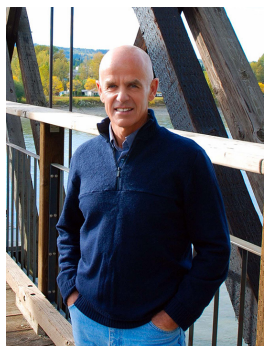


# Q-City News

Telephone: 250-992-2111 • Fax: 250-992-1512 • [www.quesnel.ca](http://www.quesnel.ca)

October 2016



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This is an exciting time for our City. Not only has Council's fundamental restructuring of the City's

finances resulted in a greater ability to invest in our community (as evidenced in the many capital works and maintenance projects that were undertaken this year and we have planned for the coming years), we are well on our way toward developing a whole new brand, website, and marketing strategy for Quesnel that will position us well to attract visitors, investment, and residents to our region. Council's desire to ensure our community thrives during this transition period is being realized in multiple ways and on multiple fronts, and, as you'll see in this edition of Q-City News, this strategic imperative will continue to gain momentum through this fall and into 2017.

In conjunction with our re-branding initiative, Council is undertaking a comprehensive review of our Official Community Plan (OCP). This document is the foundational planning and policy framework for the City and its review presents citizens with an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions about how we can re-invent our community from the ground up. I hope you will take every opportunity to participate in this process and help us lay a new and exciting foundation upon which we can build a progressive, sustainable community together.

We will also be conducting another Town Hall meeting on the City's budget and taxation framework (see below). During this public consultation session Council will be providing an overview of the operating and capital budgets for 2017-2022, a revised tax framework, and options for addressing the City's longstanding need for a new

public works facility. As a ratepayer, this meeting will provide you with an opportunity to give meaningful input into Council's deliberations about the City's budget.

In addition to these major initiatives, there will be many other opportunities to participate in community and neighborhood discussions in the coming months on specific topics of interest, for example: playground investments based on a five year plan; the creation of an off leash dog park; the development of bike lanes throughout the City; the development of a Master Trails Plan for the North Cariboo; and, a complete re-visioning of our downtown core, riverfronts, and the highway 97 corridor through the City. It is my sincere hope that you will join us in these deliberations so we can plan, design, and build a thriving and sustainable community together.

- Mayor Bob Simpson

## TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING

**November 24, 2016 at 6 p.m., Seniors' Centre, 461 Carson Avenue**

You are invited to the Town Hall public meeting on November 24 at 6 p.m. at the Seniors' Centre. Council will present their draft budgets, and their priority initiatives for making Quesnel a great place to live. For more information: [www.quesnel.ca/Budget-process.html](http://www.quesnel.ca/Budget-process.html).

Share your thoughts and ideas with the Mayor, members of Council and City staff on the following topics:

- Budget process/timeline
- City revenue sources
- City expenditures
- Taxation overview
- Tax framework
- Update regarding the new public works facility
- Overview of the draft operating and capital budgets for 2017-2022

# PLAYGROUND PRIORITY LIST

In June, Council approved the use of \$30,000 per year of Gas Tax funds for the planning and design work to upgrade the City playgrounds. Council approved this request with South Quesnel and LeBourdais Parks as the top priority.

City staff have created a priority playground list to help establish which playgrounds need to be replaced when the opportunity arises. This list is reviewed on an annual basis and may be revised.

Top 5 playgrounds listed in order of replacement priority:

1. South Quesnel Park
2. LeBourdais Park
3. Pentland Cres/Patchett Park
4. Ritchie Ave Park
5. Pinchbeck St Park

The City is planning a community engagement session for the South Quesnel Park for late 2016 or early 2017. Please watch the City Facebook page or website for more information.



*Photos: The new West Fraser Timber Park playground was installed August 2016.*





# OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (OCP) - #QUESNEL2030

**The City is updating our Official Community Plan! Join us at the various engagement events listed below.**

The OCP is the City's vision for the future development of the community. OCP policies assist in guiding the decisions of the business and development interests of the community. OCPs should reflect the majority of public opinion, which is used as a guide for future development, and should also contain strategies for managing our future.

***The City needs your ideas on what Quesnel should look like in the years to come.***

Your ideas are needed to improve this community plan and develop policies that reflect Quesnel's changing needs. The new, updated plan will shape the community to be more livable, sustainable and fun in the years ahead.

**Join us at the various engagement events listed below!**

## SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

October 25 - 28, various schools

Students will get involved in planning the future of Quesnel. These interactive sessions will be aimed at getting new and fresh ideas from the youth in our community.

## INFORMATION BOARDS

Arts and Rec Centre and Twin Arenas

Find more information about the OCP process.

## SPEAKERS NIGHT

Friday, November 4 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Royal Canadian Legion, 262 Kinchant St

Join us in hearing from a panel of speakers about planning Quesnel's future! This speakers night will kick off our community engagement by sharing insights on land use planning challenges facing Quesnel and opportunities to plan for the future.

## PHOTO CONTEST

We want to see our beloved Quesnel through your eyes. Submit photos related to the following categories:

Environment • Architecture • People • Community

Three finalists from each category will be voted on by the community. Winners from each category will receive a prize and their photos will appear in Quesnel's NEW Official Community Plan! Visit the website for more details.

## OCP SURVEY

November 3 - November 18

City website, City Hall, OCP sessions

We want to hear your ideas on planning the future Quesnel. [www.quesnel.ca/ocp2030](http://www.quesnel.ca/ocp2030)

## OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS ROAD SHOW

Talk with the project team to learn about the Quesnel2030 OCP Update and tell us your ideas about how we should plan for Quesnel's future! Events will be hosted around the City to discuss city-wide and neighbourhood specific issues and opportunities.

## RESIDENTS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE CITY CAN ATTEND ANY EVENT!

### West Quesnel

Saturday, November 5, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
West Park Mark, 155 Malcolm Dr

### Downtown/North Quesnel

Saturday, November 5, 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Location: Tower Inn Banquet Room, 500 Reid St

### Johnston/Carson Subdivision

Sunday, November 6, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Carson Elementary, 1255 Graham Ave

### South Quesnel

Sunday, November 6, 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Dragon Lake Elementary, 2671 Quesnel Hydraulic Rd

**FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.quesnel.ca/ocp2030](http://www.quesnel.ca/ocp2030)**

# SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Thank you community members and businesses for your valuable ideas and suggestions on shaping our community identity at our various community engagement events! Keep an eye out for the City's new logo, imagery and marketing materials in 2017!

## NEW CITY WEBSITE IN 2017

The City is currently in the process of developing and designing a brand new City website! The new website will be easy to navigate, and provide relevant information to current and potential residents, visitors and investors. The new website is scheduled to be complete in 2017.

## WEST QUESNEL LAND STABILITY PROJECT PHASE II

The City would like to thank the residents of Quesnel for their amazing patience during this major infrastructure project! This project included the installation of dewatering wells and horizontal drains, storm sewer upgrades as well as road and sidewalk reconstruction. This main project is nearing the final stages with a goal of being completed by the end of 2016. Abbott Dr from Flamingo St to Dawson St will be completed in mid-2017.



*Photos: (L) Construction crews excavate Anderson Dr. (R) Healy St being prepped for paving.*



## WEST FRASER CENTRE

The West Fraser Centre project is on schedule for completion by September 2017! The project continues to be on budget for \$20.6 Million. Updates are posted bi-weekly on the City website here: [www.quesnel.ca/ArenaReplacementProject.html](http://www.quesnel.ca/ArenaReplacementProject.html).

Be a part of the Arena and buy a seat or a piece of the mural! For more information contact Alex by email at: [arenaproject@quesnel.ca](mailto:arenaproject@quesnel.ca)

*Photo: West Fraser Centre, October 12, 2016*