



# Council in Brief

Village of Harrison Hot Springs

## Highlights of Harrison's Council, Committee & Commission Meetings October/November

### Economic Development Commission Endorses Hiring of an Event Coordinator for 2010

One of the mandates of the EDC is to bring more annual events to the village. This prompted the commission to research the possibility of hiring an event coordinator for 2010. The Harrison Festival Society brought a proposal to the EDC suggesting that they may be able to hire this person under a program instituted by the Ministry's Labor Market Services Program. An application to the Ministry was supported by the EDC and the Village. Funding was approved and a task group was formed to prepare a job description, oversee hiring of a suitable candidate, provide assistance, and monitor performance to the incumbent through the 52-week term of the appointment. The task group is members of the EDC and includes R. Reyerse, D. Kenyon, S. Key, and P. Stenson. Office space will be provided by the Village. Office supplies and other items necessary for the performance of the job are included in the Ministry's funding. The EDC also recommended to the Council that in order to organize and put on events, the coordinator would probably need some money for such things as advertising, booking, event arrangements etc. The amount of \$10,000 was recommended. Council will consider the contribution in 2010 budget deliberations.

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### Village and Chamber support Festival of Lights

The Chamber of Commerce approved a contribution of \$8000 toward the purchase of festive, seasonal lights for the Village. In total, 27 lights and the light banner at the entrance were able to be purchased by the Village with these funds. This is a great start to more lighting in years to come. The official lighting of the lights and day of festivities kicking off the holiday season in the Village was held Nov. 28. Santa's Breakfast, choir performances around the village, plaza entertainment and arrangements, as well as the annual Christmas Tree Decoration and judging at the Resort Hotel were some of the festivities arranged by the Chamber and the Village.

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### Council Approves Grants to Groups

The Harrison Preschool hosted this year's annual Breakfast with Santa festivities and the Village contributed \$2000 towards preparations, food and gifts and \$1000 toward advertising. The contribution also included a stipend for Mr. and Mrs. Claus and a donation to the local Pipe Band for their participation. Monies were taken from the Festival of Lights budget. Council also approved a \$500 contribution to "Show Kids You Care" organization for their annual expenses and work with children around our community. This money was taken from the Grants to Groups budget.

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### Programs for the Local Youth

Parks and Recreation Commission recommended that Council apply for the Youth Program Grant. A grant has been applied for in the amount of \$2000 to plan a skate park. Youth will partake in the planning process, providing input on their desired product.

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### The Breakwater and the Federal Wharf

The District of Kent issued a request for proposals to rebuild the breakwater which would promote wind and wave protection to marinas and boat moorages in our inner harbor along the eastern waterfront along Rockwell Drive. In order to extend the divestiture agreement, the Federal Government required that the joint account between the Village and the District be dissolved. Council agreed to the dissolution of the remaining funds, and will deposit the funds into its own separate account. Monies held by the Village will be used to maintain and support potential improvements along our portion of the waterfront, including the federal wharf.

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### Harrison Lake Harbour Commission

The Village and Integrated Land Management Bureau signed an agreement giving District of Kent responsibility for the portion of waterfront Lot 5843 that is within the boundaries of District of Kent.

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### Council Takes Action

Council authorized the CAO to sign a contract with Neelco Construction, Mr. Gerrit Romeyn for project management budget investigation services for the proposal reconstruction of the McCombs Road bridges. Council also requested staff to look into widening the newly constructed roundabout on McCombs Drive at the suggestion of residents finding it difficult to navigate. With the new reservoir nearing completion, fine tuning of the original budget was necessary to cover extra engineering costs associated with blasting and rock fall protection. Council approved the engineering increase, and also heard that the overall construction was coming in under budget.

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### Village Climate Action Plans for the Future

A workshop took place on December 1, 2009 to discuss and consider policies and actions to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. Topics included Transportation, Buildings, Energy Use, Solid Waste, Resource Management, as well as Corporate and Community Potential.

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### Parks and Recreation Commission

The new Parks and Recreation Commission will maintain financial practices and procedures that currently exist between Village local community groups. Chairman, Ed Stenson will continue his role overseeing the financial aspects for the time being. New procedures may be brought forward should the Commission decide to change this process.

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### Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department

Council adopted Bylaw No. 923- 2009 Village of Harrison Hot Springs Fire Department Regulation Bylaw. The new bylaw replaces the old bylaw adopted in 2004. With this, Council approved Policy 3.8 Fire Department Remuneration and rescinded Policy 3.7 Fire Department - Honorariums and Call-Out Rates.

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The "Council in Brief" is a bi-monthly publication of the Village of Harrison Hot Springs and is a synopsis of Council Committee and Commission meetings.

A schedule of upcoming meetings, current Council agenda and adopted minutes may be found on our website at [www.harrisonhotsprings.ca](http://www.harrisonhotsprings.ca) Meetings are held in Council Chambers, Village Office, 495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs. The public is welcome to attend.

*For copies of this publication or more information contact the Village Office at 604-796-2171.*

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### Council Considers Action on Unsightly Premises Bylaw Infractions

The long standing, derelict and unsightly premises and buildings at 430, 470 and 480 Esplanade are finally being dealt with. Unsightly provisions in Village bylaws will be used if necessary to file section 57 notices. Also, inspections and notifications to the owners will be issued in an attempt to declare these locations nuisances pursuant to the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter*. The process is a long one, and Council hopes to have these properties dealt with some time in the early spring. The goal is to have the buildings and lands cleaned up to prevent unsafe and unsightly situations.

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### Bylaws

Council adopted:

- **Bylaw No. 924** Fee Schedule Amendment Bylaw.
- **Bylaw No. 925** Advisory Planning Commission Repeal Bylaw.
- **Bylaw No. 926** Recreation Commission Repeal Bylaw.

### Policies

Banner Installation Policy No. 4.7 was rescinded and a new Street Banner Display Policy 4.18 was adopted.

### ***Next Regular Council Meeting:***

**Monday, January 25, 2010  
7:00 p.m.**

Council Chambers, Village Office, 495 Hot Springs  
Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC