



District of Lantzville Community Update

Transportation Plan Open House, Five Year Financial Plan, Water System Maintenance & Staffing Update

March 2013

Regular Council Meetings in March

Monday, March 11 – Regular Meeting

Monday, March 25 – Regular Meeting

The public is welcome to attend all Council and Committee meetings which begin at 7:00 pm at the District Office, 2nd Floor, 7192 Lantzville Road.

Certified Irrigation Technician Course

Ever been interested in learning about increasing the efficiency of irrigation system designs and installations? Through the District of Lantzville's participation in the Team WaterSmart program, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is offering \$100 subsidies to individuals participating in the Certificate Irrigation Technician course being held in Nanaimo on Friday, March 8.

For more information please visit the RDN website 'public notice' for more information
<http://www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=2959>

Five Year Financial Plan (2013-2017)

Council is continuing its Financial Planning process and invites the public to provide feedback either in writing or by attending upcoming Committee of the Whole Meetings. These meetings are open to the public and the next Committee of the Whole Meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, March 4
- Monday, April 15

Highlights of the preliminary financial plan are as follows:

- Proposed 2% property tax increase
- Solid waste parcel tax will be \$137 for 2013
- Increase in sewer user rates from \$168 to \$276
- Contributions to capital reserves of \$634,325
- New Community Planner available 3 days per week

Capital projects planned for 2013 include:

- Road surface repair and replacement (Ware/Tremblay)- \$475,500
- Watermain replacement (Peterson Road)- \$250,000

Mayor's Office Hours

Thursday afternoons from 1 pm to 4 pm
Call 250.390.4006 to make an appointment

Transportation Plan Update

The District of Lantzville engaged the services of Boulevard Transportation Group to conduct a transportation review that will address transportation needs in the District. An open house held in January of this year was an opportunity to gather information from residents and stakeholders on existing areas of concern and those in attendance had an opportunity to speak directly with the project team to provide suggestions and areas of improvement. We now extend an invitation to residents and stakeholders to join us once again, at the District for a second open house. This open house will allow residents and stakeholders the opportunity to review the findings and recommendations of the study and is being held as follows:

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2013

Times: 2:00 – 4:00 pm and/or
7:00 – 9:00 pm

Location: District of Lantzville Office (2nd Floor)

Team WaterSmart Free Workshops This Spring

Save it for a Sunny Day: Rainwater Harvesting Options

On the coast, winter rain is plentiful – and free! Why not catch it and save it for the dry months? Learn about various rainwater harvesting system designs to discover what will work for you. Local experts from *Rainwater Connection* will provide hands-on examples of all the components and discuss different options so that you can use "sky water" to irrigate your garden or even flush your toilets!

Saturday March 23rd at the Lantzville Legion from 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Community Water System Maintenance

Beginning March 18, the District's water system will undergo maintenance. Maintenance includes flushing of the water lines as well as fire hydrant maintenance and will take approximately 4 weeks to complete. During this time there may be some discoloration of water and, while this should not affect the quality of drinking water, we recommend that laundry be done on weekends or evenings to avoid possible discoloration of clothes, etc. We apologize for any inconvenience this required maintenance may cause.

Staffing Update

We would like to take this opportunity to advise the community of two new staff members joining us at the District of Lantzville. Please join me in welcoming Tamie Nohr, the District's new Deputy Director of Corporate Administration and Meredith Seeton, the District's new permanent/part-time Community Planner.

Deputy Director of Corporate Administration

Tamie Nohr commenced her employment with the District on Monday, February 25, 2013. Tamie's experience/background is as follows: Senior Secretary, in the Corporate Administration Department of the Regional District of Nanaimo, a variety of positions held with the Town of Ladysmith, administrative role with the City of Duncan, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer (including a 6 month acting CAO role) with the Village of Port Clements. Tamie holds a certificate in Local Government Administration and is a graduate of the Leadership BC Program.

Community Planner

Meredith Seeton will commence her employment with the District of Lantzville on April 2, 2013. Ms. Seeton is currently concluding her employment commitments with the Sunshine Coast Regional District prior to joining us in April.

We are looking forward to Meredith joining us here at the District as she has demonstrated that she is an up and comer in the planning world. Ms. Seeton has had her work published in PIBC magazine entitled "Sea Level Rise: Contemplating Practical Action on the Sunshine Coast" in addition to a variety of other articles. Meredith's work experience also includes the following:

- Supported development of an Agricultural Area Plan
- Collaborated with Urban Futures to project and map rental housing demand and core housing needs across the province; and
- Identified regulatory and operational barriers to boosting neighbourhood food access through initiatives such as mobile produce stands and urban farm gate sales in Vancouver including policy recommendations

Meredith's education background is as follows:

- MSc Planning – University of British Columbia where Meredith excelled in applied land use planning, social planning, urban design and market analysis
- MSc International Development Studies – Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Please note that our current planning consultant, Ms. Susan Cormie continues to provide planning services on behalf of the District every Monday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Susan has provided these services to the District for the past year and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan for her work and we wish her an enjoyable retirement.

Mrs. Jedha Holmes, BBA, CA

Please join me in congratulating Mrs. Jedha Holmes, B.B.A., CA on her appointment to the position of Director of Financial Services with the District of Lantzville effective March 1, 2013.

Mrs. Holmes began her tenure with the District of Lantzville in December of 2008 as the District's Deputy Director of Financial Services. Since beginning her employment with the District Mrs. Holmes has made positive steps in fulfilling the role of Deputy Director of Financial Services and has consistently demonstrated initiative and the desire to continue to learn the various components of the world of finance in a municipal setting.

DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSURE

The District Office will be closed on Friday, **March 29, 2013 and Monday, April 1, 2013 for Easter.**

The District Office will re-open at 8:00 am on **Tuesday, April 2, 2013.**

**SCHEDULE CHANGE - FOOD WASTE, GARBAGE AND RECYCLING REMINDER:**

When there is a holiday, your regular collection day moves forward a day. This means that due to holidays the collection schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, April 4 - garbage & food waste.
Thursday, April 11 – recycling & food waste

(Collection days move to Thursday until the next statutory holiday in May.)

Looking for other general information, Council contact information, special events? Don't forget to visit the District's website at www.lantzville.ca