



Recreation Centre Phase 2

There's a lot going on! As you're all well aware, there are many changes occurring at your Community Recreation Centre for 2018. In addition to the development of a new community hall, we'll be adding a new administration center, new community living room, new children's active play space, new concession, upgrades to the pool, library and washrooms, as well as significant improvements to the majority of our common spaces and a multitude of energy efficiency upgrades to our operational and mechanical systems. The larger, Mackenzie Recreation Centre Community Hall and Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project is proceeding on time and on budget and is expected to be complete by the end of 2018.

For weekly updates on the process of the Recreation Centre Phase Two project please visit district.mackenzie.bc.ca.

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Emergency Social Services

British Columbians forced from their homes by fire, floods, earthquakes or other emergencies may receive emergency social services for up to 72 hours. Services can include food, lodging, clothing, emotional support, information about the crisis and family reunification. Special support services like first aid, child minding, pet care and transportation may also be available. The District of Mackenzie was approved for \$24,984.42 in grant funding from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for the purchase of new Emergency Social Services equipment. The Emergency Social Services equipment upgrades allow the District to increase

its capacity and ensure that the Emergency Social Services Reception Centre in Mackenzie is able to offer optimum emergency services effectively and efficiently in the event of a disaster. The grant funding enabled the District to purchase radios, first aid equipment and emergency operations equipment for Emergency Preparedness. The purchase of this equipment and supplies will facilitate improved communications, organization and capacity of the Reception Centre in the case of an emergency. The updated Emergency Social Services equipment in Mackenzie will also allow the District to host more training opportunities for our staff, residents and neighboring communities.

Mack Attack: Mackenzie's New Structure Protection Unit

The District of Mackenzie Fire-Rescue Department has worked hard to create a Structure Protection Unit. The Structure Protection Unit is a Type 2 cargo trailer. This trailer will be stored and maintained by the Mackenzie Fire Department and moved around the province during the wildfire season based on fire hazard ratings. Type 2 Structure Protection Units can provide protection for 20-30 structures. Mack Attack and crew is easily transported anywhere in the province within 12 hours of dispatch. Structure Protection Units and crews are deployed during interface fires where structures or infrastructure may be at risk. Each property that is threatened is triaged and appropriate measures are undertaken. The Structure Protection Unit contains equipment that



creates a humidity bubble to wet roofs and areas surrounding structures in order to mitigate the damage from sparks and approaching wildfire. In the case of a Wildland-Urban Interface event the Structure Protection Unit will be deployed with a five-person crew, upon receiving a resource request from the BC Wildfire Service or the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Emergency Operations Centre Upgrades

The District of Mackenzie was approved for \$25,000 in grant funding from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities to improve the Emergency Operations Centre and break out room. An Emergency Operations Centre is a central command and control facility responsible for carrying out the functions of emergency preparedness, emergency management, and disaster management at a strategic level during an emergency. The Municipal Office is the physical location where Emergency Operations representatives will come together during an

emergency to coordinate response and recovery actions and resources, support emergency response personnel in the field and coordinate all official communications regarding the emergency. Supplies and equipment include electrical circuits for the work stations, video monitors and an audio system to improve communications and training capabilities, phones, a smart board, a 10-person emergency workplace kit, incident command vests, incident command Emergency Operations Centre charts, a large white board, and office software.

New Director of Operations & Local Government Intern



In May 2018 the District of Mackenzie announced a new Director of Operations. Scott Drysdale grew up in eastern Ontario and moved to British Columbia in the year 2000. Scott started working with the District of Mackenzie in 2002 as maintenance for the Recreation Centre. In 2008, Scott began working part-time for the department of Public Works and moved into a full time Equipment Operator position in 2010. In 2015 Scott became the Building, Parks and Bylaw Manager and was promoted to the General

Manager of Public Works in 2016. Scott brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him as he enters into this new and exciting role.

We are also pleased to welcome Rita to the team and look forward to working with her through her one-year internship! The District was approved for a grant from Northern Development Initiative Trust to supplement the wages of our new Local Government Management Intern.

Rita will gain experience in all District departments as part of her work plan.



Project Updates

New Community Market Site

The District of Mackenzie was approved for \$30,000 in grant funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust to upgrade the Imperial Oil site. The revitalization of this site will allow for an outdoor space to host the Mackenzie Community Market and allow for an accessible public space for families. The District has initiated a beautification project that will improve the aesthetics of the old gas station site in town and repurpose the space into an area where the farmers market, food trucks and live music can be hosted. This project will involve the purchase of tents, signage, benches, picnic tables, bear proof garbage cans and wheel chair accessible picnic tables. The District of Mackenzie will also be establishing a power source and irrigation on the new site for the vendors and musicians to access.



Recreation Centre Accessibility Upgrades

The District of Mackenzie was approved for \$30,000 from Northern Development Initiative Trust for Accessibility Upgrades to the Recreation Centre. In addition to the replacement of the elevator, this funding enables the installation of a glass sliding door at the entrance to the fitness and pool main corridor. The District will install electronic gate key operators at strategic access points. A wheelchair ramp and overhead awning will be installed outside of the hallway entrance to the same corridor. Signs will be installed to accompany these changes, which are projected to improve the accessibility of the Recreation Centre by allowing the District to extend after-hours services to the fitness and cardio centers. The improvement in accessibility will benefit residents with physical barriers and shift workers that are unable to meet gym hours due to irregular work schedules.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) defines wildfire threat risk areas for interface fires within and adjacent to the community and identifies the measures necessary to mitigate risks, such as tree removal, spacing and pruning. The CWPP outlines a plan of action and proposed cost to implement the mitigation of risks and has two major components, reporting and maps. The reporting component details the community, the goals of the plan, the assessed wildfire threat risks, the proposed plan and the cost to address the risks both on crown land and adjacent land. Maps outline the community, land ownership, hazards and treatment areas. The District has completed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update, which is now available for public review.

More Projects

Weight Room Upgrades

The District was approved for \$30,000 in funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust for further weight room upgrades, including the introduction of new equipment to replace outdated and damaged equipment in the space. The weight room improvements will begin fall 2018.

Climbing Wall Project

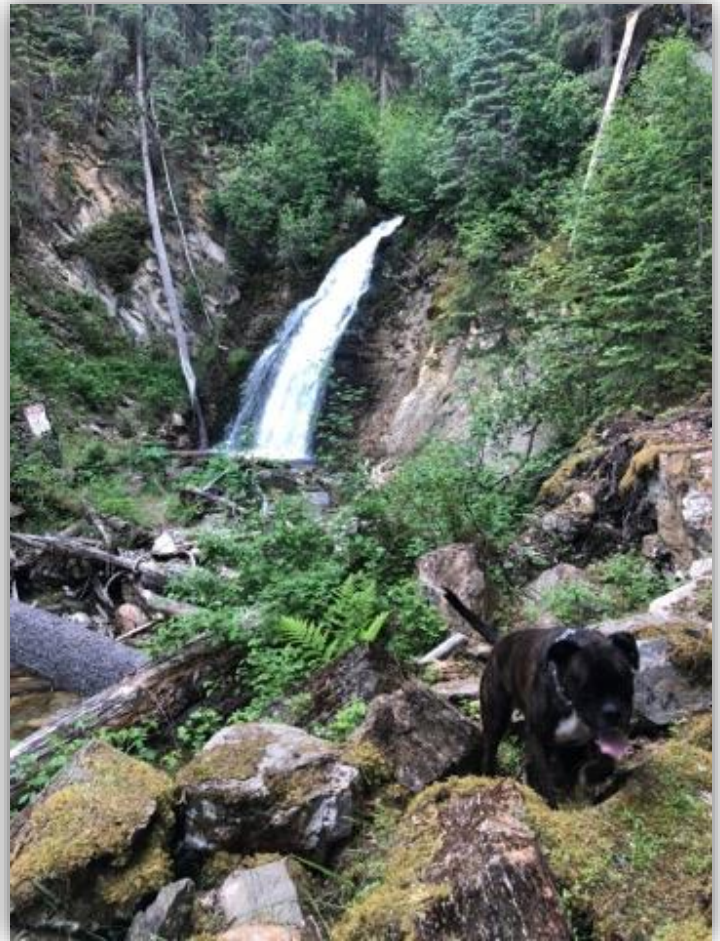
The District of Mackenzie was approved for \$30,000 from Northern Development Initiative Trust to supplement the construction a new climbing wall in the Recreation Centre, as additional scope to the larger Community Hall and Energy Retrofit Project. This project endeavors to provide alternative methods of recreation for all ages and enhance the culture of recreation in Mackenzie. Climbing provides a variety of both physical and mental benefits, and will allow the District to further diversify the recreational services it offers the public.

Morfee Well Project Update

The Morfee Well Project, which began in July 2017, is now 80% complete. New piping and electrical has been installed inside of the Morfee Lake Pump House. BC Hydro has upgraded the service into the Pump House, providing extra access to power for future expansion. The estimated date of completion is early July 2018.

Morfee Waterfall Trail Improvement Project

The District was approved for \$98,000 in funding from BC Rural Dividend Initiative Fund and an additional \$30,000 in funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust for the Morfee



Waterfall Trail Connector project. Council awarded the reconstruction of the Morfee Waterfall Trail project to Cabin Forestry Services. The project began in June 2018, with crews re-designing a sustainable trail route from Morfee Lake's east peninsula towards the waterfall. Reconstruction of the access staircase, new signage and various sections of boardwalk will be added to the route. The project is expected to be completed in late July 2018. As part of the trail construction contract, the Cabin Forestry crew will conduct several community trail events, providing applicable skills and training to ensure that the newly built trails stand the test of time and weather, and that they can be cared for by the community.

Recreation Services Updates

The Pool is Open!

The swimming pool re-opened in April following the completion of energy efficient boiler upgrades, pump replacements and the Northern Health Operating Inspection. The Pool Boiler Upgrades project was provided with \$30,000 in grant funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust. The opening of the pool was greeted with high attendance and support from residents.

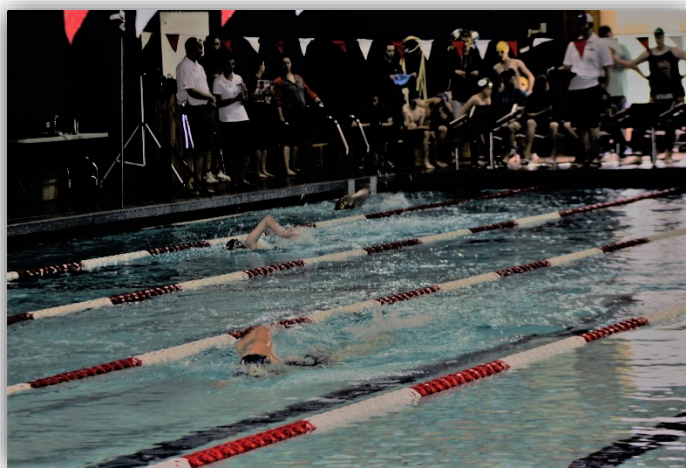
Recreation Centre Events

The success of the Chamber of Commerce's Trade Fair kicked off the spring dry floor season in style and set the stage for the rest of Mackenzie's spring events. Since then, Recreation Services has been adjusting programs and services to meet the demand and access challenges from Phase 2 Construction. The first in a series of Recreation Videos was placed on the Mackenzie Recreation Services Facebook page early in May. Subsequent events at the Recreation Centre included the Library's Touch a Truck fundraiser, Cadets formal awards ceremonies and Lacrosse Tournaments.

Despite the temporary closure of the main entrance, many people have commented that it has been easy to find their way, and appreciated the hard work of the staff to keep things open and rolling along.

The GO BY BIKE Week brought with it the next set of events, which were hosted all over the community and included scavenger hunts, contests, celebration and education tents and wrapped up with a poker ride at Little Mack. Northern Health, Mackenzie Schools (District 57) RCMP and MORATA were just a couple of the many volunteers, organizations and local groups supporting this week-long event.

Rolling into June, the season just got busier! The Annual Rainbow Swim Meet and Rotary Duck Drop both went off without a hitch. The swim meet had higher than anticipated turn out, which extended the meet and the events well into the late afternoon on the first day. The Rotary Duck Drop also had an excellent turn out, despite the quick but heavy rain shower mid-event. Community Partners, organizations and many volunteers working with District staff were able to successfully put on these great events on the same weekend.



NEW - Paddle Boards Now Available!

Paddle boarding season is here! Recreation Services has launched the Paddleboard Rental Program. Rentals are available from Recreation Services starting June 2nd. Full day (8 hour) rentals are \$45 and half day (4 hour) rentals are \$25. A personal floatation device, leash, paddle and whistle provided. Advance booking is required, pickup and drop off at the Recreation Centre. Ages 19+ only.

**More New Programs**

Recreation Services has launched more swim lessons and new swim schedules for the summer. There is an excellent Kids Community Garden Club that will meet all summer long on Wednesdays from 3:00 – 5:00pm. Active Kids Club, centering on life skills for children aged 6 to 12 years, will continue for the month of June. Skills and games include running, jumping, throwing, strategy and cooperation. This summer's programs will keep up the "life skills" theme with activities focused on being a tourist in your own town, interacting with local businesses, becoming acquainted with our wildlife, field trips and community engagement opportunities. We look forward to collaborating and building relationships with you and your family all season long.

New Opportunities

New this summer, the Swimming Pool will offer opportunities to build lifeguard and first aid skills. Starting at age eight (8), learn to be water smart, keep your friends safe and develop the skills to become a lifeguard. Lifesaving programs start with Rookie, Ranger and Patrol and then move into a Bronze Skills Program. Contact the Recreation Centre for more information on these and other swim opportunities throughout the summer.

Exciting things are around every corner! So, take a moment and check out our Facebook page and the District website for opportunities that will continue to come your way.

Mackenzie Recreational Trails Master Plan

May 28, 2018 Council adopted the Mackenzie Regional Recreational Trails Master Plan. This strategic planning document is a result of almost a year of extensive community consultation involving regional stakeholders, land authorities, local clubs and organizations, volunteers and community members with a vested interest in the improvement and development of our shared recreational trail assets in the Mackenzie region.

The scope of the study was to develop a comprehensive master plan for the motorized and non-motorized trails within the District of Mackenzie, including multiple rounds of community engagement, a strategic assessment of key trail systems, trail network analysis, and a recreational trails market match.

Subsequent rounds of stakeholder meetings took place in mid-December 2017 and in early April of 2018. Final stakeholder revisions were also solicited and incorporated into the final Regional Recreational Trails Master Plan following these sessions.

The District will work with Recreation Sites and Trails BC to submit a Crown Land tenure application in order to receive recreational land tenure authorization for all trails identified in the Mackenzie Regional Recreational Trails Plan.

The District and its planning project representatives greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication of all community members who provided support in making this important strategic document representative and inclusive for the future of Mackenzie's trails.

Recreational Trail Partnership Project

The District of Mackenzie has been working with MORATA and CNC on the development of a Job Creation Partnership Program. As a local non-profit organization, MORATA leveraged the support of local organizations and community groups to achieve WorkBC Community and Employment Partnerships Program funding.

The program objective is to support MORATA and the District of Mackenzie with the ability to mitigate forest fire hazards by clearing brush and dead spruce trees around the perimeter of

town, creating a cleared area for forest fire protection. As an added benefit, this project will provide the enhancement of current trails, and the development of new community trails within the Mackenzie region.

Throughout the project duration, the participants will be provided with training and tangible experience in brush removal and trail development, primarily concentrated on fire prevention through fire load mitigation. Our Director of Community and Recreation Services, Kevin Clarkson, will also provide guidance and mentorship to project participants regarding the principles of sustainable trail design, building and maintenance, further benefiting the recreational assets in our community.

In addition, this project will provide a unique skillset to local individuals, who will become technically trained to perform ongoing fire mitigation, trail maintenance and recreational trail building in our region. This will ultimately enhance local capacity for stewardship of our recreational resources and build the knowledge and abilities required to promote a responsible ethic on our shared landscape.

Love Mackenzie Update

Love Mackenzie is our community shop local program! The main goal of the program is to work alongside the Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce to promote, support and showcase the independently owned, non-franchise businesses in the Mackenzie, McLeod Lake, and Powder King areas.

For every \$100 spent locally, up to \$48 stays in our community, as compared to just \$14 when spent at a big box or chain store. The shift to spending local keeps creative, invested, and entrepreneurial



people in our community and paves the way for growth, new jobs and a thriving economy!

The first half of the year has been busy with advertising! If you haven't seen us out and about at community events or entered any of our contests, then perhaps you've noticed the dazzling new posters decorating many of the empty storefront windows throughout the community? Or maybe you have heard our new radio features with CHMM 103.5?



We are delighted to welcome four new members to the Love Mackenzie family:

- Shoot Me Sideways Productions,
- Ain't Nobody Got Time for That,
- Sweet Memories Signs & More, and
- Tse'Khene Food & Fuel!

Keep an eye out for any of our upcoming events, contests, or promotions by checking out @LoveMackenzieBC on Facebook! Meet our current members, or sign up today, by visiting lovemackenzie.com.

We have also just launched a new line of promotional items, which will be available for purchase at:

- Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce
- Caboose Tourist Centre
- Chrysalid Tech & Print
- the Mackenzie Community Arts Centre
- Purple Bicycle Natural Foods



Cannabis Regulations Update

Based on advice from legal counsel, on May 28th the District adopted temporary cannabis prohibition bylaws as the District felt were necessary to ensure cannabis sales and public use were introduced in a way that respects the unique needs and values of all of our community members.

We have entered Phase 2 of the development of local cannabis regulations which includes various public engagement opportunities to hear the interests and concerns from our residents prior to developing any local legal framework for its use, growth, and sale. On June 25th the District hosted an

public open house to provide residents with an opportunity to ask questions and share feedback to help us start the regulation development process. Thank you to those that came out and participated in this event!

We are still looking for your feedback! Please share your thoughts in our online survey which will be available at www.district.mackenzie.bc.ca until **July 13, 2018**.



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