

SPOTLIGHT ON COUNCIL

Highlights from the June 28, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

2016 Pacific Rim Foundation Award Winner – Heather Morrison

Pacific Rim Foundation President Gary Marks presented their 2016 Scholarship of \$40,000 to this year's recipient, Heather Morrison. The scholarship is awarded to students not only for their academic merit, but also in their contributions to their communities through volunteerism and engagement, and their determination to make a positive difference in the world.

Heather is the youngest of six children to have grown up in Ucluelet and thanked the Council and community for providing her and her family with "a great place to grow up." Heather will be pursuing her post-secondary education in Midwifery at Mount Royal University.

Canada Day Celebrations at the Village Green

This Friday is Canada Day, and the District of Ucluelet is celebrating with cake cutting, kids activities, music, and other festivities on July 1st at the Village Green (in front of the Aquarium). The community is invited to join the celebrations, taking place from 12pm – 3pm.

Updates on Regional Transportation

Council provided an update on discussions from the West Coast Committee and Regional Transportation Action Table. The Wheels for Wellness group had 23 users in April, 30 in May, and 39 in June (to-date). They now operate on a \$40,000/year budget.

The Chuu Train Pilot Project – an initiative of Leadership Vancouver Island students – ran a bus between Ittatsoo and Tofino for 11 days. They had 472 riders in total, which cost \$7000 to run. Conclusions were that 3 buses would be ideal for the west coast. The transportation groups will look into this.

Tourism Activities in Town + Parks Canada

The Chamber of Commerce reported on an excellent turnout for the Edge to Edge Marathon. Tourism Ucluelet and the District will be putting up 10 more banner poles along Peninsula Road this year. Parks Canada has a new superintendent for the Pacific Rim National Park – Ms. Karen Hogen. The Transverse Trail route is currently being worked on, but will wend through the Park from end to end. Council approved writing a letter of support to Parks Canada in favour of the trail. Parks is still working on their infrastructure projects. Tourism revenues are up 12-14%, but staff accommodation is proving to be a challenge.

Upcoming Sewage Lagoon Cleaning

Council has approved funding from the sewer fund to proceed with desludging the District's sewage lagoons. Desludging is essentially the removal of solid build-up in the lagoon cells. This treatment operation increases the capacity of the cells and improves their function.

Fees and Charges Bylaw Receives Adoption

The new Fees and Charges Bylaw came into effect on June 28 via Council adoption. The bylaw outlines updated fees for all District services, and supercedes all currently existing District bylaws that contain fines and fees.

The new bylaw is available online at ucluelet.ca.

Next Regular Council Meeting is

Tuesday, July 12, 2016 - 7:30 pm

George Fraser Room, Ucluelet Community Centre
500 Matterson Drive, Ucluelet, BC

