

# OUR COMMUNITY Dawson Creek

NOVEMBER  
2011

*We want to hear from you!*

## Sanitary Sewer Master Plan

*The City moves toward a long-range plan of action*

Change has arrived. The oil and gas industry is driving residential, commercial and industrial growth in the City and is increasing demands on the City's water and sewer infrastructure.

Responding to these changes and problems highlighted by severe rainfalls this summer, City Council allocated funding to develop a Sanitary Sewer Master Plan. A request for proposals was tendered and closed at the end of October. The planning process will begin in December 2011.

"There is excitement and opportunity in a busy economy, but it also creates challenges that have to be met," said Mayor Mike Bernier. "Not only do we have to maintain and upgrade what we have, we need to manage the long-term future of our growing city."

The goals of the plan are to identify and map deficiencies in the current system, identify areas of future growth and develop a plan prioritizing upgrades and associated costs for the system for the next 5 to 10 years.

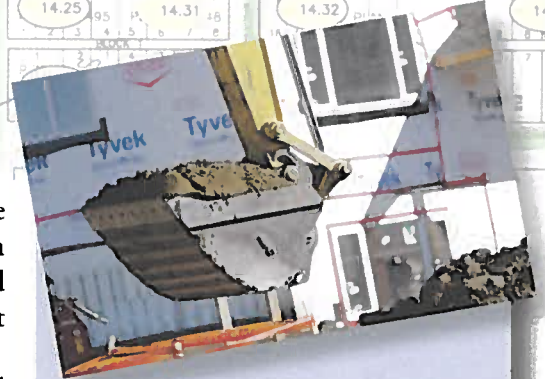
"In the past, our emphasis has been on maintaining what we have," says Kevin

Henderson, Director of Infrastructure & Sustainable Development. "This is an opportunity to set out what is required over the next 5 to 10 years and what it will cost."

Key components of the plan will include a GPS survey and mapping of the entire collection system including manhole elevations. A hydraulic model for analyzing existing and future developments will determine system capacity upgrade needs including future expansion for the next 10 years.

There are also other ways of managing the collection system. In the past, roof drains and weeping tile for residences fed into the sewer system causing problems during heavy rainfalls. In the future, developers will start to direct rainwater into storage and landscaping to slow the water as it moves through the watershed.

The project was sent to tender in October 2011. The successful company will complete the analysis and plan by October 31, 2012. This will be followed by a submission to City Council in November 2012.



### The Current System:

- approximately 110 km of sanitary sewer collection pipe ranging from 8 to 30 inches in diameter
- 25 km of pipe examined and recorded by video
- 1160 manholes
- gravity fed with 5 pumping stations in the system to assist
- approximately 3,600 residential and 600 commercial connections

All flows are treated at the City's Waste Water Treatment Lagoons that process an average of 5.5 million litres per day. In February 2012, the Reclaimed Water Plant is scheduled to begin operation as the final step in the treatment process.

## MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2011

**Advance Voting Days November 9 & 16**

**at City Hall, 8 am to 8 pm**

**General Voting Day, Saturday November 19**

**at EnCana Events Centre Main Lobby, 8 am to 8 pm**

**There is Free Transit on Voting Day**

**2005**

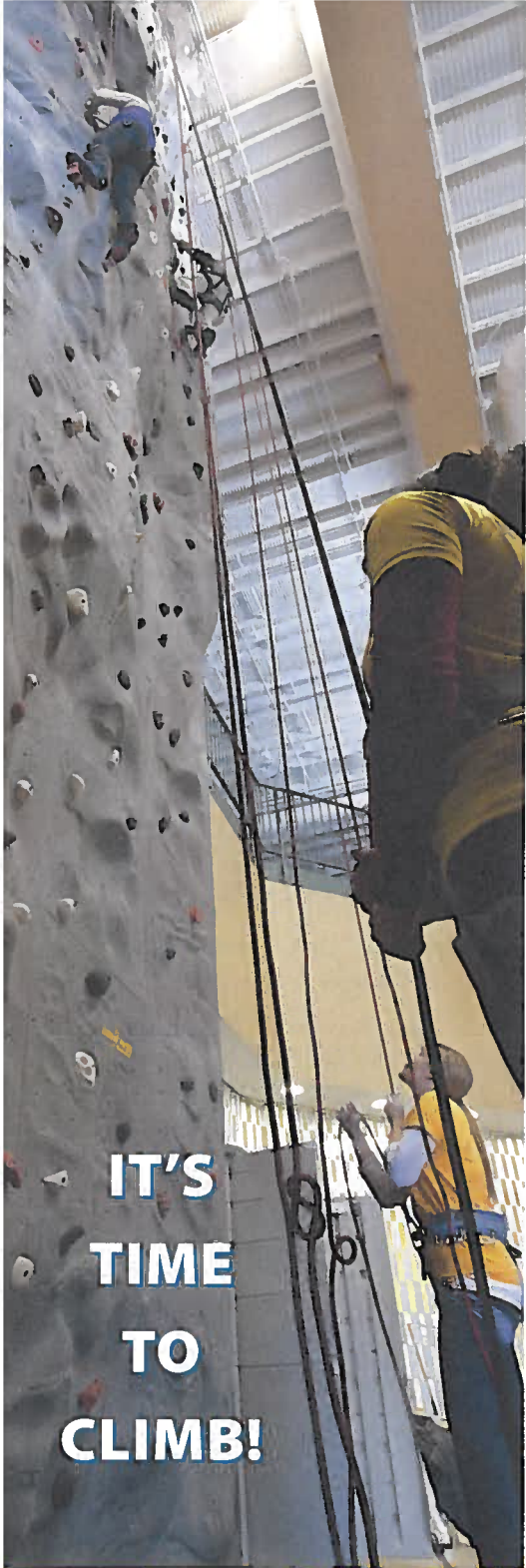
**2,894 voters = 41.6% turnout**

**2008**

**2,840 voters = 40.34% turnout**

**2011**

**Let's make it 99%**



**IT'S  
TIME  
TO  
CLIMB!**



## Looking for a new flight-plan

*The City consults with the public for ideas about the airport*

**M**aking better use of the Dawson Creek Regional Airport is a top priority of City Council. In October the City began gathering suggestions and concerns from stakeholders and the public.

“It is clear to everyone that the airport is a strategic asset for the City,” said Mayor Mike Bernier. “We needed to open up the discussion to get the best ideas from the community then decide how to proceed.”

Consultants hired by the City toured the airport and airport facilities, toured the community, met with various users of the airport and facilitated a public open house at the Kiwanis Performing Arts Centre.

Some of the issues identified during the discussions included the importance of the airport to industries working in the area, business people needing more than one flight a day from the airport, people needing a local option and the need to maintain the airport for medical flights.

Information gathered from the 34 stakeholders that attended the consultation sessions, the 45 citizens that participated in the public open house and the 74 surveys collected will be presented to Council towards the end of November.

The consultants will provide Council with a document that summarizes the input received from the community. They will provide Council with a strategic plan direction for the airport including a vision, goals and objectives, and some key action areas.

This document will be reviewed by Council and if determined satisfactory, the document can be adopted as a guideline, allowing Council to move forward onto the next phases of the Sustainability Plan.

### **The Dawson Creek Regional Airport:**

- Owned by the City since 1995
- Managed by Ian Darling, Taygus Management Ltd.
- Home of the Runway Café
- Runway is 1,524 metres (5,000 feet)
- Float plane base is approximately 1,219 metres (4,000 feet)
- One carrier, Central Mountain Air, provides daily scheduled air service north to Fort Nelson and south to Vancouver.

### **Try out the Climbing Wall at the Aquatic Centre!**

We offer Introductory Learn to Climb classes, Drop In Sessions, Movement Classes and fun Tryout Sessions which are great for the whole family! Rentals are available for Birthday Parties or any other event.

**On November 11, between 1:00–2:30pm and 3:00–5:00pm, you can try out the wall for only \$2!**

Please note waiver forms must be signed by parents or legal guardians for anyone 18 years old or younger.

Call the pool for more information at 250-782-7946.



### **DOG LICENCES**

Dawson Creek requires all dogs to be licensed.

Dog tags may be purchased at the SPCA (637-114th Avenue) or at local veterinary clinics.

***Dog licenses expire December 31<sup>st</sup> each year.***

**TALK BACK**



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**250-784-3600**  
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