globe.

The City of Terrace with our community partners has been working hard to attract new industry to our community. I'm very encouraged to see some positive results from our efforts that will translate into new jobs for our region.

TERRACE IN MOTION

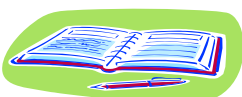


At the last Council meeting of 2009 we saw presentations from: the Terrace Women's Hockey regarding Ice Allocation; the Friends of Atlas regarding the closure of the ATLAS Youth Treatment Facility; and Nicole Lindsay and Dena Ferretti regarding the Healthy Choice Facility Program. Aaron Greycloud presented a copy of his petition of BC Transit requesting an increase in transit service. Also at the December meeting the 2010 Provisional Budget was approved

by Council and the Water and Sewer rates for 2010 were adopted. The Council liaison appointments and the Council meeting schedule for 2010 were confirmed at the December 14, 2009 Council meeting.

During the January 11th, 2010 Council meeting Michael Hogg gave a presentation proposing a new Skeena River boat launch be constructed on Ferry Island. Council referred this proposal to Administration for

further study. It was moved that the City enter into an agreement with the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine to provide water to areas north of Terrace and on Braun's Island. The City moved to provide free transit for all during the Terrace 2010 BC Winter Games. The City's Arena Ice Priority Booking Policy was amended and the rates for dry floor hourly rentals at the Sportsplex and for Leisure Access Cards were increased.



MAYOR'S SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2010

January 11 - Regular Council Meeting, City Hall

January 12 - Youth Advisory Committee meeting, City Hall

January 13 - Adult Literacy Learning Centre Grand Opening, Suwilaawks Community School

January 13 - Olympic Torch Relay meeting, Enbridge office

January 15 - Community Transition Planning Session with service providers and community partners, City Hall

January 15 - Northern Development Initiative Trust Board of Directors conference call

with Mayor Monaghan, Mayor Musselum, Mayor Delves, preparation for Northern caucus meetings in Victoria

January 17, 18, 19 - Association of Mineral Exploration Conference, Vancouver

January 20 - Northern Development Initiative Trust Board meeting, Victoria

January 20, 21 - meetings with the BC Liberal Northern Caucus and the NDP Rural Caucus regarding economic development and policy initiatives for the northwest region, Victoria Parliament Building

January 25 - Public Hearing and Regular Council meeting, City Hall

January 26 - Youth Advisory Committee meeting, City Hall

January 27 - Olympic Torch Relay meeting, Enbridge office

January 28 - Business Improvement Area public open house, Coast Inn of the West

January 29 - Olympic Torch Relay meeting, Enbridge office

January 30 - Olympic Torch Relay Sponsor Celebration, Sportsplex

