

CITY OF GRAND FORKS NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2006

The Latin wording on the City of Grand Forks Logo translates to "Riches from the Soil". The mountains surrounded by trees represents the area's main industry-forestry. Two other industries that are also very important to the local economy are symbolized by: the field for farming and the ore cart for mining. Of interest, the slag remaining from mining operations of decades ago still benefits the City of Grand Forks. It is sold for a variety of uses and the money is placed in a special reserve fund for use on capital projects such as the Aquatic Centre, the Library, new fire equipment and much, much more.

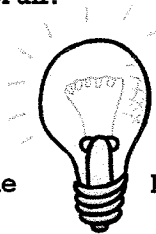
NOTICE OF CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS

Please note that effective Tuesday, September 5, 2006, City Hall office hours will be changed. We will open for service from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Friday except Statutory Holidays. This change has been implemented to facilitate time required for staff to process overnight transactions before opening for business. In our efforts to accommodate our customer base, the City offers several payment options. Some of these include Visa, Mastercard, Interac, post-dated cheques, preauthorized payments (with the option of monthly withdrawals or "due date" withdrawals) and Homebanking. In future, inquiry & payment capability will be on the City's website. For more information, please contact our office and our staff would be pleased to assist you.



12 EASY WAYS TO SAVE ON ELECTRICITY

1. Be diligent about turning off lights when you leave a room and teach your children to do the same.
2. Use ceiling fan or personal fans instead of air conditioning. Open your windows the cool part of the day and use ceiling fans to help circulate the cool air.
3. Use your microwave instead of your regular oven when you can; it uses less electricity and does not heat up the room.
4. Change from incandescent to fluorescent bulbs in your light fixtures.
5. Turn off your dishwasher during the dry cycle and let the dishes air dry.
6. During cold weather, after baking in your oven turn it off and open the door, allowing the heat to warm the room.
7. When buying new appliances, buy the most energy-efficient model you can afford.
8. Consider using insulated drapes and/or shades on your windows.
9. Try lowering the temperature on your water heater. Gradually lower it until you find the lowest temperature you can live with. Even a few degrees can add up to savings on your utility bill.
10. Install an inexpensive insulated wrap on your water heater. Also, remember to just turn it off when you are going to be away from home for several days.
11. Air dry your clothes when possible. Your dryer is one of the biggest energy users in your home.
12. Experiment with washing your clothes in cold or at least warm water instead of hot. Washing even a few loads in cold water can save money.



"There can be no economy where there is no efficiency" - Benjamin Disraeli



COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM "GOING FOR GOLD"

The Chamber of Commerce of the City of Grand Forks is pleased to partner with Communities in Bloom in the Fall 2006 "Going for the Gold Campaign" to plant 10,000 daffodil bulbs this September and watch them all bloom in April 2007! Bulbs can be purchased at the Chamber Office 7362 -5th Street from Sunday to Saturday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at a nominal price of \$60.00/100 bulbs plus taxes \$7.80 = \$67.80.

You can join this exciting colorful spring campaign and Communities in Bloom will help us plant the bulbs. Let the Chamber know if you need assistance and we'll get the shovels moving!

HOUSE NUMBERS



Now that fall is arriving, please ensure that your house number is visible from the street so that emergency vehicles can locate a proper address when they are called.



NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

When walking your dog in public areas in Grand Forks, please bring along a plastic bag to clean up after your pet. Our many parks and playgrounds are used by baseball teams,

soccer teams, field day events, small children, and more. Please be courteous and clean up your pet's waste so that others may enjoy the public areas as well. Also, remember that when in public areas, your pet must always be on a leash.



RESERVOIR REFURBISHMENT

The project to upgrade the City's reservoir liner and floating cover is scheduled to begin October 14, 2006 and will last for a period of approximately 14 days. During this time we ask that all City water users limit their use of water during this pe-

riod. The City and its engineers will endeavor to keep operating pressures near normal, however residents may experience low water pressure at certain times. The City will be working with its engineers to minimize pressure fluctuations.

BE CONSERVATIVE



Water Conservation In The Yard

1. Try to water during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler, to minimize evaporation.
2. Water your lawn in several short sessions rather than one long one. This will allow the water to be better absorbed.
3. Fertilize less. This is particularly important prior to or during dry periods.
4. Consider using more efficient irrigation systems such as a soaker hose or drip irrigation.
5. Don't water your lawn on windy days. After all, sidewalks and

6. driveways don't need water.
6. Raise the mower blade during dry weather. Cutting the grass higher encourages deeper rooting.
7. Use a screwdriver as a soil probe to test soil moisture. If it goes in easily, don't water. Proper lawn watering can save thousands of gallons of water annually.
8. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering. Be sure only to water plants when necessary.



Water Conservation In The Home

1. Only run full loads in the washing machine and

dish washer.

2. Check showerhead and other faucets for drips or leaks. Fix Leaks immediately.
3. Use water conserving plumbing fixtures.
4. Take shorter showers.
5. Turn off the water when you are brushing your teeth or shaving.
6. When washing dishes, don't let the water run to rinse them. Fill up one sink for washing and one sink for rinsing.
7. Use the short cycle on your dishwasher, some dishwashers can wash dishes without pre-rinsing them.



ELECTRONIC SCRAP COLLECTION DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 FROM 11 AM TO 4PM

This **ONE DAY EVENT** is your opportunity to have the following **NON-FUNCTIONING** electronic items diverted from local landfills:

Computers, Laptops, Monitors, TV's, LCD's, Keyboards, Mice, Power Cords, Scanners, Desktop Printers, Fax Machines, Cell Phones, and MP3 Players.

(*SORRY, other items such as Walkmans, Stereo's, VCR's, DVD Players, etc.....Will NOT be accepted.*)



LOCATIONS:

- Grand Forks** — Grand Forks Arena/Aquatic Centre
- Trail** — Waneta Plaza, and the Trail Memorial Arena Parking Lot
- Nelson** — Chahko Mika Mall
- Castlegar** — Pioneer Arena Parking Lot
- Creston** — Creston and District Community Complex

GFI TOURNAMENT



Canada's Premier Baseball Tournament starts Wednesday, August 30 at 1:00 pm with opening ceremonies at 7:00 pm. The final game will be Monday, Sept 4th at 3:00 pm.

Volunteers are still needed for a variety of tasks. Please contact the organizers at 442-8323 if you would like to volunteer, or email gfi@telus.net. Also visit the website at grandforksbaseball.com for all the details of this year's tourney.



REGULATION OF OVERWEIGHT TRAFFIC—BYLAW 1810

The City has given first three readings to Bylaw 1810 which will regulate overweight truck traffic on City streets. Final adoption of this bylaw is set for the September 11, 2006 Regular Meeting of Council. The Bylaw states that:

Unless otherwise posted with traffic control devices indicating a route, no person shall drive a truck with a gross vehicle weight in excess of 10,000 kg upon a roadway

within the municipal boundaries, other than an arterial highway, except municipal or utility vehicles while engaged in work upon roadways, or trucks delivering goods and materials to properties on a street or streets directly serviced by the roadway.

Notwithstanding the foregoing clause, trucks delivering goods and materials do not include loaded or unloaded logging or chip trucks.



RECYCLING—6 REASONS WHY THE BAG IS BETTER

1. Bags hold more recyclables than boxes.
2. Bags protect the materials inside, which means they are more valuable when sold for remanufacture.
3. Blue Bag recycling is less expensive than blue box recycling—even when the cost of bags is included.
4. No litter. The blue bags keep the recycling from blowing around or falling out.
5. No administration costs to distribute or replace boxes.
6. Haulers prefer the Blue Bag program because it's more efficient. The drivers don't need to sort at the curb or return to the plant when one bin gets full and the others still have room.

Blue and clear bags make up only 1/2 of one percent of all materials collected for recycling, - and they're recycled, too!!

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR RECYCLED MATERIAL?

About half of our garbage is made up of materials that still have value. The challenge for the RDKB is to provide recycling services that are cost-effective. High volumes of material allow us to do this. Here is how it works:

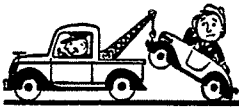
- The recycling truck picks up your blue bag at your home.
- Bags are transported to a transfer station at the Grand Forks Landfill.
- The recyclables are trucked to Metro Materials in Kelowna

where they are manually and mechanically sorted.

- **Plastics:** (including the blue bags) are bundled and shipped to Vancouver where they are made into pellets and shipped to manufacturers who make deck 'wood', carpets, pile jackets, and lots more.
- **Tin Cans** bundled and shipped to the Coast where they are made into steel products such as rebar.
- **Aluminum** is separated and made into new cans.



- **Newspaper** is shipped to B.C. Pulp Mills where it is added to raw pulp.
- **Mixed Paper** is often shipped to overseas markets.
- **Cardboard** is bundled and is processed into new cardboard.
- **Glass** from the depots is mixed with concrete and asphalt at the landfill and used for road base. **Please do not put glass in the blue bag.** Bags are compacted. This will break the glass endangering workers and contaminating other material.



TOWING OF VEHICLES

The City has sent a request for Proposals to local towing companies with a deadline for response by August 31, 2006. The successful bidder on the proposal will be awarded the contract in September and will begin the towing of vehicles on the following basis:

- Tow vehicles that are unlicensed and parked on City boulevards, streets and sidewalks.
- Tow all vehicles including camp-
- Tow all vehicles that are over
- Tow all vehicles that are parked along curbs that are painted yellow and vehicles parked in handicapped zones without proper handicapped permit on display.
- Tow all vehicles parked in lanes and blocking access to streets and sidewalks.
- Tow all vehicles that are over

ers and recreation vehicles that are licensed and parked illegally on sidewalks.

parked in a time zone and any area of the City where there are "No Parking" signs posted and during snow conditions where the City has posted "No Parking" signs.

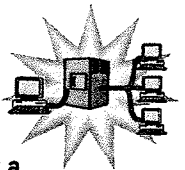
- All towed vehicles will be kept in a fenced storage facility. Vehicle owners will be required to pay fees and storage charges to reclaim their vehicles.

NEW TEOM MONITOR INSTALLED

The city has been waiting for the monitor since February, finally received it, and hoisted it up onto the top of City Hall. The new TEOM or Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance measures fine particulates in the air. This allows us to advise local government, the regional district and the environment ministry about air quality concerns. Since the TEOM

tracks the smaller particulate matter that is of most concern to human health, they can also issue "stay indoors" advisories on bad air quality days, for people with asthma, lung problems or compromised immune systems. The TEOM should be operational soon and the data will be online and accessible to city staff from their desktops. In conjunction

with the meteorological tower installed at the airport several weeks ago, we can start getting a really accurate picture of how good or bad our air quality is at different times, which is the first step to start getting it cleaned up.



EVERYTHING IS "FALLING" INTO PLACE AT GFREC

Grand Forks has a lot to offer for children and youth. On Thursday, September 7th Grand Forks Recreation is inviting all local clubs and organizations who serve the children and youth of our community to showcase their programs and products at an Open House in the arena viewing room. This will give parents a comprehensive view of everything that is offered for kids in the community—kind of a "one stop shopping" event! Exhibitors can book space at no charge and no admission fee will be charged to the public. To reserve space call the recreation office.

The ice is in at the Grand Forks

Arena starting August 28th, kids can benefit from some pre-season skating. Morning Power Skating sessions with coach Matt Zamec are scheduled for ages 7 to 17 August 28th to September 1st. In the afternoons kids can sign up for some fun scrimmage games. Pre-registration is required for both programs.



This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Station to Station cross country run. On September 10th, runners will tackle the challenging 10 km cross country course (or choose the more moderate 5 km route) and finish up with a delicious brunch at The Station.



The 3rd annual Copper Ridge Duathlon is slated for Sunday, October 15th. Last year even a downpour couldn't dampen everyone's enthusiasm. Individuals and teams participated in this cross country run and mountain biking event.

The Grand Forks Aquatic Centre summer swim schedule continues through Labour Day, Monday, September 4th. The pool will be closed for annual maintenance September 5th to 16th and will re-open with the fall schedule in place on Sunday, September 17th.



It's O.K to Play at GFREC! Call the Recreation Office at 442-2202

CONCERT/THEATRE FALL SCHEDULE

- Monday, August 21 - John Reischman and the Jaybirds (bluegrass) 7:00 p.m. - Art Gallery \$15.00 gallery members \$20.00 non-members.
- Thursday, August 31 - Hello I Must Be Going - Live Theatre 7:00 p.m. - Art Gallery \$15.00 gallery members \$20.00 non-members.
- Saturday, September 9 - Aspen Switzer - CD Release Tour 7:00 p.m. - Art Gallery \$10.00 gallery members \$15.00 non-members.
- Wednesday, September 20 - Ken Hamm 7:00 p.m. - Art Gallery tentative.
- Wednesday, September 27 - Geoff Berner, Carol
- Friday, October 6 - Manitoba Hal & Doc MacLean, Delta Blues 7:00 p.m. Art Gallery \$10.00 gallery members \$15.00 non-members.
- Monday, October 16 - Ramanza, 3 tenors, 3 musicians Boundary Art Council - first of 2006/07 Performance Series at GFSS Centennial Auditorium.
- Tuesday, October 17 - Garnett Rogers 7:00 p.m. Art Gallery—tentative.



Mark & Dave Lang, three of the West Coast's most engaging & talented songwriters. 7:00 p.m. Art Gallery \$15.00 gallery members \$20.00 non-members.



GRAND FORKS & DISTRICT FALL FAIR SOCIETY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate the Grand Forks & District Fall Fair Society's 50th Anniversary by decorating your business and residence from the 1st of September!

This year's theme is *A Walk Down Memory Lane* giving everyone a wide variety of decorating ideas depicting one of the last five decades from the 50's to the present. The Fall Fair Committee is also busy inviting past royalty and executive directors of the fair to a homecoming weekend and decorating our community would be a wonderful welcome.

Everyone loves a paradeand we are encouraging everyone to join the Fall Fair Committee's parade event scheduled to assemble at the Selkirk College parking lot on **Saturday, September 9th before 9:00 a.m.** where the entries will be judged at 9:00 a.m. sharp. The parade commences at 10:00 a.m. and will make its way up Central Avenue dispersing on the west side of Dick Bartlett Park.

Pick up your parade application at the Chamber Office 7362 - 5th Street or call 442-2833



TRAFFIC PATTERN CHANGE

The proposed Traffic Pattern Change at the corner of 68th Avenue and 2nd Street has been temporarily postponed due to the redesign of Telus Infrastructure at the corner. Look for updates on this project in future newsletters.