



Highlands News

October 2007

The Official Newsletter of the District of Highlands Council
RURAL LIFE NATURAL BEAUTY STRONG COMMUNITY

A message from Mayor Mark Cardinal

You may have seen articles in the local newspaper regarding the Millstream Meadows property. This is a former septage disposal site operated by the Capital Regional District until the mid 1990s when it was no longer needed. The property is generally located across from the District Office on Millstream Road. The property is known to be contaminated and recently the CRD detected hydrocarbons in groundwater monitoring wells on the site that appeared to indicate that the contamination is migrating away from the lagoon area and toward the property line. The CRD initiated a more detailed site investigation and released the results of this investigation September 30th. The results indicate that hydrocarbons are indeed moving on the site and the CRD has initiated a more detailed site investigation with results expected prior to Christmas this year. Following receipt of those results the CRD will move to remediate the site. Costs of the remediation will be borne by the CRD and possibly the province through the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands Crown Contaminated Sites Program. We want to assure local residents that protection of your drinking water is our first concern. If at any time it appears that the contamination is moving beyond the property line, which it does not appear to be right now, residents within a 1km radius of this property will be provided with bottled drinking water immediately. We will keep everyone informed as more information becomes available.

BC Hydro - Be Proactive in Clearing Trees Away from Powerlines this Winter!

At the annual Union of BC Municipalities convention in Vancouver this September, Highlands representatives had a chance to meet with Ted Olynyk of BC Hydro to express our concerns over response time to clearing downed trees from Highlands powerlines during last year's storms. We reiterated to BC Hydro that here in the Highlands when the power is out, so is our water. Mr. Olynyk has offered that anyone can proactively contact him at ted.olynyk@bchydro.com and BC Hydro will come and clear any trees that could potentially cross hydro lines during snowfall or heavy winds.

Highlands Green Spaces and Heritage Celebration

A celebration of the "Highlands Green Spaces and Heritage" will be held at the Caleb Pike House /School House on **November 4 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm** with an exhibition of art, photographs and maps of the Highlands. Residents are invited to place on the maps their favourite places and list favourite birds, animals, flowers and trees. There will be music and song. The green mapping group wants to get as many Highlanders as possible involved in this project.

Highlands News available on email

If you would like an electronic copy of the *Highlands News*, Official Newsletter of the District of Highlands Council, please email June Cameron at the Municipal Hall at JCameron@highlands.ca.

Contacts

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Councillor Andrew Fall	Ph. 391-4801	andrew@gowlland.ca	Councillor Ken Williams	Ph. 479-7497	kgwmaya@shaw.ca
Councillor Joe Kadar	Ph. 391-1409	kadardev@shaw.ca	Fire Chief Barry Ford	Ph. 479-5741	b.v.ford@shaw.ca

Fall/Winter Youth Program



A *Youth Evening Program* is being hosted by the Highland Heritage Park Society at the Old School House (1589 Millstream Road) this fall. Join West

Shore Parks and Recreation staff for games; music; crafts, swimming, skating and movie outings, and much more in a fun and safe environment. Friday evenings, 7 to 9 pm. Registration \$10 for 12 evenings thru December 14th. Some evenings we may need a parent to help. Contact Bob McMinn 478-4403 or bobmcminn@shaw.ca for information and registration.

Fireworks Bylaw 2007



In June of this year, Highlands Council adopted Bylaw 254 - Highlands Fireworks Bylaw. This bylaw is identical to that in Langford, Colwood and View Royal.

If you wish to set off fireworks this Halloween in

the District of Highlands, **you need a permit.** Permits are issued by Fire Chief Barry Ford. Fireworks may only be set off between 5pm and 10pm on October 31. Applications, which are Schedule "A" to Bylaw 254, can be obtained at the District office, or on the District's web page at www.highlands.ca.

Permit applications must be received by the Fire Chief **no later than 12pm on October 31st**, and must include:

- Completed application form (Schedule "A" in Bylaw 254)
- If applicant is not property owner, written agreement of property owner in the form of Schedule "C" (of Bylaw 254)
- If applicant is not the organizer/sponsor, written agreement of such person in form of Schedule "D" (of Bylaw 254)
- Evidence that the applicant has completed either the Fireworks Supervisor Level 1 or 2 training course. There are two courses offered on October 23, at 11am and 7pm at the Langford Station 1 Fire Hall at



2625 Peatt Road. **Please contact Chief Ford at 920-6970 to register.**

- Permit application fee (\$10 for "Consumer" Fireworks permit)

Community Centre Task Force Update

You may have received a notice in the mail regarding input towards the location of a community centre in the Highlands. Our Community Centre Task Force has been working diligently to obtain input from the community towards the location and details of a potential community centre. We encourage everyone in the community to continue to provide input towards the community centre.

Firewater Storage Tank

The District received two bids to their call for proposals to install a firewater storage tank on Highlands Park Terrace. Council approved allocation of \$9,102 to York Excavating to install the new fire storage tank adjacent to the current fire pond on Highlands Park Terrace. The tank will be installed in the next month. The funds for the installation of the tank are part of the current District budget.

Conservation Tips



Did you know that fixing leaky faucets and plumbing joints **saves 20 gallons** (80 litres) of water per day for every leak stopped?

In the winter, turn your thermostats down to 68 degrees or below. Reduce the setting to 55 degrees before going to sleep or when leaving for the day. (For each 1 degree you turn down the thermostat in the winter, you'll save up to 5% on your heating costs.)

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