

Q-City News

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

Telephone: 250-992-2111 • Fax: 250-992-2206 • www.city.quesnel.bc.ca

DECEMBER 2009

In this issue:

- Footbridge facelift
- Capital projects update

In the news

Interested in the Multi-Centre project? There is a presentation on December 8 at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers and a facility design workshop on December 9 at 7 p.m. in the West Fraser Timber Room at the Arts and Recreation Centre. Visit www.city.quesnel.bc.ca/multi-centre.asp

Note to South Quesnel residents

The Red Bluff Sewer System services more than 2,140 parcels, including many inside City boundaries. The City has maintained the system since 1999; however, the Cariboo Regional District will take over operations effective January 1, 2010.

Watch your mailbox for more information from the CRD.

Emergencies or service requests?

Contact the CRD

During Business Hours:
250-992-7400
After Hours:
250-392-2199

Billing Enquiries?

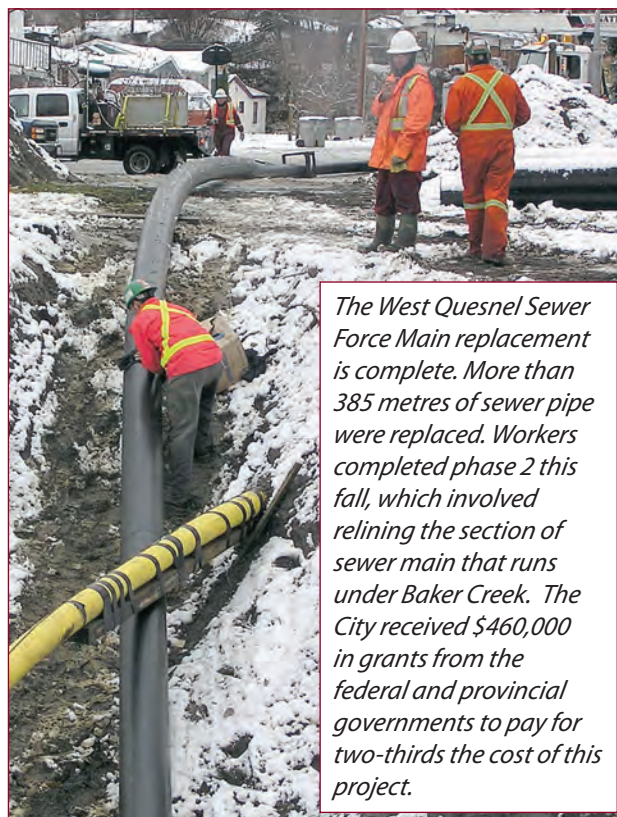
During Business Hours:
250-392-3351
or 1-800-665-1636

Quesnel hosts B.C.'s first Climate Change Boot Camp

Sustainability, climate change and community engagement were all discussed as the City of Quesnel hosted the province's first Climate Action Boot Camp.

It was presented by the Community Energy Association and BC Healthy Communities.

The two-day workshop was designed in part to help prospective members of the Quesnel Sustainability Task Force come to grips with the challenges and opportunities related to sustainability planning and, more specifically, climate action. The task force will provide guidance to City Council regarding how to make Quesnel more sustainable over the long term.



The West Quesnel Sewer Force Main replacement is complete. More than 385 metres of sewer pipe were replaced. Workers completed phase 2 this fall, which involved relining the section of sewer main that runs under Baker Creek. The City received \$460,000 in grants from the federal and provincial governments to pay for two-thirds the cost of this project.

City to explore water treatment

The City has a responsibility to ensure our water is safe.

We take that responsibility seriously and use several barriers to ensure safe drinking water is delivered to City residents.

We test our water more often than we are required to and we make our water reports openly available to the public at City Hall and by download on our website.

We have good operating principles and we have good quality water

entering our system.

But it is very rare for a system our size to not be disinfected.

We need to ensure the entire distribution system is safe, not just the water.

As a result, the City is investigating well protection and secondary disinfection as additional barriers to ensure Quesnel's water is safe.

Secondary disinfection maintains the quality of water in the distribution system - the water that is in the pipes in the ground.

Chlorine is widely used

for this purpose as it's effective against viruses and other microorganisms.

Because Quesnel's well water quality is very good, and chlorine is only needed to preserve water safety in the pipes, chlorine can be used in very low levels.

The costs to disinfect the water range between \$4.8 million and \$7.3 million.

City Council will review all the information before making any decisions.

The bottom line? Public safety is the City's top concern and we'll act accordingly.



The QCity News is printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper using vegetable-based inks.



2009 a great year - 2010 looks even better

This has been an exceptionally strong year for Quesnel City Council.

I'm proud of the way this Council and staff have come together to make so much progress on so many fronts.

The achievement I'm most pleased with is, of course, the investment made by the provincial and federal governments in the West Quesnel Land Stability Program.

I am thrilled that program is going to move ahead – stay tuned for details

about the work program for 2010-2011.

We completed a large capital project program this year, with millions re-invested in our streets, buildings, water system and sewer system.

We were successful in lobbying NAV CANADA to not consider any further flight service reductions.

And regionally, we've really strengthened our relationship with the Cariboo Regional District, especially looking at the work we've done this year on the

North Cariboo Multi-Centre project.

We're forging new paths and indeed building communities together.

On behalf of Council, please accept my sincere wishes to you and yours for a very happy and healthy holiday season.

I hope your New Year is prosperous - I'm looking forward to what 2010 will bring to our community.

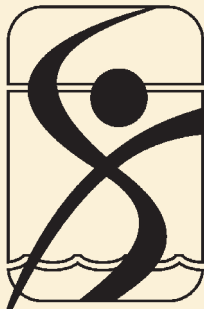
Mayor Mary Gustrom



Arts and Rec Centre expansion on track

Crews work on the foundation for the expansion of the weight room at the Arts and Recreation Centre. The work is due to be complete before March 31, 2010.

**QUESNEL
&
DISTRICT**



**Leisure
Services**

The renovations at the Quesnel and District Arts and Recreation Centre are well underway. The federal government's Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RIInC) program provided a \$208,000 grant to upgrade the pool water filtration system and to expand the weight room.

Vachon Construction is the contractor. The expansion will provide more weight room space and an additional room for equipment maintenance. There will also be a new space

to store the new lawn tractor.

During construction, patrons may enter/exit the weight room from the pool deck.

The weight room is open the first and second weeks of shutdown (December 7 to 19) and closed between December 20 and 27. This may change depending on construction needs, so check with the Arts and Recreation Centre at 250-992-8200.

Arena 2 gets new roof

The roof over Arena 2 began

leaking in October. Immediate roof repairs were made, but it quickly became clear the entire structure needed replacing.

As a result, the Cariboo Regional District Board approved spending \$298,000 for the roof replacement.

North Cariboo Recreation and Parks received a \$30,000 grant from the Northern Development Initiative Trust under its Community Halls and Recreation Facilities Program to help offset those costs.

City pledges Wood First Bylaw development

The City of Quesnel has committed to developing a Wood First Bylaw designed to link to the Province of British Columbia's Wood First Act.

The resolution passed by Council contained a number of clauses, including:

- Being a wood champion and supporting the BC government's

Wood First Act by adopting a Wood First Resolution and developing a Wood First Bylaw that will establish a long-term strategy for building with wood in Quesnel.

- Selecting wood champion designers and builders for municipal projects.
- Ensuring Requests for Proposals request excellence

in building with wood.

- Seeking builders who find practical, efficient, versatile and cost-effective building and design solutions through the use of wood.

The Wood First Act requires provincially funded building projects to use wood as the primary construction material.

Coalition successfully lobbies for airport service

A coalition of local stakeholders successfully lobbied NAV CANADA to stop considering downgrading service levels at local airports until at least the fall of 2010.

The coalition is comprised of the Cariboo Regional District and its four member municipalities (the District of 100 Mile House; the District of Wells; the City of Quesnel; and the City of Williams Lake) the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism, and the Chambers of Commerce.

NAV CANADA has proposed curtailed service levels for both the Quesnel and Williams Lake Airports. Many aviators were concerned this would have an impact on safety levels. There was also concern from local government leaders and the business community that the changes would have a negative impact on the region's economic recovery.

Fraser footbridge facelift

The Fraser River footbridge is a critical piece of the Riverfront Trail network and a living piece of history spanning generations.

The bridge will undergo a significant rehabilitation this winter, thanks in part to a \$1.759 million grant.

The funding comes from Western Economic Diversification Canada under the Community Economic Diversification Initiative (CEDI), a component of the federal Mountain Pine Beetle Program.

The Quesnel Community and Economic Development

Corporation played a major role in securing the grant.

The City contributed the remaining \$400,000.

Many of the wooden truss members and metal connectors will be replaced as well as a lot of the deck surface.

The bridge will close to pedestrian traffic between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2010.

Pedestrians will be asked to use the Moffat Bridge during construction.

Temporary safety railing will be put in place to separate pedestrians from traffic.

News and Notes

Fire department receives donation

The Quesnel Volunteer Fire Department has a new Automated External Defibrillator Unit (AED) thanks to a \$2,500 donation from the Quesnel Sunrise 2000 Rotary Club.

An AED is a portable electronic device that can diagnose arrhythmias (heartbeat irregularities) and can treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy. This allows the heart to resume a regular rhythm.

The Quesnel Volunteer Fire Department is funded by the City of Quesnel and the Cariboo Regional District. It provides a range of emergency protective services to the citizens of Quesnel as well as the Red Bluff neighbourhood. It also is involved with public education programs, fundraising and emergency management. You can learn more online at www.quesnelfire.ca.

Service agreement reached

The City of Quesnel and the Cariboo Regional District have ratified a new Memorandum of Understanding that will see high quality services provided to residents across the North Cariboo.

The City and Regional District collaborate on the provision of a number of services to allow residents seamless access to a wide range of services. The services covered under the new agreement include:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Planning Services | • Invasive Plant Management |
| • Landfill and Recycling | • HandyDart Service |
| • Cemetery Services | • Red Bluff Fire Protection |
| • Transit Service | |

The new MOU takes effect January 1, 2010, and runs to December 31, 2014.

Art Gallery open for Christmas shopping

While the pool closes from December 7 to 26 for its routine maintenance and cleaning, the Quesnel Art Gallery remains open. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until December 23.

Torch Relay to light up community

The Olympic Torch will be carried through Quesnel on Day 92 of the Olympic Torch Relay, **Friday January 29, 2010.**

Where will you be? Will you help line the streets as the torch winds its way through our community? Will you join the community for a two-hour, mid-day celebration at the Spirit Square?

Either way, it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

In the Cariboo, the Olympic Torch will travel through a number of communities. It will visit the larger cities such as Quesnel and Williams Lake, while also making stops in smaller communities such as Kersley and Lhtako.

Each torchbearer carries the torch for 300 – 400 metres. There will be some surprises along the way. The final torchbearer, who will light the Quesnel cauldron, has been chosen. As with many communities, this

name will remain a closely guarded secret until the final moment.

The cauldron will be on the Torch Relay Stage at the corner of St. Laurent Ave. and Reid St. The stage is 18 metres by 8.5 metres and travels to each Celebration Community where it is set up for a dazzling show.

There's an amazing two-hour show that includes a host of local talent. There will also be drummers and acrobats in an intense human percussion performance, compliments of Coca-Cola. Artist Fritz Branschatt will use a giant canvas to create a piece of art using paint and energy, compliments of RBC. The Olympic Torch Relay is presented by Coca-Cola and RBC.

Throw in some great giveaways and the opportunity for the community to participate and you have the makings for what will be a great day in Quesnel!



BE PART OF OLYMPIC HISTORY

Quesnel
January 29, 2010
Quesnel Spirit Square

**TORCH RELAY
RELAIS FLAMME
vancouver 2010**

PRESENTED BY
Coca-Cola
RBC

Canada

vancouver2010.com/TORCHRELAY vancouver2010.com/RELAISdelafLamme

Firefighters to get Paralympic experience

The Quesnel Volunteer Fire Department will send a team of one captain and four firefighters to the 2010 Paralympic Games.

The team was chosen to provide services between March 12 and 14, 2010 at the Whistler Olympic and Paralympic Park.

The crew will work one day shift and two night shifts. The shifts last 12 hours and will include duties such as:

- Ensuring all equipment and apparatus are operational.
- Conducting fire safety inspections prior to venue opening, during venue operations and at other times as assigned.
- Dealing with any fire/rescue related to an emergency at a venue.
- Ensuring any incidents are dealt with quickly and effectively with minimal disruption to the venue.
- Acting as fire sentries.

There is absolutely no cost to the City to allow the firefighters to attend, but will provide our volunteers with outstanding experience in a major event situation.

Take the easy route

Fly Quesnel!



With daily 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: 250.992.3212
250.992.2208

**Quesnel Regional Airport
YQZ**

