

Urban Deer Management

In May, 520 Urban Deer Surveys were distributed to the Village of McBride residents and property owners, 102 surveys were returned and the information was compiled. Council reviewed the survey results and information and determined that the next step in the management process was to commence educating the public. As a result, staff prepared a "Living with Urban Deer" information pamphlet which is available for residents. Copies of the pamphlet are available on the website or may be picked up at the Village Office.

Canadian Armed Forces

This fall the Village of McBride had an opportunity to work with members of the Canadian Armed Forces to host battalion units. We were able to accommodate their stay by closing sections of roads for the units to park and fuel. We appreciate the Community Spirit and participation shown by the members who came to our community. Also, we would like to express a special thank you to Lyle Lewis and the Robson Valley Recreation staff for accommodating these groups and for being outstanding hosts.

Economic Development

Our Economic Development Officer (EDO) has been busy over the past year working on many different initiatives promoting our area, this includes compiling the investment Ready Community Profile 2012, participating in the development and maintenance of the North Central BC Investment Website and working with the Province on the Opportunities BC Website. Provided data and information to the Provincial Trade and Investment Agencies and participated on the McBride-Barrier Economic Corridor Pilot, communicates with IPP's and BC Hydro to provide information when needed. Work was conducted on various grant applications, including using the information provided by the Tourism Advisory Committee to compile a grant for submission to OBAC.

As we move into 2013, our EDO will continue to work on committed projects and act in an advisory capacity to Mayor and Council and will follow Council's direction in implementing the economic opportunities and development plans. Our EDO will continue to work with various community groups and organization as directed by Council.

Snow Removal Policy

This fall we did our annual review of the snow removal policy and have implemented some changes to the policy. The revised policy is available on the Village of McBride website or may be viewed at the Village Office. We would like to remind residents to not leave vehicles parked on the roadways or boulevards during snow removal periods in their areas.

We would like to express our thanks to LDM for working with us and providing us with assistance while our grader is getting repaired. This display of Community Partnership is greatly appreciated.

Major Projects List Update

Following is an update on the major projects the Village of McBride is currently working at completing:

1. **Eco Sensitive Waste Water Treatment Project – Phase 2**
Phase 2 of the waste water treatment project commenced in 2011, the construction of treatment cell #3 and the wetland area are complete. This project will continue this summer with the planting of the wetland area and commencement of the woodlot area; availability of trees may affect the commencement and completion date.
Status: Ongoing
2. **Village Loop Walking Trail – Phase 1**
Phase 1 consists of replacing the sidewalk on 1st Avenue from Main Street to Columbia Street and new sidewalk on Columbia Street from 1st Avenue to 5th Avenue.
This project started last fall and will commence again in the spring and to be completed in the fall.
Status: Ongoing
3. **Water System Repairs – Emergency Management/PEP Recovery**
Last summer, Dominion Creek overflowed its banks at our water system intake area, which, caused some damage to our intake structure and resulted in large deposits of sediment in our reservoir systems.
The clean-up and repairs commenced last summer and shall be completed this spring.
Status: Ongoing



VILLAGE OF MCBRIDE COUNCIL INFORMATION UPDATE January 2013

Since our last update in June 2012, the Village of McBride Council and Staff have been very busy working on various initiatives and dealing with regular administrative obligations.

Some of the initiatives Council has been working on are as follows:

Robson Valley Region Branding and Marketing Strategy

Earlier in 2012 the Village of McBride, Village of Valemount and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George unveiled the Robson Valley Region Brand that will help market tourism and economic development opportunities in the Robson Valley Region. The development of the brand is a result of the recommendations identified in the Canoe-Robson Valleys Economic Opportunities Plan. The next step identified was to build a marketing strategy for the Robson Valley. This process commenced in the fall of 2012 with the award of the RFP. The marketing strategy will be a multifaceted plan that encompasses web, social media, public relations, direct marketing and advertising. This plan is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2013.

Tourism

Council completed a RFP process for the Visitor Information Centre Operations and the successful proponent was the McBride & District Chamber of Commerce (Chamber). The Village and Chamber signed a three year funding agreement for the operation of the Visitor Centre for the sole purpose of distributing information. The Chamber will now hold the agreement/membership with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation and will be the sole entity responsible for the operation of the visitor centre. Council would like to wish the Chamber the best in this endeavour.

Throughout the year the Tourism Advisory Committee worked towards identifying tourism opportunities for the area. The committee information was presented to Council and a recommendation came forward requesting that the Village of McBride apply for an OBAC Grant to assist in completing activities the committee identified. Some of the initiatives that were included in the grant application included: Mountain Bike Trail Planning, Marketing Brochure Printing, Completion and/or enhancement to Village Walks (Solar System, Fire Hydrant, Horseshoe Lake Gazebo and Dominion Creek Trail), Improvement to Dore River Hiking Trails, Bell Mountain Information Signage and Horseback/multi-use Trail Development. The application will be submitted in early 2013.

Robson Valley Powerline Improvements

As a follow up to the earlier announcement, regarding the BC Hydro \$50 million line upgrades to provide stable power to the Robson Valley and new economic opportunities. In September of 2012, Village Council members and administration had an opportunity to meet with Premier Clark, Minister Coleman, Minister Bell, Minister Bond and BC Hydro representatives to receive an update on the status of this upgrade. We were informed that BC Hydro is committed to working with the IPP's to develop reliable power. The parties involved are currently in negotiations and have all signed non-disclosure agreements and there is not much information that may be provided at this time.

Community Events

Council has been involved in supporting and taking part in various community events over the past six months, including holding the "Winter Garage Sale" selling wardrobe items from the "Horses of McBride Movie". The proceeds from the sale of these items were donated to the Elementary, High school and Daycare food programs. Office staff members and Councillor Rejman enjoyed a morning at the elementary school preparing a hot lunch for the students.

In September, the Robson Valley Arts and Culture Council requested Councils support in applying for a grant to Heritage Canada to celebrate the naming of McBride 100 years ago with the McBride and District Public Library organizing the project. Council gladly provided support for the application and we are looking forward to receiving information from the organizing group on what events will be taking place and our role in these activities.

**BCAS STATION 525 McBRIDE
FUNDRAISER FOR
PARAMEDIC SUZANNE MAZEREEUW**



*Paramedics
Suzanne &
Jonathan
Mazereeuw*

Suzanne has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer

join us

Saturday February 16th at 6:00 PM

McBride Evangelical Free Church

to support these paramedics and their family

Spaghetti Dinner

\$10.00 single \$25.00 family tickets at door

Bake Sale

Silent Auction

Penny Drive

Bottle Drive

Look For These Donation Jars



Contact any local Paramedic or Unit Chief Rodger Peterson 250 569 2793

For Further Details & Information