



I believe that any short term inconvenience will be balanced out by long term positive benefits.

Mayor Ron Toyota

Mayor's Message

Our Town Councillors (Ducharme, Gadick, Graham, Schmalz, Wilson and myself) with our Town Manager just returned from Vancouver where we attended the 106th annual Union of BC Municipalities Conference. A registration of 2,023 included 847 voting delegates from all communities throughout BC. Some highlights for me were attending meetings with Premier Campbell and several Ministers and their staff. I would like to congratulate Councillor Wesly Graham on his successful re-election to the UBCM Board of Directors.

The Building Canada Fund Community Infrastructure "top-up" announcement of \$2.5 million to complete our Waste Water Treatment Plant was great news. We very much appreciate the grants from our federal and provincial governments toward this project, and the support of MP Jim Abbott, and the Hon. Bill Bennett, Minister of Community and Rural Development.

Phase 2 of Creston's Downtown Revitalization project is nearly complete and we thank everyone for their patience during construction - especially the downtown merchants.



Thanks for your patience! Several capital works projects are nearing completion, or were completed in 2009. Left: Phase 2 of Creston's Downtown Revitalization Project; Above: Cavell Street sidewalk from Northwest Blvd. to 9th Avenue; Below left: 16th Avenue sidewalk to Hillside Street.

2009 Council Meeting Schedule:

All meetings are held in Council Chambers, Lower Level, Town Hall, and begin at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Meetings:

October 20
November 3
November 17
December 8
NO MEETING December 22

Council Meetings:

October 27
November 10
November 24
December 15
NO MEETING DECEMBER 29



Get Ready for Winter



Magnesium What? Magnesium Chloride!

Last year's abundant snowfall proved to be challenging to travellers, downtown business owners and pedestrians. In an effort to address this issue, the Town of Creston will be teaming up with YRB and changing the way that snow is cleared on Canyon Street.

A liquid form of magnesium chloride will be used as a pre-emptive strike, when snow or freezing rain is predicted. The product will only work at certain temperatures, and with certain levels of snowfall. It has the ability to melt up to 10 cm of snow and dissipate it in the form of storm water run-off.

If a heavy snowfall of more than 10 cm is predicted, traditional snow clearing methods will be used.

The expected benefits of magnesium chloride include: less snow accumulation; less sand usage; less dust and greater traction control.

We would like to hear your feedback on this product – both positive and negative - so we can adjust the application to get the maximum benefit. Give us a call at (250) 428-2214 ext. 222, or email info@creston.ca to let us know how well you think this new product is working.

Snow Tips from the Town Engineer

Answers to some questions frequently asked of the Director of Engineering and Public Works.

Question: Do the snowploughing crews work at night?

Answer: Yes. Ploughing and sanding crews are available 24 hours a day. The hours they work depends upon the time of the day when it snows and the amount of snowfall.

Question: Where should I place my snow?

Answer: All snow should be placed within the confines of your property to avoid conflict with neighbours. Structure your snow storage early on by storing snow at the furthest points away from the areas you wish to keep clear.

Question: Is there anything I can do to help?

Answer: Yes. After a snowfall, crews are often hampered by cars parked on streets, which block access for snow clearing equipment. This creates time delays and can be hazardous. The Town cannot accept responsibility for damage to vehicles parked on streets or boulevards during snow removal operations.

A Few Reminders:

- Please remember that there is a town bylaw that requires residents to clear snow and ice from the sidewalks in front of their houses. Please do your part to keep the sidewalks safe for kids, seniors, and everyone out for a breath of fresh air this winter.
- Residents are asked to store residential vehicles, trailers and boats on private property for the winter. The town will be removing boats and RVs stored on the street, in order to ensure safe and efficient ploughing and sanding operations.
- During periods of heavy snowfall or other extreme weather conditions, please have patience as maintenance crews work to get to your area as quickly as possible.

More information about snow removal, including a route map, can be found on our website at www.creston.ca.



Please feel free to stop by Town Hall at 238-10th Avenue North. We are open for business Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for statutory holidays.

Town of Creston

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Doctor Recruitment News

Creston welcomed a new physician in September. Dr. Crystal Campbell, a PCSS graduate, started practising at the Family Practice Clinic. She has recently completed her residency in Medicine Hat, and is a graduate of the University of Calgary Medical School.

The Creston Valley Health Group, which has played an active role in recruiting new physicians to the valley in the past two years, was recently awarded a Program Excellence Award for Community Partnership by the International City Manager's Association.

The award recognizes both the Town of Creston, and the recruitment team, for successfully partnering with the Interior

Health Authority, Regional District of Central Kootenay and local clinics to recruit physicians through the Creston Valley Health Group. "I want to offer my congratulations and support to everyone involved in the Health Group. This award, and the success of this project, is the result of a team effort by some very dedicated individuals," Mayor Ron Toyota said recently.

Cat Program Update



Council was recently updated on the status of the new trap, neuter and adopt initiative for stray and feral cats. During the summer months, Bylaw Enforcement Officers trapped 35 cats. Thirteen of these were diseased, and euthanized. Eighteen were deemed healthy and, after being spayed or neutered, were adopted out to suitable homes. Three cats were

domestic, and claimed by their owners.

With consistent follow up trapping, the issue with stray and feral cats on 10th Avenue N. may be completely resolved by the end of 2009. However, there are other colonies in the area, and Town staff are exploring the best options for handling these.

The Town of Creston is extremely grateful to Dr. Rob McLeod for his continued support of this program, and to the Creston Valley residents who have adopted cats.

If you are interested in adopting a cat, and have a suitable property, such as a farm with a barn, please contact the Bylaw Enforcement Officer at (250) 428-2214 ext. 231.



Open Burning – Almost Finished

Open burning is almost finished for the season. Burning is allowed during the month of October – with a permit. Permits are issued for one week and burning is limited to two hours at a time. Fires must not be larger than 1 square metre and there must be a minimum of 5 metres from buildings, fences, or any other combustible structure or object. Some other regulations and a fee do apply. Please stop by Town Hall or the Fire Department before October 31 to purchase a permit, or give us a call at 428-2214 ext. 0 for more information.



Reminder

Parking meters are back in operation as of October.

Wood Stove Rebate Program

The Town of Creston, RDCK and Province of BC are teaming up to support residents that replace older woodstoves with newer stoves that result in fewer emissions. Residents can be reimbursed for up to \$350 on the cost of a new stove, as well as receiving a subsidy for the tipping fee for their old stove at the landfill. Full details of the program are available from local wood stove suppliers. Contact Creston Airshed Management (CASM) at (250) 428-2686 for local supplier information.

For Cats Only

A reminder to all cats – it's time to get a licence! Ask your owner to stop by Town Hall and find out about the new cat licensing bylaw.

For Dogs Only

Creston dogs are asked to be vigilant in reminding their owners to scoop up! Do your part to keep our sidewalks and parks clean for everyone to enjoy.

Did you know that approved backflow prevention is required to be installed in all underground sprinkler systems? Potential contamination from underground sprinkler systems could

harm the quality of your drinking water. Contact the Town Building Inspection department for details at (250) 428-2214, ext. 233.

Home Heating Safety Tips from the Fire Chief

- Check all flue pipes for corrosion and any openings to prevent Carbon Monoxide in your home;
- Have your wood burning stoves and fireplaces inspected and cleaned by a professional – Rule of thumb is an inspection for every cord of wood burned;
- Burn only harder types of wood for longer burn times and less creosote build-up;
- Change your smoke alarm battery and test alarm by using a blown out candle;
- Install a EPA approved stove to lessen emissions to the environment;
- Install a Carbon Monoxide detector;
- Develop and practice a HOME ESCAPE PLAN.

The Big Guy in Red

The Town's Community Pride Committee has handed over the reigns for the Santa Parade. This year's parade will be hosted by the Creston Valley Chamber of Commerce. The parade will be held on Friday, December 4th, and will follow a similar schedule to previous years. Watch for more information in local media, coming in November.

Hot Tub with a View

Things are starting to take shape at the Creston and District Community Complex, as can be seen in this photo of the new aquatic facility, which is currently under construction. Project updates and photos can be found at: www.rdck.bc.ca/cdoccupdate.

