



VILLAGE OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE

VILLAGE VOICE

JULY 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

We are building this summer.

Our most significant work is the Honna River intake and treatment plant within fisheries guidelines. As you read this, work continues at the intake with the treatment plant slated for August construction. Equipment installation follows in the fall and testing before and after Christmas. And construction is timely. We need to be on our new river system. Our Tarundle wells are hard pressed to keep up with our warm weather demands. We are at the limit of what is called the aesthetic level of salt content. This means that you may taste a difference in the quality of the water and if you are on a sodium (salt) restricted diet you may wish to ask your physician for advice. The village office has contacted the health officer, hospital and doctor's clinic and though this is **not considered an emergency** we wish to advise you. We also ask your assistance in keeping your water use reasonable and responsible.

Please conserve water.

We are also planning the basic work at Spirit Square. Rip rap around the water edge to hold the

bank, digging in the electrical service and addressing drainage issues. Your input for the design and the key elements of Spirit Square is being asked in our survey (see page 3). Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to the Village Office.

We welcomed the World condominium cruise ship and worked with Misty Isles Economic Development Society to provide space and tents for our island artisans to exhibit. This is our first cruise ship and an opportunity to showcase Skidegate's cultural centre, the islands' natural beauty and our diverse artistic talent. Congratulations to MIEDS staff and Skye Cantin Board Director for the tremendous organizational effort.

The Official Community Plan has progressed to the next step. The Advisory Planning Committee submitted the draft to Council who will now review, forward to the appropriate ministries, the CHN, legal council and then return to the community with a final draft before adoption. Copies are available at the office and online on our website.

Mayor Carol Kulesha

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Canada Post petition is signed by 1000 island residents.*
- *Olympic Torch Committee looks for volunteers.*
- *Professional Dragon Boat coach coming to host clinic.*
- *Village looks for input on Spirit Square.*
- *Water advisory in effect.*
- *Find the intentional typo and win a prize!*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CANADA POST 2

OLYMPIC TORCH 2

DRAGON BOATS 2

SPIRIT SQUARE 3

WATER ADVISORY 4

WATER TIPS 4

CANADA POST

According to Canada Post, while BC Ferries is on its summer schedule, we will have increased postal deliveries. But that won't change our dismal service for the rest of the year. If you live in Prince Rupert the standard for priority and express post is 2 business days to Vancouver but on QC/HG (despite having 2 airlines) our Priority and Express post is 5 days - NOT COUNTING THE DAY DELIVERED TO THE POST OFFICE, WEEK-ENDS, OR HOLIDAYS. The worst part is, even

at this dismal 8 days for what should be a 2 hour flight to Vancouver – Canada Post can only meet this goal 85% of the time. And that is considered “good enough”. Senior staff seemed surprised that we purchased such little expedited mail. Canada Post has forced businesses, health, banking, veterinary and those who can afford it, to use alternate providers at three times the cost. At the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Moya Greene CEO Canada Post, The

Honorable Stockwell Day for Prime Minister Harper, Liberal Leader Mr. Michael Ignatieff and NDP leader the Honorable Jack Layton all spoke of the importance of rural areas and their party's support of the rural community. Our next step is to ask for that support by forwarding to the House of Commons, the Petition, endorsed by every municipality, band council and region and backed by almost 1000 of your signatures.



“THOSE WHO WISH TO BE A VOLUNTEER TO MAKE THIS EVENT A REALITY PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THE LIST AT THE OFFICE”

OLYMPIC TORCH COMMITTEE

We have applied for funding available to celebration communities as well as for funding from the Canadian Heritage fund to make this celebration a very special all island event. Gwaii Trust generously endorsed our island wide celebration with

\$13,920 and NSCU as well as a couple of private donors have contributed another \$800. This is going to be a big party and those who wish to be volunteers to make this event a reality please put your name on the list at the office.



DRAGON BOAT UPDATE

The Village is currently looking into seasonal insurance for the two boats. We plan on insuring them from May to September each

year. We have also been in contact with an instructor who has agreed to come host a paddle camp in Charlotte in late August. Once the insur-

ance is in place we will organize his visit and advertise regular training nights. If you would like to join the team please contact Jeni at the office.



SPIRIT SQUARE

Spirit Square is the land adjacent to the Visitors Information Centre parking lot, bounded by Small Craft Harbours, Wharf Street and the mall building. Purchased with the assistance of Gwaii Trust to meet the need to create a multi use downtown park, the site has been cleared, water and sewer services are in place, underground electrical service planned and rip rap is slated to be placed around the outside edge to retain the land. Fisheries and Oceans also require that certain drainage issues be addressed. Small Craft Harbours and the Harbour Authority also have plans for their area in the causeway. Intentions are for a tribute to Chief Skidegate, buildings housing a wharfinger's office, toilets and showers, parking and room for an office building by Albion Fisheries.

We are looking for your continued input. Basic ideas were brought forward at a "Visioning for Spirit Square" public meeting held in March, 2009 and we would like to explore them further. Monies are limited – so in the questions below please circle what is important to you.

1. Spirit Square should be a multi use area. Our plans should allow for:
 1. Open areas for public celebrations
 2. Farmers market and Craft fairs
 3. Outdoor seating
 4. Covered seating
 5. Covered lunch table
 6. Children's play area
 7. Bandstand
 8. Water viewing tower or gazebo
 9. Other _____
2. How often will you use Spirit Square and why? _____
3. Spirit Square should celebrate our arts and culture by including:
 1. Sculpture from local artists
 2. Community artists wall
 3. Active studio space
 4. Other _____
4. Spirit Square needs to contain the following physical elements:
 1. Windbreak around the water edge
 2. Green break between wharf and street
 3. Sound proofing for reefers
 4. Low level lighting
 5. Other _____
5. What type of lighting would be most appropriate for the Square?
 1. Floodlighting
 2. Accent lighting
 3. Inset ground lighting
 4. Ornamental light posts from which to hang flower baskets
6. Spirit Square is pedestrian friendly. Therefore:
 1. Only scheduled vehicle traffic allowed
 2. No vehicle traffic
 3. Permanent access road at the water side
7. What are key words that describe your vision of Spirit Square?

Please fill out and return to the Village Office, thank you.





VILLAGE OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE

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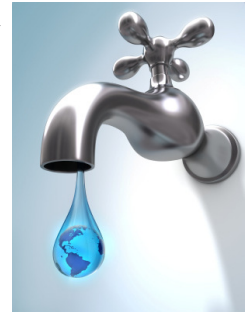
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We're on the web!
www.queencharlotte.ca

WATER QUALITY ADVISORY

The Village of Queen Charlotte has long experienced low water levels and some salt water (Sodium Chloride) intrusion into our water wells during the dry summer months. These wells are monitored daily and currently we are exceeding the aesthetic level of chloride in one of the wells. The Village is limiting the flow from this well; however water users may notice a change in taste and even a somewhat salty taste (aesthetic level). This Advisory is given as a precaution for those water users who may wish to limit their intake of Sodium.



We are currently constructing an Intake & Water Treatment Plant on the Honna River for a permanent resolution to both water shortages and salt water intrusion. We ask your cooperation and assistance by limiting water usage and practicing good water conservation techniques.

Thank you

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Follow our Water Conservation Tips and reduce the amount of water you use (and the amount you waste!) Water supplies are not endless. Everyone can play a part, at home, at school or in the community, to protect and to conserve our water so that it will be sustained for future generations. Here are some ideas on how you can save water in the home and garden:

1. Install a low-flow faucet aerator in your kitchen, it can cut water use in half.
2. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator rather than running tap water until it is cool enough to drink.
3. Wash only full loads in the dishwasher.
4. Check regularly



- for any leaks and fix them. Most common bathroom leaks are found in faucets and in and around toilets.
5. Turn the tap water off while brushing your teeth, shaving, or washing your face.
6. Wash only full loads in the clothes washer.
8. Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster plus

- avoid wasting water while it heats up.
8. Collect rain water in an old barrel or other large container that is outfitted with a spigot and a suitable cover, and use the water on your garden.
9. Install a low-flow showerhead. It can save about half the amount of water you typically use in the shower.

Turn off sink faucet while scrubbing dishes and pots.

