

Q-City News

CITY HALL • 410 KINCHANT STREET • QUESNEL • BRITISH COLUMBIA • V2J 7J5

Telephone: 992.2111 • Fax: 992.2206 • Visit our website at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca SUMMER 2008

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Other News

The Measure Up Quesnel Committee has completed its strategic plan. The purpose of the report is to provide a starting point for improving accessibility and inclusion in the community. The plan is available on the City of Quesnel website at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca/Community/measures_up.asp

Family Day 2008

Don't forget, Saturday June 14 is the sixth annual Family Day. Come down to LeBourdais Park between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and take in the entertainment, free refreshments and family fun. You'll also get the chance to carve a piece of the Cowichan 2008 Spirit Pole at the Civic Plaza.

Canada Day 2008

Come to LeBourdais Park on July 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate Canada's 141st birthday. There will be plenty of fun for everyone.



Airport Day 2008 a runway success

More than 850 people flocked to the Quesnel Regional Airport on June 24 to take in Airport Day. The event, co-hosted by the Quesnel Flying Club and the City of Quesnel, featured a number of aircraft displays, including the RCMP's turbo Beaver, interactive games for the kids and a vintage automobile show by the Prospectors Car Club. Other participants included the Ministry of Forests and Range fire attack crew, Highland Helicopter, Search and Rescue, Citizens Patrol, Air Cadets, BC Ambulance Service, Adventure North Tours, Stan Phillips and Demel Aircraft Supplies. The highlight of the day was the show put on by the Fraser Blues formation demonstration team (above).

Many investments in Budget 2008

Budget 2008 is complete and features a number of critical investments.

Highlights of Budget 2008 include:

- More than \$625,000 invested on road paving and rehabilitation.
- More than \$100,000 provided for storm drainage projects.
- More than \$720,000 in water and sewer system projects.
- More than \$950,000

reinvested in the Quesnel Works fund.

- Investments in community events such as Canada Day, Billy Barker Days and BC 150 Years events.

Early on in the process, Council decided to keep any tax increase in line with inflation.

As a result, the average tax increase for residential property owners is 3%. If your home's assessment increased by more than 18%,

you can expect to pay more taxes this year than last. If your home's assessed value increased by less than 18%, you can expect to pay less tax in 2008 than in 2007.

Quesnel still enjoys average residential taxes that are well below the provincial average.

Don't forget, the deadline for payment of this year's taxes is July 2, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.

Call City Hall at 992-2111 for more information.

The City of Quesnel will provide its residents with an outstanding quality of life in a vibrant, prosperous, diversified community, achieved through a process of public consultation and trust.



The 2007 Volunteer Citizen of the Year is Marion Gordon (left). She was recognized for her many volunteer efforts, including work with the Fall Fair, Seniors' Centre, Communities in Bloom, Bluegrass Festival, Food Box, Garden Club and Red Hat Society.

She is joined in this photo by the 2006 Volunteer Citizens of the Year, Grant and Gerry Knauf. Congratulations go to all the nominees: Fredrick (Toby) Cave, Ellen Martz, Carol Weremy and Janice Butler.



Photo courtesy of the Quesnel Cariboo Observer

Outstanding citizens

Property bought to meet parking needs

In May, Quesnel City Council approved the purchase of one lot adjacent to the City Hall complex to meet that facility's parking infrastructure needs.

This strategic property investment will enhance the development of the City Hall complex's long-term economic sustainability.

The facility has seen major developments over the past two years.

The Quesnel branch of the Cariboo Regional District library system will be situated on the ground floor of the building. In addition, the City has long-

term lease arrangements with the Ministry of Transportation and Vista Radio (The Wolf and The Rush) on the fifth floor, as well as a lease with the Cariboo-North MLA's office on the fourth floor.

The lot is at 443 Vaughan St. and was purchased for \$185,000.

The existing structure has been demolished, leaving a sizeable parking area suitable for existing and future uses while adding to the parking space available in the downtown core for public use.



The City will partner with School District 28 and the College of New Caledonia to present Career Leap 2008. The event unfolds at the North Cariboo Community Campus on Thursday Nov. 20. This year's keynote speaker is Rick Hansen, who will speak at North Star Church from noon to 1 p.m. The community is encouraged to come hear Rick speak and to check out some of the programming that makes up Career Leap. Watch for more information this fall.

A new photography exhibit that provides a stunning and unique glimpse into the social fabric of Quesnel in the early 1900s is open at the Quesnel and District Museum and Archives. **Upstairs at Wah Lee's: Portraits from the C.S. Wing Studio** consists of 30 framed photographs digitally printed from the glass plate negatives created by Quesnel's first professional photographer Chow Shong (C.S.) Wing. The exhibit opened Thursday April 10 and runs until September 6, 2008. Funding to create this special exhibit, which will travel to other museums and art galleries throughout British Columbia after it closes in Quesnel, was provided by The Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation, The Spirit of BC Arts Fund, the Quesnel Community Foundation and the Friends of the Quesnel and District Museum and Archives.

UPSTAIRS AT WAH LEE'S

PORTRAITS FROM THE C.S. WING STUDIO
Curated by Faith Moosang

Quesnel & District Museum and Archives



Cairn to commemorate Chinese pioneers

The development and erection of a commemorative cairn and plaque to pay tribute to the historical contributions of Quesnel's Chinese pioneers is proceeding.

The project recently received a \$10,000 boost in the form of a BC150 Mosaic Grant, a provincial program aimed at projects that help raise awareness around multiculturalism and cultural diversity as we celebrate British Columbia's 150th anniversary.

The cairn, built with local rock to symbolize the hundreds of miles of ditch lines erected by the Chinese during the Gold Rush, will identify and commemorate the Chinese buried in the Pioneer Cemetery, many of whom

are in unmarked graves.

It will also honor the hundreds of Chinese people buried elsewhere in unmarked graves throughout the Cariboo.

Funding for this Chinese Heritage project has also been made possible through the generosity of a \$6,500 donation from private donors Harry Keen, Ray Hong, Ben Chan and Gerry Fun; \$500 from the Quesnel Multicultural Society; \$1,000 from Communities in Bloom; and a Quesnel City Council grant-in-aid of \$3,257.

The project's design will include a stone cairn and exposed aggregate base and be accented with brass plaques and granite interpretative panels.

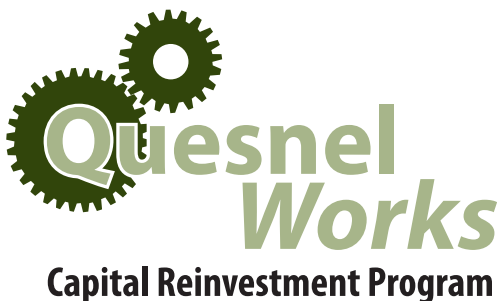
Infrastructure investment featured in Budget 2008

The Quesnel Works: Capital Reinvestment Program is already starting to pay dividends.

This year, more than \$660,000 is set to be put towards various infrastructure reinvestment projects.

The CRP assesses assets, prioritizes reinvestment needs and establishes a stable funding source to ensure Quesnel's infrastructure is replaced in a timely and efficient manner.

Council initiated a new levy in 2007 designed to meet the funding requirements necessary to help the City repair or replace aging infrastructure.



Money in that fund is used only on infrastructure reinvestment projects.

Watch for the Quesnel Works signs at various paving job sites this summer.

2008 Quesnel Works projects

McLean St. Revitalization	\$225,000
Rome Ave. from Highway 97 N to Brownmiller Rd.	\$32,250
McNaughton Ave. from Reid St. to McLean St.	\$19,400
Yorston Ave. from Sargent St. to Moffat Ave.	\$47,000
Netterfield Ave. from Nadeau St. to Nason St.	\$36,250
Lark Ave. from Flamingo St. to Voyageur School	\$24,700
Adam St. from Avison Ave. to Allard St.	\$44,000
Rolph St. from Roddis Ave. to Ritson Ave.	\$29,500
Grosz Rd. N. from Gavlin Rd. to Britton Rd.	\$42,000
Racing Rd. from Valhalla Rd. to Westland Rd.	\$94,500

New residential garbage collection system on the way

The City of Quesnel is committed to financial and environmental sustainability. To achieve these goals, we're always looking for ways to enhance our services.

Solid waste collection was an area in which the City felt we could make improvements.

As a result, City Council has approved the implementation of an automated system for residential garbage collection starting in the fall of 2008.

More detailed information will be provided to residents later this summer, including information pamphlets to be delivered with the new carts.

These specially designed carts will be supplied to all residents currently provided

with garbage collection.

The waste is collected from the carts using a special truck, equipped with an articulating mechanical arm that automatically picks up the carts, empties them, then returns the carts to their original position.

This automated system has been used successfully in many different municipalities throughout British Columbia and will result in significant positive changes to our present system.

Watch for your new cart and for more information later this summer.

Rocky Mountaineer Vacations

has named the locomotive that transports thousands of visitors to our community each year the **Pride of Quesnel**. RMV officials said the dedication belongs to the entire community, which "has greatly contributed to the overall RMV vacation experience and become extraordinary hosts to RMV's guests from around the world."

The locomotive was unveiled at a special dedication ceremony on May 14 in front of hundreds of onlookers. The Pride of Quesnel travels on the Fraser Discovery Route between Whistler and Jasper.



2008 a local government election year

Don't forget that 2008 is a local government election year in B.C. Voters head to the polls on Saturday November 15 to elect Mayor and Council.

Visit the City's website for more information or call City Hall at 250-992-2111.

Election 2008



Annual report available for review

The City's 2007 Annual Report is now available for the public to review.

The document provides the 2007 Financial Statements as well as a progress update on the City's strategic priorities for 2007. Also included is a look at some of the highlights

for 2007 as well as a view towards the future with Council's 2008 strategic plan.

The document may be picked up in person at City Hall or downloaded from the City's website. It will be formally presented to Council at the June 16 regular Council meeting.

Quesnel Works: a commitment to sustainability

The weather's better, and people are smiling and getting outside. It's a great time of year in Quesnel!

As you're out and about, you'll notice we have a lot of capital projects underway.

We're spending more on paving this year than we ever have. And we've committed more than \$1 million towards our capital

projects. We're living up to our goal of reinvesting in our infrastructure as laid out in our Capital Reinvestment Program.

You'll see our Quesnel Works signs at a number of projects this year, signalling your hard-earned tax dollars at work. In fact, as you read this one of our major projects for the year, the revitalization of McLean

Street's 400 block is well underway.

When you see our crews, please slow down, be patient and follow their signals if you're driving.

Let's continue to work towards a sustainable community in all regards.

Nate Bello



The Environmental Advisory Committee has had some great support from area students as it works to promote a greener, healthier and more sustainable community. In this picture are, from left, Envir Hrbinic, Bob Salmons, Coun. Coralee Oakes, Dora McMillan, CSS students Kara Purdue and Courtney Kirsh, Jeremy Mathies, CSS teacher Marissa Knauf and Phil Demers. QSS student Donald Ireland has also helped the committee.

Committee helps collect E-waste

E-Waste Day on May 3 saw the Environmental Advisory Committee partner with Northern Recycling to divert electronic waste from the landfill. They collected 85 computer towers, 105 printers, fax machines, copiers and scanners, 130 monitors, 90 keyboards, 20 stereos, six calculators, 30 cel phones, 20 DVD and VCR machines and three radios.

Reminders from the bylaw department

Water regulations in effect

Don't forget that watering restrictions are now in place. If your property has an even numbered address, you may water on even days of the month. If it's an odd number, you may water on odd days.

Skateboarding and cycling

Please remember that skateboarding or cycling on sidewalks in commercial areas is prohibited according to Skateboard Regulation Bylaw No. 1418. Please remember to be courteous of pedestrians.

SUPER SATURDAY

Get set on Saturday September 6 to take part in one, two or even three great events, all happening between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Volunteer Fair - West Park Mall

Learn more about many of our community's outstanding

volunteer organizations.

Central Registration - Arts and Recreation Centre

Register for the 2008 Fall community sports, recreation and cultural programs.

Try it out Day

Try a new activity this year at the West Fraser Timber Park and other community facilities.

Watch for details later this summer!

Take the easy route

Fly Quesnel!



With 18 scheduled flights from Quesnel to Vancouver every week, Sunday to Saturday, the Quesnel Regional Airport is by far the easiest way to begin your trip. While you're away, take advantage of our free parking.

Fly away. Go far.
Your boarding pass
is waiting for you.

Call us: 992-3212
992 2208

Quesnel Regional Airport

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