

# Q-City News

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## Other News



Don't miss out on this year's Canada Day festivities in LeBourdais Park. The action starts at 10 a.m. with entertainment, refreshments, fun activities and the ever-popular seniors tea.

The City's 2011 Annual Report is now available. It includes the 2011 financial statements, a 2011 status update and the 2012 strategic plan. Hard copies are available at City Hall, with e-versions available at [www.quesnel.ca](http://www.quesnel.ca)

The City received a Recognition of Performance Excellence Award from the Provincial Airtanker Centre for excellent service provided at the airport during the 2010 fire season.

## 2012 Budget delivers valued City services

With the approval of Budget 2012, the City will continue delivering service and infrastructure investments that residents rely on every day.

This year's budget will see the City:

- Invest more than \$1.7 million in roads and sidewalks.
- Invest more than \$943,000 in water and sewer system projects.
- Invest in policing and fire protection.
- Support community events such as Canada Day and Family Day.
- Improve parks and public spaces.

- Purchase new machinery and equipment.

The average residential tax increase for 2011 is 3.3%. That equals about \$21 to the municipal portion for the average house (assessed at \$161,732) whose assessment decreased by the average of 1.5%.

For residents receiving garbage pick-up, water and sewer services, the total increase in taxes and fees to the average homeowner is about \$39.19.

To see where the City is investing in capital budget items, see the map on page 3.

## In plane sight . . .

*If you enjoy seeing acrobatic acts like this, don't miss SkyFest 2012. The Quesnel Regional Airport will come alive on Aug. 4 and 5 with the sights and sounds of a full-fledged air show. For more, visit [www.skyfest2012.com](http://www.skyfest2012.com)*



## Multi-Centre gets \$4M funding boost

### Fundraising efforts continue

Thanks to the Province of British Columbia, the North Cariboo Multi-Centre is \$4 million closer to reality. Cariboo-Chilcotin MLA Donna Barnett was in Quesnel on April 14 to make the announcement. Among the province's prime reasons for funding the project are creating jobs, a healthier community and safe environments for activity.

Now the Cariboo Regional District and City of Quesnel

continue to lobby the federal government for funding. The Multi-Centre Fundraising Committee has also put together a comprehensive fundraising strategy to secure corporate and grass-roots funding contributions.

To date, the referendum allows borrowing up to \$15 million, with an additional \$2 million coming from the Northern Development Initiative Trust. Add to that the province's \$4 million and the

funding available sits at about \$21 million of the \$30 million needed.

The North Cariboo Multi-Centre will be a modern facility designed to replace aging infrastructure. It features a 1,600-seat NHL-sized arena, a 450-seat performing arts theatre and accompanying event and assembly space.

For more information about the project, visit [www.quesnel.ca/multi-centre.html](http://www.quesnel.ca/multi-centre.html)

For fundraising information, visit [www.ourmulticentre.com](http://www.ourmulticentre.com)



## 2012 a year full of promise

**T**his year promises to be a busy and productive year for Council and the City. And we're off to a great start!

I am very encouraged by the **ourQuesnel** process so far. We've had great feedback from many sectors of the community regarding our long-term sustainability planning. This input is helping us determine where we want our community to be in five, 10, 20, 40 years from now and beyond.

Work in the West Quesnel Land Stability area is proceeding. We've drilled the 14 vertical wells, we're almost finished with the storm drain improvements, and the horizontal drain portion is on track to proceed in July. On behalf of Council I thank the residents who have been so engaged in the process and so patient as we work towards finding a lasting solution.

The Multi-Centre project continues, as we get closer to our \$15 million fundraising goal every day. If you haven't visited **[www.ourmulticentre.com](http://www.ourmulticentre.com)**, I encourage you to do so to learn more about how you can support this critical community project.

Council remains committed to providing top quality services to our residents. And we are committed to doing so in a productive, respectful and transparent fashion. If you ever have questions about how we operate or what we're working on, please don't hesitate to contact your City Council!

Take some time to enjoy your summer, spend time with your family and friends, and be safe in your travels and recreational activities.

*Mary Groot.com*



### Family Day a great way to celebrate!

*The 10th anniversary of Family Day was a resounding success. Thousands of people took part, enjoying the refreshments, entertainment, activities and more! Many thanks go to all the volunteers, sponsors, performers and participants who make this an annual "must-do" event.*

## Dewatering efforts well underway

The \$4.7 million West Quesnel Land Stability dewatering program is making a lot of progress in 2012.

Fourteen vertical wells were put in along Dixon Street, near Stork and Crane Avenues, and in a wooded area to the west of Abbott Drive.

A new storm water drainage system is nearing completion

on Stork Avenue and Hawk Street. The upper Abbott storm water system now links to the lower Abbott system, removing storm water from the WQLS study area.

Nine horizontal drain sites, consisting of more than 70 drains, will be installed this summer along Lewis Drive and near Avery Street.

Once that work is complete, the system will be "turned on" and dewatering will begin. The City will dewater and monitor the dewatering results until June 2014. At that time, the City will evaluate the program and determine next steps.

For more information about the WQLS program, visit **[www.quesnel.ca/WQLS](http://www.quesnel.ca/WQLS)**

### Community champions

*Liz Miller is the 2011 Volunteer Citizen of the Year. She spearheads the Miss Quesnel Self Development Program and plays an integral role in the program, which exists to help young women develop self-esteem and leadership skills. She attends dozens of community events each year with the candidates, and promotes education, community volunteerism and personal skills development in the program's participants.*

*Life-long community resident and former City Councillor Peter Couldwell received the Lifetime Achievement Award. He was noted as being a humanitarian with passion and enthusiasm who has spent thousands of hours volunteering his time as an auctioneer to raise funds for a wide variety of causes around Quesnel. The Quesnel Volunteer Citizen of the Year program is a joint venture of the City of Quesnel and the Quesnel Cariboo Observer.*



# Budget 2012 investments

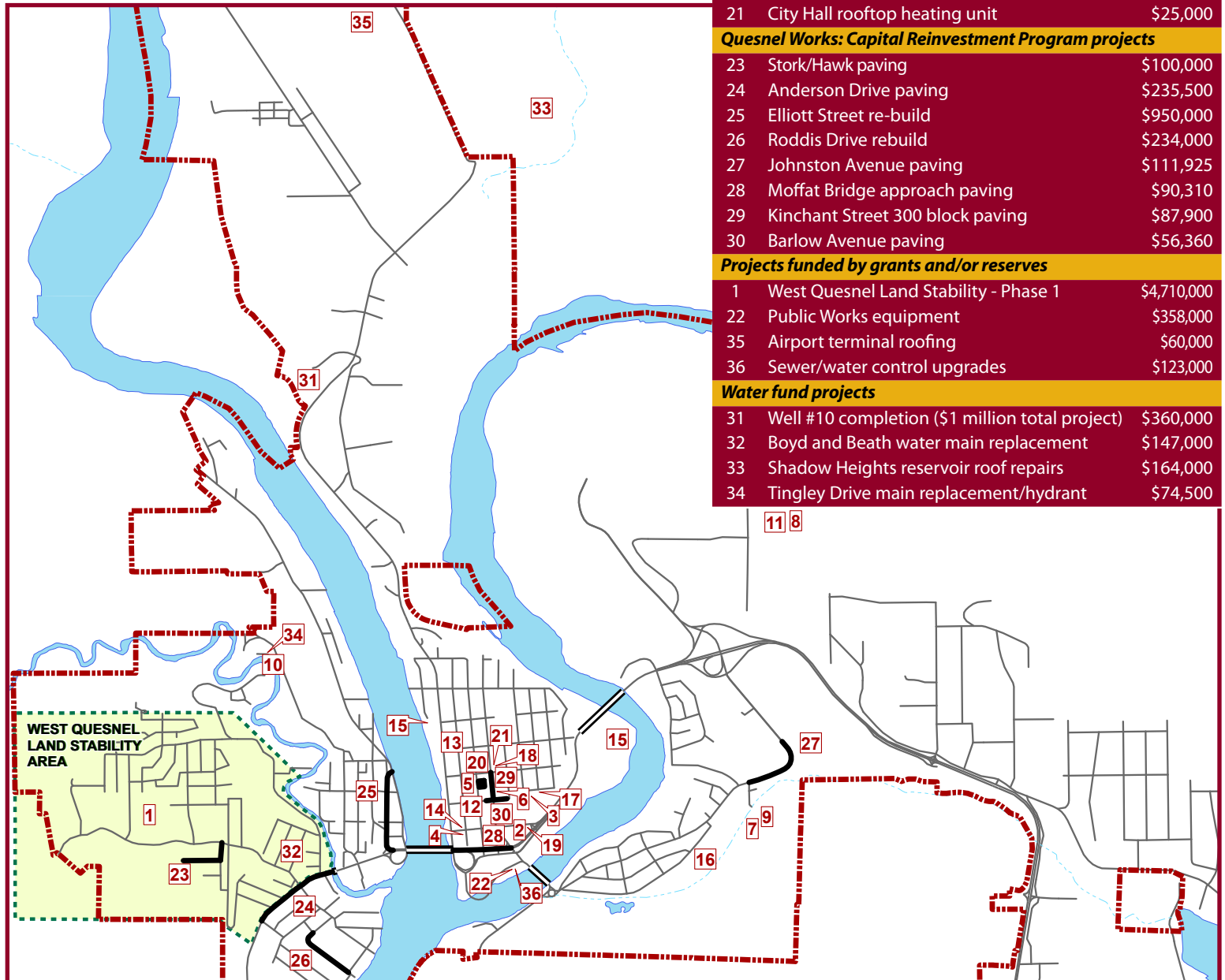
Budget 2012 includes an extensive list of investments in roads and sidewalks, sewer and water systems, and equipment. From safety upgrades at the RCMP detachment and fire department, to the West Quesnel Land Stability Program, the City is investing in all parts of the community.

There are several large projects slated for 2012. Phase 1 of the West Quesnel Land Stability dewatering phase is well underway. In addition, a major rebuild of Elliott Street, and a significant amount of re-paving work will greatly improve the

City's road system.

Other projects this year include: an upgrade to the spray park in LeBourdais Park; various water line replacements; a new drinking water well being brought online; landfill improvements; facility upgrades; and infrastructure protection projects.

The Quesnel Works: Capital Reinvestment Program continues to play a vital role, with more than \$1.9 million invested in 2012, including a major improvement to Anderson Drive, one of the City's busiest roads.



## Capital projects from general taxation

2	Upgrade cells at RCMP detachment	\$104,240
3	Spray Park upgrade	\$38,820
4	Hudson Bay Building foundation repair	\$45,000
5	McLean Street Parking lot paving	\$50,598
6	Renovate downtown fire hall	\$25,000
7	Dragon Creek Assessment	\$30,000
8	Wildlife exclusion fencing	\$60,000
9	Dragon Creek bed load removal	\$35,000
10	Armour Baker Creek bank	\$37,200
11	Landfill improvements - Phase II	\$650,000
12	McLean Street parking lot - storm drain	\$27,500
13	Reid Street sidewalks at health unit	\$35,000
14	Reid Street 200 block sidewalks	\$23,540
15	Trail paving	\$15,000
16	Moffat Avenue storm drain replacement	\$19,300
17	Museum/stage re-roofing	\$10,000
18	City Hall boiler replacement	\$60,000
19	RCMP detachment back-up generator	\$80,000
20	St. Laurent bike racks, garbage cans, benches	\$22,400
21	City Hall rooftop heating unit	\$25,000

## Quesnel Works: Capital Reinvestment Program projects

23	Stork/Hawk paving	\$100,000
24	Anderson Drive paving	\$235,500
25	Elliott Street re-build	\$950,000
26	Roddie Drive rebuild	\$234,000
27	Johnston Avenue paving	\$111,925
28	Moffat Bridge approach paving	\$90,310
29	Kinchant Street 300 block paving	\$87,900
30	Barlow Avenue paving	\$56,360

## Projects funded by grants and/or reserves

1	West Quesnel Land Stability - Phase 1	\$4,710,000
22	Public Works equipment	\$358,000
35	Airport terminal roofing	\$60,000
36	Sewer/water control upgrades	\$123,000

## Water fund projects

31	Well #10 completion (\$1 million total project)	\$360,000
32	Boyd and Beath water main replacement	\$147,000
33	Shadow Heights reservoir roof repairs	\$164,000
34	Tingley Drive main replacement/hydrant	\$74,500

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*The community took part in several workshops in April to envision Quesnel's future 40 years from now.*

## Talking about ourQuesnel

The ourQuesnel: Sustainability in Action process is well underway after the City received a \$100,000 grant from the Innovations Fund of the Gas Tax Agreement.

Quesnel is developing a comprehensive, community-wide, long-term sustainability vision, plan, and process through the initiative. It is meant to include as many community members and organizations as are willing to participate.

From community outreach, surveys and workshops to open houses and public information campaigns, the City's Sustainability Task Force



is collecting input and action ideas designed to envision Quesnel's future a generation from now.

The strategy areas being discussed include: economy, work, education and skills training; transportation and mobility; energy, water, resources and waste; food; social and community well-being; ecosystems, natural areas and parks; communications and connectivity infrastructure; buildings and sites; arts, culture, recreation and leisure; and housing and land use.

For more about ourQuesnel, visit [www.ourquesnel.com](http://www.ourquesnel.com) or [facebook.com/ourquesnel](https://facebook.com/ourquesnel)

## A Relay good time

The 25th Anniversary Rick Hansen Relay visited Quesnel March 22. Hundreds of people lined the streets and visited the Spirit Square to celebrate Quesnel's difference makers in accessibility awareness. Right, Landon McGauley was Quesnel's Final Community Participant. He carried the commemorative medal on the relay route along with several other community members.



## News and Notes

- Elected officials representing local governments from across the North-Central region of British Columbia will visit Quesnel in 2013 for the 58th North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) Annual General Meeting and Convention. The conference takes place from May 1 to 3, 2013, with more than 250 delegates expected to converge on the Goldpan City.
- 2011 Airport statistics are out. There were 14,095 commercial passengers at the airport, an increase of 8.6% over 2010. Out of 904 scheduled commercial flights in 2011, 2.6% (24) were diverted landings due to weather.
- The Arts and Recreation Centre annual maintenance shutdown will be September 3 to 16. The date has been changed back to September from December based on the results of a public survey and user group requests. The two-week shutdown is necessary to perform annual maintenance on the pool basin and mechanical systems. The front desk, gym, and arts centre will be open with a reduced schedule during the shutdown period.
- Swimmers should notice water quality improvement in the swimming pools at the Arts and Recreation Centre after a new Ultra Violet water treatment system was installed this winter. The UV System uses ultra violet lamps to reduce the accumulation of chlorine treatment byproducts and helps disinfect the pool. The UV system reduces skin and eye irritation and chlorine odor. The existing dry tablet chlorine system still provides residual disinfectant in the pool water; however chlorine levels have been reduced since the UV system was installed. The UV system also makes the pool safer by destroying potentially harmful micro-organisms that can contaminate the pool.

## 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: 250.992.3212  
250.992.2208

Quesnel Regional Airport  
**YQZ**