



Newsletter October 2018

Mayor's Message

Before we launch full swing into another winter season in Sun Peaks, there are some summer projects underway that we are excited to report on.

Sun Peaks Resort LLP is busy getting the new Orient ski lift ready for this winter season. A number of new townhome projects are progressing to the occupancy permit stage including Village Walk which is nearly complete with 24 units just east of the Kookaburra Lodge. Echo Landing now has the roof on their first building and other units are at various stages of construction (48 units just east of Stone's Throw) and Peaks West is now coming out of the ground with a mix of 58 commercial and residential units near the Fire Hall site.

In addition there are 12 single family homes under construction. When all of these projects are complete we should see an addition of \$85 million dollars in assessed value, about a 12% increase over our 2018 values.

Municipal Utilities

With these new developments, the municipal utilities require some expansion. We completed the wastewater treatment expansion this month, adding another 25% to our wastewater treatment capability. We have made a commitment to provide additional backup to the domestic water supply system given that our municipal engineers have concerns about the long term sustainable capacity of the Sun Peaks groundwater aquifers that supply the community today. We have purchased a portable water treatment plant that will be installed by December 15 2018 and will be connected to the snowmaking reservoir. This surface water treatment plant will be used to provide water during periods of high water demand if required.

To pay for a good portion of future utility capital costs, the Municipality will soon adopt a development cost charge bylaw (DCCs) in addition to the existing connection fees. We will also seek federal and provincial infrastructure grants to assist with future capital funding. We have recently applied for a grant to raise the level of treatment for our wastewater system. This is part of a three phased project that will eventually see all of our wastewater recycled to be used for golf/park irrigation and future snowmaking on Mt. Morrissey.

Municipal Elections

On October 20th residents of Sun Peaks will be able to cast a vote to elect 3 council members. There are 6 people running for these positions. To be eligible to vote you must be at least 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen, have lived in BC for more than 6 months as well as in Sun Peaks for at least one month prior to the election day. Non-resident property owners from B.C. can also vote in this election with one vote only per property and consent from all other owners providing the property title is not in a company name or held in trust. Voting by mail in ballot is also available. Please contact 250 578 2020 if you have any questions. We urge everyone who can vote to do so.

On behalf of all residents and property owners we wish to thank Councillor Mike Forster for his eight years of service to the community. Mike has brought a 'common sense' approach to the council table. He has contributed to making Sun Peaks a better community. He has always donated his Council stipends to either our Health Centre or the Sun Peaks Education Society. Thank you, Mike

Please make sure to update your mailing address. To do this, go to the BC Assessment website at

bcassessment.ca



Winter Parking Issues

From November 1st winter parking regulations come into effect thus allowing streets to be plowed 24 hours per day. All vehicles must be parked on private property overnight. Please take note that placing snow onto other people's property or the road is not permitted. With fewer empty lots around the community, snow storage areas are getting more and more important.

In addition, please remember that the road right of way is there for snow storage for the municipal road snow plowing. Usually the right of way is the land between the road and your house, about 4 or 5 meters from the edge of the pavement. Each property should only have a 6 metre wide driveway as the rest of the road right of way is required for snow storage. Some residents have historically used the road right of way for their personal parking and a few have even paved the road right of way which is not permitted. As building 'in-fill' continues, the Municipality may have no other option but to address the improper use of the road right of way. Please try to make it easy for our snow removal crews and do not park cars on the road or right of ways. We would prefer not to bring in stricter enforcement however we need everyone's cooperation. Thank you.

Short Term Rentals

The Province of B.C. has announced that all short-term rentals must collect the accommodation PST and the Municipal Regional District Tax (3% in Sun Peaks) for the upcoming winter. All properties that advertise or carry out short term nightly rentals do require proper zoning and a business license. The Business license costs \$95 + \$25 per bedroom.

The Municipality now has 24 hours 7 days a week bylaw enforcement and is monitoring all online advertising for short term rentals. Bylaw enforcement will manage the excessive late night noise, parking and any disturbance issues. All residents are urged to report any disturbances to bylaw enforcement on 778-257-2275. It is the Municipality's hope that with additional bylaw enforcement, we are able to significantly reduce these disturbances. Short term rental property owners who cannot manage their guests will be fined and if there are two unmanageable situations, there is a risk of losing the Business license to carry out short term rentals. Any property owner who has a serious disturbance will be fined.

We do regret the growth in rules and regulations, however, as Sun Peaks grows so do the number of conflicts. Let's manage them safely and appropriately.

Looking forward to a great winter season. See you on the slopes!

Yours sincerely,

Mayor Al Raine



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