



CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF POUCE COUPE

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ANNUAL REPORT 2007

An Open Letter to the Citizens of Pouce Coupe from Mayor Barb Smith

June 11, 2007

On behalf of Council, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Pouce Coupe for their support and confidence as we complete the first half of our election term. Your confidence in us is valued, and we will do our best to make you proud to be a citizen of Pouce Coupe.

A year ago it was Councils' goal to put the Village in a position to benefit from this upcoming time of prosperity in the Peace River Region. We wanted to take advantage of the times by encouraging residential and commercial development in the Village. Currently, we are in the process of developing residential and industrial subdivisions in the Village. We want to look at our Official Community Plan, Building and Zoning bylaws to ensure the growth is managed properly, and is green and sustainable. We want to attract developers and businesses alike, and support them in shaping Pouce Coupe the way we want to see it.

A capital project for 2007 will be the building of a Community Centre and Library. We are working with the Ministry of Education to build a new school. Council sees this as priority. The school keeps children and families in the community, and that is what will ensure our future.

We are preparing to complete studies on our lagoon, and water reservoir to ensure they will meet our need in years to come.

Council is dedicated to promoting civic pride. We have a good number of volunteers working on the 75th Anniversary Homecoming celebration. We are looking for more members for the Library Board, Museum Board, and Volunteer Fire department. Council encourages the public to get involved in your community. Your involvement is what makes our Village a Community.

The Peace River Haven and Hospital will be closing down at the end of 2008. Council will be working with the Northern Health Authority to find an appropriate use for those facilities in our community. Council will be planning to strike a committee to work on this project.

As reported in the annual Audit, Pouce Coupe is in a sound financial position.

Council is very open to hear the ideas of the constituency. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome. Thanks you to all those who are attending the Council meetings. Please feel free to contact myself or any Council member if you have any concerns, so that we may address them promptly and effectively.

Mayor Barb Smith

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Copies of the audited financial statements are available at the Municipal office, located at 5011-49th Avenue, Pouce Coupe, BC.

STATEMENT OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

In accordance with Section 98 (2) (b) of the Community Charter, the following properties in the Village of Pouce Coupe were provided permissive property tax exemptions by the Council in 2006:

Legal Description	Civic Address	Organization	Value of Permissive Exemption
Lot 9, Block 2, Section 32, Township 77, Range 14, W6M, PRD	5000-48 th Avenue	Senior Citizen's Association of BC	\$238.61
Lot 22, Block 6, Plan 2252 Section 32, Township 77 Range 14, W6M, PRD	4919-48 th Avenue	Anglican Synod Diocese of Caledonia	\$360.63
Lot A, Plan PGP48604 Section 32, Township 77 Range 14, W6M, PRD	5000-49 th Avenue	Pouce Coupe Community Church	\$395.12

PROGRESS REPORT RESPECTING 2006 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

Administration

Objective: Improve Council's information access by purchasing a new computer for Council Chambers.

Status: Computer installed. Councillors have computer access including internet and email to assist them in their duties.

Cemetery

Objective: Improve Cemetery management by purchasing new computer software to manage cemetery.

Status: New computer software (Stone Orchard) in place to manage cemetery.

Economic Development

Objective: To encourage growth in residential and commercial areas by participating in the South Peace Comprehensive Development Plan with the City of Dawson Creek and the Peace River Regional District.

Status: SPCDP in final stage of completion, June 2007.

Emergency Services

Objective: To be prepared to manage an emergency or disaster.

Status: Emergency Measures plan was updated and an exercise was held in December 2006.

Protective Services

Objective: To ensure our Volunteer firefighters have the necessary equipment to fight fires with minimum risk to personal safety by purchasing necessary gear.
 Status: New personal protective gear purchased.

Public Works

Objective: Improve the aesthetics and safety of the roads and sidewalks in the Village by entering into a contract with the Ministry of Highways for re-paving
 Measures: New roads and sidewalks are in place, greatly increasing pedestrian safety.

Objective: Increase the level of taxation in the Light Industrial category for the Village by developing the Pouce Coupe Industrial subdivision.
 Status: Bids were too high to do the project in 2006. Project started in April 2007, to be completed June 2007. Two new businesses are moving into our community. 52nd street access complete.

Objective: Protect the investment in the Fleet Materials and supplies in the Public Works Department by erecting a new cold storage building in the Public Works Yard.
 Status: Cold storage (Goodon) building in place.

Objective: Improve the capability of Public Works equipment, thereby increasing the efficient operations of the public works department by purchasing a new lawn mower and upgrades to Fleet.
 Status: New Kubota lawnmower purchased. New plough and sander purchased.

Recreation and Culture

Objective: To promote tourism and encourage visitors to stay longer in the area by upgrading playground, laundry facility, and residence at Pouce Coupe Park.
 Status: New playground installed at Pouce Park. No work done on laundry or residence.

Objective: To encourage more use of municipal parks by upgrading the playground equipment.
 Status: New playground installed at Harden Park.

Objective: To provide more recreational opportunities for Youth by developing a BMX bicycle track.
 Status: New BMX track in place. Also, new skate park equipment purchased for rink.

Objective: Expand on programs and community focus at the Pouce Coupe Municipal Library.
 Status: New library to be built in the new school.

Sewer Facility

Objective: To stabilize the riverbank at the berm around the lagoon by contracting out the project as required by engineered design.

Status: Incomplete. To do in 2007.

Streets and Lanes

Objective: Improve safety conditions for pedestrians and enhance main streets by initiating a 5-year plan for upgrading sidewalks and installing curb & gutter on main public streets.

Status: New & improved sidewalks built with Ministry of Highways partnership in 2006, creating safer conditions for pedestrian & vehicle traffic.

Objective: Improve safety conditions for pedestrians and enhance streets by evaluating and implementing new light standards in areas required.

Status: Incomplete. To do in 2007.

Water Facility

Objective: To improve the water distribution system with the installation of fire hydrants.

Status: Incomplete. To do in 2007.

Objective: To improve the water distribution system with upgrades to the water reservoir system by engineered design.

Status: Incomplete. To do in 2007.

DECLARATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF DISQUALIFIED COUNCIL MEMBERS

None

STATEMENT OF MUNICIPAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2007**Cemetery**

Objective: Enhance the appearance of the cemetery.

Strategy: Repair/restore existing walkways, structures, fence, etc. Lift sunken grave stones.

Measures: Improved appearance of the cemetery to show our respect for those buried there and their families.

Economic Development

Objective: To encourage growth in residential and commercial areas.

Strategy: To develop Residential (Pederson subdivision) and Industrial Park lots.

Measures: Increase in development and construction in the Village and surrounding area.

Emergency Services

Objective: To prepare for an emergency or disaster.

Strategy: Provide training for the Emergency Operations Team.

Measures: Emergency Operations Team in place.

Protective Services

- Objective: To ensure our Volunteer firefighters have the necessary equipment to fight fires with minimum risk to personal safety.
- Strategy: Purchase required gear.
- Measures: New personal protective gear purchased.

Public Works

- Objective: To maintain roadways in the interest of safety and aesthetics.
- Strategy: Patch pave, and add/replace street signs as required.
- Measures: Safe and attractive roadways.
- Objective: Improve the capability of Public Works equipment, thereby increasing the efficient operations of the public works department.
- Strategy: Purchase a new multiuse utility vehicle for Village operations.
- Measures: Efficient and effective maintenance of Village pathways.

Recreation and Culture

- Objective: To develop our community recreation facilities.
- Strategy: Build a Community Centre for Community events in the new school.
- Measures: Increase in sport, recreational, and social activities in the Community.
- Objective: To promote tourism and encourage visitors to stay longer in the area.
- Strategy: Upgrades to facilities and grounds at Pouce Coupe Park.
- Measures: Increase in numbers of visitors and events at Pouce Coupe Park by adding new signage and more sites.
- Objective: To increase the attractiveness of the museum, as a tourism draw.
- Strategy: Upgrades to facility including painting rooms, expanding washrooms for special needs.
- Measures: More attractive and user friendly facility.
- Objective: To advertise a Homecoming, in conjunction with the Canada Day program, to celebrate the Village's 75th Anniversary
- Strategy: Create a committee and develop a program.
- Measures: Increase in economic development to the Village; community pride.

Security

- Objective: Improve the security system at the Village office.
- Strategy: Install security cameras.
- Measures: Reduction of Vandalism to the Village office.

Sewer Facility

- Objective: To stabilize the riverbank at the berm around the lagoon by contracting out the project as required by engineered design.
- Strategy: Contract an engineer to complete a study.
- Measures: Safe and reliable sewer system.

Water Facility

Objective: To improve the water distribution system with the installation of fire hydrants.

Strategy: Install hydrants

Measures: Complete system with fire protection coverage.

Objective: To improve the water distribution system with upgrades to the water reservoir system by engineered design.

Strategy: Contract an engineer to complete a study.

Measures: Safe and reliable water system.

STATEMENT OF MUNICIPAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2008**Economic Development**

Objective: To ensure there are positive uses for the Pouce Coupe Care Home and Haven

Strategy: To work with the Northern Health Board in finding uses for the buildings.

Measures: Positive alternative uses for the buildings.

Protective Services

Objective: To ensure our Firehall is large enough to support a new fire truck (Capital purchase 2009)

Strategy: Renovate Firehall to accommodate the size of the new truck.

Measures: Efficient and effective operation of the Village Fire Protection Service.

Objective: To ensure our Volunteer firefighters have the necessary equipment to fight fires with minimum risk to personal safety.

Strategy: Purchase required gear.

Measures: New personal protective gear purchased, and training equipment.

Public Works

Objective: To maintain roadways in the interest of safety and aesthetics.

Strategy: Patch pave, and add/replace street signs as required.

Measures: Safe and attractive roadways.

Objective: Improve the capability of Public Works equipment, thereby increasing the efficient operations of the public works department.

Strategy: Purchase a new fleet and equipment for Village operations.

Measures: Efficient and effective maintenance of Village Public Works needs.

Recreation and Culture

Objective: To develop our community recreation facilities.

Strategy: Optimize the use of our new Community Centre for Community events.

Measures: Increase in sport, recreational, and social activities in the Community.

Sewer Facility

Objective: To stabilize the riverbank at the berm around the lagoon by contracting out the project as required by engineered design.

Strategy: Issue a contract to develop a long term solution to the lagoon facility.

Measures: Safe and reliable sewer system.

Water Facility

Objective: To improve the water distribution system with the installation of fire hydrants.

Strategy: Install hydrants

Measures: Complete system with fire protection coverage.

OTHER INFORMATION

None

APPROVAL

The 2006 Annual Report was approved at a Special meeting of Council, June 26, 2007.

Barb Smith

Mayor

Village of Pouce Coupe, BC

Peter Thomas

Chief Administrative Officer

Village of Pouce Coupe, BC