



MUNICIPAL MATTERS

The Dawson Creek City Council Update



April to June 2025

Welcome to the Mayor & Council quarterly newsletter, your direct source for news and information about how your Mayor & Council are working for you.

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

It's been a productive season for Dawson Creek. I want to share some exciting updates on the work we're doing to support our local economy, improve public safety and ensure our city continues to thrive.

I connected with Minister Randene Neill to discuss our community's water needs - a critical issue I look forward to continuing conversations on. I also had the honour of representing Dawson Creek at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference in Ottawa, where I joined leaders from across the country to advocate for our community's priorities.

I attended a Peace Regional Economic Development Alliance meeting to share updates on Dawson Creek's progress and learn from regional partners. We also connected with the Grande Prairie Regional Airport team and hosted our own Airport Roundtable to gather feedback and ideas for enhancing local services.

And in exciting news - Uber has officially expanded into Dawson Creek, supporting transportation options and boosting local economic opportunities.

A heartfelt thank you to the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of BC and our Dawson Creek RCMP for their efforts to enhance public safety. The work to disrupt organized crime and reduce the flow of illegal drugs is making a difference and reflects a shared commitment to building a safer city.

Recruiting and retaining physicians remains a top priority. I attended a South Peace Physician Recruitment Committee meeting to get an update on the work underway. I also had the pleasure of attending the Adventures in Healthcare event at Northern Lights College, where students explored career paths in healthcare - an inspiring look at our future caregivers.

Together, we're focused on building a strong, resilient future. And, on that note, congratulations to all the 2025 graduates - you made it! Have a safe and fun summer.

~ Mayor Dober

MILE ZERO MOMENTS



The Healthcare Travelling Roadshow hit Dawson Creek! Northern Medical Program students were in town to showcase careers in healthcare and check out what our city has to offer. City staff and the community were there to welcome them. The group was able to play a pickleball game at Creekside Courts and pop into Post & Row for a great bite to eat. Thanks to everyone who made their trip memorable!



Mayor and Council helped raise the Philippine Flag at City Hall, as June 12th was proclaimed as Independence Day for the Filipino community. The event was particularly poignant this year, following the tragic events that occurred after the Lapu Lapu Day event in Vancouver. The senseless act had a profound impact on communities far and wide.

COUNCIL CORNER

It's been a season full of connection, celebration and community spirit here in Dawson Creek!

We're incredibly proud of how our city came together to support evacuees from Kelly Lake and One Island Lake during the recent wildfires. Thank you to the Dawson Creek Emergency Support Services team and everyone who made our neighbours feel at home during this difficult time.

Earlier this spring, Councillor MacDonald represented Dawson Creek at the North Central Local Government Association convention and was elected Second Vice President - congratulations!

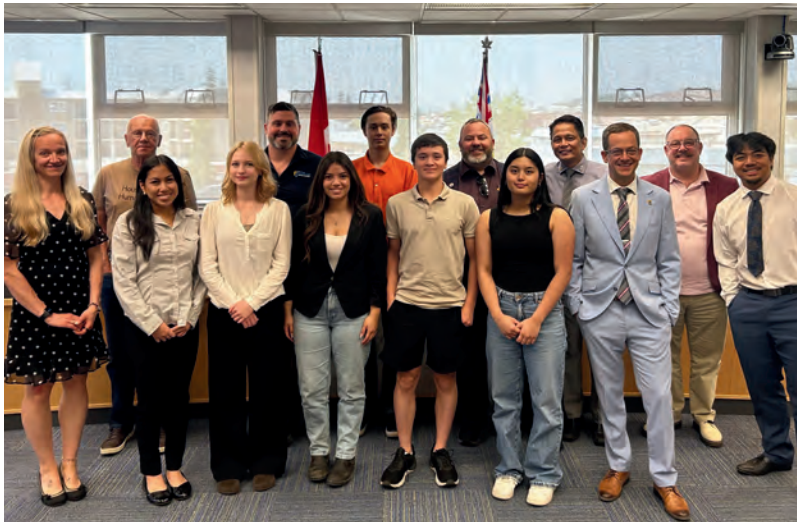
A big shoutout to our local Super 8, named a top five finalist in Wyndham's Hotel of the Year awards! Thanks for choosing Dawson Creek as the place to start your something.

And speaking of community champions - nominations are now open for the 2025 Community Awards! Know someone who makes a big impact? Celebrate them today. The annual gala is our chance to honour individuals, businesses and organizations that make Dawson Creek such a special place to live. Nominations close August 15 - [submit here](#).

We look forward to the many fun community events this summer - the countdown is on for the 103rd Annual Dawson Creek Exhibition & Stampede! A big thanks to everyone who is working hard to put on another great show and create lasting memories for our whole community.

See you there!

~ Councillors Gregg Apolonio, Jerimy Earl, Amy Kaempf, Kyle MacDonald, Charlie Parslow and Mike Sudnik



DCSS Student Council Lunch with Council!

IN FOCUS



2024: A Year of Progress in Dawson Creek!

From smarter signals to safer streets, the City of Dawson Creek made big moves in 2024 - and it's all in our new [Annual Report](#)! Some of the key highlights include:

- Major upgrades to 96 Avenue including improved drainage, sewer and paving which will reduce future flood risks and improve road safety.
- Memorial Arena got a new lease on life with a refreshed pad and facility upgrades.
- The Dawson Creek Art Gallery entrance is now more accessible and welcoming for all.
- New inclusive recreation amenities like the Kin Park accessible playground and Creekside Courts mean more fun for everyone.
- And downtown intersections got smarter, safer and more accessible thanks to Accessible Pedestrian Signals upgrades.

Dive into the [full report](#).



YOUR CITY

Raising the Barns, Raising the Bar!

Check out the progress on the new barns at the Dawson Creek Exhibition Grounds!

Northern Lights College carpentry students are rebuilding the horse barns - bringing hands-on learning and community improvement together. It's a new partnership between NLC students, the Dawson Creek Exhibition Association and the City.

New Thrills at Rotary Rec Park!

The Pump Track at the Rotary Recreation Park is open! A huge thank you to all of the volunteers and staff at the Mile 0 Park Society for bringing this cool new amenity to our community. Grab your wheels and let's ride!



Boosting Business, Revitalizing Dawson Creek

City Council is looking at new ways to spark economic growth and support local businesses. One option on the table? A Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw - offering temporary property tax breaks to encourage new business development.

The proposed bylaw would provide tax relief for up to 10 years for eligible businesses, with the biggest savings in the early years. It's all about attracting investment, creating jobs and breathing new life into underused spaces across the city.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



A New Cultural Space Takes Root

Northern Lights College has officially broken ground on its new Indigenous-led Cultural Arbour at the Dawson Creek campus.

This meaningful space, guided by local Indigenous leaders and knowledge keepers, will provide a place for ceremony, celebration, learning and connection.

The Arbour is part of NLC's ongoing work to advance reconciliation and create inclusive, welcoming spaces for all students.

Join the Municipal
Matters mailing list!



AROUND TOWN



Turning Waste into Opportunity

Mayor Dober, CAO Kevin Henderson, and Councillors MacDonald and Sudnik toured Shell's innovative water hub, where City wastewater is repurposed to support industrial operations.

Instead of being released into Dawson Creek, the treated water now meets high-quality standards for both industrial and municipal use.

This partnership helps conserve freshwater resources while supporting responsible natural gas development at Shell's Groundbirch site.



Shaping the Future of Forestry

Mayor Dober and Councillors Sudnik and MacDonald attended the COFI Convention in Prince George. The convention this year was about tackling the factors and innovations actively reshaping the future of the forest sector in BC and elsewhere.



Spreading Smiles and Gratitude

Councillors Earl and Apolonio delivered Smile Cookies to the dedicated staff at the Dawson Creek Health Unit and Dawson Creek & District Hospital - a small token of appreciation for the big impact they make every day in our community.



Spotlight on Community Health

Council was proud to attend the South Peace Health Expo - a hands-on event connecting residents with healthcare professionals, services and wellness programs. From interactive booths to informative talks, the expo highlighted local efforts to improve access and build a healthier region.



Behind Bars for a Good Cause

Mayor Dober was "locked up" at the DCSS Interact Club's Jail & Bail fundraiser to raise money and shine a spotlight on youth leadership. Interact Clubs, part of the Rotary family, empower youth to lead service projects and make a difference.