



CAO Report – January 21, 2025

It is exciting to step into 2025 and staff are looking forward to delivering on Council's Strategic Priorities on some big projects planned for this year. At the same time, it was fun to reflect on 2024 as we put together a little accomplishments video for YouTube which as of today has received more than 150 views. A lot is happening!

We are planning to introduce some cost-savings measures to reduce the amount of postage and media expenses we incur each year. To stay ahead of that, residents are encouraged to switch over to get an email notification to access our online newsletter. At the same time please consider signing up to get your utilities bill by email, to avoid any fees for a hardcopy being mailed to you. Later this year Council will consider options to meet the District's public statutory notice requirements through means other than printing in newspapers. Together these measures will save public money and help avoid the unnecessary printing of materials which impacts the environment and our landfill. Stay abreast of these changes by keeping an eye on our website and Facebook, and the Newsletter.

It was great to see the large turnout of interested community members at the budget open house last week. I would like to give a shout out to senior staff who were there to answer questions and talk about the various projects currently underway in the community. On that note, the information for the Alternative Approval Process regarding the Victoria Road and Wharton Street projects is now posted on the website.

Both projects are supported by a use of savings from reserves, grants and contributions from the utilities but the remaining portion that needs to be borrowed requires approval of the electorate. Elector response forms are available at Municipal Hall and on the District's website. According to provincial legislation, if 10% or more of the total number of eligible electors sign and submit response forms, borrowing cannot proceed without first holding an assent vote (i.e. referendum). Please note that the deadline for receiving elector response forms is February 25, 2025 at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt, Chief Administrative Officer