

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and Council
From: Councillor Christine Thompson
Date: May 8, 2023

Along with other members of Council, I attended the Association of Kootenay-Boundary Local Municipalities annual conference in Cranbrook. Unfortunately, the City's resolution relative to supplementing health authorities with regional boards of health did not pass. Mayor David Wilks from Sparwood spoke against this resolution as it did not go far enough. His preference is to dissolve all health authorities and return to local boards of health. I spoke with him after, and we will work together to bring another resolution forward to our Councils for consideration.

I attended workshops at the conference that I found highly informative and educational. They included the following: 1. Connecting in Crisis: Improving Local Mental Health Crisis Response; 2. KAST: Innovating Opportunities for Rural Entrepreneurship; 3. Water Supply for Community Climate Adaptation; and 4. Can Homelessness be Solved.

I attended the opening of the Senior Citizens' Centre on April 29th. This was a well-attended event and included the Mayor and members of Council, MP Richard Cannings, and MLA Roly Russell.

May 4th, I began the day with a meeting of the Community Action Team. Jessica Michalofsky lost her only son to drug poisoning in August 2022 and spoke about "Aubrey's Run Across BC" that will begin in Nelson (where Aubrey was born) and end in Victoria. The message she is sending out is that toxic drug death is preventable and to raise awareness about toxic drugs and to unite voices in demanding a safe supply for those who struggle. Jessica will be in Grand Forks on May 26th and will be stopping at Pharmasave where there will be a short opportunity for the public to meet her before she continues her run. She is supported by Moms Stop the Harm, should anyone want to contribute to they can do so through their website. I have attached a copy of the poster for your information.

The afternoon of May 4th, I attended an Economic Development Presentation made by representatives from the Resort Municipality of Revelstoke. They

talked about what they did to make Revelstoke a destination community and how they promoted themselves.

The evening of May 4th, I attended the Boundary Country Regional Chamber of Commerce's Annual General Meeting.

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to every one of our employees who above and beyond in ensuring our citizens were safe during this potential disastrous event. In addition, the communications that advised our residents of what was happening was excellent. Again, thank you for a job well done.

Respectfully,

Christine Thompson, Councillor