



**Acting Mayor's Report  
October 26, 2020**

I'd like to congratulate Greg Gabriel on being voted in as the new chief of the Penticton Indian Band. As acting mayor, I've sent a letter of congratulations to Mr. Gabriel on behalf of Council saying we look forward to building a strong relationship and working together with him and his council.

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Last week, I was honoured to receive Summerland's first Remembrance Day poppy from Legion President Mike Brazeau and Summerland Legion Poppy Chairman Doug McKay.

Each year around this time, the Legion presents the "First Poppy" in turn to the Governor-General of Canada, then to the Lieutenant-Governors of each province, and then to a local official in each municipality.

The presentation marks the beginning of the annual Poppy fundraising campaign, and poppies are now currently available for a donation at many of our local businesses. All the money collected from the sale of poppies is used for the care and remembrance of our veterans.

Due to the pandemic, there will not be a public ceremony in Memorial Park this November 11th. Which means local businesses and organizations won't be purchasing wreaths to be placed at the cenotaph, so it's all the more important that this year we pitch in and donate to the poppy fund.

The Legion is inviting members of the public to go to Memorial Park on their own time on the 11th to place their poppy on the cenotaph.

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Last week I also had the honour of receiving, on behalf of the District, FortisBC's Efficiency in Action Award in the Public Sector – Municipality category. This is an annual provincial award that's normally given out at UBCM, but this year was held as an online event due to Covid.

I think it's worth noting that Fortis nominated us for the award – we didn't go out and seek it. We were recognized for our efforts to reduce energy use in municipal buildings, specifically through our Level 2 energy audits, replacing aging H-VAC equipment with newer high-efficiency and heat pump options, upgrading streetlights and lighting in the arena to LED, and eliminating the need for hot water when resurfacing the ice in the arena. All these efforts are saving taxpayers over \$80,000/year in energy costs and are contributing to our efforts to make our municipal operations carbon neutral.

As an aside, we've recently taken delivery of a new electric Zamboni. Summerland Arena is the first rink anywhere in the world to use Zamboni's new lithium battery technology on its classic 552 model. By retiring our vintage 1976 Zamboni, we'll save about 120 litres of propane/ year.

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Last Thursday, I joined Councillors Carlson, Trainer, Barkwill, and Van Alphen together with our CAO and other staff, as well as members of the media, for the official opening of the upgraded entrance to the municipal Landfill. Improvements include a second scale, new scale house, separate entrance for recycling, and a high voltage electric perimeter fence around the entire landfill to keep out wildlife. I'd like to thank Environmental Service Manager Candace Piling and everyone in the Works Department for completing this necessary work on time and on budget.

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Finally, with Halloween coming up this weekend, just a reminder that we follow Doctor Bonnie Henry's advise for children to trick-or-treat in small groups and within their local neighbourhood. She also says we need to be sure we hand out treats in a safe manner. We don't want kids digging into a bowl so it's better to set up a table of candy outside your door or hand the stuff out using a hockey stick or a witch's broom or something like that.