

## Boundary Air Quality Management Plan

This year the Boundary Air Quality Committee has been working with an experienced facilitator, Ingrid Liepa, to develop an Air Quality Management Plan that will continuously improve the airshed. In this process, the stakeholders of BAQC have contributed to the discussions to develop the core values and goals of the plan.

### 1. Air Quality

- Prevent future deterioration of Boundary Airshed by meeting and exceeding Canada wide Standards and Provincial air quality objectives for particulate matter, and striving for continuous improvement of air quality.

### 2. Human Health

- Ensure that citizens and visitors in the Boundary Airshed have healthy air to breathe.

### 3. Education and Awareness

- Educate and inform the community and surrounding areas on air quality issues, especially the connection between air quality and health.

### 4. Policy Integration

- Integrate the Boundary Airshed's air quality goals into local and regional policies and planning mechanisms.

### 5. Sustainable Development

- Ensure a strong and sustainable local economy that has a positive impact on air quality.

The city, regional district, major industries, IHA, and the provincial government have outlined their commitments to clean the airshed in an action plan that will be signed by all stakeholders. These actions tackle

air quality issues in key categories: industrial emissions, smoke for residential sources, smoke from controlled open burning, vehicle and engine emissions, road dust, dust from industrial sources, air quality monitoring, education and awareness, energy efficiency, coordination, and policy integration.

The public can download the entire plan at the BAQC website: <http://www.city.grandforks.bc.ca/air/>

There are also hard copies available at the counter in City Hall. Public comment, suggestions and input is needed to complete this process.

There will also be an Open House for the public to comment on the plan on October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Citizen's Hall in City Park – 565-71st Avenue at 7:00 PM



### Public Feed Back Form

Please tear off this form and return to City Hall to give your feedback on the Boundary Air Quality Management Plan.

Do you agree with the goals of the AQMP? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any comments/feedback about the air quality actions described in the AQMP? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you would like the City to know about the proposed plan and/or air quality management in the Boundary Airshed? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following actions should the city do to improve air quality?

- ☐ More frequent road sweeping
- ☐ Pave more of the alleys and parking lots
- ☐ Invest in monitoring equipment
- ☐ Enforce the outdoor burning bylaw
- ☐ Create and enforce a bylaw to restrict old wood burning stoves
- ☐ Build a highway bypass around the city

Which of the following should the Regional District do to improve air quality:

- ☐ Create an outdoor burning bylaw similar to the city's
- ☐ Provide a wood chipper to lend or rent to landowners to reduce out door burning
- ☐ Implement an agricultural plastics recycling program to reduce burning

What other actions could the city and / or the regional district do to improve air quality? \_\_\_\_\_

# CITY OF GRAND FORKS

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2008

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

## MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Municipal governments such as Kelowna, Vancouver, Kamloops and the likes where development has generated a massive assessment base, small resource based interior communities are facing the challenge of renewing their infrastructure.

*What exactly is municipal infrastructure? The basic bread and butter of the municipal government . It is water, sewer, roads, sidewalks, and storm drainage. The City is over 115 years old. So many of our infrastructures are close to that age or in the range of 50 to 60 years. The federal and provincial governments are recognizing that communities such as Grand Forks and others across Canada will need financial assistance in renewing these basic infrastructures for the next generation. Though some financial assistance might be available, many small to medium sized local governments did not plan to put money aside from property taxation for future renewal of infrastructure. No one likes to pay higher taxes! And especially as the population ages, municipal governments are faced with a greater proportion of their residents on a fixed pensionable income. Financing of municipal infrastructure will be the biggest*

challenge facing all future Councils. Taxpayers will be asked to fund these existing infrastructures to keep them operating. Closer to home, the basic perception is that Council is spending money in the wrong places. Not enough is being spent on roads and sidewalks.

Money that the City has spent on buildings and parks came from the sale of land.

**Community Charter** - is a legislation that governs all local and regional governments in BC except the City of Vancouver prohibits Councils from using money from land towards any purpose other than into land and buildings. The basic rationale is that local government land is a legacy. It must remain so. Local governments can sell land and recoup the money and also earn income from land. This is not a tax burden to the taxpayers. Some taxpayers have different opinions on financing of infrastructure through reserves. A general understanding of legislative requirements of the *Community Charter* and how municipal reserves are established are keys to having funds for reserves. Sections 188 and 189 of the *Communi-*

*nity Charter* legislates local governments in the manner in which local government reserves are established and utilized. For example an existing infrastructure such as the Sewer Lift Station might be financed with a combination of borrowing, grants and sewer reserves established in the sewer rate structure. Funds from the sale of land must be used towards acquisition of land, improvements and assets of a capital nature as per section 188(e) of the *Community Charter*. Hence the funds towards the art gallery, museum, Gyro Park and campground are all land and capital related improvements. It is legislatively prohibited to use land sales monies towards the sewer lift station. No reserves are utilized for flowers and beautification as they are not of a capital nature. For example sewer rates have not been structured over the years to provide for an establishment of a Sewer Reserve to improve a 50+ year old lift station and upsizing of sewer mains costing in 2008 at \$2.5 million. Reserves are not created out of thin air. Ratepayers and taxpayers have to pay for it. Taxpayers and Ratepayers make choices in whether to allocate the sewer rate structure reserve for future improvements to the infrastructure or in the future incur debt repayment to improve infrastructure. These types of decisions are always influenced by ratepayers and taxpayers on members of Council and administration. Hence local governments face challenges in financing the renewal of infrastructure.



7217— 4th Street  
Box 220  
Grand Forks, BC. V0H 1H0

Phone: 250-442-8266  
Fax: 250-442-8000  
Email: [info@grandforks.ca](mailto:info@grandforks.ca)



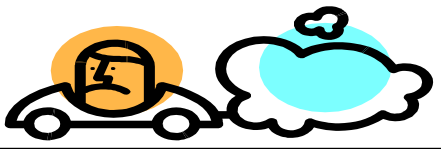
CITY OF GRAND FORKS

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

EMISSION REDUCTION AND CARBON TAX

Many employers are examining the notion of a standard work week and its implications on emissions. The idea of a shorter work week is fairly obvious. It tends to reduce fuel consumption and reduces the number of people commuting on a daily basis. There are about 133 million workers in America. 80% of them get to work by driving alone in a car. The average commute covers 16 miles a day. If the employers and communities joined forces and examined the implications on energy consumption and reduction by reducing the work week to four days, the savings are substantial. Many of you can recall that the idea of shorter work week was utilized in the 70's during the oil embargo. The following are 16 reasons provided by Professor Goose on September 20, 2007 on the topic of Environment & Sustainability. 1. A drop in crude oil imports by as much as 10 to 20%; 2. A reduction in green house gas emissions and other air pollutants, 3. A reduction in workers exposure to pollutants, 4. less traffic congestion, 5. less money spent on road construction and repairs, 6. reduction in personal expenses, 7. fewer auto accidents, 8. less time spent on voluntary confinement at the work place, 9. reduction in absen-

teeism, 10. increase in productivity, 11. more time with family, 12. time to volunteer, 13. decrease in labour cost, 14. decrease in operational cost, 15. reduction in child-care costs, 16. time for a transition into the informal economy. Emission reduction and carbon tax are forcing employees and communities to think in ways that will save money and reduce individual tax implications. Is the Community in the future ready to embrace 4-day services to sustain existing resources and maintain the quality of life ?



**ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS**  
**ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS?**

**RESIDENT ELECTORS:**  
age 18 or older; and  
a Canadian citizen; and  
a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and  
a resident of the City of Grand Forks for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and  
not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

**NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS:**  
age 18 or older; and  
a Canadian citizen; and  
a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and  
a registered owner of real property in the City of Grand Forks for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and  
not entitled to register as a resident elector; and  
not disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and  
**if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.**

**LIST OF REGISTERED ELECTORS**

Beginning September 30, 2008 until the close of general voting for the election on November 15, 2008, a copy of the list of registered electors will, upon signature, be available for public inspection, at the City Hall office (7217-4th Street) in Grand Forks, during regular office hours, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. An elector may request that their address or other information about them be omitted from or obscured on the list of electors.

**OBJECTION TO REGISTRATION OF AN ELECTOR**

An objection to the registration of a person whose name appears on the list of registered electors may be made in accordance with the *Local Government Act* until 4:00 pm on October 10, 2008. An objection must be in writing and may only be made by a person entitled to be registered as an elector of the City of Grand Forks and can only be made on the basis that the person whose name appears has died or is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the City of Grand Forks.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** on these matters, the following persons may be contacted:

Lynne Burch Chief Election Officer at (250) 442 - 8266  
Diane Heinrich Deputy Chief Election Officer at (250) 442 - 8266

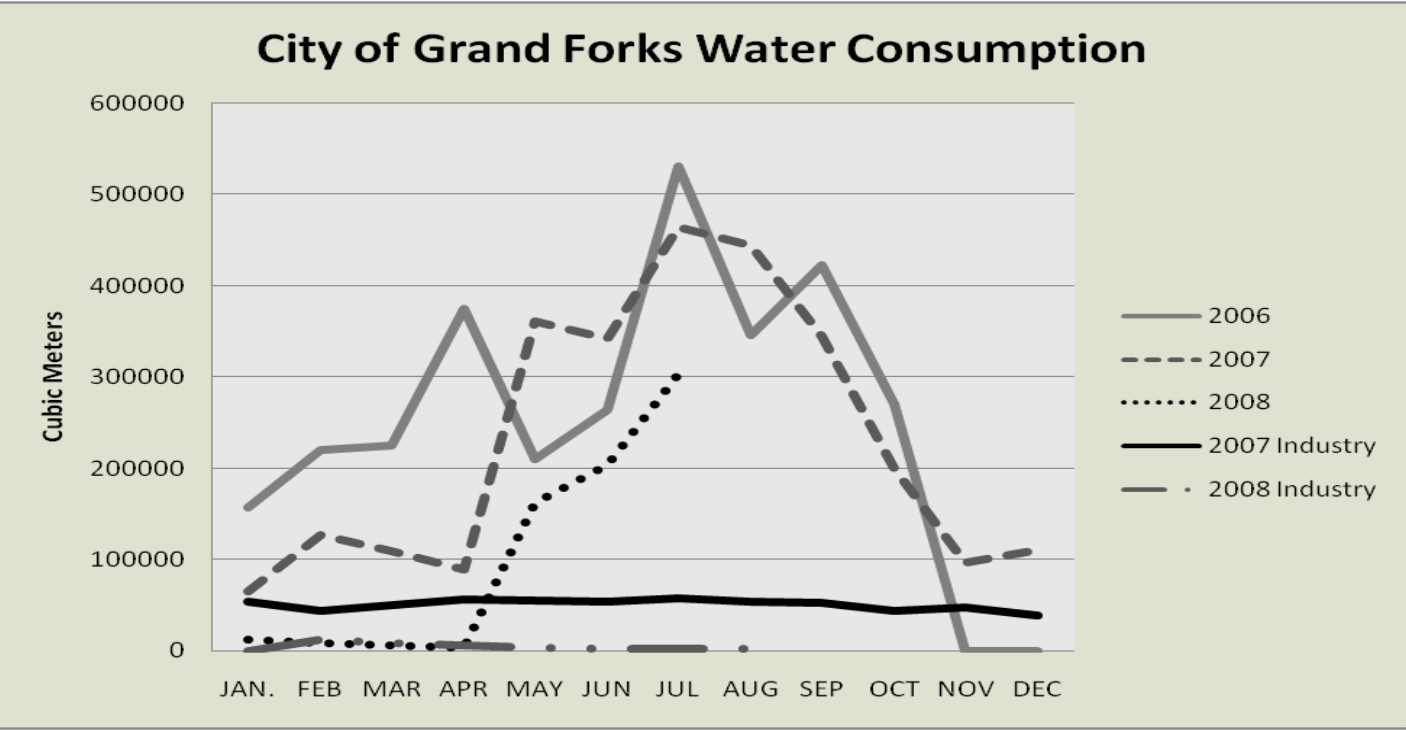
**ADVANCE POLLS**  
Will be held at the  
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Office  
at 2140 Central Avenue, Grand Forks, BC  
and **NOT AT CITY HALL**  
Advance Poll Dates: November 5th & 12th, 2008

**GENERAL ELECTION DAY**  
Will be held at the  
Dr. D.A. Perley Elementary School Gymnasium at  
1200 Central Avenue, Grand Forks, BC  
General Election Date: November 15th, 2008

WATER CONSUMPTION GRAPH

Below is a graph which formed part of a Presentation put before Council at the August 11th Primary Committee Meeting by Mike

Imrie, City Water and Sewer Coordinator. The graph represents water usage within the City for 2006, 2007 and 2008, and also shows Industry usage comparison from 2007 and 2008.



MONEYS RECEIVED FROM SENIOR LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Council has been successful in receiving funds from Provincial Government. To date, the City has received up to \$1.8 million in grants towards various projects and for operational needs. Local expenditures must also occur at the same to level to make use of grant funding. Most grants given are at 66% level and the local taxpayers must contribute 33% minimum on an average. In addition to the \$1.8 million the City was also successful in lobbying for funding to improve Central Avenue. 83% of the improvement is paid by the Province. The City's commitment is \$500,000 for related improvements to Central Avenue.

**BOUNDARY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE**  
At Senior's Centre Hall  
565-71st Avenue  
On October 9th, 2008  
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT TRANSIT**

BC Transit is conducting a review of the Regional District transit service and they have included Grand Forks!

Take the time to express your opinions on this essential service in Grand Forks.

Go to the RDCK's website and take the online survey.  
<http://www.rdck.bc.ca/>

**UPCOMING 2008 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Monday, October 6, 2008  
Monday, October 20, 2008  
Monday, November 3, 2008  
Monday, November 17, 2008  
Monday, December 1, 2008  
Monday, December 15, 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 October 20, 2008  
Monday, November 17, 2008  
Monday, December 15, 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.