

## January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

### **Dry Grad Dinner and Dance Venue Rental**

Megan Brumovsky, resident, spoke in support of the 2024 graduating class of Mackenzie Secondary School Grad, who requested an in-kind grant to waive the rental fees to use the arena and the Community Hall for their Graduation on June 22nd. Approximate costs for renting both spaces would be \$2,000. Council approved the request.

### **The Skadi Tour – All 42 Lift Serviced Ski Areas in BC in 42 Days**

The Tidbits of Change Foundation requested lift tickets for two people on January 31st as well as suggestions of an interesting character/legend/great story regarding the ski area. The cost for two-day passes would be \$65.00 Council approved the request.

### **BC Honours and Awards**

Council moved for staff to advertise that nominations are now being accepted for British Columbia's two highest honours – the Order of British Columbia and the Medal of Good Citizenship. Nominations will be accepted until April 5, 2024.

### **Illumination of Mackenzie Recreation Centre for Epilepsy Awareness**

Council received a request from the BC Epilepsy Society to light up the Rec Centre in purple on March 26, 2024 for International Purple Day for Epilepsy awareness. The BC Epilepsy Society has also requested the District of Mackenzie pass a motion to proclaim March 26, 2024 as International Purple Day. Council passed a motion to light up the Rec Centre in purple on March 26, 2024, to proclaim March 26, 2024 as International Purple Day..

### **Mackenzie Figure Skating Club Request**

Council received a request from the Mackenzie Figure Skating Club for a donation towards their comedy and casino night fundraiser that will be held on February 3, 2024. Council approved the request.

### **Revised 2024 Budget Schedule**

Council approved the revised Council meeting dates for the 2024 annual budget process. The meetings formerly scheduled for January 22, 2024 and February 12, 2024 will be moved back one Council meeting date (and will now take place on February 12, 2024 and February 26, 2024 respectively).

### **2024 Water and Sewer and Garbage Bylaw Amendment**

Council received a report on changing rates for water, sewer, and garbage billing. Staff also recommended that the Water Bylaw be changed to add a short notice request fee for short notice/emergency requests to Schedule B of the Bylaw, and that Residential garbage rates should be presented as an annual amount in Schedule A of the Garbage Bylaw.

## **Visitor Centre Caboose Operations 2024**

Council deferred this item to the next meeting so that the matter can be discussed with the Chamber of Commerce.

## **Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training Grant App**

Council approved the application to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for \$30,000 towards Emergency Social Services equipment, training, and personnel wages, and authorized the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the contract and any related documentation.

## **Accessible Parking and Parking Bylaw**

Council passed a motion requesting staff to bring back a report on the bylaw language as it relates to accessible/disability parking spots, particularly as it relates to the size of them. A need has been identified to make space required for a loading zone. Council also passed a motion to change all 5 parking stalls in the front of the Recreation Centre to be designated specifically to accessible/disability parking, and to make the one closest to the ramp going to the upper parking lot largest to accommodate those using wheelchairs getting in/out of the side of vehicles.

## Bylaws

### **Bylaw No. 1511 Annual Mayor and Council Remuneration Amendment**

Council adopted this bylaw. This bylaw amends the Annual Mayor and Councillor Remuneration and Expenses No. 1338, 2015 so that the Remuneration for Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors will increase annually according to Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation to a maximum of 3%.

### **Bylaw No. 1512 Water Rates and Regulations Amendment, Bylaw No. 1513 Sewer Rates and Regulations Amendment, and Bylaw No. 1514 Garbage Rates and Regulations Amendment**

Council gave these bylaws their first three readings. Below is a table showing the annual increase rates proposed in the Bylaw Amendments for Water, Sewer, and Garbage service rates.

Residential	Annual Rate	
	2023 Bylaw Rate	2024 Proposed Bylaw Rate
Water	\$408.13	\$457.11 (12%)
Sewer	\$266.55	\$290.54 (9%)
Garbage Collection (Weekly)*	\$187.56	\$199.75 (6.5%)
Garbage Collection (Bi-weekly)*	\$158.88	\$169.21 (6.5%)

\*2023 bylaw rate changed to show as annual amount

Commercial	Bi-Monthly Minimum Charges	
	2023 Bylaw Rate	2024 Proposed Bylaw Rate
Water	\$60.93	\$68.24 (12%)
Sewer	\$52.79	\$57.54 (9%)
Garbage 2-yard bin 1 pickup/week	\$181.90	\$194.64 (7%)
Garbage 3-yard bin 1 pickup/week	\$229.96	\$246.06 (7%)
Garbage 4-yard bin 1 pickup/week	\$278.04	\$297.50 (7%)

## Coming Events

### Mackenzie Community Arts Centre

What: Self Expression Through Art Exhibit

When: January 1-27, 2024 – Tuesday to Saturday 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Where: Notable Expression Gallery – Ernie Bodin Community Centre

### Special Meet the Artist: Sunshine Brown

January 25, 2024

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Limited spots available, please pre-register

### Recreation Centre – Walk to Italy

Recreation Services is teaming up with the New Horizons Bridging the Gap project to provide a fun way to stay active and social during the long winter months.

Join us for our 9,966 km walk to Rome, Italy! The walk starts January 29 and runs until April 22. Register by calling 250-997-5283 or by emailing [recoffice@districtofmackenzie.ca](mailto:recoffice@districtofmackenzie.ca)

### BC Hydro – Williston Reservoir Operations Open House

BC Hydro is hosting an open house to discuss Williston Reservoir operations. Members of the public are invited to attend. Due to low inflows from ongoing drought, below average water levels are forecast for Williston Reservoir this spring.

Date: Thursday February 8, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: Mackenzie Recreation Centre, 400 Skeena Drive

### Mackenzie Minor Hockey Tournament

January 26/27/28 2024

U-18 Jepson Petro Knights