

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT COUNCIL, TUESDAY JUNE 11, 1996, AT 7:30 P.M., CENTRAL SCHOOL LUNCHROOM, 1509 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

1. PRESENT:

COUNCIL:

Mayor - C.Norgaard
Councillors - L.Miller, R.Typusiak, B.Cowan, D.Laird, H.McCormack,
D.McLean

ADMINISTRATION:

Administrator - T.Day
Treasurer - S.Gill
Fire Chief - R.Finley
Aquatic Centre Manager- J.Norburn
Development Officer - J.Johnson
Confidential Secretary - B.Harrison

MEDIA: NL Radio, Merritt Herald, Merritt News.

There were sixteen (16) members of the General Public Present.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Norgaard called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

a) Agenda, Regular Council Meeting Tues., June 11/96

524/96 Moved by Councillor Cowan, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council ADOPT the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting Tues., June 11/96 including the Extra Agenda items. CARRIED

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Norgaard called the Public Hearing to order at 7:27 p.m., and read out the statement regarding presentations.

CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 11, 1996

4. PUBLIC HEARING: - Cont'd.

- a) City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1553, 1996.
1. Richard Vallee, Courtyard Architects (Project Designer) - outlined the project to Council. There will be 32 units around an inner courtyard with vehicle access to the outside. There are from one to four bedroom units with an amenity building in the centre containing a meeting room. The building permit application should be prepared in about six weeks.
 2. Barb Casey, coordinator hired by Affordable Housing Committee - explained that the project falls under the auspices of Homes B.C. There will be 30% of units rented to tenants in "need" category, 30% of tenants in "shallow need" category and the remaining 40% of tenants requiring no subsidy and their rent will be at 90% of the market rent. This is considered "family housing" which will mainly be targeted to families in need and low income single women.
 3. Richard Vallee, Project Designer answered questions about buffering the project with trees on the on the south side and along the periphery. There will be plantings of trees in the centre of the complex. The Committee expressed a desire to have the exterior colours and cladding incorporated into the Development Permit in order to preserve the uniqueness of the development.

Mayor Norgaard called three times for anyone wishing to speak for or against City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1553, 1996 and hearing no response, declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:43 p.m.

- b) City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1554, 1996

Mayor Norgaard called three times for anyone wishing to speak for or against City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1554, 1996 and hearing no response, declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:46 p.m.

- c) City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1559, 1996.

Mayor Norgaard called three times for anyone wishing to speak for or against City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1559, 1996 and hearing no response, declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:47 p.m.

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4. PUBLIC HEARING: - Cont'd.

- d) City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1560, 1996

Mayor Norgaard called three times for anyone wishing to speak for or against City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1560, 1996 and hearing no response, declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:48 p.m.

At 7:50 p.m., twelve (12) Members of the General Public left the meeting with four (4) remaining.

5. PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:

Dennis Coates representing the Neighbourhood Pub proposed on Voght Street - North East Sector - 499147 B.C. Ltd. spoke to Council regarding the development. He was accompanied by Mike Mitchell and Ken Featherstone the principals of the project. They are requesting a resolution by Council allowing the project to proceed for the processing of their application to the Liquor Control Branch. The Neighbourhood Pub will have a heavy food component and will basically cater to the lunch and dinner crowd during those hours, operating as a pub serving food in the off hours, closing at 12 midnight. There will be a licenced restaurant and an adjacent meeting room included in the complex. The liquor board is allowing approximately 10% additional seating in the pub for the designated driver allowance. Council suggested that the project could be considered as a site specific zoning amendment after the current rezoning application to Highway Commercial is concluded and informed Mr. Coates that the subject property was in a Development Permit Area which would require Council approval of form and character, including landscaping.

Mr. Coates completed his presentation at 8:13 p.m.

At 8:14 p.m. three(3) Members of the General Public left the meeting with one (1) remaining.

6. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

- a) Regular Council Minutes, Tues., May 28/96

525/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor McLean that Council
ADOPT the Regular Council Minutes, Tues., May 28/96. CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nil.

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8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) Collettsville Water and Sewer Project

1. Ministry of Municipal Affairs, June 5/96 - Approval of Collettsville Sewer System Infrastructure Grant.
2. Urban Systems Ltd., May 3/96 - Collettsville Water and Sewer Tenders

526/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council RECEIVE the Ministry of Municipal Affairs letter of June 5/96 - Approval of Collettsville Sewer System Infrastructure Grant and SEND a thank you letter to the Ministry. CARRIED

527/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council RECEIVE the Urban Systems Ltd. letter of May 3/96 - Collettsville Water and Sewer Tenders. CARRIED

528/96 Moved by Councillor McCormack, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council AWARD the Collettsville Water and Sewer Project to Peter Bros. Construction Ltd. based on their tendered price of \$3,432,569.63 including GST and subject to:
1. funding security;
2. provision of required certificates of insurance;
3. provision of required bonds;
4. provision of a detailed construction schedule. CARRIED

9. REPORTS:

a) Mayor's Reports:

Mayor Norgaard proclaimed June as Spinal Bifida Month in Merritt and July as Water Conservation Month.

b) Liaisons' and Commissions'/Committees Reports:

- 1) **Councillor Cowan -**
Civic Properties and Recreation Commission - There was a meeting last week at which the Arena Fundraising Committee presented an overview of their success to date especially the generosity of the local business community.
Local Access Awareness - Nil.
Affordable Housing - Nil.

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9. REPORTS:

b) Liaisons' and Commissions'/Committees Reports: - Cont'd.

- 2) Councillor Laird -**
Public Works - Nil.
Community Health Council - Nil.
Special Events Committee - There was a meeting today with the posters now available and being displayed. The Fireworks funding has now been approved by the federal government in the amount of \$1,400. The downtown businesses have been very supportive of the July 1st celebration.
- 3) Councillor McCormack -**
Economic Development and Planning - Jason Johnson attended a BIA conference on behalf of the City at the end of May. Councillor McCormack attended an Economic Development conference in Courtney the first week in June. There was an bus tour of Merritt by a group of investors from the Lower Mainland which was well attended. The Economic Development Committee will be sponsoring a booth at the Merritt Mountain Music Festival in July.
NV Development Centre - Nil.
- 4) Councillor McLean -**
Airport - Merritt Flying Club - There will be a meeting on June 12 in the afternoon.
Chamber of Commerce - There will be a meeting on June 13 in the afternoon.
- 5) Councillor Miller -**
Protective Services & Public Safety - Nil.
South Central Union Board of Health - Nil.
Healthy Communities - There is a CORE Group Meeting on June 12 in the morning in Kamloops. The City has been presented with a plaque to commend the institution of a non-smoking policy at the Civic Centre and the Tourist Information Booth.
- 6) Councillor Typusiak -** further to the issue of additional Court dates for Merritt Provincial Court, Councillor Typusiak suggested that Council should meet with the Attorney General and discuss the issue either at the UBCM Convention or before.
Administration & Finance - Nil.
Environmental Advisory - Nil.

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9. REPORTS: - Cont'd.

c) Administration Reports:

1. Noxious Weeds
 - i. Mar. 12/96 - Nicola Stock Breeders' Association
 - ii. May 15/96 - Nicola Noxious Weed Committee
 - iii. May 29/96 - Memo

529/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council RECEIVE :

- Noxious Weeds
- i. Mar. 12/96 - Nicola Stock Breeders' Association
 - ii. May 15/96 - Nicola Noxious Weed Committee
 - iii. May 29/96 - Memo

and become involved in controlling noxious weeds by:

- i. Inviting a delegation to a Council meeting to inform Council and the public on the issues
- ii. Appoint Alec Hunchak or his designate to sit on the Nicola Noxious Weed Committee
- iii. Refer this issue to 1997 Budget deliberations to determine the extent of the City's participation. CARRIED

2. Memo, May 29/96 - Council Remuneration and Expenses

530/96 Moved by Councillor Cowan, seconded by Councillor McLean that Council RECEIVE the Memo, May 29/96 - Council Remuneration and Expenses.

CARRIED

3. Memo, June 3/96 - Caba Fashions

531/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council RECEIVE the Memo, June 3/96 - Caba Fashions and AUTHORIZE entering into an agreement with Caba Fashions for a one day sale at the Aquatic Centre provided:

- They hold a valid business licence to operate in the City of Merritt
- They provide 20% of gross revenue generated during the one day sale to the City of Merritt

and that this arrangement become a standard for similar future proposals.

CARRIED

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9. REPORTS:

c) Administration Reports: - Cont'd.

4. Building Permit Summary, May/96

532/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council RECEIVE the Building Permit Summary, May/96 CARRIED

At 8:55 p.m., Councillor Laird excused himself from the meeting to avoid the potential for a conflict of interest.

5. Development Permit DP1995-E
i. Memo, June 6/96 -
ii. Ann Cameron, June 7/96

533/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council RECEIVE the Development Permit DP1995-E:
i. Memo, June 6/96 -
ii. Ann Cameron, June 7/96
for information and REFER the matter to the Planning Department to discuss the relocation of the garbage bin and the traffic island curbs with the property owner. CARRIED

At 9:09 p.m., Councillor Laird rejoined the meeting.

6. Memo, June 6/96 - Development Variance Permit DVP1996-04

534/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council RECEIVE the Memo, June 6/96 - Development Variance Permit DVP 1996-04 and APPROVE Development Variance Permit DVP 1996-04. CARRIED

7. Memo, June 6/96 - 3R's Program

535/96 Moved by Councillor McCormack, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council RECEIVE for information the Memo, June 6/96 - 3R's Program and INVITE members of the Environmental Advisory Committee to the Special Meeting on June 18, 1996 with Dan Fast of the 3R's Program. CARRIED

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9. REPORTS:

c) Administration Reports: - Cont'd.

- of
8. Memo, June 11/96 - Upgrading Procedure for Fire Separations in the City of Merritt
- 536/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council RECEIVE for information the Memo, June 11/96 - Upgrading Procedure for Fire Separations in the City of Merritt CARRIED
- 537/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council DIRECT Administration to ADD the Upgrading Procedure for Fire Separations to the Policy and Procedures Manual for the City of Merritt. CARRIED

At 9:10 p.m. the one remaining member of the General Public left the meeting.

10. BYLAWS:

- a) City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1553, 1996
- 538/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council GIVE THIRD READING TO CITY OF MERRITT OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1553, 1996. CARRIED
- b) City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1554, 1996
- 539/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council GIVE THIRD READING TO CITY OF MERRITT ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1554, 1996. CARRIED

At 9:38 p.m., Fire Chief Finley left the meeting.

- c) City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1559, 1996
- 540/96 Moved by Councillor Cowan, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council GIVE THIRD READING TO CITY OF MERRITT OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1559, 1996. CARRIED
- d) City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1560, 1996
- 541/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council GIVE THIRD READING TO CITY OF MERRITT ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1560, 1996. CARRIED

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10. BYLAWS: - Cont'd.

- e) City of Merritt Solid Waste Collection, Disposal and Control Amendment Bylaw No. 1566, 1996.

542/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council
**GIVE FIRST READING TO CITY OF MERRITT SOLID WASTE COLLECTION,
DISPOSAL AND CONTROL AMENDMENT BYLAW NO.1566, 1996.**

CARRIED

543/96 Moved by Councillor McCormack, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council
**GIVE SECOND READING TO CITY OF MERRITT SOLID WASTE
COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND CONTROL AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1566,
1996.**

CARRIED

544/96 Moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council
**GIVE THIRD READING TO CITY OF MERRITT SOLID WASTE COLLECTION,
DISPOSAL, AND CONTROL AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1566, 1996.**

CARRIED

- f) City of Merritt All Terrain Vehicle Amendment Bylaw No. 1567, 1996.

This bylaw is currently under review by the Bylaw Enforcement Officer and the RCMP Police and will be coming before Council after consultation with Administration, with amendments that will make the bylaw more easily enforced.

545/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council
**GIVE FIRST READING TO CITY OF MERRITT ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE
AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1567, 1996. UNANIMOUSLY DEFEATED**

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Potential Council Responses:

1. Urban Systems Ltd., May 27/96 - Parker Drive
Slippage Abatement

546/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council
**RECEIVE the Urban Systems Ltd., May 27/96 - Parker Drive Slippage
Abatement letter for information and discussion.**

CARRIED

547/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council
**AUTHORIZE initiation of the Parker Drive Slippage Abatement Program as
outlined in Urban Systems letter of May 27/96.**

CARRIED

CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 11, 1996

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Potential Council Responses: - Cont'd.

2. School District #31, May 30/96 - City/School District Reciprocal Use Agreement
- 548/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor McLean that Council RECEIVE the School District #31, May 30/96 - City/School District Reciprocal Use Agreement for discussion and DIRECT the City Staff to enter into negotiations leading to a new Agreement. CARRIED
3. City of Williams Lake, May 29/96 - Invitation to Williams Lake Stampede and Challenge
- 549/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council RECEIVE the City of Williams Lake letter of May 29/96 - Invitation to Williams Lake Stampede and Challenge and SEND a letter of regrets as Council Members are unable to attend. CARRIED
 4. Marie Boniface, June 4/96 - Recycling

550/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council RECEIVE the Marie Boniface letter of June 4/96 - Recycling and SEND a letter in response outlining the status of the recycling program and the rationale behind the "two bag limit" for garbage collection. CARRIED

 5. Mair Jensen Blair, June 5/96 - Proposed Neighbourhood Pub

551/96 Moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Typusiak that Council RECEIVE the Mair Jensen Blair letter of June 5/96 - Proposed Neighbourhood Pub and DIRECT the Planning Department to provide an explanation of the development process to the writer. CARRIED

 6. Goal Getters Training and Careers Inc. June 3/96 - Office Practices and Computer Skills Practicum

552/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council RECEIVE the Goal Getters Training and Careers Inc. letter of June 3/96 - and REFER the request to Administration for a response. CARRIED

CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 11, 1996

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Potential Council Responses: - Cont'd.

7. Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce, June 6/96 - Street Mall

553/96

Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor McCormack that Council RECEIVE the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce letter of June 6/96 and GRANT their request to close the 2000 block of Quilchena Ave for a street mall during the Merritt Mountain Music Festival, July 18, 19, 20 from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. CARRIED

8. District of Logan Lake, June 10/96 - July 1st Parade

554/96

Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council RECEIVE the District of Logan Lake letter of June 10/96 - July 1st Parade and SEND a letter of regrets as Council Members are unable to attend. CARRIED

b) Receive:

1. Union of British Columbia Municipalities

i. May 15/96 - Contaminated Sites Regulation - Expert Review Panel

ii. May 23/96 - Aboriginal Update

2. Jim Hart, May 27/96 - Amendments to the Copyright Act

3. TNRD, May 30/96 - Open House for Regional Growth Strategy

555/96

Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council RECEIVE the following correspondence:

1. Union of British Columbia Municipalities

i. May 15/96 - Contaminated Sites Regulation - Expert Review Panel

ii. May 23/96 - Aboriginal Update

2. Jim Hart, May 27/96 - Amendments to the Copyright Act

3. TNRD, May 30/96 - Open House for Regional Growth Strategy

CARRIED

12. NEW BUSINESS: Nil.

CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 11, 1996

13. ADJOURNMENT:

556/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Miller that Council
TERMINATE this meeting at 10:06 p.m. CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

C.R.Norgaard, MAYOR

T.C.Day, ACTING CLERK

**INTERDEPARTMENTAL
MEMORANDUM**

Agenda - Reports

Date: 02 July 1996
To: T.C.Day, City Administrator
From: K.McIvor, Contract Fire Inspector
Subject: Fire Safety and Upgrading Inspection Program.

This memo is prepared for your purusal and to keep Council informed of my progress to date on the number of inspections and number of violations.

The statistics are for the Month of June 1996.

Fire Safety Inspections	55	
Fire Code Violations	238	(ranging from minor to severe)
Major Upgrades Commenced	2	

These inspections included:

- Schools
- Day Cares
- Churches
- Hospital and Extended Care Facilities
- Senior Residences

If you so choose, this information may be passed onto City Council for me.

Respectfully submitted,


Ken McIvor, Contract Inspector
City of Merritt

**INTERDEPARTMENTAL
MEMORANDUM**

Agenda - Reports

Date: July 02, 1996
To: T.C.Day, City Administrator
From: R.J.Finley, Fire Chief
Subject: Month-end Report for June 1996.

June was below average for the Merritt Fire Rescue Department, answering fifteen (15) emergency calls. Eight (8) of the calls were for rescue, of which all were regional. Of the seven (7) fire emergency calls, none sustained a dollar loss.

During June, five (5) members of our department competed in the Firefighters Combat Challenge at their own expense. Our departments standing was better than last year. The five members attending this years challenge were; Firefighters Sheldon Guertin, Aaron Clarke, Vern Barwich, Norene Parke and Linda Hall.

Strength of the Fire Rescue Department:

- 1 - Fire Chief
- 1 - Deputy Fire Chief
- 1 - Training Officer
- 3 - Captains
- 2 - Lieutenants
- 1 - Safety Officer
- 21 - Firefighters
- 1 - Recruit
- 2 - Waiting List

The Merritt Fire Rescue Department reminds all residents that:

Summer holidays is now upon us, so please remember to check your smoke detectors after you return from holidays to ensure it did not expire while you

(2)

were away.

If you are planning to visit another city in our province, country or plan on visiting another country this summer, and your plans include being in a Motel or Hotel, please check for the following:

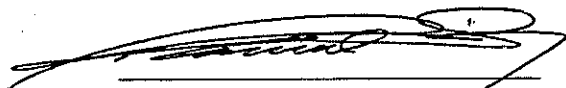
- a) Exits are clear and not obstructed.
- b) That there is an escape plan posted on the inside of your suite door.
- c) Either a proper fire alarm exists or it is sprinkler protected for your protection.

For you own personal care and use, ensure you carry with you the following:

- a) First Aid Kit
- b) Drinking Water
- c) Emergency contact numbers in the event of an accident
- d) All necessary medications
- e) If you are travelling on a time schedule, leave plenty early so you do not have to rush.

Remember Speed Kills.

HAVE AN ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SAFE RETURN TO OUR CITY.



Rich Finley, Fire Chief
City of Merritt

MERRITT FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

FORM NO. 3.17

MONTHLY INSPECTION REPORT

June 1996

REGULAR INSPECTION PROGRAM		CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	PREVIOUS YEAR TO DATE
ASSEMBLY	GROUP A	4	12	18
INSTITUTIONAL	GROUP B	0	1	0
RESIDENTIAL	GROUP C	4	10	11
BUSINESS	GROUP D	1	9	14
MERCANTILE	GROUP E	5	14	4
INDUSTRIAL	GROUP F	0	7	8
TOTAL		14	53	55
OTHER INSPECTIONS AND SERVICES				
BUILDING SITE INSPECTIONS		12	41	37
COMPANY INSPECTIONS		0	0	0
COMPLAINTS		0	6	2
EVENING INSPECTIONS		0	1	1
FINAL OCCUPANCY INSPECTIONS		0	5	3
FIRE DRILLS		0	0	0
LICENSE APPROVAL INSPECTIONS		5	23	13
OIL AND GASOLINE (New Inspections)		0	0	0
PUBLIC SERVICE (Lectures, Demonstrations, etc.)		9	34	41
RE-INSPECTIONS		12	53	31
TOTAL		38	163	128
FIRE COMMISSIONER ORDERS ISSUED		0	0	1
FIRE INVESTIGATIONS		2	13	5
PERMITS ISSUED (CITY BY-LAW)		1	2	4
PLANS APPROVAL		3	26	9
FIRE CODE ORDERS		0	0	5
REPORTS AND LETTERS		13	51	28

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MERRITT FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT

FORM NO. 3.18
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EMERGENCY CALLOUTS	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	PREVIOUS YEAR TO DATE
GROUP "A" ASSEMBLY	1	9	3
"B"	0	1	3
"C"	3	22	7
"D.E.F."	2	5	3
VEHICLE FIRES	0	1	1
RUBBISH & GRASS	1	16	24
AMBULANCE ASSIST	0	0	0
MICELLANEOUS & GAS SPILLS	0	1	8
TOTAL CALLS:	7	55	49
RESCUE BOAT	0	0	0
RESCUE VEHICLE-LOCAL	0	2	2
RESCUE VEHICLE-REGIONAL	8	28	28
TOTAL CALLS:	8	30	30
FALSE ALARMS: GOOD INTENT	0	1	2
MALICIOUS	0	6	1
SYSTEM MALFUNCTION	3	8	4
OTHER	0	0	1
ARSON,(SUSPECTED), VANDALISM	0	1	9
INJURIES - FIRE	0	0	0
DEATHS - FIRE	0	1	0

CURRENT MONTH

	AREA	BACKUP
STATION 1 FIRE	7	0
RESCUE TRUCK	8	0
LOWER NICOLA	1	0
COLDWATER ROAD	0	0
UPPER NICOLA	0	0

YEAR TO DATE

	AREA	BACKUP
	55	0
	30	0
	2	0
	1	0
	0	0

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**INTERDEPARTMENTAL
MEMORANDUM**

Agenda - Reports

Date: July 2, 1996
To: T.C.Day, City Administrator
From: R.J.Finley, Fire Chief
Subject: Contract for Services to the Lower Nicola Indian Band Fire Department.

In response to the letter from the Lower Nicola Fire Department dated June 12, 1996, and the subsequent meeting on June 28, 1996, I offer the following comments.

The intent of the letter is to provide a one way protection contract whereby we would respond to the Reserve and their protection agreements with no mutual aid in return from them until such a time as they have aquired their second pumper unit. This is similar to the agreement we have with the City of Kamloops, which is a pay for services agreement.

In their letter we, the City of Merritt, would provide fire protection for the Lower Nicola Fire Department when their only unit is engaged in an emergency call, by either manning their fire hall in a standby state, responding to any other call in either their reserve & protection agreement properties or responding directly to the fire in support of their only unit.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At present, we have a mutual aid agreement with the District of Logan Lake and have had this agreement for many years for two reasons, firstly, because we do not have the required minimum 3,000 imperial gallons per minute pumping capacity, which we are required to have and secondly, we need the back-up to man our hall to respond to other fires that may occur if we are tied up at major scene, similar to why the Lower Nicola Fire Department has requested this agreement from our city.

The City of Merritt entered into an agreement with the City of Kamloops in 1994, with the intent that when our total resources including our mutual aid, Logan Lake, was actively committed in a major conflagration, Kamloops would then provide the Fire Hall back-up to respond to any other

fire call received while we are tied up.

The Fire Underwriter's Study conducted in 1987 and again in September 1995 indicated that we are still below our required pumping capacity and well below if we engage in mutual aid and outside fire protection. On page 5 of the 1995 Fire Underwriter's Report it states: copy attached.

The existing contracts for fire protection outside the City Boundaries cause significant deficiency in required distribution of company's. Fire department response outside five (5) miles from the fire hall is discouraged from a fire insurance grading standpoint.

CONTENT:

A meeting took place on Friday June 28, 1996 at 0842am. to discuss their intentions with respect to this agreement, with the Lower Nicola Band representatives; Mr. Hyrum Peterson, Financial Officer and Mr. John Bud Morris, Executive Director and their Fire Chief Mr. Peter Meaden. Representing the Merritt Fire Rescue Department was Deputy Fire Chief Rob Godard and myself.

From the meeting it has been determined that:

- a) The Lower Nicola Band wishes to enter into an agreement with the City of Merritt to provide a one sided protection agreement until they have their second pumper.
- b) This agreement is to assist the Lower Nicola Fire Department in attaining their goal of a second firefighting vehicle by justifying costs to the Department of Indian Affairs.
- c) Having an agreement with the City of Merritt it will provide the Lower Nicola Fire Department the ability to enter into outside protection agreements that they presently cannot, because of their only having one emergency response vehicle available to them.
- d) The Lower Nicola Band wishes to have a set price for our services which would be reviewed at the end of each contract agreement year and any debits or credits would be worked out.

Example: They would pay the City of Merritt a fee of approximately \$10,000.00 per year. At the end of the year if we show only ten(10) calls for a set rate of \$350.00 for each call, then the City of Merritt would return \$6,500.00 to the Lower Nicola Band. Visa-versa, if we responded to thirty(30) calls for the set rate, they Lower Nicola Band would reimburse the City of Merritt the amount above, being \$500.00.

(3)

What Lower Nicola Fire Department expects from the City of Merritt is one pumper with a minimum of 4 firefighters - maximum of 6 firefighters. Standby would be at a cost of approximately \$350.00 and Fire response would be slightly higher.

Statistically the Lower Nicola Fire Department responded to the following calls since October 1995;

- 1 Structure
- 5 Grass/Rubbish/Tree Fires
- 3 Vehicle incidents
- 3 False Alarms
- 2 Shed/Out buildings
- 3 Miscellaneous

Lower Nicola Fire Department has apparently received certification from Fire Underwriter's with a 3a on residential and 8 on commercial. They will provide this in writing to Council if they so wish.

The following issues were discussed dealing with the operational side of the agreement if Council so chooses to enter into this agreement.

1. What legal implications would need to be resolved with respect to a municipal Fire Department responding to Federal Lands?

It was felt that with an agreement in place all should be O.K., and any enforcement would be easily dealt with by the R.C.M.P., who have federal jurisdiction with the enforcement of the National Fire Code and Powers to enter onto lands.

2. If we were to get a mutual aid call from Logan Lake at the same time we were committed to the Lower Nicola Fire Department, who would take precedence?

It was agreeable to the Lower Nicola Band that if we were on standby with them we would respond to Logan Lake. If we were actively engaged in fire suppression then we would be obligated to extinguish the fire or provide other equipment to replace the vehicle leaving before we could respond to Logan Lake.

(4)

3. Who would be incharge at a fire scene if we were backing up the Lower Nicola Fire Department.

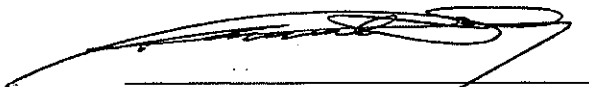
It was discussed and not really agreed to, that the senior arriving officer on scene would take over command. If two officers of the same rank arrived then the Lower Nicola Fire Department officer would command. It should be noted here that many members of our department would not agree to this format, mainly due to the lack of actual fire fighting experience.

I took the liberty to call Deputy Fire Chief Norm Huddleston of the Kamloops Fire Department to see how they would feel with this type of agreement if Council did decide to enter into it with the Lower Nicola Band. Chief Huddleston felt that it may affect our agreement with them because the "Spirit of the Agreement with Kamloops" was not to assist us in entering into outside fire protection. Chief Huddleston understood that the intent of the agreement was because Merritt was under pumped, which is what we are, and we should not enter into any agreement when we have agreements to protect our own jurisdiction because of this deficiency.

CONCLUSION:

It is my opinion that the direct benefit to enter into this agreement, at this time, is not in the favor of the City of Merritt. With this agreement the City of Merritt accepts to much liability compared to any financial gain. If at a later date when the Lower Nicola Fire Department has a second vehicle a proper mutual aid agreement could be worked out to the benefit of the City and the Lower Nicola Band.

I look forward to discussing this matter further with you at your convenience.



Rich Finley, Fire Chief
City of Merritt



Lower Nicola Fire Dept.

"In cooperation with the Lower Nicola Indian Band"

R.R. #2 Site 17, Comp 18 - Merritt, B.C. V0K 2B7 - Canada

Lower Nicola Fire Dept. (Emergency) (604) 378-9660
Lower Nicola Fire Hall (604) 378-5110
Fax (604) 378-6188

CITY OF MERRITT

JUN 15 1996

RECEIVED

June 12 1996

From Fire Chief Peter Meaden

To Fire Chief Richard Findlay

Rich,

I have been asked by our Executive Director to approach the City of Merritt Fire Department with a view to the purchase of second fire truck cover.

We would need to know the annual cost of such a service, as well as what would be supplied for that sum. It is envisaged that this second truck would move into the Lower Nicola Fire Hall and provide cover when the Lower Nicola unit was already engaged in activities.

I am well aware that this letter will need to be forwarded to the respective desks, as such, for our part it may be deemed as a letter of intent.

I look forward to your reply

Yours Truly

Peter Meaden

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Mr. T. C. DAY, Administrator, City of Merritt
Fire Underwriters Survey - Fire Defences Update

4

Retirement of the 1979 unlisted pumper to reserve status should be considered with a replacement program to maintain or improve both pumping and distribution capacity. For the most part, major apparatus was adequately equipped, however consideration should be given to equipping all vehicles to the requirements of ULC standard S515, 1994 edition. This would improve the fire department capability, for example, if the fire department had to respond to calls both inside the City and outside to your contract areas.

The location of the fire hall, when considering response times within the City was considered generally good. Areas where quicker response to seriously exposed structures would be a benefit would be the industrial area in the southeast sector of the City. The sprinkler bylaw for new buildings helps to reduce these exposures. The airport is another area where response time is less than recommended response distances.

The existing contracts for fire protection outside the City boundaries cause a significant deficiency in required distribution of company's. Fire department response outside five (5) miles from the fire hall is discouraged from a fire insurance grading standpoint.

The training program is considered adequate for both quality of program and frequency of sessions. The recently purchased computer program to track firefighter training milestones, when up and running, will be a positive step for record keeping.

A pre-fire planning program is considered an essential part of a fire departments overall level of readiness. A formal pre-fire planning program should be developed.

Fire Service Communications

Improvements to the fire service communication system should consist of adequately protecting the communication centre and transmission station from outside exposures. Improvements such as power supply back-up, fire resistive enclosure, smoking regulations, electrical protection, record keeping, should be considered.

.../5

27

*Bylaws - 1st, 2nd + 25 -
Rdgs*

CITY OF MERRITT

BYLAW NO. 1581

A BYLAW TO AMEND CITY OF MERRITT BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW NO. 1359, 1992.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Merritt deems it desirable to amend its Business Licence Bylaw.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Merritt in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

- A. This bylaw shall be cited as **"CITY OF MERRITT BUSINESS LICENSE AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1581, 1996."**
- B. That City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992 be hereby **AMENDED** as follows:
 - 1. That Schedule "A" of City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992 be hereby amended by **RENUMBERING** Sections 11 to 25 as Sections 12 to 26 respectively.
 - 2. That new Sections 22 and 23 are rearranged alphabetically and renumbered appropriately.
 - 3. That Schedule "A" of City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992 be hereby amended by **ADDING** the following as Section 11:
 - "11. **Farmers' Market - Two Hundred Fifty Dollars** **\$250.00**
for every organization hosting a maximum weekly event with individuals retailing farm produce, eggs, or other homegrown food products or handicrafts. The single Farmers' Market License would cover all individual retailers within the Farmers' Market area designated in the license. Any organization hosting a Farmers' Market shall be responsible for all businesses within the Farmers' Market, including ensuring that all regulations and requirements of City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992 are adhered to;"

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**CITY OF MERRITT
BYLAW NO. 1581
Page 2**

4. That the last sentence of Section 8. of City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992 be amended as follows:

“That the reduced fee referenced in this Section, shall not apply to Business Class **11. Farmers’ Market or 23. Street Mall**, listed under Schedule “A” of City of Merritt Business License Bylaw No. 1359, 1992.”

READ A FIRST TIME this th day of , 1996.

READ A SECOND TIME this th day of , 1996.

READ A THIRD TIME this th day of , 1996.

ADOPTED this th day of , 1996.

C.R.Norgaard, MAYOR

T.C.Day, ACTING CLERK

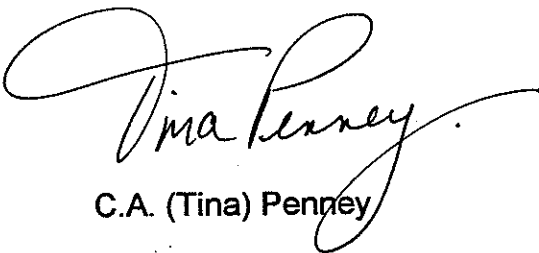
There are other discretionary powers provided to Council under the Act and while consideration was given to (a) adopting the Provincial list as the list of electors and (b) implementing a mail ballot voting, neither are recommended for action by Council.

In the former case, Yvonne Porada and I discussed the possibility, but we agree that maintaining the City's list of electors is the better, at this point in time, of the two options due to the current population and the condition of the current register. Regards to the latter case, implementation of the mail ballot voting is restricted to electors who have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity. Since staff are recommending Merritt's election regulations be amended to make provision for mobile polls and curb-side voting, staff also suggest that the logistics and associate costs related to the mail ballot option are sufficient factors to dissuade implementation of this discretionary power.

Recommendation:

THAT C.A. (Tina) Penney and Laura M. Sanders be appointed to the positions of Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer respectively; **AND THAT** Council consider giving first, second and third readings to Bylaw No. 1582 "City of Merritt Local Government Elections and Other Voting Amendment Bylaw"

Respectfully submitted,



C.A. (Tina) Penney

CITY OF MERRITT

BYLAW NO. 1582

A BYLAW TO AMEND CITY OF MERRITT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS AND OTHER VOTING BYLAW NO. 1404, 1993.

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Merritt has adopted Bylaw No. 1404, 1993 to determine various procedures for the conduct of local government elections and other voting;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Merritt wishes to amend the City of Merritt Bylaw No. 1404, 1993;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Merritt, in open meeting assembled, hereby enact as follows:

1. This bylaw shall be cited as the "**CITY OF MERRITT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS AND OTHER VOTING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1582, 1996.**"
2. That the City of Merritt Local Government Elections and Other Voting Bylaw No. 1404, 1993 be hereby AMENDED as follows:
 - (a) Section 4(a)(1) add to the third line after the word "day" the words "*except in the case when the sixteenth (16th) day is October 31 (Halloweens) in which case the advanced voting opportunity shall be the seventeenth (17th) day before general voting day.*"
 - (b) Add a new Section 5 that reads:

"5. General Voting Opportunities

 - a) *The Chief Election Officer shall designate voting places for general voting day as soon as reasonably possible after the declaration of an election.*"

(c) Add a new Section 6 that reads:

"6. Special Voting Opportunities

- a) *The Chief Election Officer is hereby authorized to establish special voting opportunities in order to give electors who may otherwise be unable to vote an opportunity to do so and to establish the date and voting hours when and the place where the special voting opportunity is to be conducted.*
- b) *Special voting opportunities will be restricted to only residents of the location where the special voting opportunity has been established by the Chief Election Officer.*
- c) *One candidate representative may be present at the special voting opportunity for each elected office and that candidate representative is chosen by consensus of the candidates for that elected office or, failing such consensus, by the Chief Election Officer."*

(d) Renumber the present Sections 5 and 6 as Sections 7 and 8, respectively.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF July, 1996.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS DAY OF July, 1996.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF July, 1996.

RECONSIDERED, FINALLY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS DAY OF July, 1996.

Clara R. Norgaard, MAYOR

Thomas C. Day, ACTING CLERK

Agenda - Correspondence



**British Columbia Old Time
Fiddlers' Association Branch 8
Box 2789, Merritt, BC
V0K 2E0**

To the Mayor and City Council:

On behalf of the Merritt Old Time Fiddlers
(and we are members of the Arts Council)
please accept this as our application for
whatever relief you can give us on the
rental of the Civic Centre. With rising
costs we are finding it increasingly
difficult to hold our Annual Fiddle
Contest. Any assistance you can give us
will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
yours truly,
Ken Boon.

CITY OF MERRITT

JUN 27 1996

RECEIVED

Total fee for '96
\$476.15

34



Agenda - Correspondence

JUN 28 1996

Level 5 Quay West
111 Harrington Street
Sydney NSW 2000
AUSTRALIA

RECEIVED

June 21, 1996

Mayor Clara Norgaard
City of Merritt
Box 189
Merritt, B.C.
Canada V1K 1B8

Dear Mayor Norgaard,

Earlier this month I received a letter [copy enclosed] from Mrs. Sue Burney of Galston, NSW recounting the experience of her son and his girlfriend while they were camping at Merritt. The theft of backpacks, clothing, etc. is regrettable, but the heartwarming response of the residents of Merritt made me very proud to be a Canadian.

The consular operations of this office are often called on to assist Canadian travellers who have run into trouble from theft, accident or other mishaps. We rely heavily on local individuals and facilities to help us assist these Canadians. We are often amazed at how willingly they provide their assistance. We have not, to my knowledge, ever seen such a total community response as that provided by Merritt to Mrs. Burney's son.

I would like to convey my personal congratulations to the people of your town for, as Mrs. Burney so aptly puts it, their HUMANITY to strangers. A special thank you to the volunteers of the Merritt Morning Mirror and all those who so generously gave of their time to help.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Virtue
Consul General

Sue Bruney
P O Box 146
GALSTON 2159
H. 655 1689
W. 2955431

Alan Virtue
Consul General
Level 5 Quay West
111 Harrington St
Sydney 2000



Dear Mr Virtue

This letter is to let you know
of the generosity of a town and its
community called MERRITT in British
Columbia

Last week my son Martin and
his girlfriend Jo, who are presently
backpacking around Canada where they
hope to work for a year, stopped to
camp for a few days while they made
plans.

One particular morning they awoke to
discover both their backpacks and their clothes
cameras, binoculars etc had been stolen
while they slept, leaving them with
only what they were sleeping in.

As you can imagine they felt hurt
and angry and very much alone. After their
36

us they informed the camp owners
who called the Police.

From that moment on the town rallied
around them and the people treated them
like they were their own.

Their story was taken up by the little
local voluntary paper (that I have since
written to) called the Meritt Morning
Mirror, fund raising tins were placed
in supermarkets and fast food outlets.
There were offers of clothes accomodation
and invitations into peoples homes.

The police have since found one of
the backpacks and some of their clothes,
but the trauma of such an experience
has mainly been healed by the overwhalmin
generosity of perfect strangers in a strange
town so far away from home, where people
really know the meaning of the word
"Humanity."

I felt I had to relay this lovely
story as so often it is only the bad
ones we ever hear about.

Hope you enjoy it!

Kind regards

Sue Boney



Royal
Canadian
Mounted
Police

Gendarmerie
royale
du
Canada

"E" Division
657 West 37th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
V5Z 1K6

Security Classification / Designation
Classification / Désignation sécuritaire

June 20, 1996

Unclass

Agenda - Correspondence
CITY OF MERRITT
JUN 29 1996
RECEIVED

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

EP500-11

Mr. Kevin Begg
Ministry of Attorney General
Police Services
8th Floor, 1001 Douglas St.
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Begg,

Re: Merritt Provincial Court - Court requirements

The attached self-explanatory correspondence generated by the Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge of Merritt Detachment refers.

The lack of available court time has impacted not only police service delivery but policing costs as detailed in the letter from the City of Merritt. Media attention to this situation does little more than educate the criminal element of the "Charter argument" defence.

The reply from His Honour W. A. Blair, Administrative Judge, is less than satisfactory to meet the needs of the community of Merritt. To suggest an additional court date would cost taxpayers of British Columbia more than the amount currently expended for policing does not address the concerns of the community. An average court docket of 59 charges per court date, one day a week, is not acceptable.

The Victims of Crime legislation, due July 1, 1996, places a onus on police to be more sensitive to the needs of victims. It is difficult to fathom how effective this legislative initiative will be when the Courts are unable to participate or contribute as part of the solution.

Two court days per week is a practical solution to meet the needs of the community, it is reasonable to assume even these may not be sufficient for the foreseeable future. Population of Merritt is increasing, alternative suggestions to provide occasional supplemental court dates only serve as an interim measure. We understand this issue is currently under review by the Criminal Justice Branch. Any assistance you can provide to facilitate a permanent extra court date for Merritt would be appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at 264-2226 should you wish to discuss the matter further.

[Handwritten Signature]
A.R. SPEEVAK, Inspector

Officer in Charge Operations Secretariat
"E" Division

cc: Officer Commanding Kamloops Sub/Division
Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge Merritt Detachment
City of Merritt

Canada

38



TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPE LINE COMPANY LTD.

1333 WEST BROADWAY, SUITE 900, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V6H 4C2

TELEPHONE (604) 739-5000 FAX (604) 739-5001

July 3, 1996

*Agenda - Correspondence
C.C. Darren
Waller*

VIA COURIER

Her Worship Clara Norgaard
Mayor
City of Merritt
2185 Voght Street
Merritt, B.C.
VOK 2B0

CITY OF MERRITT
JUL - 4 1996
RECEIVED

Dear Mayor Norgaard:

On July 31 during daylight hours, Trans Mountain Pipe Line Company Ltd. will be performing a hydrostatic — water pressure — test on a 60 kilometre section of our pipeline which runs from northeast of Merritt to Larson Hill. This test is a standard operating procedure to confirm the soundness of the pipe for normal operations, and is an integral part of our ongoing safety and pipeline maintenance programs. To give you some additional information, I have attached a fact sheet which explains the water pressure test in more detail and provides a map of the pipeline test route.

Before the test, we will be conducting a notification program. Landowners along the portion of the pipeline to be tested will each receive a personal letter with a fact sheet and map of the test area. In addition, we will be running ads on CJNL Radio and in the Merritt Herald and Merritt News, distributing posters to key locations in the community and posting signage along the test route advising the community of the test and requesting people to stay off the right-of-way during the water pressure test.

Safety is a top priority during the test. Safety measures during the test will include additional signage along the right-of-way, patrols by our helicopter and pipeline maintenance crews. As a routine safety precaution, our mobile environmental protection unit will be on standby.

If you wish, we would be happy to meet with you to discuss the test further and answer any questions you may have.

Yours truly,

Joan Hess
Director, Government and Community Relations

cc: Dave Harper, Manager, Central Division

Enc.: Fact Sheet

39

Water Pressure Test of Trans Mountain Pipeline in Merritt Area on Wednesday, July 31

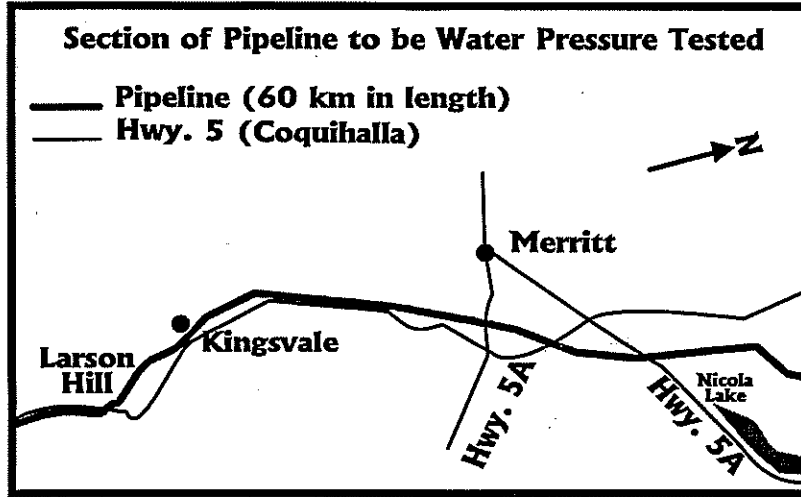
Introduction

At Trans Mountain we pride ourselves on our strong safety record and our commitment to environmental protection. Trans Mountain's safety and preventive maintenance program includes pressure testing sections of our 1250 kilometre pipeline with water. This test - also known as a hydrostatic test - is a standard operating procedure for ensuring the integrity of pipelines. Trans Mountain has successfully tested many sections of pipe during its more than 43 years of operation.

Trans Mountain operates the only pipeline system transporting crude oil and petroleum products from Alberta and northeastern BC to Kamloops and the west coast.

About the Test

- On July 31 Trans Mountain plans to water pressure test a 60 km section of its pipeline in the Merritt area - from northeast of Merritt to Larson Hill south of Merritt. (This test is also known as a hydrostatic test.)
- Water is pumped into a specific section of the pipeline and pumped up to a higher pressure level than is normally used when transporting petroleum products in the pipeline. This ensures the safety of the line for normal operating conditions.



- The test will last for eight hours and will be conducted during daylight hours.
- Most of the water for the test will be obtained from another area of pipeline operations and will be pumped through the pipeline to the section to be tested. After the test, the water will be transported through the pipeline to Trans Mountain's Burnaby Terminal in the Lower Mainland and treated to meet local water quality standards.

Safety During the Test

- We will be conducting a community and landowner notification program before the water pressure test and signage will be placed at key locations along the right-of-way. During the test, Trans Mountain will be asking people to stay off the right-of-way in order to ensure their safety in the event of a problem with the pipe.
- During the test, Pipeline Maintenance Crews and Trans Mountain's helicopter will patrol the right-of-way. As a routine safety measure our mobile Environmental Protection Unit will be on standby as will our Pipeline Maintenance Crews and contractors.
- Should the test fail, water could escape from the pipeline and it would be necessary to repeat the test. If we must repeat the test, we would take immediate action to replace the section of pipe that caused the test to fail. Then we would repeat the test. We would also take action to mitigate any problems caused by a release of water from the pipeline.

Ongoing Safety Program

- The water pressure test is one component of our regular, ongoing pipeline safety and preventive maintenance program which includes corrosion control by applying cathodic protection to the pipeline; internal investigations of the pipeline by an electronic inspection tool; investigative digs to inspect anomalies; cutting out and replacing sections of the pipeline; helicopter patrols; and 24-hour-a-day monitoring by our Vancouver Control Centre.
- In the event of a pipeline emergency, operators can shut down the pipeline by remote control from the Control Centre.

Thank you

- We regret any temporary inconvenience that may be caused by the test, however, the safety of the communities in which we operate and the protection of the environment are our top priorities.

For further information, please call Dave Harper, Manager, Central Division in Kamloops collect at (604) 371-4000.

Issued July 1996



In Case of a Pipeline Emergency Call Collect 24 Hours (604) 876-6711

40



DISTRICT OF SICAMOUS

1214 Riverside Ave. • Box 219 SICAMOUS, B.C. V0E 2V0
Telephone (604) 836-2477 - Fax (604) 836-4314

CITY OF MERRITT

JUL - 4 1996

Agenda - Correspondence

July 2nd, 1996

Mr. Tom Day, Administrator,
City of Merritt,
Box 189,
Merritt, BC
VOK 2B0

Dear Mr. Day:

Re: 1996 UBCM Convention - Resolution - Capital Rehabilitation Program

The Council of the District of Sicamous, at its Regular Meeting held June 24th, 1996, endorsed a resolution pertaining to the funding under the Capital Rehabilitation Program for roads in newly incorporated municipalities, which has remained constant while the number of eligible municipalities to this funding has increased.

A copy of the resolution is attached hereto.

The Council of the District of Sicamous seeks your Council's support to this resolution which has been submitted for consideration at the 1996 UBCM Convention.

Should your Council endorse this resolution, it would be appreciated if you would forward a copy of same to me at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Smith,
Administrator

Capital Rehabilitation Program for Roads

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government, under the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, established a Capital Rehabilitation Program for Roads in newly Incorporated Territories in November, 1989 under which Municipalities under the program have consistently made application for, and have been marginally successful or unsuccessful in acquiring financial assistance for capital rehabilitation under this program due to limited funding available.

AND WHEREAS it has been determined that the program has, since its inception, maintained a constant annual funding amount while increasing the number of eligible municipalities to this funding.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the Ministry of Transportation and Highways to expand its "Capital Rehabilitation Program" by allocating appropriate funding to the program to fulfill the Ministry's commitments to those municipalities affected.

Certified a true and correct copy of a resolution by the
Council of the District of Sicamous made on the
24th day of June, 1996.



Clerk

MUNICIPALITIES ELIGIBLE TO APPLY
FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
CAPITAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM
FOR NEWLY INCORPORATED TERRITORIES.

SICAMOUS
100 MILE HOUSE
OLIDER
RADIUM HOT SPRINGS
PARKSVILLE
QUALICUM BEACH
CAMPBELL RIVER
NAKUSP
LANGFORD (CORE)
HOPE
VERNON
HIGHLANDS
ABBOTSFORD
LILLOOET
MCBRIDE
LAKE COUNTRY (WINFIELD)
PITT MEADOWS (PITT POLDER)
MERRITT (COLLETTVILLE)
CRANBROOK (PANORAMA HGTS)

July 2nd, 1996

June 21 , 1996

Synneva Taylor
Healthy Communities-Volunteer Center Committee
Bag 4400
Merritt, BC V1K 1B8

City of Merritt
Box 189, 2185 Voght Street
Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
Attention: Mayor and Council

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Re: The Merritt Volunteer Center

This letter serves to update the City Council with respect to the progress made towards the development of the Merritt Volunteer Center. This project is being guided by the Healthy Communities Volunteer Center Sub-Committee which was organized in September of 1995. This committee is composed of members of the Merritt Community, all of whom support the establishment of a Volunteer Center in Merritt.

A Volunteer Center is a great investment in a community and its members. Its purpose is to benefit the community through the promotion of volunteerism. As budgets are tightened a Volunteer Center is a tremendous asset to have in a community. Volunteers are a valuable resource that can be utilized to support agencies, groups, organizations and individuals in whatever their goals may be.

In January 1996, a Volunteer Need Assessment was undertaken with the Committee contacting 71 organizations, service groups and associations in the Merritt area. This survey found resounding support for a Volunteer Center. Over 80% of the respondents saw a very high need for a Volunteer Center. The Committee is now in the process of researching appropriate organizational structure, location, and funding, with the view of making the Merritt Volunteer Center a reality.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider the idea of a Volunteer Center in Merritt. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 378-6369.

Yours Truly,

S. Taylor

Synneva Taylor for
Healthy Communities- Volunteer Center Committee

Agenda - Rawl

CITY OF MERRITT

JUN 25 1996

RECEIVED

HA

To: CITY OF MERRITT

Released June 28, 1996

UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES

Agenda - Rave

New Government's First Throne Speech and Budget: No Surprises for Local Government

15-10531 SHELLBRIDGE WAY
RICHMOND, B.C. V6X 2W9
(604) 276-8226 FAX: (604) 660-2271

THERE WERE NO REAL SURPRISES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN EITHER THE THRONE SPEECH or the Budget Address, delivered respectively on June 25th and 26th. Much of what was said was a restatement of the earlier documents introduced just prior to the election call. What was new was the announcement of a six-month freeze on capital spending that will apply to projects not already under construction or legally committed to, leaving the future of \$272 million in proposed hospital, school, ferry and road developments in question.

It does not appear that local government grants for infrastructure projects which are already committed are in jeopardy at this time. Local government grants for infrastructure are not considered capital spending on the government's part, even though they are intended for capital purposes. Staff from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing indicate that there are only two projects in their hands now which are not currently approved, because further information was required to complete the applications. The future of these two projects is uncertain at the moment because of the review of all programs that the Minister announced as part of the Budget "pause." All other projects and grant programs are secure for the moment, because commitments have already been made.

The following are other items contained in the Throne Speech and Budget that are of interest to local government.

Throne Speech

The government talks about bringing business, working people, communities and government together to cooperate in creating and protecting jobs. Fisheries communities are to benefit from continuation of funds for innovative community initiatives to protect and restore fish habitat.

Considerable attention is focused on protecting and enhancing education and health care and while it suggests that

continued change in these areas is necessary, it acknowledges the need to slow down the change process in order to ensure that there is time for systems to adapt. This idea is the basis for the Minister of Health's announcement to slow down the "New Directions in Health" initiative.

Community safety is another priority, and the government has announced a number of

program and service initiatives along with the funds for 100 new police officers.

The Throne Speech also reiterates the government's commitment to the Aboriginal Land Claims treaty process. It states that fair agreements will mean greater certainty for people, communities and businesses throughout B.C.

The government also stated that it would introduce a "range of reforms to increase the

involvement" of every member of the Legislature. The government indicated that it will table a legislative amendment to allow the nomination of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner by an all-party committee, as is the case for the other Officers of the Legislature. The government has also said that there will be a new Crown Corporation Committee of the Legislature, modeled on the Public Accounts Committee and chaired by a member of the Opposition.

H

Budget Highlights

Airport Improvements Property Tax Exemptions

Amendments will be made to the *Municipal Act* to exempt prescribed airport improvements from property tax to remove an impediment to transfers of airports from federal to local control. The improvements to be prescribed will closely parallel the improvements on which the federal government does not currently make payments-in-lieu of property taxes, such as paved runways, taxiways, and airport navigation aids (e.g., runway lights and unenclosed communications towers). The effect of these changes is that local airport authorities will be relieved of a significant increase in their tax liability when taking over their local regional airport from the federal government, while ensuring that local taxing authorities' revenues are unaffected. The legislative amendments will be made retroactive to the 1994 taxation year to allow the removal of the additional tax liability on improvements at airports which were transferred to taxable operators over the last two years.

Home Owner Grants

The home owner grant threshold will be increased to \$525,000 from \$475,000. The grant will be phased-out at the rate of \$10 of grant for each \$1,000 of assessed value in excess of \$525,000. As a result, the grant will be eliminated for most homeowners having a home assessed at more than \$572,000. For homeowners who are seniors, handicapped or recipients of war veterans allowances, the grant will be eliminated for homes assessed in excess of \$599,500. Setting the threshold at \$525,000 means that roughly 96% of homeowners will not be affected by the phase-out.

Property Transfer Tax

Effective May 1, 1996, the fair market value of eligible residential property under the First-Time Home Buyers' Exemption Program will be increased from \$250,000 to \$275,000 in the Greater Vancouver Regional District, the Fraser Valley Regional District and the Capital Regional District; and from \$200,000 to \$225,000 in the rest of the province.

School Taxes

Average gross school taxes will be maintained at 1995 levels by adjusting school property tax rates in response to changes in assessed values. Individual tax bills will still change depending on the assessed values of individual properties. The Budget estimates an increase of \$12.0 million in residential school property taxes and \$14.0 million in non-residential school property taxes. This is net of the \$9.0 million that was deducted from the tax liability of the railways, following the decisions made last year associated with Bill 55. This portion of the Budget was as tabled earlier and does not impact tax notices already mailed.

Rural Area Taxes

Average gross taxes will be maintained at 1995 levels by adjusting the residential rural tax rate in response to changes in assessed values. Individual tax bills will still change depending on the assessed values of individual properties. The Budget estimates that overall revenues for the rural area tax will increase by \$2.0 million, mostly due to new construction. This portion of the Budget was as tabled earlier and does not impact tax notices already mailed.

Safer Communities

- Establishing a major crime investigation unit, in cooperation with the RCMP, to investigate unsolved murders and other crimes, using advanced technology such as DNA fingerprinting.
- Fighting prostitution, getting tough on the pimps who profit from prostitution and the johns who keep it going.
- Getting young people off the streets, providing them with positive alternatives to violence and crime. The Nights Alive initiative operates in 20 communities across the province. It uses school and recreational centres after hours for sports, arts, music, and other activities chosen and organized by local youth.

Job Creation

New initiatives include:

- 21,000 more forest sector jobs in partnership with the industry, to get more value and jobs from every tree cut
- 5,000 new jobs over five years in environmental technologies
- a new partnership with the tourism industry that will help to create 23,000 new jobs over the next five years
- training and work experience for more than 20,000 youth on welfare

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Budget

The 1995/96 Budget Estimate was \$464.5 million, and the Revised Forecast is \$395.3 million. The expenditures were \$69 million below budget due to "slower than expected grant payments to local governments under the Canada-British Columbia infrastructure works program." The 1996/97 Budget estimate is \$440.5 million, a 5.2% decrease over the previous year's budget figure. The background documents to the budget attribute this decrease of \$24 million to "reduced requirements in the third year of the five-year Canada-British Columbia infrastructure works program."

MEMORANDUM

TO: T.C. DAY, City Administrator
FROM: Marcel Bedard
RE: Farmers Market
DATE: July 8, 1996

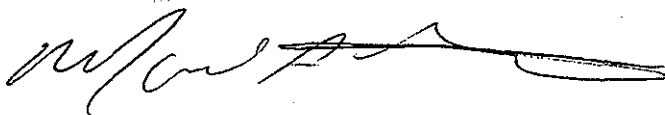
In researching on how Farmers' Markets are dealt with by other cities, I have come up with three locations. The first one being the City of Prince George. Under their Business Licencing Bylaw No. 6279, 1994, they list it as a Farmers' Retail, meaning a retail sale of farm produce, meat or fish, or other homegrown food products or handicrafts. This market is licenced under their Business Licence Bylaw, with a \$50.00 licence fee. This fee allows for one licence within the area set aside for the Farmers' Market and all businesses within this market are covered under this one licence fee. Anyone outside the area must have their own City Business Licence.

The next City in question would be the City of Kelowna. Upon enquiring with the Officer there, they have no Farmers' Market Bylaw, but a flea market provision. The flea market, if it is a non-profit society, is a \$500.00 licence. That, again, includes all the merchant, vendors, or participants registered with that flea market is covered within this licence. Again, if it is outside, they need their own valid Business Licence.

The third location was the City of Kamloops. The Farmers' Market in Kamloops is run by a Society. Approval is granted by City Council each year so they can close off a City street. The Farmers' Market is required to have a Business Licence. The licence is issued to the Society as a whole, again, it covers all of the vendors within the market. The Business Licence fee for this market is \$242.00 annually. The style of the Kamloops Farmers' Market is what we are looking to achieve within the City of Merritt. They have been running it for 18 years.

I hope that the information supplied is of service.

Respectfully submitted,



MARCEL A. BEDARD
MAB/seh