



MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY
CRANBROOK

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Council Highlights
September 14, 2020



Mark Fercho Appointed New CAO For City of Cranbrook

The City of Cranbrook is pleased to officially announce the appointment of Mark Fercho as the new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

Born and raised in Cranbrook, Mark comes back to his hometown via Jasper, Alberta where he has been CAO since 2014. Previously, he was CAO for the District of Mackenzie in 2011 and spent nearly a decade with the City of Prince George from 2002 to 2011 in a variety of roles.

“We are very pleased that Mark has accepted the job as CAO for the City. We are looking forward to welcoming Mark and his family to Cranbrook,” says Mayor Lee Pratt.



Incoming CAO, Mark Fercho will start with the City of Cranbrook on November 2nd and will attend his first meeting as CAO on November 9th, 2020. Mayor and Council wish to thank Ron Fraser for his dedication filling the CAO role in the interim, as the recruitment for a new CAO was undertaken.

Council Endorses Cranbrook Strategic Plan 2020-2024

On June 8, 2020 Council approved the request to obtain public feedback on the Cranbrook Strategic Plan 2020-2024 to gauge how well the draft plan reflected the needs of the community. A survey was created where citizens were offered the opportunity to review the [Draft Cranbrook Strategic Plan 2020-2024 and provide feedback to the Plan](#). A link to the survey was placed on the City's web site and was advertised through social media channels. A hard copy version of the survey was also available at City Hall. The survey was available between June 15 - June 26, 2020.



55 surveys were completed and 29 surveys were partially completed. Based on the results of this survey, it appears that the Cranbrook Strategic Plan 2020 has reflected the needs of the community and no recommendations are suggested for altering the original plan.

Council Takes First Steps Monday Toward Allowing Secondary Suites

Council gave first reading Monday to the City of Cranbrook Zoning Amendment bylaw No. 4002,2020, which would allow for secondary suites to be located in residential zones.

Staff presented to Council a series of proposed bylaw changes and the implication of those proposed changes as they pertain to suites, which are consistent with the new BC Building Code regulations. If adopted later this fall, the new zoning regulations will facilitate secondary suites in single family dwellings and side-by-side duplexes and townhouses. Properties that were rezoned to CD-8 will remain as such with no changes proposed to them.

City's Proposed Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Bylaw Gets Three Readings



At the July 13, 2020 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved the City's participation in the RecycleBC Curbside Collection Program (Recycling Program). The guidelines for the curbside collection Recycling Program are not included in the existing "Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Bylaw" (Bylaw No. 3744).

Staff have prepared a new Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal Bylaw to include the additional requirements for the Recycling Program. The adoption of this proposed bylaw will ensure that collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling meets required legislation and the requirements of the RecycleBC Curbside Collection Program.

[Read More](#)



Bill Bennett and David Kaiser, Rotary Club of Cranbrook and Marcus Brown, JCI Kootenay President present videos to Council around the Rotary Club/JCI Cranbrook Ridge Trail at Idlewild Park.



Helen Barron, Executive Director of the Cranbrook Chamber of Commerce provides an [update on the Cranbrook Visitor Centre operations and the benefits to the City](#).

City Looks To Revamp 'City of Champions Banner' Program

plan will see all of the banners and their framework along HWY 3 taken down this fall; replacing them with a recognition program highlighting Cranbrook's Champions on the Western Financial Place LED screen along Victoria Ave, and with images on the new LED screens in Western Financial Place's lobby.

Council also is supportive of staff forming a committee to solicit ideas and designs for new themes, and images.

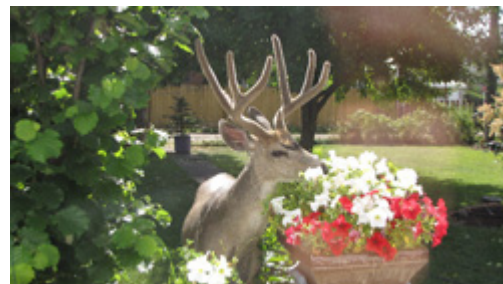
The “City of Champions” banners along HWY #3 have been in place since 2009. Over the years, they have faded, deteriorated and become dated in their references to past cultural and sports achievements- eg. Kootenay Ice - WHL Champions. The initial project was begun by councilor Liz Schatschneider, as a means of recognizing local heroes and beautifying Cranbrook.



[Get More Info](#)

City To Push Province To Manage Urban Deer

Council will be giving the Province of BC notice that they should step in and actively manage the urban deer herd in Cranbrook, in order to prevent Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) from infecting the local deer population, and minimize the risk of potential CWD transfer to other urban wildlife, pets or residents.



In recent months, staff has become aware of a growing concern of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) across the border in Libby, Montana, and other U.S. urban areas. Given our close proximity to Montana and Idaho, and the well documented migratory patterns of mule and white-tail deer, there is concern of CWD finding its way into the East Kootenay region and inevitably into the local urban deer population in Cranbrook.

manage the urban deer population. Staff will no longer recommend the use of clover traps, as this method of culling deer is not working and is not sustainable. Operational costs are high with minimal impact in the removal of problem deer from the urban herd in areas where the highest numbers of aggression complaints are generated.

[Learn More](#)

Council Reviews 2021 Permissive Property Tax Exemptions Monday

Council [reviewed and received the list of 2021 Permissive Property Tax Exemption applications Monday](#). Council directed staff to bring forward, for three readings, the Annual Taxation Exemption Bylaw based on the information in the attached list of eligible applicants and any changes to the list resulting from Council's discussion.



Permissive tax exemptions are a means for Council to support organizations within the community that they feel enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Cranbrook. Tax exemptions are at Council's discretion and can be granted wholly or partly on an eligible property, for a period of time that Council feels is appropriate.

Council Approves Extending Managing & Operating Agreement For Curling Club

Since 2011, the Cranbrook Curling Association (the Club) has managed the curling centre under a Manage & Operating Agreement

Council Approves Application To Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program

Council [authorized staff Monday to submit a grant application through the Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program - Community, Culture and Recreation stream, for upgrades to Confederation Park](#). The five upgrades included a new washroom, a bird viewing tower, a dock, trail and parking lot upgrades at an estimated cost of \$140,000. These items were approved through a Council report on

support started at \$50,000/annually, but was reduced to \$40,000/annually from 2014 onward.

The [Curling Club is seeking a further three-year agreement to continue to operate the facility](#). The request would see the City continue with the \$40,000/annual contribution. Currently we have tied in the source of funds to our 1% capped Grant in Aid program.

corporation.

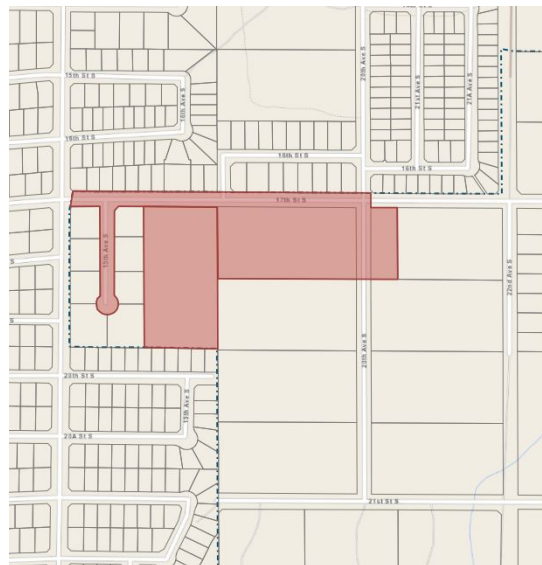
Council also [authorized staff to submit a grant application through the Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program - Community, Culture and Recreation stream, for development of the final sections of the Cycling/Pedestrian Trail Infrastructure](#), which will include new trail, delineators at high traffic locations, tune up stations and bike racks. It is anticipated this project will be approximately \$25,000.

A resolution from Council is required to accompany the grant. Staff are requesting resolutions for both options so we are prepared to meet the timelines of the grant. Only one project will be applied for, contingent on the outcome of the pending assessment of our corporate grant.

Council Approves Proposal To Province For Municipal Boundary Extension

On Monday, Council rescinded Boundary Expansion resolution 285-19, and approved the City proceeding with the proposed amended 4.8 ha, three (3) parcel boundary expansion proposal as shown on the attached map; and further, that staff be authorized to develop, sign, and submit the proposal to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

A request has been made by the owners of Lot 5, District Lot 3911, Kootenay District Plan 6277 for a municipal boundary extension to include their 2.0 ha (5.0 ac) property into the City of Cranbrook. In



Province.

The owners of Lot 5, Noel Oslund and Corinne Merchant, have stated that their intentions are to develop the parcel and are considering two options: 1. mirror the subdivision directly across from them (18+/- lots), or 2. Subdivide five (5) one acre lots.

On August 26, 2020, staff received a call from the owner of 1611 17th St. S (neighbour of Mr. Oslund) confirming they now wish to have their property included in their proposal.

[Read More](#)

Council Moves Purchase of Aerial Ladder Truck Into Current Financial Plan

Council [approved moving the Ladder Truck back in to the 2020 list of approved projects and out of 'monitoring' status in the City of Cranbrook 2020-2024 Five Year Financial Plan.](#)

A ladder truck was approved in the 2020 Five Year Financial Plan and work was well underway to put the project out to tender when COVID-19 caused Council to revisit our financial situation. With the financial uncertainties around the impacts of COVID-19 on the municipal budget and the weakening Canadian Dollar, it proved responsible for Council to revisit the Five Year Financial Plan. At the time it was decided that the Ladder Truck purchase would be placed in a monitoring category until our financial position could better be determined, and the Canadian Dollar returned some of its value against the American dollar. It has been found that our financial position is currently sound and the Canadian Dollar has strengthened to where the apparatus we have specified to meet the City's needs is affordable at the current exchange rate.

As a note, the build time for this type of apparatus is greater than 12 months in most cases. This would result in delivery of the apparatus in late 2021, and our first payment in 2022. Additionally, the apparatus was first approved in the 2019 budget, as it met its 20-year fleet life cycle at that time.

Innovation Grant

Council approve of staff [submitting an application to the Columbia Basin Trust in 2020 for their next intake of Wildfire Innovation Grants](#).

Traditionally, fuel mitigation work has been completed on the landscape without

**COMMUNITY
WILDFIRE PROGRAM**

Columbia
Basin **trust**

including riparian ecosystems. There is little information, or practical application of completing fuel mitigation work along waterways due to sensitive ecosystem concerns. City staff have recognized a risk to our residents, and potentially our water supply if we cannot develop an innovative plan to manage the risk that the heavy fuel load presents to our waterways.

It is the desire to use the CBT Wildfire Innovation Grant to engage in the development of a Riparian Guide for foresters that addresses the issue of fuel mitigation work in riparian ecosystems. This work is aimed at connected the patchwork of treatment areas across our Southern boundary and will potentially serve to enable foresters to connect the good work that has been done exclusive of these riparian areas.

Council Endorses Application To Community Resilience Initiative Grant

On Monday, Council approved [an application to the Community Resilience Investment program requesting a grant for up to \\$150 000](#). The grant funding will be used for treatment work and FireSmart activities through a collaborative arrangement with Industry and the Provincial Forest Ministry working towards enhancing our Southern fuel break.

The Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program is intended to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire on communities throughout BC; with financial support for community priority fuel management activities on provincial Crown land. The program was launched in 2018 and more than 120 First Nations and local governments have received funding.

Council Greenlights Fuel Mitigation Work On City Land

There are 48.9 Ha of City owned land that has been identified as an excellent location to receive fuel mitigation work (mechanical thinning) in advance of additional fuel treatment work that includes prescribed fire to reduce the threat of wildfire to our Southeastern boundary and directly adjacent to our City Reservoir. Staff has had this important fuel mitigation project in the cue for a while, waiting for market conditions to make it possible. At present it appears the softwood lumber markets



are exceptional, and if we can tender this project in a timely fashion, we should see profits from the sale of saw logs that will help sustain further fuel mitigation works in the future that have less economic potential, however are of no less value to the community.

The location of this proposed project adds to the good work that the City has completed in previous years, and helps to connect a larger landscape of treated lands that are managed by the City and the Crown. This general area has been identified as a very high priority for fuel reduction on the Southern border of the City. Concerns about watershed protection are being addressed through the planning stages of this project, and City staff responsible for our watershed management have been consulted prior to this request being brought to Council.

As in past projects of this type, the City is requiring that all of the value added material available from this fuel mitigation work be made available to the market (ie; sawlogs, posts and pulpwood).

Current Food Bank Property



The City **received an application from Ken Wellington on behalf of the Cranbrook Food Bank Society to amend the City's OCP and zoning bylaw designations of their properties located at 104 8th Avenue South.**

If approved, the amendments will facilitate the existing structure to be used as a legally conforming single family dwelling.

In the background information provided to Council, the applicant notes that the site had been used as the Food Banks distribution location; however, the Society has successfully been granted funding from CBT to build a new combination warehouse and distribution center at a new location. Currently the warehouse is located in the industrial area with distribution being downtown. It is further noted that there is no interest from a sales perspective for commercial purposes. At this time, there is an accepted offer from a residential buyer.

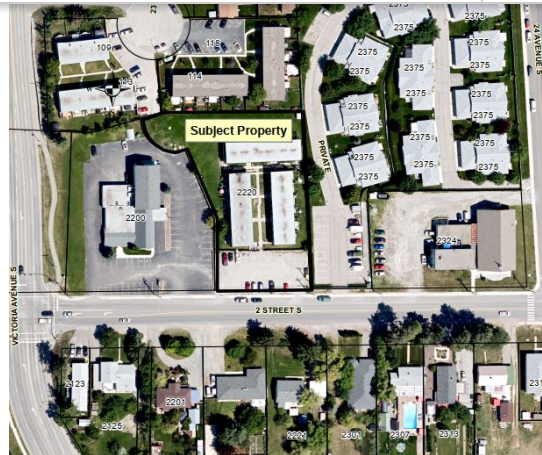
A public hearing on these is set for **6pm on Monday October 5, 2020**, and will be referred to both the APC and MOTI for recommendations and approvals.

City Gives 1st Reading To OCP Amendment For 2220 - 2nd Street South

The City of Cranbrook **received an application from Meiklejohn Architects Inc., on behalf the Aqanttanam Housing Society, for an amendment of the City of Cranbrook Official Community Plan (OCP) to enable consideration of rezoning the property. The subject property is located at 2220 Second Street South.**

Changing the land use designation from "Medium Density Residential" to "High Density Residential" will enable consideration of rezoning the property for higher density residential development.

managed the existing two story, 18 townhouse unit, three building, housing development, since 2008. The society has determined the buildings which were built in 1973, are in poor operating condition and require costly repairs and upgrades for plumbing and electrical. After assessing their options, the society is proposing to redevelop the parcel for greater density housing.



The proposed OCP Bylaw amendment will be advertised in the local newspaper and circulated to adjacent land owners and occupants for comment as part of the required public consultation.

Council Adopts OCP & Zoning Changes To 6th Street North Property

The City received an application from Jeannie Argatoff of Joyous Appreciation Holdings Ltd. to amend the **OCP and Zoning designations of a property located at 1501 6th Street North.**

The applicant notes that the proposed bylaw amendments are to allow the existing building, designed as a home, to be used as a residential dwelling with a home based business. As the building is designed as a dwelling it provides limited space for accommodating a business and would be better utilized as a dwelling with a home based business.



The APC considered Bylaw No. 4007 & 4008, 2020 on August 24, 2020 and recommended Council approve the proposed amendments. The Ministry of Transportation has indicated their interests are unaffected by the zoning change.

Council Approves Zoning Amendment to RD Zone on 12th Street South



The City received an application by the Holmberg family to amend the City's Zoning Bylaw. The applicants are requesting a **text amendment to the RD zone to establish parcel specific minimum parcels sizes to facilitate subdivision of a long established two family dwelling on the subject parcel, located at 432 12th Street South.**

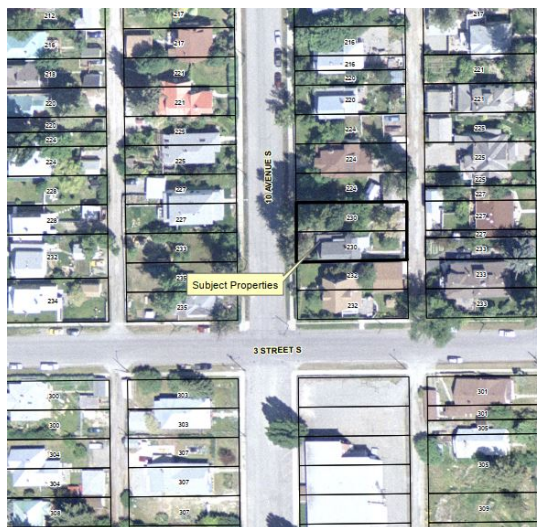
The APC considered Bylaw No. 4001, 2020 on August 24, 2020 and recommended Council

approve the proposed amendment.

OCP Amendment For Proposed Four-Plex Townhouse Passes First Reading Monday

The City received an **application from Bob Bennison on behalf of Stephen Beach Management Inc. to change the land use designation of the subject properties located at 230 10th Avenue South.**

The proposed will change the land use designation of the two properties from "Low Density Residential" to "Medium Density Residential". The OCP amendment will facilitate rezoning of the lands to enable development of one (1) fourplex townhouse building.



Notice of the proposed bylaw amendment will be advertised in the local newspaper and mailed to adjacent owners/occupiers as part of the required consultation process.

Administration Update

- [Home Based Business Regulations Review \(Development Services\)](#)
- [Flag Policy](#)
- [Cranbrook History Centre Fee-For-Service Contract Reporting](#)
- [Canadian Rockies International Airport Parking App - 'HotSpot'](#)

Correspondence

- [Correspondence from Galen Olstead, Managing Director, Key City Theatre received August 13, 2020 re: Municipal Tax Exemption](#)
- [Correspondence from Joe McGowan, President Rotary Club of Cranbrook and Derek Penson, President, JCI Cranbrook received September 11, 2020 re: Proposed Project - Moir Park Perimeter Trail -100th Anniversary Project](#)
- [Correspondence from Mayor Suzan Hewat, Village of Kaslo dated July 23, 2020 re: A Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Health Care](#)
- [Correspondence from Bob Whetham, Chair, Cranbrook History Centre received August 17, 2020 re: Railcar Deaccession](#)
- [Correspondence from D. Katelyn Mudry, received September 3, 2020 re: The AccessBC campaign - free prescription contraception](#)
- [Correspondence from Christine Wong - KidSport BC Program Manager, dated September 4, 2020 re: KidSport](#)

Upcoming Meetings

- [Regular Council - Monday October 5, 2020](#)
- [Regular Council - Monday October 26, 2020](#)



Regular Council Meeting - Monday September 14, 2020



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