

## **ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

### **February 19, 2013**

**The Advisory Council continues to explore how to best lobby for the granting of the carbon tax rebate / homeowner grant to residents on WFN lands** since their attempts to influence government officials to this end have been unsuccessful so far despite various meetings with government representatives, much correspondence being sent back and forth, including correspondence with the Premier and a written submission on the issue to the provincial government. The rebate is provided to residents not residing on reserve lands but not to those who are residing on WFN lands. The Advisory Council recently sent out an information package on this issue to residents, which included a petition for residents to sign and send back. Besides just sending the petition back, some residents wrote letters as well to people as high up as the Premier contesting the holding back of this rebate from residents on WFN lands. Out of the 2,600 packages mailed out to residents, over 2,500 signatures were received back as of the morning of February 19<sup>th</sup>. The Advisory Council, in consultation with, and with the full support of, Council, is considering the next step of this lobbying effort. For more information on this issue, please contact Terry Turcan, Chair of the Advisory Council, at (250) 707-1326 or [tturcan@telus.net](mailto:tturcan@telus.net).

**WFN has made a decision to forego participation in this year's Communities in Bloom Competition.** Due to the key drivers of the competition from both WFN and the District of West Kelowna both currently being on leave, it was felt that there was too much of a personnel gap to fill for this year. For more information on this decision, please contact Hilary Hettinga, Manager of Development Services, at 250-769-2447 or [hhettinga@wfn.ca](mailto:hhettinga@wfn.ca).

**The Advisory Council is preparing for the Residents' Annual General Meeting ("AGM")** scheduled for Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Sensisysten Community Centre. The purpose of the AGM is to allow residents of WFN lands to meet Chief and Council, the Advisory Council and the staff of WFN and to have any questions they might have regarding living on WFN lands answered. The AGM will be in form of an open house with a light lunch served to residents. A number of different presentations will be given, including a keynote address by Chief Louie and booths from the different departments of WFN will be set up so that residents may find specific information or have specific questions answered. For more information on the AGM, please contact Terry Turcan, Chair of the Advisory Council, at (250) 707-1326 or [tturcan@telus.net](mailto:tturcan@telus.net) or Raf De Guevara, Manager of Inter-Governmental Affairs, at 250-769-2440 or [rdeguevara@wfn.ca](mailto:rdeguevara@wfn.ca).

**The Advisory Council was provided with an updated review of the 2013/2014 Local Government Services preliminary budget.** They will have one more opportunity to review an even more refined version at their next meeting prior to it being finalized. All in all, the Advisory Council was pleased with what they see so far. For more information on the preliminary budget, please contact Brian Conner, Director of Finance, at 250-769-2400 or [bconner@wfn.ca](mailto:bconner@wfn.ca).

**The next meeting of the Advisory Council** will take place on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Inter-Governmental Affairs Boardroom of the WFN Government Building.