



COUNCIL UPDATES

MIND YOUR WINTERTIME WATER, COUNCIL PRIORITIES, SOLAR SUCCESS AND BROADBAND TOO!

With the Christmas Season approaching, and winter almost here, here's an early season's greeting from staff and council at the City of Nelson! **All the best** in the upcoming holidays, and the New Year too, to you, your families and friends!

Even with the wonderfully wet and white weather as of late, Mayor Deb Kozak and council are asking all Nelson residents to please take part in the **City's Water Conservation Strategy — permanently aimed at reducing our water use by 20 percent.**

"We were very lucky to have received 22 percent of 2015's total annual precipitation in October," says Mayor Kozak. "But our water levels are always lowest in fall and winter. And the long range winter forecast is calling for as much as 40 percent less precipitation than usual. It will be even more important to conserve water right now and in the months ahead."

Need help reducing your home or business's water consumption by 20 percent? Visit nelson.ca/waterconservation. Or, reach the City's Water Smart Ambassador, Avery Deboer-Smith, at watersmart@nelson.ca.

With much talk over water and winter, there's still a lot of other City business on the go. Budget talks are beginning. Mayor Kozak and Council are focusing on their **prioritized issues for 2016**: infrastructure upgrades and renewals including roads, sidewalks and facilities; continued fiscal management of costs as well as generating new revenues; working with the Regional District of the Central Kootenay on shared service improvements; health and safety, and emergency management preparedness too.

Speaking of 2016...next year's 2016 Council Calendar has been approved. **Come to council meetings!** It's your City — and the door's always open. Find the details at nelson.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/8504, after Dec. 8.

Last week's Community Solar Garden Pre-Sale was a smashing success. You have until Dec. 17th to **purchase your solar panels at City Hall**. Remember — the cleanest energy is energy not used! Contact Carmen Proctor at 250-509-2021, for more info on how to save energy and money through the EcoSave Program or click on nelson.ca/ecosave.

With over 50 businesses, government buildings and educational institutions already hooked up to the City's new fibre service, the **Nelson Broadband Project is putting out the call for clients** interested in increasing the capacity and speed of their on-line networks and Internet traffic. To find out more about connecting broadband to your location or to receive a quote for installation, you can find applications and information at www.nelsonbroadband.com. Also, visit www.nelson.ca and look for 'City Services. Fibre Optic' for an overview of the Nelson fibre utility.



CITY BULLETIN BOARD

LIBRARY

'Tis the season at the Nelson Public Library

For learning! Our Community Access Program (CAP) intern can teach you what you need to know to navigate your device and its programs — laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Find out how to download e-books! One-on-one appointments, free of charge.

For giving! The Library, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, and the Nelson Star aim to provide books for the Nelson Food Cupboard's holiday hampers. Please bring new or new-condition books for kids up to 15 years old to the Library by Thursday, Dec. 10. Let's put a book under every tree!

For celebrating the season with your kids! Join us for a Holiday Fun Fair for kids 3 to 10 years on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 3:30 – 5:30.

Holiday hours: Closing at 3 p.m. Dec. 24; closed Dec. 25 and 26. Closing at 3 p.m. Dec. 31; closed Jan. 1. More info? www.nelsonlibrary.ca



NELSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Justice, restored. And celebrated.

Earlier this month, the Nelson Police Department Restorative Justice (NPDRI) program celebrated Restorative Justice Week by hosting a free, educational, interactive event at the Nelson Public Library.

The event was a great success. Just like the local program. Launched in April, 2014, 15 trained volunteers from a cross-section of the community, with backgrounds in education, technology, trades and business, have successfully completed 22 files, with three files in progress.

A non-adversarial, non-retributive approach to justice that views crime and conflict as harm done to people and relationships, Restorative Justice is a philosophy that emphasizes healing in victims, accountability of offenders, and the involvement of citizens. The program is led by Nelson Police Department Chief Constable Wayne Holland, Community Policing Officer-Sgt. Dino Falcone and Anita Werner.



NELSON FIRE AND RESCUE

Ho Ho Whoa! Burning wood: Is it clean and safe?

While most people are taking care to burn only clean, dry wood in their fireplaces, some are adding painted wood, plywood, plastic, garbage, and other items that are banned under the city's burning bylaw. All these items — and many others, including wrapping paper — either contain material that will create dangerous deposits in your chimney, or will release toxins into the air around your home. Keep in mind that the air IN your home at some point comes from OUTSIDE your home. And if you haven't had your chimney cleaned this year, book a WETT-certified cleaner to visit ASAP. Preventing chimney fires is easier and cheaper than dealing with the aftermath of extinguishing them!



NELSON AND DISTRICT YOUTH CENTRE

Are you ready to roll?

The Youth Centre now has roller skating on Monday's from 5:30-7 p.m. — thanks to a great suggestion made by a local NDYC supporter!

It's true. We very much want to hear from you about programs, events, activities and clubs, anything you would be interested in as a Youth or as a Parent of Youth. Send an email to fmcoey@nelson.ca if you would like to make any recommendations. And...ask to be on our email list if you want to hear about our special events and seasonal programs! So come share some of your holidays with us — the new improvements made this summer are terrific. See for yourself!

OPERATIONS NEWS

LET'S GO IN THE SNOW!

Street plowing...

The City's first priority for snow plowing is to clear and sand emergency routes, major access routes and streets downtown. From now 'til April 30 each year, vehicles must be parked on the odd-numbered side of the street on odd-numbered dates; and the even-numbered side of the street on even-numbered dates, within residential zones, to allow the City's snow clearing operations to plow right to the curbs and maintain maximum street width.

...and sidewalk plowing too.

Designated, high traffic sidewalks will be plowed by the City's Operations Department. Of the streets in the program, only one side the sidewalk will be cleared. Every business owner or resident is responsible for clearing snow and ice on their own sidewalks by 11 a.m., daily (except Sundays, for businesses).

More info on the City's Snow Plowing Program? Click on www.nelson.ca ... then click on 'City Services' ... then on 'Operations' ... then 'Winter Snow and Ice Management.'

Statutory Holiday – Christmas

Friday, Dec. 25 and Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015

Office Closures & After Hours Emergency Service

City Hall, Nelson Hydro, the Operations Department and the Nelson Public Library will all be closed for Christmas Day (Friday, Dec. 25) and in lieu of Boxing Day (Monday, Dec. 28) and New Year's Day (Friday, Jan. 1). For Operations emergency service, please call 250-352-3103. To report a power outage, electrical hazard, damage to Nelson Hydro equipment or for outage updates, call 1-877-32HYDRO (1-877-324-9376).

Nelson Transit service

Nelson Transit service is not available Dec. 25, 26, and Jan. 1 due to statutory holidays. There's regular transit service all other days.

NELSON HYDRO NEWS

YOUR POWER'S OUT. NOW WHAT?

Fallen trees, high winds, freezing rain, even auto accidents cause power outages that may last from several hours to a few days. Loss of power during winter months can result in cold, damp homes. Homeowners can protect their homes against frost damage by installing standby heating systems that permit continued occupancy throughout a winter storm emergency. The consequences of power loss can be minimized by taking the following precautions:

- Is the outage affecting only your home or your neighbours' too? If your neighbour still has power, check your breaker panel or fuse box.
- If your panel or box has not tripped off, call the Nelson Hydro Outage Phone Line at 1-877-324-9376.
- See a downed power line? Call the Outage Line immediately with the exact location. Stay a minimum 10 metres away from wires or anything in contact with them, and warn others of the danger. Always assume downed lines are energized.

