

MARCH -  
APRIL 2013

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
CITY OF GRAND FORKS

# CITY HALL TIMES

Phone 250-442-8266 • Fax 250-442-8000 • Email: [info@grandforks.ca](mailto:info@grandforks.ca) • Web Site: [www.city.grandforks.bc.ca](http://www.city.grandforks.bc.ca)

*Connecting with the Community*

## Downed Power Lines

Power lines can be dislodged for a number of reasons such as age, weather conditions or human interference. You cannot tell if a power line is still energized by just looking at it.

If you see a downed power line:

- Stay at least 10 meters away
- Contact 9-1-1 or The City of Grand Forks Electrical Department's 24 hour emergency number 250-442-2033 immediately.
- If you can, secure the site until emergency personnel arrive



The protective coating on most overhead lines is not an insulator. Never try to move downed power lines.

Once a power line contacts the ground or an object such as a tree or vehicle they can become energized. The electricity then travels through the ground over a wide area. The maximum voltage is at the contact point and slowly dissipates the further out it gets, similar to the ripple effect caused when a rock is dropped in a pond of water.

If your motor vehicle has been involved in an accident with an electrical pole or transformer (green box), treat the vehicle and anything it is in contact with it as energized. If an energized line has come down on the vehicle, stay inside if it is safe to do so. If the vehicle is on fire and you must jump free, do so with both feet together. Shuffle away from the vehicle - keeping both feet close together minimizes the voltage potential between the feet. Never contact the ground and your vehicle at the same time.

If someone receives an electrical shock:

- Do not touch the person if she or he is still in contact with the source of electricity. The electricity will travel from their body into yours!
- Ask someone to call 9-1-1 while you stay with the victim.

There are many other types of overhead wires, including telephone and television. Always assume that a downed line is energized and call for emergency personnel. If you come across a scene that is already cordoned off, do not cross past the yellow barrier tape. It's there for your safety, and will be removed once the scene is secured.



### THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

#### **NOTICE OF BALANCE OF YEAR 2013 REGULAR & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

In accordance with Section 127 of the Community Charter, please take notice that the following is a listing of scheduled Regular Meetings of Council for the City of Grand Forks for the balance of the Year 2013.

**NOTE: There are no changes to the Regular Meeting Dates.**

Monday March 4, 2013	Monday, July 22, 2013
Monday March 18, 2013	Monday August 19, 2013
Tuesday April 2, 2013	Monday September 9, 2013
Monday April 15, 2013	Monday September 30, 2013
Monday May 6, 2013	Tuesday October 15, 2013
Tuesday May 21, 2013	Monday October 28, 2013
Monday June 10, 2013	Tuesday November 12, 2013
Monday June 24, 2013	Monday November 25, 2013
	Monday December 16, 2013

Please note there is only one Regular Meeting in the months of July, August & December. All Regular Meetings of Council are held in Council Chambers at City Hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise advertised.

#### **NEW CHANGES**

As per the adoption of Council's new procedure Bylaw No. 1946 on February 18th, 2013, the Primary Committee Meeting has been replaced by the **Committee of the Whole Meeting (COTW)**, and is to be held in conjunction with the **first Regular Meeting date of each month** and is scheduled to start at **9:00 AM in Council Chambers**. The following is a listing of scheduled Committee of the Whole (COTW) Meetings of Council for the City of Grand Forks for the balance of the year 2013.

Monday March 4, 2013	Monday August 19, 2013
Tuesday April 2, 2013	Monday September 9, 2013
Monday May 6, 2013	Tuesday October 15, 2013
Monday June 10, 2013	Tuesday November 12, 2013
Monday July 22, 2013	Monday December 16, 2013

Dated this 19th day of February, 2013  
Diane Heinrich  
Corporate Officer

## OPEN HOUSE



**MARCH 12  
3-6PM  
GRAND FORKS CITY HALL**

The City of Grand Forks invites the public to an open house at City Hall. Come and meet the team and view this year's projects for minor improvements in the downtown core. The City would like to hear from you and welcomes your feedback!

**For more information contact:**

Sarah Winton at [swinton@grandforks.ca](mailto:swinton@grandforks.ca)

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## Lights Out Grand Forks!

We can all make a difference on **Saturday March 23, 2013** from **8:30 to 9:30 PM** wherever you live by simply turning off all power source switches – residential and commercial. The **Earth Hour Challenge** - Uniting the World to Protect the Planet is a global movement to unite in reducing our power consumption for one brief hour in our lives. The first Earth Hour took place in Sydney, Australia, on **31 March 2007** and it was an idea developed by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) where 2.2 million Sydney area homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. Plan a night to remember; a candle lit dinner, star gazing! Register your email address at [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org) and watch the countdown.



The Grand Forks Environmental Committee is a select committee of Council established under Section 142 of the Community Charter. It was formed to examine pertinent and pressing environmental issues within the municipality and to advise Council on these matters. The prime focus is air quality, water sustainability and carbon neutrality where these sub-committees bring forward recommendations for Council's

consideration. This year, the committee has recommended to the City to engage in a community education program on Water Conservation to support the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary's Kettle River Watershed Management Plan



<http://kettleriver.ca> and reduce the amount of water we consume annually. Watch for these upcoming 2013 environmental community events as the Environment Committee and lead community organizations including the BC Lung Association, Grand Forks Community Trails Society, Grand Forks Rotary, and Granby Wilderness Society work together to bring awareness and the impact we can make in preserving the planet.



- **Earth Hour Challenge**

Saturday March 23, 2013  
8:30 PM [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org)

- **Earth Day**

International date April 22 [www.earthday.ca](http://www.earthday.ca)

- **BC Drinking Water Week**

May 20-26 [www.drinkingwaterweek.org](http://www.drinkingwaterweek.org)

- **Bike To Work BC Week**

May 27-June 2 [www.biketowork.ca](http://www.biketowork.ca)

- **Environment Canada's National Commuter Challenge**

June 2-8 <http://commuterchallenge.ca/blog>

- **Clean Air Day & Solar Kit Races**

June 5 <http://www.bcairquality.ca/101/clean-air-day-bc.html>

- **BC Rivers Day**

September 29 <http://commons.bcit.ca/riversday>

The Grand Forks Environment Committee holds bi-monthly open meetings at the RDKB office in Grand Forks. The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2013 at 11:00 AM. Everyone welcome! Contact Councillor Cher Wyers, Committee Chair at [cwyers@grandforks.ca](mailto:cwyers@grandforks.ca) for further information.



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**3-6PM**

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**For more info contact:**

Sarah Winton at  
[swinton@grandforks.ca](mailto:swinton@grandforks.ca)

## Open House Invitation

The City of Grand Forks is inviting the public to an open house at city hall on **March 12** between **3 and 6 p.m.** People can view projects for the year, which include minor improvements to the downtown core.

The city is looking for input from the public around downtown improvements. At this point, it has identified the low hanging fruit, sidewalk repairs, painting and planters etc. The intention of the open house is to provide a bit of a visual of the planned improvements, as well as receive input from downtown businesses on what they feel the priorities for improving the downtown core are in the future and most importantly, to make sure the city and downtown businesses are on the same page.

The city would like to hear from you and welcomes your feedback. For more information, contact Sarah Winton, deputy corporate secretary for the City of Grand Forks. She can be contacted at [swinton@grandforks.ca](mailto:swinton@grandforks.ca).