

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: October 21, 2024	
To: Council	From: Department Heads
Re: Departmental Updates	

CORPORATE OFFICER:

- The annual application to Canadian Heritage for next year's Canada Day funding has been submitted.
- Reviewing the upcoming renewal SOG Agreement with Recycle BC which will be brought forward to Council in a future meeting.
- The District Official Community Plan (OCP) refresh process is underway. The 1st **Public Open House** is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 20th – 6pm – 8pm at the Lions Hall**. This event will be well advertised in advance.
- A general letter of support has been provided to Canada Post for an expansion of mail boxes at the Barriere location.
- Along with the CAO, met with representatives from the Barriere Lions Club regarding the upcoming lease renewal for the Community Hall.
- Responded to 8 Bylaw Enforcement matters in September and October (to date).
- Historical large-scale maps have been sent for digital archiving and cataloguing.

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has forwarded a photo taken at this year's UBCM Convention:



Recreation

- Organizing this year's Winterfest event continues.
- Halloween Fireworks are scheduled for Thursday, October 31st at 7:30pm in KP Park.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER:

Roads

- Major road repairs have been completed for this year. Staff will continue to make minor repairs and patch potholes as needed.
- Winter Road Maintenance Services RFP#2 closes October 21st. Contract to start November 1st, but have contingency in place with local contractor.

Parks

- All park irrigation has been winterized – completed in-house.
- Areas in Fadear Park top dressed and seeded.
- Met with Harry Waldron to mark locations of undesignated trail signs on our property in Siska.

Utilities

- Water consumption for September averaged 1300 m3/day. Summer maximums reached 2700 m3/day
- Staff recently installed two water connections on Dunn Lake Road. We have one upcoming residential and two commercial water connections on the horizon.
- Developer of property at 4740 Barriere Town Road has started the installation of the sewer forcemain to connect their property to our infrastructure.

Emergency Preparedness

- No adverse weather is expected in our region. Special weather statement issued for Coquihalla Hwy Hope to Merritt – heavy rain and gusty winds forecasted this weekend.

FIRE CHIEF:

Fire Department Specific Updates:

- Fire Prevention Week: Elementary School and After School Program visits (see letter from Elementary School)
- Fire Calls: Rural Rescue, Mutual Aid Structure Fire and Follow-up Fire Investigation
- Grant applied for through UBCM: Response in 90 days if we are successful
- Department participated in a weekend, vehicle extraction training exercise Oct 19-20.

FireSmart:

- Survey closed for Community Wildfire Resiliency Planning
- FireSmart information distributed to Elementary School, After School Program and ICS Programming

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Finance:

- Audit work continues, additional issues were identified as part of the reconciliation on various accounts and will be addressed in November.

Administration:

- Meeting with the Lions club is planned for Monday October 21, 2024 to discuss their current use agreement for the Community Hall.
- Along with the Public Works Manager and Corporate Officer, we have begun to pull all the information together for the Rural Economic Development and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) grant application. At this point we have received several letters of support from Simpcw First Nation, Simpcw Resources Group, Interior Health Authority, Taseko, Paradigm, Fort Modular, and DeeJay's RV & MHP; and we are anticipating to receive a few more including from Riverland. Submission deadline is at the end of October 2024.
- Along with the Executive Manager for the Barriere Chamber of Commerce we completed the ETSI-BC grant application for a wayfinding masterplan. A support letter from Simpcw First Nation was also received for and the application has been submitted. We anticipate that any announcement on this grant would most likely not occur until early 2025.

- Crown Land Tenure – please see the letter attached in the information package. The application was rejected as it was incomplete. Although this is a bit of a setback, this rejection essentially will allow us to prepare a wholesome package with Simpcw First Nation (without the time crunch) for a new submission in the future.

**submitted for information*