



Mayor's Message

Welcome 2021 –Slocan's 120th Birthday *Let's Celebrate our Past, Present and Future*

As we say farewell to 2020 and welcome the new year ahead, I would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our community for the heart and care that has been demonstrated during an unprecedented year. All of us have been impacted in ways that we could not have imagined – and Slocan has responded in ways that we can all be proud. Thank you to our businesses, who have demonstrated leadership in pivoting their operations to prioritize the safety of staff and community. Thank you to all essential workers and volunteers who have continued to provide our community with goods and services. And thank you to each and every individual who demonstrates their love, kindness, and care by continuing to respect safety protocols as outlined by BC Provincial Health Officer. We are in this together – and we will get through this together. It is during these times that we must be reminded of how lucky we are to live in a place so rich in natural, recreational, and social abundance.

2020 saw many exciting projects come to fruition. In the Spring, the Village implemented the Slocan Beach Park Project upgrades – expanding our beautiful and popular beach park for the benefit of our residents and visitors alike. Later in the summer, Rec Sites and Trails and the Slocan Valley Rail Trail began their enhancement of the Slocan Lake Trailhead, which aims to provide more accessible green space on the waterfront and additional Rail Trail parking. (The project is scheduled for completion in 2021). And this fall, the Village welcomed the “Pathfinder” sculpture, commissioned through a CBT Public Art Grant. Other projects underway include the procurement of a contractor to complete the Phase 1 Exterior Heritage Restoration of the Legion Hall, additional work on the Main Street Waterline Replacement, predevelopment and planning of an Affordable Housing Project, and regional participation in the Economic Development Partnership (Shop Slocan Valley Campaign) and more.

And, of course, 2020 saw historical efforts by the Village to purchase the old Springer Creek mill site. With the generous support of CBT, the Village was able to purchase the site to ensure that the future of the site – and the Village can be driven by thoughtful planning in alignment with community vision and values.

As we move into 2021, there is a lot to look forward to. It has been 120 years since the Village of Slocan came to be! Council will be calling on all of you – our community – to take the time and effort to engage with planning activities that will shape the future of Slocan. Council is also committed to continued engagement with community surrounding Affordable Housing. We will also be moving forward with the detailed design of Harold Street Beautification Project. As well, we will ask the community to open our minds and hearts and to become involved in the update of our Official Community Plan (OCP). Our OCP guides the future of Slocan. What do we love about this community? What do we value? What can we do to ensure a sustainable future (social, economic and environment) of the community? What will Slocan look like in 10, 20, 50, or 120 years from now? How can we support positive change? What do we need to conserve and maintain? These are exciting and historical times for the Village of Slocan – and as we celebrate our 120th year we can contemplate our next 120.

And, in 2021, we say farewell to our Public Works Supervisor, Tim Hill. On behalf of the Village of Slocan, I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to Tim for his many years of service and dedication to the Village of Slocan. We wish him all the best in his retirement. With Tim's retirement - we welcome Lachlan McGreal to the helm of Public Works.

On behalf of Council, I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy new year – we look forward to an exciting and creative year ahead.

Mayor, Jessica Lunn

