

## **Mayor's Report, November 25, 2019**

Budget discussions continued over the last two weeks, with discussions on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>. Tomorrow evening the District hosts its first of two Open Houses on budget matters—this first one is about proposed utility rates for 2020. Staff will be presenting the draft rates and how and why these rates are being proposed. A question and answer period will follow the formal presentation. Residents are encouraged to ask questions of any of the staff in attendance and/or provide written feedback. The open house is in this room (Council Chambers) from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

On November 13<sup>th</sup> I carpoled to Kamloops to attend the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) meeting. The Association has organized a day-long workshop with Emergency Management BC on Friday, December 6 to hear about the proposed legislation and discuss the most important issues around emergency management. The session is open to all SILGA members and First Peoples' involved in emergency operations in the region. Chief Noble, our CAO and I are attending.

Still with SILGA, planning for the 2020 SILGA Convention in Vernon has begun. Feedback provided following last year's Convention is being used to ensure the sessions, workshops, and networking events are productive and respond to as many membership suggestions or requests as possible.

Also on November 13<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Pickleball, Tennis, and Dog Parks Open House. The session was presented by a Summerland consultant who gave a detailed presentation that was followed by a busy question and answer session. The District also provided opportunity for people to submit written comments. I look forward to tomorrow night's utility rates Open House being as well-attended as this one was!

November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> were two full days with RDOS: the first with Strategic Planning and the second with grant-in-aid presentations followed by preliminary discussions. Councillor Holmes attended both days; Mr. Haddad and alternate Councillor Trainer attended the Strategic Planning session. November 21<sup>st</sup> was a regular RDOS day, meaning we set the budget discussion aside to conduct other business. Of interest to Summerland is our participation, with RDOS and others, on a joint Child Care Assessment grant application. Council feels that a regionwide assessment not only gives us Summerland data but also situates our need for childcare within the broader region.

Lastly, Council and I welcome everyone to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of Lights this Friday. There are several changes this year that, if all goes according to plan, will make the celebration even more amazing. Don't forget: On Saturday morning the Summerland Fire Department is serving breakfast at Second Home to fundraise for the Toys for Tots and Teens campaign. See you there!