



## Mayor's Message

It is a great time of year to be enjoying everything that the Creston Valley has to offer. I am very much looking forward to the long-anticipated grand opening of the Creston Rotary Splash Playground, which will take place on July 1st at Centennial Park.

Council's meeting schedule slows down a bit during the summer months, with regular Council meetings on July 14, and August 11 only. Our regular schedule will resume in September.

I have recently had confirmation from Kootenay Valley Railway (KVR) staff about the question of the trains blocking all Creston crossings as they are making deliveries in town. This was an issue that had several citizens upset. I have been assured by KVR that they will no longer block all of the crossings, but will stop west of the Devon Street crossing, and bring into town only those cars that are needed to service Creston customers.

Please continue to shop locally and support Creston Valley businesses during the summer months. We have recently revised the downtown construction schedule in

order to minimize disruption during the tourist season. If it has been a while since you've explored the Creston Valley, why not be a tourist in your own home town for a day?

If you have a question or concern, stop by Town Hall, or give me a call at (250) 428-2214. Feel free to share your ideas of how we can improve the quality of life in our community. Wishing you a safe summer.

Mayor Ron Toyota



Mayor Ron Toyota takes a splash from his granddaughter at the Blossom Festival dunk tank.

### Summer Council Meetings

Tuesday, July 14  
Tuesday, August 11

The regular meeting schedule will resume on September 1, 2009.

## New Animal Control Bylaw

A new animal control bylaw now requires cat owners to license their cats. Licences are available at Town Hall for a fee of \$15.00 for spayed or neutered cats and \$100.00 for unaltered cats. Fees will be prorated for 2009. The fee schedule is set up to encourage pet owners to spay or neuter their pets, as this will help to control the cat population within town boundaries.

"This new bylaw is in place to encourage responsible pet ownership," Mayor Ron Toyota said recently. "We hope everyone will do their part to help us solve the problem of cat overpopulation in Creston."



Meow fest, an on-going cat adoption event sponsored by the Town, is now underway. Please consider adopting a stray or abandoned cat. All cats will be spayed or neutered, and will have a medical check up before being made available for adoption. Creston cat lovers are asked to contact the Bylaw Enforcement Officer at (250) 428-2214 ext. 231 for more information about adopting a stray.



## Happy Birthday Canada!

Canada Day celebrations will be held in a few different locations this year. Millennium Park will be the place to catch live music and entertainment from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Centennial Park events will begin with the grand opening of the Rotary Spray Park, hosted by the Creston Rotary Club, at 4:30 p.m. After that, Centennial Park will become kid central, with face painting, a clown, bike decorating, games and of course making a splash in the new splash playground.

The ever-popular fireworks will take place at the Community Complex, starting at around 10 p.m. And don't forget! There will be free swimming at the pool all afternoon long. If you would like more information, or are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Community Pride member Mel Joy at (250) 428-7088.

## Construction Update

Phase 2 of the downtown revitalization project is well underway. The new decorative street lights are being installed and will be in full operation by the end of June. At the request of the Creston Valley Business Association, Council has revised the construction schedule in order to avoid disturbance within the downtown core during the tourist season. Work will stop by July 1 and re-start August 10. In August, concrete work will begin, with the installation of stamped

concrete sidewalks at the intersections of 12th Avenue, 14th Avenue and 15th Avenue. Trees, plantings and street furniture will then be installed in September, followed by paving and line painting. Phase 2 is planned to be complete by the beginning of October.

Town crews will continue work on Cavell Street starting in late July. They will be restoring the boulevard and sidewalk, starting at Crestview Village and working their way west to the Mall. No closures will be necessary and the work is expected to be complete by the middle of August. Crews will then move on to work on the extension of the 16th Avenue sidewalk from the Creston Valley Hospital to Scott Street. This project is anticipated to be completed by October.

*Below: Construction crews at work on Canyon Street in June.*



## Water Restrictions

Watering restrictions are in effect as of June 15, 2009. Residents are asked to water lawns only between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. Odd house addresses may water on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Even house number addresses may water on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Residents are asked not to water at all on Wednesdays. Hand watering of flower and vegetable gardens is still permitted, except on Wednesdays.

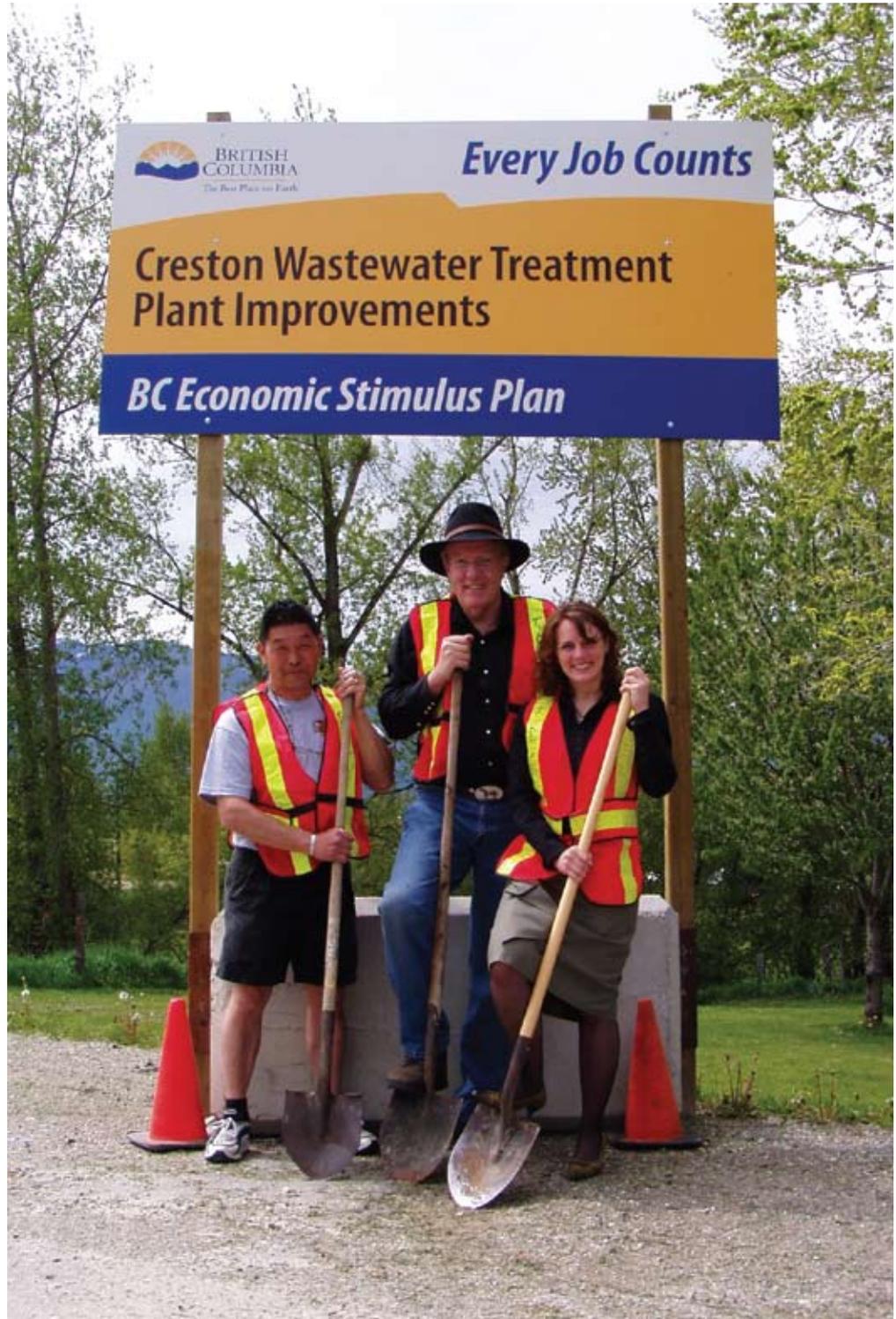
Water restrictions will soon change, in order to align the Town's efforts with regional conservation measures. Keep an eye on our website at [www.creston.ca](http://www.creston.ca) and local media, for the most current information.

## Water Conservation: Think About It

Did you know that high water use results in increased costs of supplying drinking water, treating wastewater and maintaining infrastructure? Canadians are among the highest water users in the world. If we all do our part, and use a little less water each time we turn on the tap, we can work together as a community to conserve water.

## Alternative Approval Process Coming Soon

Construction has now begun on a major overhaul to Creston's outdated wastewater treatment system. The project, which has a price tag of \$4.71 million, is being funded through the Building Canada Fund. Creston's project is one of 41 "shovel-ready" infrastructure construction projects in BC that will benefit from the program in 2009 and 2010. The governments in Ottawa, Victoria and Creston will each pay one third of the costs.



*Mayor Toyota, Jim Abbott, MP and Michelle Mungall, MLA*

An Alternative Approval Process (AAP) will soon get underway within the Town of Creston. Council will be asking residents to consider whether the Town should borrow money over the long-term to pay for the municipal portion of upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant.

Registered electors within the Town of Creston will be asked to let Council know if they are opposed to the proposed borrowing for the wastewater treatment plant. Elector Response Forms will soon be available. More details to follow at [www.creston.ca](http://www.creston.ca) and through local media.



*It is not too late to pay your property taxes on time! Payments must be received at Town Hall before 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 2, 2009. Payment can be made in person, through most financial institutions or on-line at [www.creston.ca](http://www.creston.ca).*

## Reminder

Dog and business licences are now past due for 2009. Please stop by Town Hall to have your licences renewed as soon as possible.

## Is it too early? Too late?

Please be considerate of neighbours when choosing a time to mow your lawn.

## Trees for Creston

The Town has recently installed six red maple trees at the front entrance to Centennial Park. A grant of \$3,300.00, from BC Hydro through the Tree Canada Foundation, helped to cover the cost of the trees.

**Creston Fire Rescue** is still accepting applications for paid on-call fire fighters. Check out the fire department section at [www.creston.ca](http://www.creston.ca) for more information, or stop by the Fire Hall to pick up an application.

## Fire Ban in Effect

Residents are advised that there is a provincial fire ban in effect for the Southeast Kootenay Region including the Creston Valley. All fires, except for small contained campfires are prohibited. The burning ban came into effect on June 10, 2009 and will remain in place until lifted by the BC Forest Service. Residents can view information about wildfires and burning restrictions at [www.bcwildfire.bc.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.bc.ca). Home owners are encouraged to learn more about reducing the hazards to their home and property in the event of a wildfire. Creston Fire Rescue has numerous pamphlets, checklists and videos for residents to learn more about how to reduce the impact that a wildfire in our area may have on their home.

Watch for new fire danger warning signs – coming soon!

## For Bikes Only

Construction of Creston's new Bike Park is just about complete, and the park will soon be open to the public. The permanent new home of the park is across the tracks from the back of Millennium Park. The new dirt ramps have been professionally built to accommodate bikers of a wide range of ages and abilities.



*Councillor Wes Graham at the site of Creston's new Bike Park.*

## For Cats Only

A reminder to all cats – it's time to get a licence! Ask your owner to stop by Town Hall, or have a look at page 1 for more information.



## For Dogs Only



Creston dogs are doing a great job of reminding their owners to scoop up. Keep up the good work! Thanks for doing your part to keep our sidewalks, streets, lawns and parks clean for everyone to enjoy.



## Splashing Good Time

The Creston Rotary Club will be hosting the grand opening of the Rotary Splash Playground at 4:30 p.m. on July 1. The spray park is already open, so if you are looking for some family fun on a hot day, stop by Centennial Park for a preview. Parents, please be sure your kids have suitable footwear (such as sandals) while enjoying the spray park.