

Vanderhoof Arena Schedule for December

5	Timbits Hockey Tournament	19-20	Muckers Christmas tournament
6	Pictures with Santa 11:00 am – 3:00 pm	21-24	Private ice rentals
	Ginger bread house making in the mezzanine 11:00 am - 4:00 pm	25-26	Closed
	Skate with Santa 4:15 – 5:15 pm (Please bring non perishable item for admission)	27-28	Private ice rentals available
11	Kinsmen's Santa's Anonymous hockey game 7:00 – 10:00 pm	29	Minor Hockey girls tournament
		30	Minor Hockey girls tournament
		31	Private ice rentals available
			For private rentals phone 250-567-4555



Snow Clearing on Public Streets

Play it safe around snow removal equipment!

The District of Vanderhoof tries to schedule snow removal when children are not commuting to school. Unfortunately this is not always possible. We encourage parents to teach their children to stay clear of plows and other equipment.



If you have any questions please call:

Paul Hascarl

Public Works Superintendent

P (250)567-4711

C (250)567-0669

Parking is not permitted on any street within the District of Vanderhoof between the hours of midnight and 7:00 am from November 1st to April 1st. This restriction is necessary to facilitate snow removal by the municipal works crew during winter months.

Your assistance in keeping our streets free of parked vehicles permits snow-clearing operations to proceed safely and efficiently.

Public Works—Christmas Garbage Collection

Household garbage pickup will not be affected by the Christmas holidays this year.

Public Skating

Sunday	4:15 -- 5:15 pm
Monday	12:00 – 1:00 pm
Tuesday	12:00 – 1:00 pm
Wednesday	12:00 – 2:00 pm
Thursday	11:00 – 12:00 pm
Friday	7:15 - 8:15 pm
Drop in hockey Fridays 12:00 – 1:00pm \$5.00 each	



Winter Lights Celebration

The winter edition of Communities in Bloom – is a national program focused on community efforts that sustain and promote environmental, visual, economic and programming leadership throughout the winter months, with special attention to community involvement and outreach. The program encourages all Canadians to join in their local community events and activities and to experience the beauty and thrill of winter.



The District of Vanderhoof has entered under the *Winter Festival* category.

For more information visit <http://winterlights.ca>

District of Vanderhoof Holiday Hours

The District of Vanderhoof Office will be closed:
December 25th until January 3rd.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



District of Vanderhoof Updater

160 Connaught Street, P.O. Box 900, Vanderhoof, BC V0J 3A0

Phone: 250-567-4711 Fax: 250-567-9169

Website: www.vanderhoof.ca

Volume 1 Issue 6

November, 2009

Message From Council

It's hard to believe that it has been almost a decade since Y2K and the entire world was left holding its breath. This last year has been a difficult time for the global economy. Closer to home, here in British Columbia, many municipalities have seen some tough times. Vanderhoof has been one of the more fortunate communities and we should be thankful.

As we reflect on the past year, we remember how fortunate we are to live in such a great community. There are many characteristics that make a community a great place to live. Since becoming Mayor one year ago, I have come to realize the importance of volunteers. I am amazed by how many of you give so much of yourselves to make our community the great place that we all call home.

As we look forward to the coming year let us not forget that we all benefit from those who make this a better community by volunteering to provide recycling, drama, the 4H Club, seniors housing, singing for seniors, meals on wheels, the Friends of the Library and the Historical Society, to list just a few activities. In addition to these, many of you help out with sports like the running club, Rip'n the North Bike Club, martial arts, soccer, football, speed skating, figure skating, hockey and baseball, none of which would happen without volunteers.

As we look forward to the holiday season try to spend a little extra time with your family. If you can, invite someone who is alone for the holidays into your home and continue to give to charities in our community.

I want to thank each of you who have volunteered some of your time this past year. Because of you, Vanderhoof is a better place to live. On behalf of the Council and the District staff I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year.



Pictures & Skating with Santa

Sunday

December 6th, 2009



Vanderhoof Arena Mezzanine

Pictures with Santa 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

(Sponsored by Wallace Studios—reasonably priced)

Gingerbread House Fun 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

(\$12.00 per kit)

Skate with Santa 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm

(Please bring a non-perishable food item for admission)

Call Sarrah (250)567-4711 for more information

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Friday December 4th

Get into the community Christmas spirit as downtown Vanderhoof comes to life with this annual light parade. Bring the whole family, enjoy the parade and shop right up until midnight!

Enjoy a cup of hot chocolate in front of the Seven 11. All proceeds go to the Vanderhoof Children's Theatre Group.



Parade Route: Beginning at Arena, west on Stewart, north on Lampitt, east on Douglas, south on Burrard and east on Stewart back to Arena.

Call the Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce to enter your float in the parade. No entry fee.

Christmas Tree Silent Auction

During Midnight Madness (December 4th) view and bid on your favorite trees located at local businesses in Vanderhoof. All proceeds will be given to local charities! Final bids will take place on Wednesday, December 16th by the end of business, at which time we will collect the bid sheets and contact the lucky winners. Winners will be asked to pick up their trees on December 18th and pay for them then. This will allow enough time for us to get the proceeds to the families that need them. Watch for maps on where the trees will be located! Contact the Chamber of Commerce (250)-567-2124 or the District of Vanderhoof (250)-567-4711 for more information or to register a tree.



**Next regular Council Meeting:
5:00 pm Wednesday December 9th.**

Vanderhoof Could be - GamesTown 2010

It starts with your story... Communities across BC are sharing their stories and showing the world their Olympic and Paralympic Games spirit through sport, healthy living and environmental sustainability. 124 communities, including Vanderhoof, are officially in the running for the title of GamesTown 2010 where every story and vote counts!

Later this year, three B.C. communities will be picked as the gold, silver and bronze GamesTowns and will receive funds to put towards sports or healthy living facility improvements of their choosing. Along the way we'll also be awarding many other great prizes including tickets to the Winter Games! Find your community and get started today! Go to www.GamesTown2010.ca and cast your ballot for Vanderhoof in the under 5,000 population category. Vote for Vanderhoof today. Vote often.



Watch for the Torch Relay information coming soon!

The Torch Relay will be passing through Vanderhoof on Saturday, January 30th. Events and times will be posted closer to the day so keep watching!



Council Meeting Notes - November 10, 2009

Vanderhoof Community Museum was given access to \$20,000 in additional funding to cover the expense of hiring a part-time manager/curator from November 2009 until April 2010.

District of Vanderhoof Unsightly Premises and Property Maintenance Bylaw No. 1058, 2009 - Council adopted an unsightly premises bylaw which establishes regulations regarding the upkeep of private premises within the District of Vanderhoof.

District of Vanderhoof Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1062, 2009 was given first two readings, the bylaw deals with a request to amend the land use designation of Lot 1, Section 6, Township 11, Range 5, Coast Range 5 Land from A-1 (Agriculture) to RR-1 (Rural Small Holdings).

District of Vanderhoof Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1063, 2009 was given first two readings, the bylaw deals with a request to amend the zoning of Lot 1, Section 6, Township 11, Range 5, Coast Range 5 Land from A-1 (Agriculture) to RR-1 (Rural Small Holdings).

Public Hearing OCP and Zoning Amendments—a public hearing was scheduled for December 9th, 2009 at 4:45 pm to hear concerns regarding the OCP and Zoning bylaws being considered by Council. (note: the full bylaws are available for viewing at the District Office or online at www.vanderhoof.ca)

Council Meeting Notes - November 25, 2009

Vanderhoof Pool Feasibility Study—Council endorsed funding applications from Northern Development Trust Initiative, Enterprising Non-Profits and agreed to commit funding from the Vanderhoof budget towards the cost of hiring a consultant to assist the Vanderhoof Pool Committee with the preparation of a feasibility study for a swimming pool in Vanderhoof.

The Regional District Bulkley-Nechako Vanderhoof rural fire protection local service agreement was approved by Council. Under the agreement the District of Vanderhoof Fire Department provides fire protection services for the residents of the "Vanderhoof Rural Fire Protection Local Service Area". In return the Regional District will compensate the District of Vanderhoof for providing the service. This is a renewal of an existing contract, the new contract expires on December 31st, 2013.

Community Centred Agreement. Council committed to working on community economic development with the Rural BC Secretariat of the Ministry of Community and Rural Development through a Memorandum of Agreement. Community Centred Agreements provide Ministry support to:

- Increase community access to government resources
- Focus on key projects that support community development and build a more diversified economy
- Facilitate partnerships and leverage funding
- Provide project support and strategic assistance
- Align with provincial strategies.

This is a pilot project and Vanderhoof is one of four municipalities in the province working with this program. **Council Meetings for 2010**—Council set their schedule for Council meetings for 2010. Council will hold a regular council meeting every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. A committee of the whole meeting will be scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month. For July and August Council has scheduled only one meeting for the third Wednesday.

All regular scheduled and committee of the whole meetings start at 5:00 pm in the District of Vanderhoof Council Chambers and are open to the public. You are encouraged to attend.

A copy of the full Council Meeting Schedule is available at www.vanderhoof.ca.



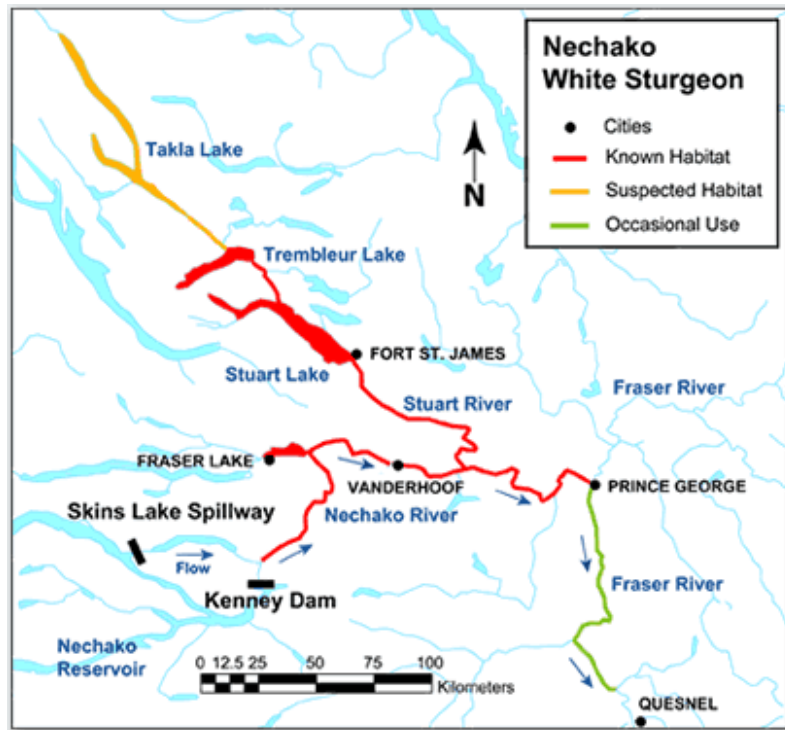
Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (NWSRI)

Dwelling in deep pools of the Nechako River is a survivor from the age of the dinosaurs - the Nechako white sturgeon. This mysterious creature is the largest freshwater fish in Canada, and has existed relatively unchanged for millions of years – surviving volcanic eruptions, ice ages and climatic upheavals. But the Nechako white sturgeon is now swimming in a current of change that is taking it to the very brink of extinction. It is ranked as **Critically Imperiled** by the British Columbia Conservation Data

Centre and is an **Endangered Species** according to the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC).

In the last 50 years, the Nechako white sturgeon population has dropped from what some scientists believe was a minimum of 5000 fish to less than 600. And the vast majority of those fish are more than 30 years old. The lack of younger fish means that sturgeon are either not reproducing successfully or that the young are not surviving to adulthood. As sturgeon do not begin spawning until they are 15 to 30 years old, the lack of young sturgeon in the Nechako means that an entire generation is already missing.

But it is not too late! With your help, and the help of other concerned citizens, organizations and governments, the Nechako white sturgeon can be saved.



CONGRATULATIONS!! On January 31st



2008, at the regional **Premier's Awards** in Prince George, the NWSRI won a **Silver Award** in recognition of our teamwork and success in promoting white sturgeon stewardship and work towards recovery of the population.

www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org



DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF PUBLIC NOTICE New Water Treatment Plant

The District of Vanderhoof is excited to report that the construction of the new water treatment plant is nearing completion. This new plant will do a much better job at reducing iron and manganese than the old plant. Iron and manganese concentrations coming from the wells average 0.17 mg/L and 0.66 mg/L respectively. With the new filters we expect the iron and manganese levels will average 0.02 mg/L and 0.02 mg/L respectively. This is well below the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality of 0.30 mg/L for iron and 0.05 mg/L for manganese. Iron and manganese are a normal part of a healthy diet. The Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines for iron and manganese are set for aesthetic purposes to reduce potential discoloration, staining and taste in the water.

To make the new plant operate properly, low levels of chlorine must be added as part of the filtering process. As a result of this process some chlorine will be present in the water supply. Maintaining a positive chlorine concentration in our water pipes will help keep the drinking water in them, safe from disease causing organisms. This is also a requirement of Northern Health for the protection of public health from potential cross connections. All water systems that deliver drinking water in the Province of BC are required to maintain the safety of their drinking water to each residential or commercial service connection. Low concentrations of chlorine help ensure that the drinking water stays safe throughout the distribution water mains.

These changes may affect the taste of the water to some people (possibly for the better). You could run your drinking water through an activated charcoal filter to reduce the chlorine taste if you notice it.

The anticipated date of receiving the improved water is the middle of December. At that time, the current Water Quality Advisory will be removed.

If you have any questions please call

Paul Hascarl, Public Works Superintendent at (250) 567-4711.

