

Housing Field Trip to Kelowna April 9

I travelled with 4 representatives from Council and 4 from the DBA. We viewed two sites and discussed with John Howard Society staff the operational needs of each building. The first building, Cardington is a 4-story building that fits in with the downtown commercial core. It has a privately-owned coffee shop at street level and a discrete entrance into the building. There is no loitering, no piles of stolen property, no garbage. It is very well run and houses about 50 people. There are at least 2 staff on duty 24/7 but the whole staff complement is about 20. The staff came from many backgrounds and were generally young. The skill sets ranged from maintenance to social workers to LPN's to nurses to care aids. Altogether John Howard runs five facilities with a staff complement of 160. The second building, Hearthstone was an assembled building planted in a strip mall location near Enterprise. Although the architecture was unappealing the building was spacious, clean and well landscaped. Both buildings had storage areas for the residents. Hearthstone took pets and guests while Cardington did not accept guests or pets.

Recreation Commission Meeting April 11

The new gymnastics club is looking for a permanent facility. They are working with adults and kids and have 86 people involved already. Their present temporary home is the curling club.

The Grand Forks and Boundary Region Agricultural Society is going to have its agreement with the Regional District for a 'Learning Garden' extended after a discussion at the Rec Commission with its representative Bill Wilby. New leadership and new volunteers are going to get the project back on track. By the fall we can expect:

- Completed agreements with the RDKB for a 'learning garden' facility
- Completed building with roof
- Installed and operating irrigation
- Trees and shrubs planted
- A pollination garden
- Better pathways

Their AGM is coming up so stay tuned for a chance to help make this unique project happen.

Sandbags and Tiger Dams Demo April 12

3000 lineal feet (about 900 m) is worth 200,000 and comes with trailer and anchors
Used for 3 years in BC and currently stockpiled in the Fraser Valley
A trained crew can inflate sections in minutes
Best deployed on flat areas that have been engineered for anchors

Pancakes and Speeches April 13

It's all about relationships. There were several organizations that participated in our recovery on display. Including the Elks famous pancake breakfast well manned by members of this Council. Apparently, the province no longer sees us as parent and child but rather partners.

Boundary Flood Recovery will be making presentations to Council on the proposed works and the community response. Hopefully we will see the results of the grant applications soon. Transitioning out of a 'Local Emergency' is on the agenda as well.