

**DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2007 AT 6:00 pm**

Present     **Council:** Councillors Anderson, Johnson and Webster  
              **Staff:** Carolyn Bonnick, Administrator; and Becky Mercereau, Deputy Clerk  
              **Others:** Charles Friesen, Infinity-Pacific Stewardship Group; and Mike Dittaro, Ministry of Forestry

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

**Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan**

Charles Friesen made a presentation with the findings and suggestions for a Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan for Hudson's Hope. The following information was presented and discussed from the proposed plan:

- the plan has been designed around the residential areas;
- fires are a higher risk this year due to the drier weather and the trees that have been infested by the mountain pine beetle;
- a map was displayed which showed the high and moderate risk areas, and the areas where fuel breaks are proposed and currently exist;
- around the town site and residential subdivisions are the hazard areas because these areas are where the greatest loss would occur;
- it was suggested that FireSmart booklets be given out which outlines strategies for homeowners to fire proof their properties;
- it can be costly for homeowners to remove the fire hazards, but the Administrator advised that a company that is doing tree removal for BC Hydro on their transmission lines may be willing to work with private landowners;
- the following recommendations were made:
  - that the District form a Wildland Fire Protection Committee that would include residents;
  - do treatments on public lands that have pine beetle infested trees
  - provide fuel breaks around the high hazard areas;
  - review and update the Official Community Plan;
  - review fire regulations;
  - remove fuel around residential neighbourhoods;
  - educate the public on fire safety and removing fuels;
  - thin and prune trees and shrubs; and
  - remove piles of debris from around buildings.

Mike Dittaro with the Ministry of Forests advised that a survey done outlined that 1.7 million hectares of forest land in British Columbia could require fuel treatments. Funding is available from the Provincial Government to help with operational fuel management. The funding can also be made by in-kind contributions. The Administrator advised of some of the funding programs, which included a replanting program for forests where pine beetle tress have been removed. Council described some of the areas which were a concern to them.

The Administrator suggested that it be decided at the next Council meeting whether this plan will be adopted and if a committee will be formed. Councillor Johnson advised that he would be interested in being on the committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Certified Correct:

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Clerk

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Mayor