



Mayor's Report

August, 2017



It was great to see the large turnout at the Laketown Ranch on August 1st 2017 for the public showing of the television show "Still Standing". We are certainly appreciative of every person who came out to enjoy Jonny Harris showcasing our community for the rest of the country to see. There are now a lot more people across Canada who are familiar with Lake Cowichan. Laketown Ranch was an awesome venue to accommodate the 500 – 600 people who attended the event. A huge thank you goes out to Greg and Judy Adams for providing their amazing facility for this community event. Also, thank you to the Laketown Ranch Events Manager, Chance Adams, and our municipal staff who worked together on all of the details and logistics of this entertaining event. It was a fun experience for me personally to participate in the show and I will take the liberty to speak for all the other participants and state how proud we all were to represent Lake Cowichan. We are so grateful to Cathy Robertson of Cowichan Community Futures for suggesting Lake Cowichan as a possible location when CBC was researching for a suitable small town to feature. The enthusiastic participation of our citizens makes us so proud and indeed grateful to be part of a community where people love the area they live in.

Sunfest was once again a huge success and continues to allow many of our local businesses to prosper. Events of this magnitude provide the boost that helps local businesses who might otherwise struggle through the quieter winter months and who depend on the busy summer season to remain in business. A huge shout out goes to all our emergency service workers (police, firefighters & ambulance) who worked so hard in keeping everyone safe. Line-ups are something we're not accustomed to but our service employees did a tremendous job in meeting the increased customer demands at the respective businesses. Thank you as well to all our citizens for accepting the inconvenience that is related to the increase in population during festival weekends. I attended all four nights of Sunfest and it was really invigorating to witness hundreds of our local citizens enjoying world class entertainment in our own backyard. I came away with an overwhelming consensus of how fortunate we are to have the Laketown Ranch provide so many amazing musical artists at a facility so easily accessible to us all. We're proud to have Laketown Ranch as part of our community and are amazed at the professionalism they displayed in managing an event of this magnitude.

The CLRSS upper river clean-up Saturday, August 19th 2017 was another huge success. Over one hundred volunteers participated in the clean-up to preserve our heritage river. While tubing and river participation increases annually, the amount of litter in the river continues to decrease. This is wonderful news as it demonstrates that more and more people are being respectful of this terrific asset to our community. A huge thank you goes out to the CLRSS and all the dedicated volunteers and business sponsors for your valued stewardship. Your contributions make the Cowichan Lake area a better place.

We are inching closer to establishing our columbarium site for interment with the first three readings of the Town of Lake Cowichan Cemetery and Columbarium Bylaw 991-2017. The site survey has been completed as we continue to work through the process to bring this long desired interment option to our community. The establishment of the columbarium facility should happen before the fall.

Ross Forrest, Mayor