

Comments from the Town Hall Meeting
March 10, 2009

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

When the parkland (Little Park) was donated to the City it was stipulated that there be no construction in the park. They are upset that the band shell is there. Mrs. Little should be consulted before the City plans any construction in the park.

Vital. First impressions do count. Good start to provide funding for this group. Encourage downtown merchants, building owners to have a say in their future.

Keep doing what you're doing. Good revitalization initiatives.

Thank you. What do you see as our character for downtown? How do we stay positive and yet ask for more money?

The seniors' exercise gym equipment proposed for Lower Little Park should be changed in location due to a great deal of vandalism and weather here in Terrace. It should be put indoors as no senior wants to exercise in bad weather conditions of which we have plenty.

More parking in core.

Either move the Happy Gang Centre to the Co-op centre or move the Police Station to Heritage Park and make parking lot there. Even cut off two parking Lakelse(sic) and shortened (sic) areas on all streets. When you are as old as us you'll understand why ----

We should hire a full time By-Law officer to clean up messy properties, ticket people who do not pick up after their dogs, ticket people with stolen shopping carts, and control parking infractions. Dollars generated from this work would pay for the increased wage.

CO-OP PROPERTY PLAN

I do not think the Co-op property should be sold. The reason we bought the property (to ensure proper use for Terrace public) is still valid. Work on finding a way to remove old buildings – job creation project? Use old parking lot for bike park and other things until we can afford to build a community centre, theatre, museum, archives – it may be many years but at least we have a place for such a development when we can afford it.

Needs to start ASAP. Been talking way too long. The City and TEDA can get a plan in place to bring change for the positive. This property is a HUGE EYE SORE to our community.

The suggestions brought forward by the Ask Terrace Project had some merit. Combination of uses: Civic, Retail, Housing, Park Space.

City needs a vision for City – goals, values, before it just “accepts” some proposals.

Use what we’ve got – spend the least money for the best effect. I.e. don’t bother demolishing. Just document the asbestos locations and sue the building. Rent inexpensively to small businesses.

I would like the Co-op property to stay in our hands. PLEASE DO NOT SELL!!!! It could be the very centre of our community in more ways than one. The ASK Terrace project would be a great idea! As well as a combined Terrace Chamber, TEDA, and Kermode Tourism office and more gymnasiums for kids who can’t afford hockey gear. PLEASE DO NOT SELL THE PROPERTY! Keep it for us.

Do not sell our small gold mine! Work Initiative to take down building. Use all the work and visioning done by “ASK TERRACE”. Can be a great cultural centre, including theatre (Terrace Little Theatre), small business, meeting place art centre.

Clean up the Co-op building.

We should allow development that brings the city money. Museums, joint offices for TEDA, Chamber etc are not options now or likely in the near future so focus should be on private development to get the tax dollars.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Sustainability should include increasing local food production on a commercial/large scale basis.

Sustainability needs definition. Individuals must be sustainable for the community to be sustainable. I think this is very important. It is at the heart of the issues for Terrace and anyone coming in.

Sustainability and waste reduction will pay off in the long term.

Very important! Work with local recycling business. She knows the business.

We need also recycling depot for paper, plastic and glass – Hope it can be done in my lifetime. I wish you luck.

REGIONAL SHARED SERVICES

Very good, but the shared regional costs are already in place.

CREATE A DETOX CENTRE AND OTHER ADDITION SERVICES

Absolutely critical to a healthy northern community. Services "down south" cannot help northerners. Our Community College could cooperate in training and providing expertise etc. Needs to be long term (six months – 2 years) therapy. We have good potential spaces in Terrace.

Terraceville Little Alano.

Health services very much needed. Lynne Christiansen spoke well on this issue. The funding should be through the Health authority, similar to the renal and cancer clinic we have in town but linked with Mental Health. Up to date statistics (apparently we are similar to the Yukon) in our problem, and our nearest centre is Prince George. Let's move forward with North west initiative for Federal, Provincial and regional funding as well as First Nations Funding for this. Proper ground work and presentation will see this happen for the northwest. Hospital upgrade is important to be included in this plan.

We are in Terrace very much in need of a detox centre

A detox and treatment centre is a very good idea.

And a group home for adults with FAS.

Create a Detox Centre and other addictions services.

REVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This seems like one of the important first steps.

Great!! Necessary!

Please get away from resource extraction initiatives. In my 20 years in Terrace all this brings is booms and busts! What Terrace needs is MANUFACTURING industries!!! With the Port in Prince Rupert, we are now on a transportation corridor between the centre of North America and the Orient.

We should continue pushing for Cranberry Connector improvements and the Northern Transmission Line.

DEVELOP SKEENA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PARK (INITIAL PHASE)

Seems like it may take many, many years to fill up another industrial park. Seems like there are empty ones all over the province.

Important. Long Term. With present economic climate unlikely to see much progress for 1-2 years. What does Rio Tinto Alcan need for future?

I'm not sure what the point is when we have 70+ acres of land (former SCI) sitting in the middle of town? Form a larger vision for 50 years down the road that addresses the use of this proposed park. Who/what do you envision will be at this park and how will they contribute to the people of Terrace?

*Good, but don't look to quick solutions, look to generate long term revenue through power, water and other services the City can offer to development to generate revenue be sustainable * long term. Look for funding to the Province or Federal to do a proper land layout of a progressive development in phases. Include traffic and highway plans and need of 2 -way traffic in town with bridge expansion to (each direction) 2 lanes. This will be a bottle neck and hindrance to traffic flow to the City if not done. Possible cheap alternative if the bridge is capable is a clip on lane. Done in New Zealand called "Nipon Clip on". A lane is added to the bridge on each side reducing the cost of constructing a new bridge. Auckland Harbour Bridge, New Zealand. Study should also include rail link and services to the development of the site as well as geothermal power – put in by the City the pay off is each site links into this source and revenue is generated to the City.*

You suggest a tax increase. Well at this time it is not a good idea to spend money on development at the airport when industry is not here.

DEVELOP AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY INCLUDING SENIORS,
LOW INCOME AND CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

Needs to include existing housing (upgrading) or you will create more ghettos.

Good. Positive. I would like to invest. Cut property taxes currently they are a deterrent and a burden. We have to keep monthly costs to individual in this income bracket low.

We are in need of affordable housing.

Vital to the well-being and growth of our community. Make Terrace truly a caring and welcoming City. Draw together citizens from all areas who would be impacted and benefit from this strategy. I would like to be part of working on this initiative...

Low income rental housing for seniors or low income families. Snow rows that the grader puts in driveway are my biggest concern being seniors.

Very much needed.

Develop an affordable housing for seniors and low income families.

ESTABLISH REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (INVEST
NORTHWEST)

I think that it's (NW Regional Dev. Office) a good initiative, to help draw international attention.

Premature and naïve. We need to develop the City so businesses want to relocate. Consider small, local initiatives. Offer incentives to small companies.

Quit going to Asia! It's a waste of time and money. We don't need an overseas company pulling our strings. Local small businesses (ie through SNCIRE or similar) are key. Invest in LOCAL initiatives. The people who live and work here are here because they want to be here. Growth through large industry is unnecessary.

CREATE A YOUTH TASK FORCE

Good idea, great possibilities. Work with the school student councils, coordinate with PACs/DPACs at the schools. Ask other close regions as to their approaches and initiatives.

Good. Coordinate through Thornhill/Skeena/Caledonia to get a broad cross-section of youth participation. Also include First Nations Suwilaawks.

Yes, please. Work with library, schools and community.

The Youth Task Force is a very good ide.

What does that mean?

Library has expressed interest in participating in the Youth Task Force.

Suggested we connect with the folks organizing the Youth Week in early May to get suggestions for the Task Force.

Work Safe BC thinks there may be some interest in that group connecting through their young workers department.

Motocross Club may be able to find ways to include underprivileged children in their sport.

WASTE REDUCTION

Great!! Long overdue. In Japan, they pick-up different things on different days. e.g.: One day cans, the next day glass, next day compost etc.... Also Edmonton has one of the best recycling garbage city-wide pick up in the country. Check them out.

This is excellent! Recycling is so important. It sounds to me like Council has a realistic, well-thought plan for 2009. All of the initiatives sound great. What a great presentation and meeting!

Waste separation at dump.

Very good. People hate to pay for waste removal/recycling but are not prepared to reduce. In conjunction with federal and provincial governments to tax producers so that their products are:

- 1) more environmentally friendly (less packaging);*
- 2) can be recycled more efficiently*

Why do civic waste sites have more regulations controlling them than the majority of industrial toxic waste sites?

Imperative. First proper waste reduction strategy. Next distribution centres located at strategic areas; combined Northwest (Kitimat and Terrace) waste removal to markets accepting waste.

- 1) Bins labeled plastic/glass/metal placed in school yards and other locations as incentive to all to recycle. Downtown garbage bins to have a component for recycling. Terrace Beautification Society/City partnership on this and welding dept at the College.*
- 2) Life expectancy of the landfill site if not put in place and the impact of waste reduction if in place on the life expectancy of current landfill sites.*

Recycling bins – yes.

ACCELERATE ROAD AND SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION

Sidewalk reconstruction – Great. I have real concerns about the school kids walking home along Kenny Street from Agar to Graham. It is a busy street and we need a sidewalk.

Lazelle Avenue – Help businesses survive during construction.

Sidewalks – long overdue! Sidewalks are desperately needed in the residential parts of town. Downtown is fine for now as far as sidewalks and roads are concerned.

Just do it – it needs to get done. Any improvement in this area is good. –

No – roads are fine.

MISCELLANEOUS

Yes! B.C. Seniors Games would like to see the sports track at Skeena re-surfaced for young and old.

All of them – I am in agreement with those initiatives that hasten development of the industrial park, accelerate sidewalks and roads projects. Maintain ties with Rio Tinto, but recognize that this is a different animal now. It is not Alcan anymore and we need to speak a little more firmly to the company regarding moving ahead on the modernization project. What can be done about cleaning up the SCl property? This is not only an eyesore but a safety issues with the debris blowing onto Keith and Kenney Streets.

General Fund Financial Plan – Taxes for 2008, 2009, 2010

4%	3%	2%
	2%	6%

17% over three years!!!! My fixed income increases by CPI year. Suggest moving tax increases for 2010 to 2011, 2012.

Create a vision for the City that extends forward 50 years. All initiatives will then come from this vision. I think it's great to have initiatives but if there's no vision to start with, then there's no plan and everything is just higgledy-piggledy. Make a vision with input from the community.

Yes! Good. Very important not to heavily compete with our neighbours but to collaborate and develop ideas that we all benefit from! Not to repeat services too much. Share vision – ie Hot Springs!! Let's get together and take back our incredible resource. The whole Northwest would benefit!

To achieve these initiatives you need a person 10-16 hours per week – property funded. Possible sustainability coordinator to look for federal and provincial funding and region and First Nations/Dept. of Indian Affairs, other sources for funding to help with these initiatives. OR, alternative is use existing personnel, redirect in the winter months to look for funding, complete applications in timely fashion, access other non-profit groups to apply for funding to partner with the City for projects to reduce costs and access alternate funding sources.

Snow rows from grader. I'm senior. Please don't fill my drive after I've shoveled it.

Could you please purchase some land in downtown for the Happy Gang Centre to have some parking. It would be nice if you even could include the centre beside the George Little House and develop some park around it.

Clean up the mill site.

Rent money from Anti-Poverty Society (at least half) should be donated to the dental fund or Carpenter's Hall (it's a charitable write-off).

Anti-Poverty still feels they should not pay rent (only non-profit? paying rent).

One person wants to know why his taxes are so high (5000) where he lives in the new subdivision on the bench (next to NWCC).

Three people said Terrace should have a full time Mayor to help move the community forward.

Make sure the new gardener whipper snips the ditch in front of Canadian Tire a couple of times a year.