

# CITY OF GRAND FORKS

DECEMBER 2007

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

## CITY OF GRAND FORKS

### Invitation to Serve on Board of Directors of the Grand Forks Society for the Preservation of Community Arts and Culture

#### ***Historical Perspective***

In 1957 the Centennial Committee proposed a Museum for the Community as part of the 1958 Grand Forks Centennial celebrations. In June the rebuilt stagecoach, "The Red Flyer" was made part of the Museum. The building was completed during the summer and the opening was set for October, 1958. The building was constructed on lots reserved by the City of Grand Forks as park. Grand Forks Gyro Club of the day maintained it in lawn for some years. The Grand Forks Volunteer Fire Department placed an old fire engine on view. The City of Grand Forks placed a roof. There was a concentrated effort to obtain articles of interest for the opening in October and the public responded generously.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1958, the Volunteer Committee decided to turn over to the City of Grand Forks, ownership of the Museum Building and the stagecoach. The Committee asked the City to appoint a Board of Trustees of eight to operate the Museum. The Trustees hope to assemble for the public anything that was used in by the residents of the district in the early times, or was brought into the district before 1900. Naturally anything of historic value to the Community is of interest generally.

Articles may be given to the Museum or they may be loaned for exhibition.

**The foregoing is an excerpt from the Boundary Historical Society Quarterly Report, providing the brief outline of the origins of the present day Museum and the ownership of the building, lands and artifacts.**

#### ***1980's Perspective***

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1980, the Boundary Museum Society was incorporated with the assistance of the City of Grand Forks. The Society was tasked by the City to operate the Museum based on the original mandate. The ownership of the artifacts, lands and buildings remained with the City in accordance with the original intent.

#### ***2007 Perspective***

Taxpayers and the Provincial Legislation require greater accountability from City officials for the use of tax dollars to deliver services. The major part of the funding for the Boundary Museum comes from the City, and in the new location, the Regional District.

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## CITY OF GRAND FORKS

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**We are on the Web!**  
[www.city.grandforks.bc.ca](http://www.city.grandforks.bc.ca)

The Boundary Museum Society operates independently of the City. There is no agreement in place between the two organizations defining the accountability for tax dollars.

In an attempt to establish the accountability required, an operating and lease agreement was proposed by the City. City representatives met with the Museum Society. After months of discussion on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the City sent letters to all directors of the Society to arrange a meeting on or before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to finalize agreements proposed. This would allow the City and the Society to move forward and occupy the new premises. The response from the Chair of the Museum Board was to return the agreements back to the City on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 without opening the contents. Other Board members did not respond.

The sole intent of the City was to receive a written response from the Museum Society of their intention to complete negotiations in order to move to the new location in a timely manner. If more time were needed by the Society, City Council would have provided such extension of time provided a written request was received from the Board. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, the City closed the museum doors for the season, recognizing that the existing Museum Board and the Society were unwilling to enter into a meaningful dialogue.

### ***Actions of the City***

The Boundary Museum Society and its Board of Directors are intact and independent of the City. The Boundary Museum Society operated the museum and archive service on behalf of the City. The City did not remove or fire the directors of the Society. The Boundary Museum Society continues to exist.

The City's role is to provide a place for the artifacts as was originally intended by the 1958 Board of Trustees. The existing building is no longer suitable for the storage and preservation of the artifacts donated to the Museum by the Community; therefore, the artifacts will be moved to the new location- the renovated Historic Court House Building. The museum will re-open in the improved facility in 2008.

We see this as an opportunity to take our past and showcase it for residents and visitors alike.

To revitalize not only the museum but also the whole of the downtown core. We want our museum

to be an exciting vibrant experience. Ask yourself, when was the last time you visited the old museum?

### ***Moving Forward***

In accordance with this original intent, City Council incorporated a new Society. The new Society is called ***Grand Forks Society for the Preservation of Community Arts and Culture***. The key difference between the newly created Society and the Boundary Museum Society is that the newly created Society is answerable to the general public whereas Boundary Museum Society is answerable to the members who have paid membership dues only. This was not the intent of the 1958 Volunteers who asked the City to create a Board of Trustees. The new Society restores the 1958 mandate through the creation of the publicly owned Society with a Board of Directors or Trustees.

### ***Operations and Management of the Boundary Museum***

The City will not be involved in the management and operation of the Boundary Museum. The City will continue to provide funding based on the budget submitted by the Grand Forks Society for the Preservation of Community Arts and Culture. An independent Board of Directors or Trustees will be responsible for the overall management and operation of the Boundary Museum. There will be no direct role of Council or city staff in the operations and management of the Boundary Museum. The only role that Council will play is in the appointment of the Board of Directors or Trustees as requested in 1958.

### ***Next Steps: Formation of Board of Directors or Trustees: 5 Volunteers are needed***

City Council is requesting applications from interested volunteers who wish to serve on the Board of Directors or Trustees of the Society. Five volunteers are needed to be appointed as Board of Directors or Trustees. Two (2) volunteers are to be residents of the City of Grand Forks, one (1) volunteer is to be a resident of Christina Lake and one (1) volunteer is to be a resident of Area D. One other volunteer is to be an active member of Arts and Culture Community and can be resident of the Boundary Region. ....Continued on page 3



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.....Next Steps: Formation of Board of Directors or Trustees: 5 Volunteers are needed

***We are looking for volunteers that can bring passion, innovation and enthusiasm to ensure our past does not remain on a dusty shelf in a basement somewhere.***

**Any member of the public including students age 18 years and over are invited to make a written application to the City Council on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.**

## City of Grand Forks Water System Update

The City of Grand Forks is nearing completion of the chlorination system installation at the wells. The Water Quality Advisory still remains in effect. Once the conditions of the Permit to Construct from Interior Health have been met, the Water Quality Advisory will be lifted. Notices to Commercial users will be hand delivered; an Ad will be placed in the newspaper, on the Radio, as well as, on Shaw cable.

The City of Grand Forks greatly appreciates your patience and cooperation during this time and apologizes for any inconvenience.

## POLICY ON SNOW CLEARING OF SIDEWALKS

This policy defines a process by which the City of Grand Forks will provide snow clearing services for Municipal Sidewalks. The City will clear snow and ice from sidewalks in the priority identified below.

### Priority #1:

- Sidewalks in the downtown core adjacent to City owned property.
- Wheelchair ramps and alley drops.
- Central Ave. (Hwy3) from the bridge (including bridge) to

Donaldson Drive (GFSS, Perley School, RCMP).

- 19th Street from Central Ave. to 77th Ave.
- 76th Ave. from Donaldson Drive to 23rd Street.
- 22nd Street from Central Ave. (Hwy3) to 77th Ave. (Hospital, Hardy View Lodge).
- 75th Ave. from 22nd Street to 28th Street (Hutton School).
- 19th Street from Central Ave. to 68th Ave.

- Kettle River Drive from 8th Street (Boundary Lodge) to 68th Ave. and including 68th Ave. to 19th Street.
- Boundary Drive from 68th Ave. to 77th Ave.

### Priority #2:

- City owned buildings—Fire Hall, City Hall, Library, Museum, Court House, and Scout Hall.
- Second Street from Public Works Yard to bridge (including bridge).

## UPCOMING 2008 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, January 7th, 2008  
Monday, January 21st, 2008  
Monday, February 4th, 2008  
Monday, February 18th, 2008  
Monday, March 3rd, 2008  
Monday, March 17 17,2008

All Regular Meetings of Council are held in Council Chamber at City Hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Following is a listing of scheduled upcoming Primary Committee Meetings of Council for the City of Grand Forks for 2008.

Primary Committee Meetings are scheduled to follow the Regular Meeting of Council.

Monday, January 21st, 2008  
Monday, February 18th, 2008  
Monday, March 17th, 2008

PLEASE NOTE: Primary committee meetings have time allotted for the general public to address Council or ask questions about any City activities or plans.

Just arrive at the meeting at 7:00 and you will be allowed to speak.



## POLICY ON SNOW CLEARING OF ROADS

This policy defines a process by which the City of Grand Forks will provide snow clearing services for Municipal Roads and the Grand Forks Airport. Snow removal operations shall be carried out in order of street priority, as indicated below.

### Priority #1:

- Valley Heights.
- Second Street from Airport to 75th Ave.
- 72nd Ave/Kettle River Dr./68th Ave. from 5th Street to Spragget Bridge.
- 7th Street/75th Ave./Riverside Drive from 72nd Ave to Central Ave.
- Boundary Drive from 68th Ave. to 77th Ave.

- Donaldson Drive from Boundary Drive to Central Ave.
- McCallum View/17th Street/77th Ave from Columbia Drive to Boundary Drive.
- 76th Ave from Columbia Drive to 22nd Street.
- 22nd Street from Central Ave to 77th Ave.
- 75th Ave from 22nd Street to North Fork Road.
- 7th Street/75th Ave/Riverside Drive from Central Ave to 85th Ave.
- 73rd Ave from Boundary Drive to 8th Street.
- 27th Street from 68th Ave to Central Ave.

### Priority #2:

- Main arterial streets in down-

town core and City owned parking lots and the airport.

### Priority #3:

- General residential streets.

### Priority #4:

- Cul-de-sacs and non-through streets, lanes and alleys.

**Airport:** Snow Removal at the Municipal Airport shall be:

### Priority #1 :

- When an emergency Medi-vac call originates, personnel will immediately be dispatched to clean the runway and taxiway A.

### Priority #2:

- At all other times, the airport will be considered a priority #2.

## ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER?

**WINTER DRIVING CAN BE TRYING AT BEST — IN ORDER TO GET TO YOUR DESTINATION SAFELY PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:**

- Good winter tires, especially over mountain passes. (All season radials have much less traction than winter radials.
- There are serious consequences for not driving to the conditions. SLOW DOWN!!!
- Most accidents occur in the fall and winter (ICBC statistic).
- Carry safety supplies: blanket, flashlight, tools, jumper cables, etc....
- Watch front wheel drives on ice and slush. Do not use 4 wheel drive on ice.
- Do not pass unless safe to do so.
- Do not pass a plow truck when placing winter abrasive/or plowing.
- Use all caution around flag persons and accident scenes.
- Commercial vehicles should carry chains and use them when chain up signs are in effect.
- To view any British Columbia road conditions contact [www.drivebc.com](http://www.drivebc.com).



Staff and Council would like to wish  
You and Yours a Very Merry Christmas  
and Great 2008.

