



Mayor's Report July, 2017



Each summer we are afforded an opportunity to enhance our social experiences as we attend the many different festivals and events that transpire each week/ weekend throughout the community. Whether it's Heritage Days, Lake Days, Canada 150 Celebration, Honeymoon Bay Days, Youbou Regatta, Sunfest, or any other happenings - these give us opportunities to re-engage with our neighbours and friends and also meet and greet many of our new residents.

Now, more than ever is the time to get out and socialize as it not only supports what is happening in Town but it also builds and strengthens the social fabric of our community. Being known as a friendly Town is a reputation we have and should be proud of. The way to improve our desirability as a destination is to strengthen that reputation of being a welcoming community. It's definitely in all of us to become even friendlier so neighbour to neighbour conflicts may also be avoided.

We are just beginning to see the potential of our Town's positive growth and indicators are that it will not be slowing down anytime soon. Communities are shaped by the citizens who live in them and each of us can help influence ours by the attitudes we reflect.

Our Lake Cowichan Fire Department has contributed its Truck # 2 and two firefighters on a rotating basis to assist with fighting the wild fires that are devastating our Province. Firefighters Ray Bourassa and Greg Smith were deployed July 14th, 2017 to help out in Williams Lake. While they were on route, plans changed as the need for their services was greater at the Cache Creek and Loon Lake fires. Steve Vatcher replaced Ray on July 20th, as our department's need to provide two firefighters remained in effect. As a community we are very proud of their commitment of protecting the communities affected by these raging fires.

On Saturday our local Fire Department held a four hour car wash and hot dog sale to raise money for victims of the wildfires who have been affected or displaced by the wild fires. A huge shout out to our fire department needs to be made for its volunteers and our forever generous community whose donations raised \$3,165 to help those in need. We as a community are so proud and thankful for our Firefighters and everything they do for us.

Excitement and anticipation is growing as we await the premiere of the Still Standing episode about Lake Cowichan. Thank you to Greg Adams and his family for allowing this show to be staged at Laketown Ranch where the general public can enjoy this awesome experience. August 1st, 2017 from 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm should be a lot of fun for everyone and it is free for all to attend. Come out and share this good time with everyone in our community who were privileged to be a part of the storyline surrounding this episode. There will be some games as we will have some fun distributing prizes provided by Still Standing production group. The band, Row of Crowz, will perform and of course together we will watch the premiere of the show on the big screen. Everyone is welcome to come out and participate in what should be a unique but great experience for our community. Just remember- Laketown Ranch, Tuesday August 1st, 2017 from 7:00-9:30 pm.

The general contract tender for new Water Treatment a Plant has been awarded to Tritech Group. Work shall be commencing soon as we are almost ready to break ground. This is a project that was mandated way back in 2006 and we are excited that it is finally coming to fruition.

Ross Forrest, Mayor