

PEACHLAND
VIEW

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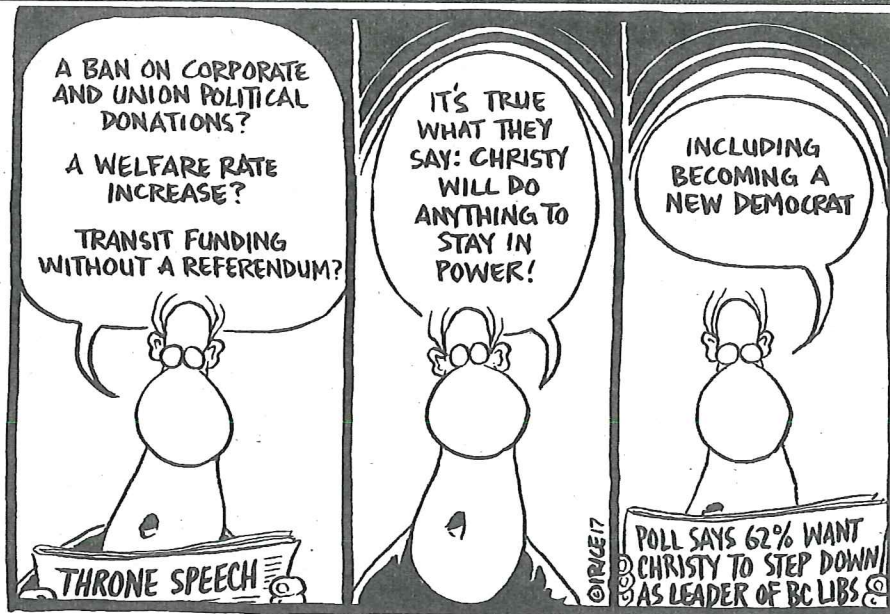
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**Quote
of the Week**

“We have
six good
entertainers,
that requires a
bit of a budget
if you want
to pull this
off- CHAMBER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PATRICK VAN
MINSSEL ON THIS
YEAR'S CANADA
DAY CELEBRATIONS



Peachland Views

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From the Mayor's desk: Returning back to normal Re: MP's question

CINDY FORTIN
MAYOR OF PEACHLAND

Hello everyone,

The lake is receding. After weeks of high lake levels Okanagan Lake is finally going down...albeit slowly. This has been a devastating spring for some home owners, and for businesses dealing with flooding or flood-related issues, such as the greater public/customer perception.

While I continue to let the media know that Peachland is open for business, I also encourage Peachland residents to patronize your local businesses to help them over the hump right now. And that is all of our community's businesses. The Peachland Mall has also seen a decline in business overall, as word erroneously got out there that the entire town was closed down, when just a portion of Beach Avenue was closed to traffic at the north end. So, please, drop by a local restaurant for a bite to eat, and visit our many shops. They'd be thrilled to see you.

As for our treasured foreshore... It has been significantly eroded in many places. Peachland's shoreline is particularly vulnerable to damage from wave action due to winds from the south, and the very high water level of Okanagan Lake. These levels are expected to stay high throughout much of July, although the weather can have a significant determining factor.

Through our partnership in the Central Okanagan

Emergency Program, we have access to professional shoreline engineers, who have been conducting regular assessments and providing recommendations on the types of shoreline protection that are needed to protect critical waterfront locations. As well, regular hazard tree assessments are ongoing along the waterfront areas, where high water is stressing their stability.

The flood protection defences that have been put in place include extensive sandbagging, the long orange tiger dams, and rock armouring (rip rap). Until advised otherwise, all flood protection defences will remain in place, and are being repaired and replaced as needed to ensure adequate protection from wave generated erosion and flooding.

I have heard many comments about the unattractiveness of the rip rap. But things would have been a lot worse had crews not used it to prevent further degradation of the shoreline and the undermining of the walkway, in part, and, more importantly, the roadway and underlying infrastructure.

Plans are being finalized for the demobilization of these flood defences, as well as a recovery plan, once the water recedes sufficiently. While we do not yet know what our waterfront will look like when this flooding emergency is finally over, all feasible options will be considered in our recovery efforts. Some of the rocks

may have to remain in place in order to provide protection for future events. A lot depends on the amount of funding available from senior levels of government for the recovery efforts. Whether we will be able to reconstruct our beaches to their pre-flood appearance, and how soon we will be able to install new docks, wharfs, and other waterfront infrastructure that has been damaged or destroyed, cannot be answered yet. Be assured we will do our very best.

For those residents looking for information on how to access funding assistance, or have questions regarding insurance coverage, etc., please check the District of Peachland's website at www.peachland.ca/888

We are extremely grateful for all of the assistance we have had from the Wildfire Crews, our partner communities, the Peachland Fire and Rescue Service members, District Staff, and members of the community who have stepped up to help each other. Many long hours have been spent keeping our community and residents safe.

On a different note concerning water... It may seem like an odd request right now, but the Okanagan Basin Water Board's "Make Water Work" water conservation campaign is well underway. Peachland was last year's 2016 Make Water Work Community Champions. We'd like to retain that title.

More importantly, we can-

not forget that we could be faced with another drought, like the one we saw a couple years ago. While we may have too much water right now, it is a finite resource, and drought in this region is more likely than the unusual flooding we've seen.

The Make Water Work pledge is easy. It requires agreeing to simple water saving measures, such as: I pledge to water my plants, not pavement; let my grass grow 2-3 inches; leave grass clippings behind as mulch; change out some of my lawn with drought-resistant turf, and low water variety plants. To take the pledge, go to: www.makewaterwork.ca. Even if you took the pledge last year, you must take it again this year for it to count.

Let's all pledge to do our part, and encourage our friends and neighbours to do the same. Let's continue to show Peachland's dedication to water conservation, and strive to be the 2017 Make Water Work Champions!

Lastly, I was thrilled to visit the newly re-opened Peachland Library this week. It looks great inside and out. They will be having a more formal opening ceremony next month on July 27th. Also, our new financial institution Vantage One is open. They will be having an official Grand Opening today, Friday, June 23rd, from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 5 p.m.

Hope to see you out there!
Best regards,

Mayor Cindy Fortin

Dear Editor.

Regarding Conservative MP Dan Alba's question:

Should Senate be able to overturn House of Commons' legislation? The answer is simple:

Read our fake Constitution; a federal statute commonly referred to as 'The Constitution Act of Canada', that was shoved down our collective throats by our former and late Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in 1982, when the federal Liberal government hi-jacked the British North America Act (BNA), and arbitrarily adopted it as our 'Constitution' - without a binding national referendum.

The purpose and only mandate of the Senate is to give "sober second thought" to any and all proposed legislation, and to advise the federal government of the day of its recommendations on whether or not to amend and/or adopt that legislation.

Unlike the US, the Canadian Senate is not an elected body, and has no legislative authority.

Andy Thomsen
Peachland BC