



KATIMAVIK YEAR ONE OVER

June 30 will mark the end of the first of three years that Katimavik will be in our community. Since last September, three sets of 11 Katimavik participants have lived, worked and shared in our community. Their job placements ranged from working with Saik'uz First Nation, to helping in school classrooms and District led recreation programs, to office and manual labour jobs - all done on a volunteer basis. Thank you to all the Katimavik participants for your commitment to our community, you will be missed.

The next Katimavik group will arrive this Fall. If you are a non-profit group and want to learn how Katimavik can help your organization, please contact the District.

The community is invited to the Katimavik farewell party on June 24, 5:30pm at the WL McLeod Conference Room.



The Katimavik participants have fun outside their home in Vanderhoof.

NEW FALL PROGRAMS AT CNC

Register NOW for new fall programs at CNC, which include cabinet maker/joiner, industrial mechanic/machinist, applied business technology, social service worker certificate, and more!! Phone 250-567-3200 (Vanderhoof) or 250-996-7109 (Fort St. James).

On-line www.cnc.bc.ca/nechako.

College of New Caledonia
NECHAKO CAMPUS

DEFINING PROPERTY TAXES

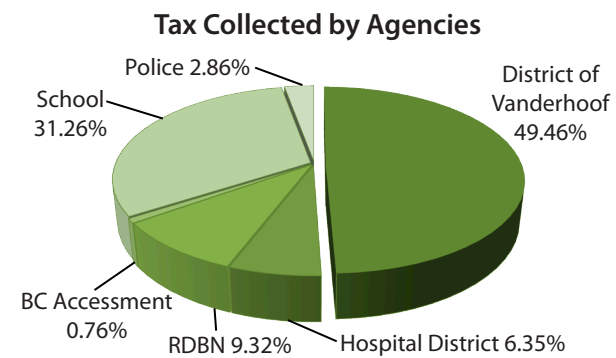
By now you will have received your 2010 Property Tax Notice from the District of Vanderhoof. The District collects taxes for other jurisdictions such as Schools, Police, Regional Hospital and the Regional District Bulkley Nechako. In fact over one half of your tax bill goes to other agencies.

The only tax rate that Council regulates is the General Municipal Tax. In 2010, the General Municipal Tax Rate remained the same as in 2009. For residential properties this is 4.4722 per \$1,000 in assessment. The total taxes collected in 2010 (\$3,058,184) was almost exactly the same as in 2009 (\$3,054,940) and slightly less than in 2008 (\$3,065,727). Council has kept spending in-line, providing the same level of service along with a number of new projects.

Some tax payers will experience an increase in overall taxes because their property assessment increased. This resulted in an increase in their General Municipal Taxes as well as an increase in the School, Police, Regional Hospital and Regional District Taxes. These all contribute to an overall increase.

Residents that are on municipal water will also see an increase in Water Frontage Tax. This was increased to recover the cost of borrowing for the new water upgrades that were completed last year. There will be another increase next year, yet the borrowing will be paid off in five years and the Water Frontage Tax will return to the same rate as it was in 2009.

Mayor Thiessen and Council were determined to have a financial plan for 2010 that did not increase the tax rate and kept the overall taxes collected by the municipality the same as 2009. They did this without sacrificing service levels; you can expect the same professional high quality service as you always have had. Council is proud of the level of services the District provides and proud that they are able to keep taxation at manageable levels.



Mayor Thiessen would be pleased to hear your concerns; you can contact him at (250)567-4711 or by email at mayor@district.vanderhoof.ca.

Please remember that Municipal Taxes are due by July 2nd, 2010 and if you qualify for a homeowner grant you must claim it by the due date to avoid a penalty.

UPDATE AFTER



COUNCIL MESSAGE



Councillor Darren Carpenter

It is that time of year again, the heart of summer is fast approaching and thoughts of relaxing with friends and family increasingly enter our minds.

A number of annual summer events such as the Ballapoolaza Slow-Pitch Tournament and Hooterville Hoot Car Show recently occurred. It was a pleasure to see so many members of our community participating or coming to view these events. The tireless work of community minded volunteers ensure these events take place year after year. To each and every one of you hardworking volunteers, on behalf of the District of

Vanderhoof, please accept our sincere gratitude and appreciation for highlighting the people, businesses, and hospitality of our community. Please remember that many activities and events are being planned for "Vanderhoof Days" later in the summer.

With the onset of summer it is a good time to outline a number of initiatives and projects Council has for the District of Vanderhoof. A great deal of work is currently being done by Mayor and Council on a range of initiatives encompassing, economic development, recycling, pool, sturgeon hatchery, tourism, recycling, forestry, energy/water conservation, Bylaw updating, airport zoning, crime/vandalism, and development zoning policies.

As in 2009, with no corresponding increase in the property tax rate, Council has approved another round of ambitious projects for the 2010 fiscal year. Many of these projects, such as, the 4th Street improvement/upgrade, Heritage Park development at the Vanderhoof Community Museum, Phase 1 of the Vanderhoof Trail Network, opening of the sports field complex for use, and installation of the modular/mobile bleachers have already commenced.

Over the coming weeks and months work will begin on the following projects: LED community information sign, improvements to the Highway 16 park, community WI-FI access at Riverside Park, new water park for the kids at Ferland Park, Flash Cam system for crime deterrence, frisbee golf course at Riverside Park, picnic access on the north side of the Nechako River, and Redmond Pit Road improvements.

On behalf of the Mayor, Gerry Thiessen, and Council, have a great and relaxing summer.

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COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

May 26, 2010

Prince George Councillor Garth Frizzell updated Council on the benefits of being a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and asked Council to become members. Council will consider becoming members at a future date.

Council reviewed a resident's complaint about a barking dog. Administration was directed to fine the dog owners under the nuisance bylaw.

Council waived the fee for renting the Arena to the Kinsmen so that they could hold a fund-raising dance.

Council adopted the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition Strategies as advisory documents to be used as input during District planning and priority setting activities.

Council granted permission to the Vanderhoof Community Museum to hold a parade subject to the receipt of a map of the parade route which has been endorsed by all applicable agencies (Fire, RCMP, Ambulance, etc.).

Council endorsed the Nechako Valley Historical Society's liquor licence application subject to meeting all regulatory obligations and maintaining \$5 million liability insurance with the District of Vanderhoof listed as a third party.

Council approved the Memorandum of Agreement on Community Economic Development between the Province of BC and the District of Vanderhoof which commits the District to work with the Province of BC through the Ministry of Community and Rural Development.

Mayor Thiessen made some mid-term committee appoints. The Council committees were shuffled and there are now fewer committees than before. Committee appointments are being made halfway through this Council's mandate. The new committee appointments take effect immediately.

June 9, 2010

Council endorsed the Spirit of Vanderhoof Demonstration Project's Diversity Project Mural to be painted on the side of the Neighbourhood Space. The mural will be painted by the youth of Vanderhoof under the guidance of the Diversity Co-ordinator Mr. Reg Muller.

Council proclaimed June 23 to 30, 2010 as **Good Neighbours Week** in Vanderhoof. Mayor Thiessen will participate in the official opening of the Neighbourhood Space with Saik'uz First Nation Chief Jackie Thomas on June 23.



Youth enjoy the fuse ball and pool tables at the Neighbourhood Space after school. If you are interested in volunteering, the Neighbourhood Space is the place to go to link up with non-profit organizations and groups in Vanderhoof looking for volunteers.

UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

District Council Chambers
5:00 pm Wednesday

JUNE 23

JULY 21

AUGUST 18

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SPACE

June 23, 2010
Time: 12:00 Noon
Neighbourhood Space
Hwy 16 West, next to Subway

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS JULY 1

Vanderhoof Community Museum
6:30am Mary John Run starting at Saik'uz and finishing at the museum. Entertainment, food, activities for kids all day long at the museum.



UPDATER

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DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF GRANT WRITER

Past successes and new beginnings

The past year has been an extremely busy and highly productive year for Vanderhoof community projects and, in turn, a very exciting inaugural year for the District of Vanderhoof's grant writing service. Seed money from Northern Development Initiative Trust's Grant Writing Support Program allowed the District of Vanderhoof to add Fiona Lamprecht to the Economic Development team in April 2009. In the past 12 months Fiona has helped 15 community groups obtain a combined total of \$885,201 towards 29 projects with an overall value of close to \$4 million. This represents an excellent 63% success rate as of 15 April, 2010.

"It has been a real privilege and a pleasure to work in the role of grant writer for the District of Vanderhoof, over the past year" says Fiona who is taking a break from the role of grant writer so she can focus on completing her studies in Community Economic Development and spend more quality time with her children aged 2 and 4. "It was a tough decision to let go of such a rewarding job, but family comes first and I'll be back once my kids are in school".

This is by no means the end of the Vanderhoof Grant Writing Service, only a new beginning. And a wonderful new beginning indeed: as of 01 June, 2010, our community is fortunate to have Janice Baker, a most capable and worthy successor who many of you know from her involvement with various community groups over the past twenty years. Janice has considerable experience in the grant writing field and the District of Vanderhoof is extremely pleased to have her join our team.

Please contact Janice for assistance in identifying funding sources for your nonprofit program or project, and for help completing funding applications and grant proposals. Contact Janice Baker at grantwriter@district.vanderhoof.ca or 250-570-8321.



Janice Baker



Sasha at the Vanderhoof Community Museum not only gives tours of the historical buildings and recites Vanderhoof history to visitors, she also dishes out great ice cream cones. Celebrate Canada Day at the museum.

BUILD A POOL - SWIM FOR LIFE AND LEISURE

The Vanderhoof Pool Committee is moving closer to having a pool built in Vanderhoof. The consultants (PERC) selected to gather the communities ideas about what is desired in a pool facility and complete the feasibility study is working to our agreed timeline.

Together we have gathered local and historic information and conducted interviews with individuals, groups and employers. PERC is preparing their report which includes possible pool designs, capital and operating costs, etc. The report will be presented at a public open house in September and we will be encouraging you to provide your ideas and comments. PERC will incorporate any new information received into their final report to Council.

The Pool Committee invites you to become a Founding Member of the Vanderhoof Aquatic Centre. The concrete and steel will be the stuff of the structure but the people of Vanderhoof are the foundation of this project. If you stand behind it our pool will become a reality. Your \$5.00 membership fee will entitle you to be a Founding Member you will receive a card commemorating this plus your first swim will be on us! Your membership may be paid to the District of Vanderhoof and we ask that you supply your name, address (civic and postal), phone number and email address.

We invite you to visit <http://pics.vanderhoof.ca/poolcommittee.html> for current and historic information about our progress to build our pool.

