

COUNCIL UPDATES

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2015-2018

Council has established its priorities for 2015-2018. The primary focus for Council continues to be its core infrastructure. Council will continue to make strategic investments in upgrading water, sanitary sewer and hydro infrastructure. Annual expenditures in these three utilities will be approximately \$8,000,000 per year and will be funded from annual utility fees and the reserves that have been created in these utilities.

2016 will also see a focus on the better understanding for needed investment in roads, sidewalks and facilities. The City has 72 km of roads, 64 km of sidewalks and owns 72 buildings, all of which are aging. Like our utilities, Council wants to have a full assessment of the condition of these assets and determine what level of investment is needed over the next 10-25 years to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the community.

Council will continue to focus on fiscal management looking at innovative ways to generate revenues and reduce costs that allow taxes to remain at inflationary levels. Council will be reviewing its Emergency Management Strategy in conjunction with the RDCK as well as ensuring it enhances its occupational health and safety programs. Shared services with the RDCK will also be a priority and this includes parks & recreation, library, waste management and administration.

On the community side, Council will move forward with the short-term recommendations from the Housing Strategy, the Community Energy Plan and the Sustainable Waterfront and Downtown Master Plan ("SWDMP"). The Railtown Sustainable Neighbourhood Plan; the downtown public realm plan; completion of Hall Street to the waterfront, and supporting the continued residential and commercial development in the downtown and waterfront are highlights of moving forward on the SWDMP. Housing strategies include supporting a broad range of new housing development; considering a Standards of Maintenance bylaw and exploring adding entry level housing to the Youth Centre. The Community Energy Plan highlights include the Community Solar Garden, continuing the Eco-Save program, and developing a viable model for a bio-fuel District Energy System.

In addition to supporting new development, Council's economic development priorities will include growing the Nelson Fibre utility (broadband), and becoming an "Intelligent Community" Council considers this an important strategy to support economic prosperity in our community.

NELSON FIBRE

Nelson Fibre Is Here!

Join the growing number of businesses that are signing up to connect to the internet, or inter-connect their office locations, with Nelson's high-speed Fibre Utility.

Please visit www.nelson.ca and look for **City Services Fibre Optic** for an overview of the broadband project, sponsored by the **Nelson and Area Economic Development Partnership**. Nelson's Fibre utility website is www.nelsonbroadband.com. This site provides information on benefits, FAQs and details on How to Apply. *Don't forget to read the Bylaw*, as it sets out the terms of use for the utility.

NELSON HYDRO

Nelson Hydro Customer Advisory: Surge & Lightning Protection Requirements

During the spring and summer months there is a greater possibility of lightning and power surges on the electrical distribution system.

The utility does not guarantee uninterrupted power supply or protection from surges. Therefore, Nelson Hydro strongly suggests customers install and maintain their own surge and lightning protection equipment at their electrical service entrance and/or distribution system, to protect against these adverse conditions.

If you are unsure whether your home or business is adequately protected, or want to install service entrance protection, you should call an electrical contractor to inspect your power system, and upgrade as required.

Thank you from Nelson Hydro!



The Railtown District Planning process is well underway. Stay connected and have your say by participating in an online survey at www.nelsonrailtown.com.

CITY BULLETIN BOARD

LIBRARY

Serious busy-ness @ your library

The Library's **2015 Annual Report** is now available, and we are a busy place indeed!

- We have over 11,400 members.
- In a typical day, 480 people visit the Library and check out 740 items.
- 36,000 people visited our online library to download 18,000 books and access 5600 database articles.
- We held 260 programs attended by over 4500 people.

Coming up: mystery writer **Rachel Greenaway** launches *Cold Girl* March 31 at 7:00pm; Memoirist **Donna Macdonald** launches *Surviving City Hall* April 14 at 7:00pm at the **Hume Room**; fiction writer **Miranda Hill** reads from *Sleeping Funny* April 21 at 7:00pm; **Margaret Hornby & friends** celebrate National Poetry Month April 28 at 7:00pm.

Storytimes begin again mid-April! Go to www.nelsonlibrary.ca to register, to find out about **Teen Programming**, and to learn about all of our great services.

NELSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sharing the Road with Motorcycles.

With the beautiful weather ahead of us, you will no doubt see more motorcycles out on our roads in Nelson and throughout British Columbia.

ICBC has an excellent website with Safety tips for riders and drivers and advises that whether you're a rider or driver; remember to be safe, smart and alert while on the road. Check it out at: <http://www.icbc.com/road-safety/drivers-passengers/motorcycle-road.pdf>

The Nelson Police Department will be joining other departments across British Columbia in monthly enforcement campaigns.

- March 1-31, 2016 - Distracted Drivers Campaign and Occupant Restraint Campaign.
- April 24-30, 2016 - Railway Safety Week.

Enjoy the outdoors and be safe however you get there.



NELSON AND DISTRICT YOUTH CENTRE

Upcoming programs and events:

- Look out for Youth Week events May 1-7!!!
- Grub & Shrub Club promotional days: Tuesday March 29 & Wednesday March 30 from 3:30-5:30pm.
- After-School Snack, Cooking and Gardening Program: Looking for volunteers! Those interested, or with backgrounds in food security, cooking, baking, gardening, facilitation, and cleaning, please email Stephanie at smeitz@nelson.ca or call 352.5656 ext. 2.



OPERATIONS

Alley Obstructions

Please ensure that compost bins, garbage containers, retaining walls, and fences do not trespass on City-owned alleys. Also, vehicles, trailers and boats parked on the alley make safe access very difficult for City garbage trucks, hydro line trucks, fire trucks and ambulances.

Operations Department - Projects for 2016

Water Main Replacement Projects:

- 600 block of Second Street
- 700/800 blocks of Baker Street
- 300 block of Gore Street
- 200 block of Hoover Street

Sanitary and Storm Sewer System Projects:

- Phase One: Flushing lines to clear sediment.
- Phase Two: Videoing lines to determine condition.
- Phase Three: Pipes that are suitable for relining will be relined.
- Phase Four: Pipes that require repair will be excavated and repaired.
- The utility crews are undertaking a program to install access chambers (manholes) on all segments of sanitary and storm lines that are currently difficult or impossible to access. Several dead-end sanitary lines in Uphill, primarily in lanes, will be accessible for more frequent maintenance or re-lining.
- Storm sewer works, ongoing near Queen Elizabeth Park, are aimed at separating the storm water from the sanitary system.
- Additional storm sewer projects include improvements on Vernon St, fronting the Civic Centre.

Statutory Holidays – Easter – Friday, March 25 and Monday, March 28, 2016

Office Closures & After Hours Emergency Service

City Hall, Nelson Hydro, the Operations Department and the Nelson Public Library will all be closed for Good Friday (Friday, March 25) and in lieu of Easter Sunday (Monday, March 28). For Operations emergency service, please call 250-352-3103. To report a power outage, electrical hazard, damage to Nelson Hydro equipment or for outage updates, call 1-877-32HYDRO (1-877-324-9376).

Nelson Transit Service Nelson Transit buses will not run on Friday, March 25 and Monday, March 28, 2016.

Want up-to-date information on City projects, events and public notices? Find us on Facebook.

