



Village of PEMBERTON | Community Update



Lisa Ames & girls planting tulips: Hands in the earth. The soil is ready for turning, and Pemberton's Community Garden wants you to get down and dirty! Volunteer in the planning and preparations for the Garden, or start with a handful of seedlings and sign on for your own plot. A town is like a garden - you get out of it what you put in... whether at the Community Garden, on the trails, on a committee, or by shopping locally. So get your hands dirty, any which way, and get into Pemberton.

Take Five

Village Unveils Five Year Plan

Pemberton has been the fastest growing community in BC for the past ten years, which begs the question, what do the next five years hold?

Will our population grow by another 33.5%? What will the Olympics mean for us? Will Tim Horton's sponsor the Skate Park?

Although these aren't exactly the questions the Village of Pemberton is addressing in its five year plan, the framework for addressing issues like them is being laid out.

A Five Year Plan has been developed to guide Council and staff in their decision-making and policy-development, and to let the community of Pemberton know what priorities have been adopted for the immediate, short and long term.

Says Administrator Lori Pilon, "The Five Year Plan is a goal-setting exercise. There's always a long list of action items in a town, especially one that has grown as rapidly as Pemberton, so this is the chance to articulate realistic goals, prioritise them and ensure the resources are budgeted for them."

The Five Year Plan aspires to set a stable course for Pemberton, balancing social, economic and environmental goals to ensure the Village maintains its unique character and enviable quality of life. It builds on current projects and achievements.

In 2006, the Village's top priorities were to upgrade and improve water service for the Village, address the appetite for recreation amenities, provide water and sewer servicing to the Industrial Park, develop a conceptual design for Frontier Street's revitalisation and establish a governance plan for the airport.

With staff, Council and the community on the same page, the Village of Pemberton was able to see the establishment of the Pemberton Regional Airport Authority, along with a \$100,000 fund from the provincial government to develop a Strategic Plan for the Airport, the installation of the Industrial Park Sewer Line, establishment of the Community Garden, ongoing testing to establish a new well site, the establishment of By-Law enforcement, raising the community's Bear Smarts, breaking ground on the Community Centre, and filing grant applications to help fund additional infrastructure, such as the Skate Park/Bike Park, the Pemberton Environmental Interpretive Centre, the Pemberton Creek Pedestrian Bridge, and water conditioning. The Mayor also spearheaded the Pemberton/Area C Trails requisition and the Pemberton/Area C Grant-in-aid requisition.

Building on these initiatives will be a series of projects for 2007 including the Pemberton Creek bridge, establishing an Affordable Housing policy, adopting a trails plan within the Village and implementing the first phase of the Downtown Revitalisation plan with sidewalk upgrades along Frontier Street and the adoption of the Benchlands Neighbourhood Concept Plan

Preparing to host a visit from our Ichinomiya Sister City in 2008, leveraging Olympic opportunities through the appointment of an Olympic Development Officer, exploring ways of measuring our energy footprint, establishing an Amenity fund, and making recycling easier are all future-focussed plans.

The Village is also working in cooperation with the Mt Currie Band to conduct a feasibility study for what would be a ground-breaking community-based drug and alcohol treatment facility. The Fire Department will be conducting a comprehensive audit of equipment and operations to ensure the provision of the best quality fire and rescue service.

For more details on the Five Year Plan, residents are invited to visit www.pemberton.ca.

Members of the community are invited to provide their input at the Public Consultation session on the Five Year Plan on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Village Office (The White building).

07 Questions for '07 with Councillor Helmer

Councillor Jennie Helmer's great-grandfather Walter Green served on the first Council of the Village of Pemberton and grew his first crop of Netted Gems potatoes in 1926. History has a way of circling around, and in 2006, the paramedic, recent graduate from Royal Roads' Bachelor of Commerce in Entrepreneurial Management, and organic grower became a Green Councillor herself.

On her bookstand: A book about the Irish potato famine, a PD James whodunit, and a Buddhist read called 'Offerings' School memories: School was mostly about whichever sport was in season. We traveled a lot. I was the kid that would volunteer my hair for colouring, perming and cutting attempts in the hotel room. None of my teammates went on to become hairdressers. Most influential person: My parents and grandparents. They inspired me to be independent, do what you love, make decisions that you can live with, and have fun. Most looking forward to in 2007: Slow Food Cycle Sunday (how many people will show up this year?), the Pemberton Environmental Interpretive Centre at One Mile Lake, the Community Centre and the slow, steady differentiation of Pemberton from our neighbouring communities. Most likely to be found this winter: Working on my turns.

Idle cars are up to no good. Think air-care. Think deep breaths. Turn your vehicles off! An idling vehicle contributes excessive amounts of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere and negatively impacts the airshed. To help raise our green consciousness, and preserve Pemberton's natural assets, the Village encourages drivers not to leave engines idling unnecessarily.

Log on. Hit REFRESH. www.pemberton.com is your go-to source for everything you need to know. Keep in the on-line loop.

Council Meeting Schedule. Council will next meet at 8am April 17, 2007.

Kudos and Good Luck to Outgoing Director of Development Services. The people of Logan Lake, population 2200, will draw from Pemberton's brain-trust over the coming years, as Pemberton's outgoing Director of Development Services takes up his new role at the helm of the administration there. The Village of Pemberton wishes the Allen family the best of luck with their move, and trusts that the community of Logan Lake appreciate how much richer they are. In the meantime, staff members Richard and Russell will share responsibility for different aspects of the DDS' portfolio, while the administration has an opportunity to review what key projects and priorities are underway, and what skill set will be recruited to best serve the community at this time.

