

From the Bear Pit

Regional Council Newsletter

October 26, 2020

\$2.17M Grant Funding Application for Northern Rockies Regional Airport

A resolution of Council was provided to support a grant application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP)-Rural and Northern Communities (RNC).

The proposed project includes upgrades to the terminal and operations buildings, including HVAC renewals, building improvements, interior repairs/renovations, electrical upgrades and a terminal building roof replacement. The total budget for this project is estimated at \$2,176,625 and the grant allows for 100% funding of the project. [Administration Report No. 76/20](#)

FireSmart Planning Grant Application

Regional Council has approved the submission of a grant application for up to \$150,000 to Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) - 2021 Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) Program to assist with FireSmart planning and fuel treatment activities on the NRRM walking trail and crown land in the vicinity of Lagoon road.

If approved, a part-time consultant (3 days/month) would be sourced to assist NRRM staff with coordinating local FireSmart activities, school visits, community awareness of the program, website updates and assisting with structure and hazard assessments as required. [Administration Report No. 77/20](#)

2021 Tax Exemption Bylaw

To support strategic goals, A tax exemption may be provided to eligible properties by bylaw at the discretion of a municipal council. Typically the property is owned by charitable, philanthropic and non-profit corporations that support services to the community that meet council's objectives.

[Bylaw Report No. 187, 2021](#) • [Tax Exemption Bylaw No 187, 2021](#)

Airport Fencing Material Contract

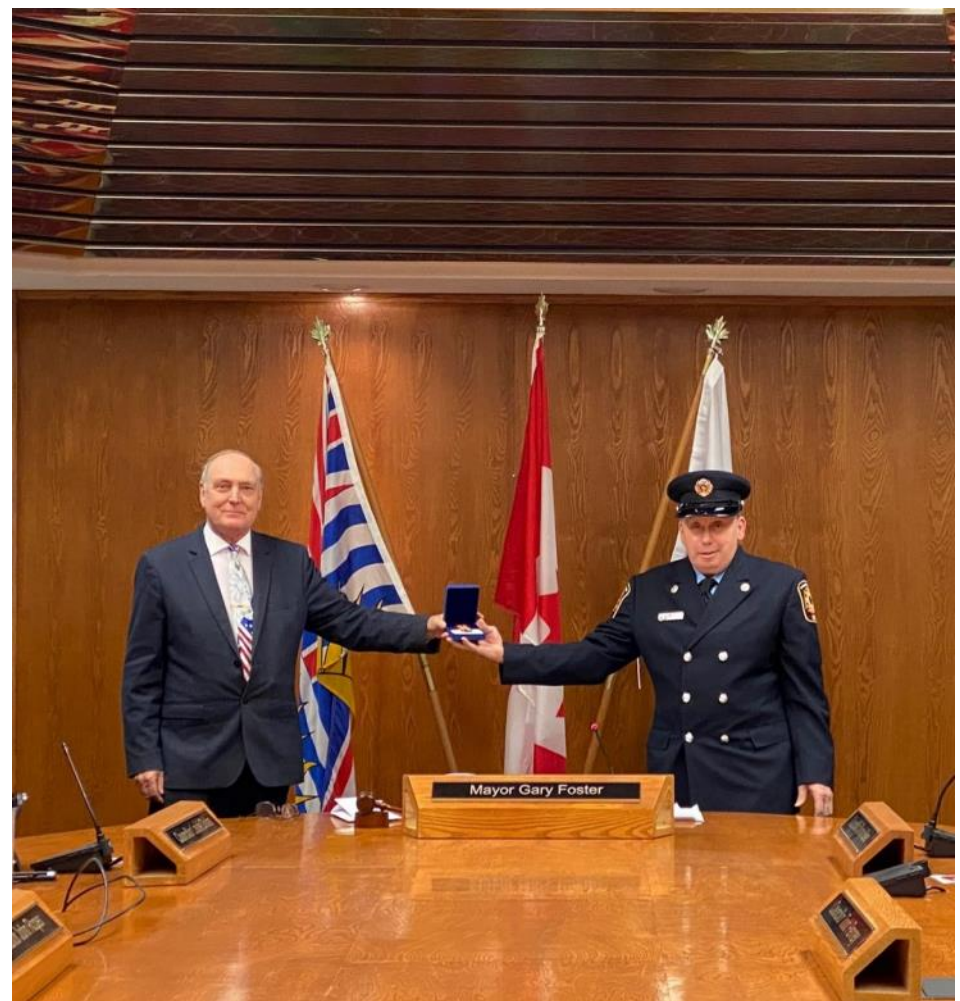
The Airport Fencing Materials contract award was retracted from M. Walker Contracting and awarded to BKT Wall Contracting for \$362,000. Both vendors were unable to provide the specified materials at the originally tendered price. M. Walker Contracting did not provide adjusted pricing within the required timeframe, thus BKT Wall Contracting was awarded the contract.

[Administration Report No. 75/20](#)

Did you know that you can watch Regional Council meetings (even special meetings) from the comfort of your own home?

Click to visit the municipal YouTube channel by searching NRRM or accessing www.NorthernRockies.ca/councilcast

CouncilCast



Firefighter Tim Leguerrier receiving his 20-Year Long Service Award

Rec Centre Operations Update

NRRM staff reported back to Regional Council with an update regarding the request to have the Recreation Center open Sundays as soon as possible, as requested at the October 13, 2020 Council Meeting.

CAO Barry discussed opportunities to increase available times for the Rec Center facility to be open. Beginning November 1st the Rec Center will be open Sunday and Monday reduced hours. Rec Center staff is working towards getting the staffing compliment back up at the Pool.

- The facility will begin being open Sundays 12-4 pm and will increase times as possible. The goal is to provide one swim from 1-2:20 pm on Nov 1-8th with the intent to increase to two swims the following week.
- The arena will have a four hour family skate on Sundays, if numbers increase beyond 50 the skate will be split into two skates.
- The Rec Center will be open Monday afternoons as the arenas will be open for the ice users. The facility will not be fully operational during these times. Tuesday to Saturday will maintain the current regularly scheduled times..



People vector created by Freepik

Protect yourself, protect each other

Public Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has recently recommended that British Columbians wear non-medical face masks in public indoor spaces.

Our staff and volunteers will be wearing masks for public events, and we strongly recommend that patrons wear masks as well. During public events, non-medical masks are available upon registration free of charge if you need one.

Also of note...

- [Staff Appointments, Acting Positions and Statutory Responsibilities](#) were approved by Regional Council. [Administration Report No. 72/20](#)
- Regional Council approved to waive the Fourth Quarter Grant-in-Aid policy to allow three late applications for the 2020 Grant-in-Aid funding program. [Administration Report No 73/20](#) • [Attachment 1](#) • [Attachment 2](#) • [Attachment 3](#)

- Reallocation of the Regional Connectivity Stage 2 Capital Budget was approved by Council, to allow the Northern Rockies Regional Airport website to be part of the overall Municipal Website Redesign Project. [Administration Report No. 74/20](#)

October 28, 2020

This Week in Recreation



Since reopening, the Recreation Centre has operated Tuesday to Saturday. Council has made it a priority to have Sundays open as soon as possible, using the same staff resources, so beginning November 1, we will be offering additional public swim and skate times.

There is a balance to be achieved between as we adjust to allow for new capacity limits, increased sanitization requirements resulting from COVID-19, accommodating the various user groups and minimizing costs. Also complicating scheduling is a shortage of certified lifeguards that prevents operating the aquatic centre more than five days a week. Some of the options to provide weekend access to the Rec Centre include:

- Mondays (3-11pm) : arenas will be open for user groups.
- An offer of lifeguard training at no cost if there is interest
- The purchase of a disinfecting fogger machine that will enable spaces to be cleaned more quickly with fewer personnel

As we adjust to new processes, we hope to gradually achieve efficiencies and increase the amount of time that various facilities are open to the public. As such, schedules are subject to change based on safety requirements and patron feedback.

Thank you for your patience while we navigate the additional regulatory requirements. Let us know what you think at [250.774.2541 ext. 1](tel:250.774.2541) or email us at rec@northernrockies.ca with any questions or comments. We look forward to seeing you back at the Rec Centre!

Programs

Check out the [Leisure Guide](#) for lots of options including Explore Sports, Dance, Fitness and Climbing classes.

Aquatic Centre

November 1st Public Swim 12:30–1:50PM! Check the Leisure Guide or our registration site for swim times and [Register for swims in advance using PerfectMind](#), instructions are available online.

Climbing Wall

The Climbing Wall is open Wednesdays from 5:00-8:30pm and Saturdays from 10:30am-2:00pm. [Book a time slot using PerfectMind](#) or call 250.774.2541 ext. 1.

Arenas

"Soft Opening" Skates

Thursday, October 29 | Friday, October 30 |

- Public Skating: Primary Arena 3–7PM
- Family Puck & Stick: Secondary Arena 3–7PM

Saturday, October 31 | Sunday, November 1

- Public Skate: Primary Arena 12:30–4:30PM
- Family Puck & Stick: Secondary Arena 12:30–2:00PM
- Adult Shinny: Secondary Arena 3:00–4:30PM

Walking (and Running!) Track

As of October 13, the track will accommodate runners every day from 6:15am-7:15am, 1:00pm-2:00pm and 6:15pm-7:15pm. These times are for runners only.

Spookerama 2020

- Spookarama Carnival times by registration: Register for new times Friday or the waitlist.
- Spooky swims with movies for different age groups sponsored by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 2167: Register for new times on Friday or the waitlist.
- Quarantine-o-ween: House decorating and Jack-o-lantern contests with shop local gift certificate prizes sponsored by the Fort Nelson Rotary Club.
- Scavenger Hunt for kids - pick up your prize at front desk.
- Fireworks on October 31 at 8:30 pm by Northern Rockies Fire Rescue!
- Virtual haunted house tour put on by the FNSS 2021 Grads - playing online Halloween day on facebook/website.

\$1
30 MINUTES
20 USE PUNCH PASSES
AVAILABLE
INQUIRE AT
CUSTOMER SERVICE
DESK

KIDZONE
Tuesday 5-8pm
Wednesday 5-8pm
Thursday 5-8pm
Friday 6:30-8:30pm
Saturday 9:30am-12pm

For Any Inquiries:
nrrm.perfectmind.com
250-774-2541 ext 1

ONE small ask



Designed by Freepik

PLEASE wear a mask

Protect yourself,
protect each other.

Public Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has recently recommended that British Columbians wear non-medical face masks in public indoor spaces.

Our staff and volunteers will be wearing masks, and we strongly recommend that patrons wear masks as well.

During Spookarama, non-medical masks are available at the door free of charge if you need one.