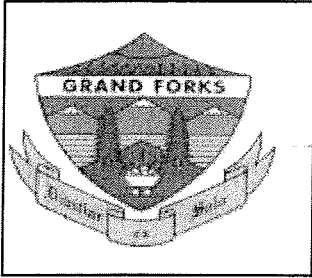


October 2005

City of Grand Forks Newsletter

www.city.grandforks.bc.ca

CITY ELECTIONS



Voting Day— November 19, 2005

Time: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Location: Perley Elementary

Advance Polls— November 9 & 16, 2005

Time: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Location: City Hall

Who is eligible to vote:

- You must be a Canadian citizen.
- You must be 18 years of age or older on Voting Day
- You must have been a resident of BC for at least 6 months before Voting Day
- You must have been a resident of the City of Grand Forks for at least 30 days before Voting Day.
- You must not be disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

CITY NOTES

City Hall will be closed for the following holidays:

November 11, Friday—
Remembrance Day
December 23, Friday—
in-lieu of Christmas
December 26, Monday—
in-lieu of Boxing Day
January 2, Monday— in-lieu
of New Year's Day

2005 Council Meeting Dates

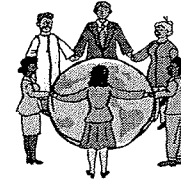
Monday, November 7, 2005
Monday, November 21, 2005
Monday, December 5, 2005
Inaugural Meeting of New
Council 6:00 p.m. at Legion
Monday, December 19, 2005

2006-2010 Financial Plan
Public Consultation Session
Tuesday, December 6, 2005
at the Seniors Hall 6:00 p.m.
to 8:00 p.m.

City staff will review the Financial Plan and accept public input into the next five year operating and capital plans, everyone is welcome. If the public has specific questions, they can contact the City Finance Department by written request, or they can phone 442-8266 for info.

COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE

The City has received a provincial "Live Sites" grant in the amount of \$330,000 for the construction of a Community Centre. The City's portion of the construction cost will come from the Slag Reserve Fund, so there will be no affect on your property taxes for the construction costs. The full construction costs will be paid for by the City. The City has also made an arrangement, subject to approval at a referendum on November 19, 2005, to share the annual



operating costs with Electoral Area D. The Director of Electoral Area D has recommended \$15,000 annually as a contribution towards the annual operating costs. User fees will also offset some of the costs. If the referendum fails, the City will be responsible for paying 100% of the annual operating costs. The annual operating costs may have some impact on your property taxes depending on

whether the referendum is adopted and also on the usage of the centre and the fees charged.

The City has formed a Building Committee to work on the preliminary design concept for submission to professional engineers. The City has arranged for a meeting on Tuesday, November 22nd 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Seniors Centre in City Park to review the status of the project to date and accept any input from the public.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, the City will accept input on a written basis.

The initial time frame for completion of the project was March 31, 2006; however, the province has recently announced that an extension has been granted until March 31, 2008. The City would like to proceed as soon as possible on this project because construction costs are estimated to rise approximately 20% annually for the foreseeable future.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day ceremonies will take place on Friday November 11th. The Memorial Parade starts at 10:45 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion and the service will be held at the cenotaph outside City Hall at 7217-4th St.

Why do we remember?

We must remember. If we do not, the sacrifices of those hundreds of thousands of Canadians lives will be meaningless. They died for us, for our homes, for our families, and our friends. They gave of themselves for a collection of traditions Canadians cherish...and a future we all believed in. They died for Canada. The meaning of their sacrifice and their valour rests with our collective national consciousness.



Whom do we remember?

Canadian men and women who gave their lives so that others could live in peace. Canadian men and women who served selflessly during the war-torn years. Canadian men and women who supported the home-front efforts. Canadian soldiers, sailors and air force personnel who are presently deployed overseas on operational missions.

What should we remember?

Canadian sacrifices, achievements and valour. The comradeship in defending human rights. Canadian rights and freedoms. World gratification to Canada for liberated peace. Canada's military history in the development of our nation.
Excerpt from Veteran Affairs Canada Newsletter

Hallowe'en Safety Tips



TRICK-OR-TREATERS

- Carry a flashlight
- Walk, don't run
- Stay on sidewalks
- Obey traffic signals
- Stay in familiar neighborhoods
- Don't cut across yards or driveways
- Wear a watch you can read in the dark
- Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground
- Shoes should fit (even if they don't go with your costume)
- Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house
- Carry only flexible knives, swords or other props
- (if no sidewalk) walk on the left side of the road facing traffic
- Wear Clothing with reflective markings or tape
- Approach only houses that are lit

Xmas Tree Safety Tips

- Be sure to test your smoke detectors
- Don't overload electric outlets. Inspect electrical cords & light sets. If in doubt, throw them out
- Keep your Christmas tree in a sturdy base filled with water & check the water level daily
- Spraying the Christmas tree with a flame retardant is always a good idea
- Place the tree away from heat sources, such as fireplaces & heaters
- Do not use candles on or near the tree
- Check all indoor & outdoor lights for frayed cords
- Lights should not touch combustible material
- Never use lights that have empty sockets
- Use only outdoor lights for "outdoor"
- Turn off all lights prior to leaving your home or going to bed
- Mini lights are safest because they produce less heat

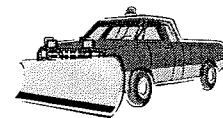
Snow Plowing

For safe snow plowing operation for our equipment operators and the public, a few helpful considerations should be applied:

- Have your vehicles parked off the roads and boulevards in the months of November 15-March 15. Vehicles impeding snow removal operations are subject to towing
- Garbage cans & bags should be back from the curbside 4 meters
- Keep back alleys clear of everything as they are used for City equipment and Emergency vehicles
- Please do not put the snow from your driveway, parking lot, or sidewalk back into the street as this makes it very dangerous for a driver to keep control of a vehicle in winter conditions
- Stay away from all working equipment
- Stay back from snow plowing equipment at intersections and while operating a vehicle on roadways
- Please do not park on the streets in the downtown core as the crews will be out early removing snow from streets, sidewalks, alleys, and

parking lots. Vehicles parked in the downtown area will be subject to towing.

If you help us with these requests, we can do our jobs faster and safer, saving the taxpayers money.



Sidewalk Snow Clearing

To minimize damage to public and private property during winter snow clearing operations, here are a few helpful tips:

- Trim back shrubs & hedges 3 inches behind the sidewalk
- Low limb trees to height of 8 ft above the sidewalk
- Make sure any fences do not lean out over the sidewalk so our crews don't hit or damage them with our equipment
- Keep all recreational vehicles & cars off the sidewalks
- We need a minimum of 6 ft in width for safe passage of our equipment
- Do not run extension cords across sidewalks as we cannot see them when they are buried in the snow.

Xmas Tree Disposal—Rotary

Every year, after the Christmas season is finished, there are numerous Christmas trees from City residents which need to be disposed of in an environmentally friendly way. The Grand Forks Rotary Club will pick up your used Christmas tree, transport it to the landfill, and chip it for the compost pile. In return, the Rotary Club will collect a donation which is used in various community projects. You can obtain Rotary Club Christmas Tree Tags, by donation, from various merchants including the Black Knight Market, City Hall, Home Hardware, CIBC, Grand Forks District Savings Credit Union, Select Office Products, or Pharmasave. The Christmas Tree pick-up is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2006. Simply place the tag on the tree, and leave it at the curb prior to 9:00 a.m. on January 7, 2006. Rotary Club members will come by and pick up the tree and dispose of it for you. The service is available to any residence within the boundaries of the City.

Contact Info:

• General inquiries

City Hall - Phone 442-8266

Public Works - Phone 442-8266

• Emergency Phone Numbers

Sewer and Water—442-3355

Electrical—442-2033

Roads—443-4041

Fire—911

(Please note: Non-emergency after hours calls will be charged the call-out overtime rate)

Home Owner Grants

Have you claimed your Home Owner Grant for this year? If not, you have until Friday, December 30th to do so. You must be the owner of the home and live in it as your principle residence. For answers to your Home Owner Grant questions please contact City Hall at 442-8266.