

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

For immediate release – July 5, 2011

COUNCIL DELEGATIONS:

Delta Staff Recognized for Red Cross Awards

Mayor Lois E. Jackson recognized three of Delta's aquatic staff who recently received awards from the Red Cross. Louise Bishoff received the prestigious Order of the Red Cross; Paula Thulin was recognized for her 15 years of service; and Michelle Hebein was recognized for her accomplishment in teaching over 50 courses.



Mayor Jackson expressed her appreciation to these long-serving staff noting how fortunate Delta is to have such dedicated staff.

National Junior Wolfpack Football Club

Steve Bayley, Assistant Coach for the Wolfpack Football Club introduced Canada's U-19 Aussie Rules Football team. The team will be travelling to Australia in July to compete in a number of matches. Coach Bayley noted 23 of the 27 team members are from Delta which is very unique. Mayor Jackson and Council congratulated the team and wished them the best of luck in their competition abroad.





Delta Seniors Community Planning Team

Council received a presentation from the Delta Seniors Community Planning Team, a local group of citizens who established a team last year to address issues facing the aging population. The presentation focused on the research undertaken by the team on the challenges facing seniors in our community including transportation, housing and infrastructure.

Mayor Jackson and Council thanked the representatives for their presentation and a motion was made to (1) write a letter to TransLink regarding the infrequent service levels from Bridgeport Station to Tsawwassen (2) request TransLink to appear as a delegation before Council to discuss service issues in Delta and (3) that Delta staff report back on the most appropriate forum to collaborate and address the issues raised by the Delta Seniors Community Planning Team.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Southlands

In response to comments Mayor and Council have received following Century Group's presentation at the June 20, 2011 Regular Meeting, Mayor Jackson read the following statement:

Before we commence with the regular agenda, I would first like to address some comments we have received in response to the presentation provided by Century Group at last week's Council Meeting. I would like a chance to clarify the procedures and the steps we have taken to date.



During the Tsawwassen Area Plan review, our objective was to arrive at a new high-level plan for Tsawwassen and not to consider any specific proposal for the Southlands. Indeed, this is what we achieved through the assistance of the public information meetings, results of the Ipsos Reid Tsawwassen Area Plan Survey and the Public Hearing, which all contributed to refining the plan. The Public Hearing for the new Tsawwassen Area Plan was held and completed on March 1, 2011 and the new plan was endorsed by this Council at the April 11, 2011 Regular Meeting.

I would like to remind residents that the new Tsawwassen Area Plan retains the current policy and land use designation for the Southlands as agricultural.

During the Tsawwassen Area Plan Review process, discussions and questions on the future of the Southlands occurred. This has been a point of debate and concern in the community for many, many years.

The assertion that a majority of Tsawwassen residents are opposed to development of the Southlands is simply a generalization that fails to recognize the varying positions that exist on this issue throughout the community.

The Public Hearing for the Proposed Agricultural Land Reserve Inclusion Application for the Southlands held this past spring indeed highlighted the range of positions and divide in the community over these lands. Many residents spoke passionately about farmland preservation and agricultural viability at the Public Hearing – both values that I hold near and dear to my heart and are true to the vision of this municipality and Council.

But taking into consideration the great division over these lands in our community, I terminated the Public Hearing, as I recognized the need for further discussion on the Southlands in a different setting – that being the Mayor's Summit - which I envisioned as fostering greater debate and consideration amongst various community stakeholders.

The Summit generated ideas with the objective of seeing the Southlands returned to a soil-based working farm. The Summit considered a range of perspectives including acknowledgment of the important environmental and wildlife values of the lands, while also recognizing their financial value. There was and is a desire to secure public ownership of a majority of the lands for agricultural, environmental and wildlife values.

From this Summit, we received a commitment from the property owner, Century Group, to return to Council to present a refined proposal that would provide the Corporation of Delta with public ownership of a greater portion of the lands than what was previously proposed. We recently saw this proposal which provides 80% of the Southlands transferred to Corporation of Delta



ownership and 950 residential units proposed to be developed by Century Group on the remaining 20% of the Southlands. Century Group now intends to consult with the community this summer. It is important to note that we, as your Municipal Council, have no involvement in this consultation process.

As agreed to and endorsed by this Council at the April 18, 2011 Regular Meeting, the Corporation of Delta will provide a link to Century Group's proposal on our website and make the proposal available for viewing at Municipal Hall. Also endorsed at the April 18th meeting, was a recommendation that Century Group be afforded the opportunity to return to Council on September 12th to present a refined proposal based on feedback received from their community consultation.

It is not until and IF Century Group submits a formal application for development of the Southlands that the Chief Administrative Officer will report back to this Council with recommendations on the proposal.

Should Century Group submit a development application for the Southlands, this would require an amendment to the new Tsawwassen Area Plan. This process requires a bylaw to first be subject to readings by Council and forwarded to a Public Hearing. The Public Hearing is an opportunity for the public to provide their input on the proposal.

I would also like to point out that given the Southlands is contained within Metro Vancouver's Green Zone, any land use change of this property requires approval from Metro Vancouver; therefore a regional Public Hearing would follow a municipal Public Hearing.

I would like to remind the community that as your Council, we follow legislation and a formal set of procedures when dealing with any development application; this process includes public consultation. We certainly intend to follow the same legislation and procedures should Century Group decide to submit a formal application.

Following the Mayor's statement, Council approved a recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer, George V. Harvie that Delta follow its standard practice of creating a webpage on the project once and if a development application is received for the Southlands, a practice that was followed for previous development applications including Tsawwassen Springs and Delsom Estates.



Canadian National Rowing Team

Mayor Jackson congratulated Canada's National Rowing Team and **North Delta's John Sasi**. This past weekend, several Canadian crews competed at the Holland Beker International Rowing Regatta in Amsterdam. In an exciting men's four final, John and his crew finished a close second to a heavyweight crew from the Netherlands.

Common Thread Banners

Mayor Jackson announced Delta's participation in a program that turns our old street banners into repurposed tote bags – all with their own unique design. This initiative is run by Common Thread – a Vancouver-based co-operative of Canadian organizations that operate sewing programs providing a fair wage and meaningful, supportive work experiences for disadvantaged people. Mayor Jackson proudly displayed a Delta tote bag created by Common Thread noting how this project serves as a great reuse of fabric and a way to divert material away from the landfill. The limited supply of tote bags will be used in prize giveaways including the upcoming Mayor's Garden Contest for Kids.

Canada Day Events

Mayor Jackson invited residents to the various Canada Day celebrations happening throughout Delta on July 1st including the **Delta Museum and Archives, 4858 Delta Street (9am to noon); Diefenbaker Park, 1st Avenue and 56th Street, (10am to 1pm); Kirkland House, 4140 Arthur Drive (Noon to 4pm); and Chalmers Park, 11400 – 76A Avenue, North Delta (6-10:30pm).**

BYLAWS:**Development Variance Permit and Bylaw Approved**

Council adopted a bylaw and development variance permit at 5125 Westminster Avenue to permit subdivision into two single family lots.

Local Government Election Bylaw Amendment Adopted

Council adopted a bylaw that will amend Schedule A of "General Local Government Election Procedures Bylaw No. 6667, 2008" to reflect the exclusion of Tsawwassen First Nation land from Delta's voting divisions.

Local Area Service Bylaw Adopted

Council adopted a Local Area Service bylaw for the construction of a sanitary sewer extension along the beach fronting 402-522 Tsawwassen Beach Road.



Application to Rezone Property at 4469 River Road West

Council gave first and second reading to a proposed bylaw to rezone 4469 River Road West from Special Light Industrial to Mixed Use (Port Guichon East). Rezoning will legitimize use of the property for the two float homes which are now located on the waterlot at this property.

CONSENT REPORTS:**Kennedy House Seniors Society Licence Agreement Approved**

Council approved a licence agreement with the Kennedy House Seniors Society for scheduling priority at the Kennedy Seniors' Recreation Centre, located at 11760 88 Avenue. The Licence recognizes the responsibilities of the Society and coordinates the scheduled use of the Kennedy Park Lawn Bowling Club and the North Delta Lions Club.

Delta Lacrosse Association Licence Renewed

Council approved the renewal of the licence agreement with the Delta Lacrosse Association for use of a 169 square foot space as a resource centre at the Ladner Leisure Centre arena. The renewal agreement is in keeping with standard practices used for all not-for-profit organizations that use municipal buildings.

Contract Approved for Energy Retrofit at Ladner Leisure Centre

A design/build contract for energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction measures at the Ladner Leisure Centre was approved by Council. The contract guarantees savings of 360 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year, representing a 34.1% reduction in facility emissions and an approximated \$60,000 savings per year, which would be verified post implementation using actual energy consumption.

Tender Awarded for Culvert Relining

Council awarded a tender to undertake Culvert Relining – Big Slough at Hornby Drive. This project is funded through the Council approved 2011 Capital Plan.

DISCUSSION REPORTS:**Final Report on Major Infrastructure Projects**

Council received the final monthly report on the status of the major infrastructure projects in Delta. All projects were completed on time and on budget. The final results show that Delta received more than \$8.5 million in stimulus funding to complete 10 projects worth over \$16 million. Delta was also successful in obtaining alternate funding of \$16.5 million for four additional projects totaling almost \$26 million in project costs. Delta undertook 14 projects with a total value of approximately \$42.5 million at a cost to Delta of \$14.8 million.



80 Street Overpass Construction Update

Council received an update on the status of the 80 Street Overpass Project. This project will provide improved access to Boundary Bay Airport and surrounding businesses and includes signaling of the 72 Street and Ladner Trunk Road intersection. The project is within budget and completion is scheduled prior to June 2012.

Ladner Sediment Group Update

An update was provided to Council on the work of the Ladner Sediment Group. Delta has submitted a grant application to the BC Flood Protection Program for funding a project that involves the dredging of four channels in the first phase and an additional four channels in the second phase of this project. Staff will inform Council once an announcement is made regarding the status of funding applications.

Since early 2009, staff have been working with the Ladner Sediment Group to develop a strategy and identify funding sources to alleviate the sedimentation and erosion problems that are occurring in Ladner Harbour and nearby secondary channels.

Proposed Amendments to Health Canada's Marijuana Medical Access Program

Council endorsed a recommendation to support amendments proposed by Health Canada to its Marijuana Medical Access Program. The proposed changes address many of the concerns that local governments, police and fire departments have highlighted during recent months without placing any additional demands on municipal resources, including the establishment of a new supply and distribution system based on licensed commercial producers; the establishment of an inspection and audit program by Health Canada to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements; and the phasing-out of licensed home marijuana grow operations.

2010 Council Remuneration & Expenses

A report was received by Council on the 2010 Remuneration and expenses in compliance with the statutory requirements of the *Community Charter*.

Community Energy & Emissions Plan

Council endorsed the activities proposed by staff to encourage the public to participate and provide feedback in the development of a Community Energy and Emissions Plan. Up to three facilitated workshops with the community will be held during the development of the Plan. Feedback received by staff at the community workshops would be used to further refine the community energy and emission reduction strategies prior to reviewing a draft plan with Council.



Swim Meets Policy Approved

Council approved a new policy on swim meets to improve safety and ensure that proper advance planning for these events occurs. Parks, Recreation & Culture staff will meet with local swim clubs to brief them on the new policy.

Community Planning & Development Department Permit Process Improvements

Council received a summary of the changes recently implemented by the Community Planning and Development Department to improve overall efficiency. An update on the current building permit workload and additional enhancements planned for implementation in the near future was also presented. The Community Planning & Development Department continues to implement changes directed at timely permit processing and providing an overall improved level of service to applicants.

Servicing Agreement at 4631 53 Street

Council endorsed a recommendation that the developer of 4631 53 Street be required to fulfill the requirements of their development servicing agreement.

Development Variance Permit Approved – 11180 92A Avenue

Council endorsed the issuance of a development variance permit at 11180 92A Avenue. The variance allows the owner to build a new front porch as well as legalize an existing detached garage.

Development Variance Permit Approved – 10305 Main Street

Council endorsed the issuance of a development variance permit at 10305 Main Street to allow construction of a single-family dwelling.

Noise Control Bylaw Relaxed for Construction

To minimize the impact on Vancouver Landfill traffic during its operating hours, Council approved relaxation of the noise control bylaw for works related to the SFPR construction. These works will be completed at night between the hours of 7:00 pm and 7:00 am, Monday evening through Saturday morning between July 4 and August 26, 2011.

For more information on this media release, contact the Mayor's Office at (604) 946-3210 or email mayor@corp.delta.bc.ca

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