## **MAYOR'S REPORT - FEBRUARY, 2022**





The month of February has been one largely centred around budget discussions for many local governments including the Town of Lake Cowichan. As discussions wind down the next step will be to present the five year financial plan bylaw and the relevant parcel tax bylaws to Mayor and Council for final discussion and potential adoption at upcoming meetings of Council.

For interested members of the public, I would encourage you to watch upcoming agendas on the Town of Lake Cowichan website and follow the process.

I would like to now take a moment to acknowledge where we are at with respect to the COVID Pandemic. As the provincial government starts to lift many of the restrictions, it is time to cast our minds to what the next few months will look like in and around our community.

Restaurants and other businesses will now move to full occupancy which I am sure will allow more people to go back to work and those businesses to again thrive.

Community events will slowly start to come back, as we all become more comfortable being together again and reuniting the feeling of connection in our community.

Volunteer organizations will again start to meet in person and reunite the relationships that build strong communities.

I am sure we have all learned a lot from the past two years as we have learned to slow the spread of the COVID virus. Wearing masks, washing hands, getting vaccinated and limiting gatherings were all new to us as a society and we all struggled to do what we felt we needed to keep ourselves, our families and our medical institutions safe. There are signs that we are moving towards the endemic stage, but we are not quite there. My hope is that we continue to work together towards the finish line and remain kind to each other as we have throughout the past two years of the pandemic.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge a special event coming up in the Town. On March 20, 2022, there will be the Kristal Mayo Memorial Cancer Walk. All funds raised through the registration fee will help towards the revitalization of the Duck Pond Playground. Registration is at the Duck Pond Park and begins at 9:30am on the day of the walk which starts at 11:00am. This walk is dedicated to all those we have lost and those who have battled and survived cancer. Thank you to Kristal and Dustin Mayo for planning this walk and to all those who will be organizing, what I am sure will be an amazing occasion.

Thank You.

Mayor Bob K. Day Town of Lake Cowichan Call / Text 250.710.0742