



VILLAGE LIFE IN Radium Hot Springs

www.radiumhotsprings.ca • 250 347 6455

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DEE CONKLIN

Winter is finally over!! I have been here since 2003 and never have I seen a winter quite as long and unrelenting. According to the “real locals” (I still need a few more years under my belt to be a real local!) this has been the longest winter since 1996 – I heard many tales over the last few months about winters gone by! For those of you who escaped the winter months – **welcome back** – we have looked after the place very well while you have been gone. But you did miss the first ever Euchre Tournament as well as an amazing Murder Mystery that the wonderful folks from the library put on. It was so successful that they will put a new one on in October.

Also, for those who have been away, you may not have heard that we lost an amazing member of our community. Brent Frederickson from the Radium Esso passed away in early January. The memorial service for him surpassed any service I have ever attended. We miss him throughout the entire Village but we especially miss him at the Council table! According to the Local Government Act we did not have to hold a by-election if the date was after January 1st of an election year. So we are running Council with one empty seat. It is not the same without our wise and sage advisor bringing history to every discussion! The community has been amazing in their contributions to two of Brent’s passions – the fire department and the trades! Keep your eyes open for how the funds will be wisely spent in Brent’s name. Also – do take a stroll down to the Community Centre and see “Brent’s Shack” – many a great community event can now be held in this fabulous new concession.

It certainly won’t come as a surprise that business in Radium has been feeling the long hard winter as well as the slowdown in the economy. But you will notice a few new businesses though, such as *Furry Companions*, the new *Gotcha Gift Boutique* and *CasaVino Wine Bar*. And *Rockies Pizzeria* has a new gift store – check it out! We have a number of new Motel owners and a new manager at the candy store – Welcome to all new business

owners and managers. We hope that each and every one of you show support for these and all of our businesses!

This year Council tried very hard to maintain our 0% tax increase as per the last 4 years but we found it would not be prudent of us to allow our reserves to be diminished and not replace them. So you will find a slight increase of 3.5% which will go to the reserve for future capital projects. 2011 will be the year that we start on some road upgrades, phase one of our sewer treatment system improvements and renovation of our municipal offices now that the fire department is settled nicely in their new home.

In the fall of 2010 you all contributed to filling out the extensive community survey which then allowed us to do further meetings with the community. The Village staff are working on the revised draft so we can have the final version ready by the end of September. With the revised OCP the next Council will have a clear direction to follow. The municipal election will be held in mid November of this year. All of us around the Council table cannot believe where the time has gone. We have all learned so much and hope that we have contributed to the health and well being of our community. Please feel free to contact me at mayor@radiumhotsprings.ca at anytime if you have comments or concerns. We are all looking forward to an energizing spring and a fabulous summer.

Dee Conklin

2026 VISION

At long last the initial consultation has concluded – thanks to everyone who took the time to complete the survey, attend one of the sessions or community meeting, or stopped to give feedback to council and/or committee members. Now the staff has the job of taking all the input and writing the first draft of the new Official Community Plan. Please watch for public meetings once this work is completed.



Circle June 11th on your calendar!

The second annual Radium Days kicks off with a pancake breakfast from 8-10 am at the community hall. The day will include a parade, Pipe Band, music in the park, British Car show, children’s activities, and the ever popular chicken bingo. Laser Tag is a possibility – keep an eye on the Radium Chamber Website for details.

2011 Census

Starting May 2, 2011, all households in Canada will receive a yellow census package. The census questionnaire can be completed online or on paper.

Census of Population data are used to:

- determine representation in Parliament
- calculate transfer payments between levels of government
- develop programs such as daycare and select sites for schools
- plan important public services including schools, fire and police protection.

Who is included in the census?

The census includes all persons who have their main residence in Canada on May 10, 2011. This includes newborn babies, room-mates and persons who are temporarily away.





Spring at the library...

VOLUNTEERS • The Radium Hot Springs Public Library relies on volunteers and we appreciate their time and talent. Recently we held a tea to recognize these hard working volunteers. We can always use more volunteers, so please call the library at 250-347-2434 if you have a few hours to help out.

THE LIBRARY & EDGEWATER SCHOOL • At the end of April the library is sponsoring Luanne Armstrong, an author who will speak to the students about her book *Pete's Gold*. In May, the library is funding buses to bring students from Edgewater School to the library in order to acquaint them with the books and the location of our library. While in Radium Hot Springs we hope that they will be able to spend some time seeing local sights.

NEW AT THE LIBRARY • We are pleased to welcome two new members to the Board: Joanne Steedman and Heather Perkull.

NEW RELEASES • *King's Speech* by Mark Logue; *Land of the Painted Caves* by Jean M Auel; French Books for all ages

BOOK FOR SALE • Buy your own copy of *Big Horn Small Talk*, a book written by locals about the history of Radium Hot Springs. For sale at the library for \$20.

READ AND VOTE: One Book, One Kootenay • Contact the librarian to read the 3 books listed and vote for your favourite.

AUTHOR TOUR • Coming to the library in June: Charles Scheideman, author of *Tragedy on Jack Ass Mountain*. Watch for further details.

MURDER MYSTERY • Back by popular demand! Circle October 21-22 on your calendar for the next Murder Mystery at Meet on Higher Ground Coffee House, sponsored by the Radium Hot Springs Public Library.

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Thursday 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 – Noon
Sunday 11:00 – 1:00 pm



Unit #2- 7585 Main Street
Phone 250-347-2434

Email: radiumpubliclibrary@hotmail.com
Librarian email: radiumpubliclibrary@nanonow.ca

YES SARAH, THERE IS A SCHOOL IN RADIUM

Are you an adult looking to get your high school education? A student needing extra credits? A parent looking for an alternative education for your child?

Well, you might be surprised to discover that all this is possible through the **Rocky Mountain Learning Centre** in Radium Hot Springs. Though many are unaware that this center exists, it is a thriving educational center in our valley, with something for everyone. The school is open Monday – Thursday from 9:00 – 3:30 and conveniently located just off highway 93 (beside the Library) in Radium.

Seniors • Typically intended for seniors wanting to become familiar with technology, a basic computer course is offered. If you have never turned a computer on, and would like to learn in a non threatening environment call 250-347-6379 for more information.

Adult Grad Requirements • As a result of our poor economy and due to the lack of available jobs in the valley, there is no better time than now to get your high school diploma. All the required courses are offered through this facility. Whether a paper-based or an online course, with the help and encouragement of teacher Becky Blakley on your side, you will be done before you know it!

Home School • The Rocky Mountain Learning Center does offer the home school experience for students from kindergarten through grade nine. The Radium Center is responsible for students that are home schooled from Golden to Canal Flats.



High School • Are there any horse lovers out there? The most popular online course that is offered through the Rocky Mountain Learning Center is Equine 10/11/12. These courses each count as 4 credits towards graduation. The positive feedback and enthusiasm from students enrolled in this course is overwhelming. What a great way to earn high school credit – learning about something you love! Other popular courses through the center are Planning 10, PE 10, Communications 11/12 and the list goes on.

So whoever you are, whatever your interests, be sure to make a call or drop by the center and see what all the fuss is about.

Rocky Mountain Learning Center
Suite 1, 7585 Main Street West
Radium Plaza Building
250-347-6379

Bear Aware Community Program

Bear Aware's mission is to reduce the number of human-bear conflicts in communities through education, innovation and cooperation.

The new Bear Aware coordinator in Radium will work on:

- Determining which attractants are causing problems within a community.
- Delivering Bear Aware presentations to community groups, service clubs, and schools.
- Setting up and presenting public displays during community events and special functions.
- Conducting door-to-door campaigns in problem neighbourhoods where bears are attracted

to such things as: garbage, fruit trees, pet food, bird feeders, compost, dirty barbeques, livestock feeds and petroleum products.

- Developing and maintaining a working relationship with local Conservation Officers.
- Mapping and recording particulars of all human-bear conflict complaints, bears destroyed and trapping/relocation of bears.
- And more....

Please make sure you all welcome and work with our coordinator so we can help prevent a similar episode as last year.





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NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE

Adventure Radium will be returning the first week of July this year. We look forward to seeing everyone again. All information about the program will be available in the near future on our website and in upcoming newspaper editions. www.radiumhotsprings.ca

Radium Trash Bash, although delayed by a day (the snow just won't go away!) was a huge success. Over 30 Bags of garbage were picked up. Thank you to everyone who participated. An extra special thanks goes to Leann at Higher Ground for whipping up an amazing pot of hot soup to warm everyone up. Also, thanks to the students from Edgewater School and the Radium Rotary who are completing the task this week on Wednesday and Thursday.

Hey, dog owners!! The snow has finally melted off the ground, and guess what we found? Yup! Not all of you are using the bags that the Village staff have put out for your use. Please take the time to pick up after your dog – If you don't, someone else does – and that's not fair!

The Village will soon have a **new website** up and running. It will be the same address (www.radiumhotsprings.ca) but will have a fresh new look and new features. Wenmar Graphics of Radium has done the rebuilding of the site, please let us know what you think!

Concession Building

The Village had a brand new concession building constructed in the Park during the winter. The facility has already been used several times for events, the last event being Winterfest in February. The concession has a complete commercial kitchen, and is also heated, so preparation of foods for events is quick, efficient and comfortable. This project was partially funded by a Recreation Infrastructure Canada grant issued through the Department of Western Economic Diversification.



Sinclair Trails

Spring has finally arrived, it's been a long time coming. The Sinclair trail system is a perfect spot to go for a walk and get out enjoying the spring weather. The trail system can be accessed from several locations; Rotary Park at the 4 way stop, Ridge Road, and at the base of Forster Landing Road, parking lot east of the Canfor sawmill. Trail maps are available at the Village office.



Exercise Equipment

For all the energetic types, the Village now has a great variety of outdoor exercise equipment located in the north-west corner of the Park. Make this a part of your daily workout routine! The equipment was installed last fall and has seen consistent use through the fall, winter and spring. This equipment and installation was made possible through generous donations from: Rotary Club of Radium Hot Springs, Rod & Dee Conklin, Brent & Jacque Frederickson, John & Deborah Soby, Friends of Kootenay, Imperial Oil, Kevin Blackwell.

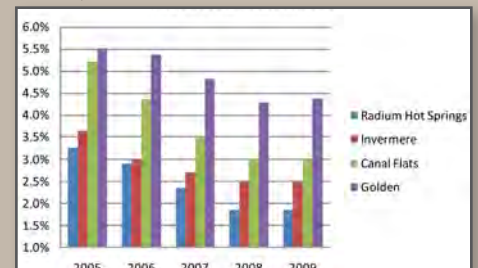
2011 Finance Report

Council has been busy working on the 2011 budget as well as many other issues. The budget this year focuses on maintaining current levels of municipal services, commencement of capital projects, including two major projects, and replenishing the reserves. The major projects for 2011 will be an upgrade to the sewer plant, which will improve the efficiency and increase the capacity of the plant, and an upgrade to the water main core to remedy the current fire flow issues. Our reserve was depleted in completing our beautiful new fire hall therefore the Village will work towards rebuilding the fund. In order to replenish the fund there is a proposed 3.5% increase in the 2011 tax rate, which results in approximately a \$35 tax increase on an average folio.

Once the 2011 tax rates are finalized, the Village will mail the tax notices to each owner. We expect these will be mailed the week of May 16th. The due date for taxes is 4:30pm, July 4th. If taxes remain unpaid as of the end of this day, a 10% penalty will be applied. For those who wish to pay by cheque, it is **HIGHLY recommended that the cheque be post-dated for July 4th and mailed early.** We do not accept the postmarked date and mail delivery time can vary.

An exciting announcement by the Ministry for Rural Communities is the new "Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit." This is an additional benefit of up to \$200 that is available for the 2011 and subsequent tax years. This means that the combined Home Owner Grant and the new benefit may reduce your taxes up to \$770 or, if you are 65 years of age or older in 2011, up to \$1,045. For those who have their taxes paid by a mortgage company and qualify for the Home Owner Grant (HOG), it is extremely important that you claim your HOG as soon as you receive your tax notice in order to reflect the grant prior to the mortgage company paying your taxes. You are not required to pay the taxes at the same time as claiming your HOG. For those who qualify... Claim EARLY!!

History of the Village of Radium Tax Rates:





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BACK PAGE BITS

Where is the Sign?

Last fall the back brace of the sign broke - we gently took the sign down and have had it repaired over the winter. When the frost is out of the ground the Village staff will re-erect the sign in the Park just west of where its home has been all these years.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2011 Radium Hot Springs Events

Wings Over the Rockies	May 2-8
Crazy Soles Trail Run • Single track trail run	May 28
Radium Days • Family fun – parade, games, presentations & displays	June 11
Brits Best Classic Car Show • MG's & British car show	June 11
Music on Main • Live local bands every Friday & Saturday evening 7-9 pm	July - Sept
Market on Main • Farmer & Craft market every Friday	July - Sept
Drive-in Movie • Outdoor Drive-in Movie Night - Inflatable big screen	September 4
Kootenay Krusher • 50 km Endurance Mountain Bike Race	September 11
Rockin' in the Park • Live outdoor music, beer garden - with Classic Car Show	September 16
Classic Car Show • 22 nd Annual Classic Car Show - over 800 antique & classic cars	September 17
HeadBanger Trail Challenge • 10 km Endurance Race	September 24
Murder Mystery	October 21-22
CP Holiday Train • Live entertainment, food & drinks	December
Village Birthday Party • Birthday cake, refreshments & fireworks display	December 31

Numbers to Know

- 911 • Police, Fire, and Ambulance Services
- 250-347-6455 • Volunteer Fire Chief Dave Dixon
- 250-342-9292 • Non-emergency RCMP
- 250-342-2055 • Non-emergency Ambulance Service
- 250-342-9201 • Invermere District Hospital
- 1-800-665-4929 • Road Hazard Reporting 24 hours

WHAT IS A WATER SMART AMBASSADOR?

In 2010 the Village of Radium Hot Springs signed on to the Water Smart Charter demonstrating our commitment to work with CBT and other Basin communities to reduce community water consumption. To address high outdoor water use, Columbia Basin Trust has developed the **Water Smart Ambassador** program for implementation this summer.

The Water Smart Ambassadors will have two tasks: 1) Generating and responding to residential inquires; and 2) Carrying out pre-determined and ongoing water audits at major Village facilities.

Ambassador's Duties and Responsibilities

- **Residential landscape and irrigation system assessments:** The cornerstone of the program, an assessment can take anywhere from thirty minutes to several hours, depending on property size and how much the customer wants to learn.
- **Landscape and irrigation system audits at parks, schools, government buildings and public spaces:** An assessment could take up to two days depending on the size.
- **Commercial Accommodations Audits:** Indoor/outdoor water audits at hotels/motels.
- **In home water audits/residential water fixture survey:** A walk-through of a home, noting water using processes and recommending where more efficient fixtures can be used.
- **Water Wasters:** It is expected the Water Smart Ambassador will receive telephone calls about customers who are breaking watering restrictions or wasting water. It will be the Ambassadors' responsibility to take action on these calls. The Ambassador is not a bylaw enforcer; but rather a helpful resource to provide assistance and recommendations to reduce outdoor water use.

For more information on the Water Ambassador program please call the Village office at 250-347-6455.

Kootenay National Park News

Redstreak Campground closed to June 1st

Poor weather conditions this winter have delayed construction and pushed back the opening of the campground. This work consists of upgrading the sewer and plumbing within the campground and along the road between the community and the campground.

There are several campground improvements including larger RV sites with upgraded electrical and water hook ups and three new sani-dumps. These upgrades will also benefit the community by improving accessibility to Parks Canada's reservoir which acts as an emergency source of water to Radium Hot Springs.



Parks Canada Agency is the world's first national parks service. 2011 marks its centennial and a number of projects in Kootenay will recognize this anniversary. Look for many announcements over the summer.

The Rotary Club of Radium Hot Springs Update...

We are the "Little Rotary Club that Could" and we continue to make a difference in our town, the surrounding area and beyond. Since completing a trail that connects Rotary Park to the Sinclair Creek Trail and then the Outside Exercise equipment in Legend's Field, we have raised funds for the Hamper Drive, the food bank and we gave to the Angel Tree. We have helped the Library purchase more books for children.



Service Above Self is our motto. We enjoy working with and giving back to the community we live in. We are visible and you will see us serving hot chocolate at New Years, at a concession at Winterfest, cleaning up garbage on Radium Hill and at Radium Days in June.

Come on by for breakfast, Wednesdays at 7am at the Radium Resort. It will be the best hour of sleep you will ever lose!

Sharlene Scofield, President