



Village of Pemberton | Community Update

Pemberton



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Gods are smiling on Community Centre.

"We could not have had better weather," said Site Superintendent Greg Stratton last Friday, as he was overseeing the largest concrete pour Pemberton has seen. Laying the raft-slab for the Pemberton

Community Centre and Library required 550 metres cubed of concrete, nearly 60 cement trucks, and 2 pumper trucks working simultaneously, an effort that saw the entire fleet of Cardinal Concrete focused on the Pemberton site.

Over the next month, the lower level walls will be constructed and the suspended slab will be poured in December. Said Stratton, "If we continue to be blessed by the weather, we'll be shooting for the roof in March."

Plans of the building can be viewed at the Village of Pemberton office, as well as at the Library, Community Centre and SLRD office.

Pemberton Briefs

Join the Treeway

To reduce bear hazards in the downtown core, the fruit-bearing trees along Portage Road will slowly be replaced with non bear-attractants. If you would like to adopt one of the trees when they are being replaced, contact kangelski@pemberton.ca to be included on the list.

Winter Parking

As you're watching the sky for signs of the first snowfall, spare a thought for the Village snowploughers who will be busy clearing the streets while you're gearing up for fresh tracks. From November 1 to April 30, village streets must be clear of vehicles from 9pm to 9am to facilitate snow-clearing in the event of a big dump.

Chimney sweeps

Morning frost echoes Fire Chief Russell Mack's reminder to have your chimneys cleaned before winter. Creosote build-up in chimneys is highly combustible, and is a leading cause of house fires. Clean chimneys don't cause fires, so the smartest fire prevention tactic is to book your chimney cleaning now!

Logo talent

More than 70 submissions from 24 different designers were received in the Village of Pemberton's logo contest. Due to the sheer volume received, presentation of the logos to Council will be postponed to a date to be notified.

Community Garden

Gardeners are asked to clean up their plots at the community garden, to put them to bed for the winter.

Council fresh from UBCM Convention

From October 23-27, the city of Victoria hosted the annual Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities. Said Mayor Jordan Sturdy, "Overall, for a bunch of newly electeds, it was the perfect place to have a first UBCM."

Pemberton representatives met with the Premier and select Cabinet Ministers in scheduled one-on-ones to discuss issues of particular local importance, and build and cement relationships between the municipal and provincial levels of government. The chance to meet with Ministers in their Victoria offices, to meet with their staff, and know where they work, was additionally beneficial. Said the Mayor, "It really added a level of personal connection that you wouldn't get if the UBCM convention is in Kelowna or Vancouver, and you're meeting in a hotel room. We had very successful meetings with all the Ministers we sat down with, which left us all feeling really positive."

The theme of the convention was Creating Vibrant Integrated Communities. "And that's really what Pemberton is working on," said the Mayor. "There was an emphasis on collaborating with other regions or jurisdictions, something we have started with our sub-regional planning strategy."

New provincial funding and grant opportunities were announced, which the Village of Pemberton will be exploring in detail, looking for ways to assist with our infrastructure development from the new well to the community centre.

The Mayor added that Council members had the chance to develop connections with other local representatives from throughout the province, and to build a stronger sense of teamwork amongst themselves.

Pemberton starts to feel Olympic ripples

Mayor Jordan Sturdy, Councillor David MacKenzie and Director of Development Services David Allen toured representatives from VANOC around Pemberton at the end of October. The visit from VANOC's community relations, logistics and transportation team gave the Olympic Organising Committee an opportunity to inventory sites throughout the Sea to Sky corridor that may assist in the Games, while giving Pemberton officials a chance to understand VANOC's needs and the role Pemberton might play in 2010.

"I think Pemberton is the northern gateway to the Olympics," said Mayor Jordan Sturdy. As yet, Pemberton has not developed a firm Olympic game-plan. "Our overall objective," said the Mayor, "is that after the Olympics is long gone, this community will look back on whatever we have done and say 'That was worth participating in.'"

With 3 billion viewers globally caught up in the Games magic, the Village of Pemberton has less than four years to contemplate what the community wants to share with the world. That dialogue is now getting underway.

VANOC's Community Relations team will present an update on Olympic preparations to Council at the November 7 Council meeting at the Council Chambers.

A VANOC Community Update will be held on Wednesday November 15, from 7pm-9pm at the Pemberton Community Centre, with VANOC representatives touching on volunteer opportunities, transportation planning, and other community impacts of the Games.

In order to start building capacity towards the Olympics, the Village of Pemberton has received an Arts Build Communities grant from the province and will be hosting the SoulDown, Pemberton's first Community Spirit Showcase on Friday November 24 at Signal Hill Elementary School gymnasium from 5pm-9pm. Aimed at bringing residents together to celebrate community and our festivals, volunteers

and spirit, the Soul Down will feature an expo of community groups from the Food Bank to the Green River Riding Club, to the Community Garden and the Pemberton Arts Council, and will conclude with a presentation from Artistic Director of the Public Dreams Society, Dolly Hopkins.

"The SoulDown will be a chance to bring the entire community together to articulate the things we value about Pemberton, and how we want to showcase and celebrate them," said the Village Administrator, Lori Pilon.

Winds of Change continue to blow

The community to community initiative, the Winds of Change, continues its innovative programming to promote enhanced community relations and healthy lifestyle choices and to increase awareness of drug and alcohol issues.

Coinciding with National Addictions Awareness Week, Family Drug and Alcohol Awareness Nights will be held in Pemberton on Saturday November 18, and in Mount Currie on Thursday November 23, both from 7-9pm. These events, held in conjunction with the Drug and Alcohol Task Force, will feature guest speakers, workshops and refreshments.

The Mount Currie Band and the Village of Pemberton are also collaborating to create a Winds of Change Youth Role Model Poster. Ten youth from Signal Hill Elementary, Pemberton Secondary and the Xit'olacw Community

Schools who exemplify health lifestyle choices will be nominated by their schools. A selection of nominees will be chosen to be featured on a poster, which will be unveiled at the Family Drug and Alcohol Awareness Nights.

Said Mt Currie Band Councillor and Winds of Change Committee member Lucinda Phillips, "A picture speaks a thousand words. Singling out these youth as leaders for living drug and alcohol free will have a positive effect, and help make people more aware of their choices." Showcasing local youth on the poster helps personalize the message, giving it more impact and relevance to Pemberton and Mount Currie than a generic poster campaign could.

After the unveiling, the posters will be distributed throughout Pemberton and Mount Currie.

The Winds of Change Committee is also hosting a

Hopkins will return the following day, on Saturday November 25, from 10am-3pm, to run a hands-on planning workshop on hosting Community Celebrations, to be chaired by Paul Selina and the Pemberton Spirit of BC Committee.

The Celebrations workshop, part of 2010 Legacies Now's Arts Build Communities program, encourages the planning of arts and cultural community celebrations throughout B.C., especially during Spirit of BC Week, held annually in February.

Health and Law Enforcement Focus Group on November 22 to explore options for drug and alcohol prevention and treatment, as part of an initiative to offer long-lasting treatment options for the two communities. A guest speaker from Round Lake Treatment Centre will initiate discussions on how to support addicts when they return home from treatment.

The Winds of Change programming this year was supported by a grant from Healthy Communities, which expires at the end of the year. "When the contract ends," said Phillips, "I hope the Village of Pemberton and the Mount Currie Band continue working together."

"The Winds of Change document is a good starting tool," she said. "It's the start of a working relationship [between our communities]. There's still a lot of learning for both communities, but it only gets better."