



CITY OF PRINCE RUPERT

COUNCIL CORNER

Update from Council Meeting — April 8th, 2019

- Council approved a **Development Variance Permit Application** at 1034 1st Avenue West, following no public comment at the meeting.
- Council heard a report from the Chief Financial Officer requesting **direction on the 2019 Budget**. This included a number of changes that were identified in the intervening period between when the budget was developed, and the request for direction. These changes include:
 - An additional one time increase in Federal Gas tax of \$600,000. Finance has **requested to dedicate \$500,000 of additional Gas Tax funds towards the roads budget, and \$20,000 towards purchase of electric vehicle charging stations** as directed by Council at the previous meeting. Remaining funds are set aside for approval for future eligible projects.
 - Additional information on the Provincial infrastructure capital injection of **\$8.1 million** was received. **Staff has requested to put this funding into a specific reserve** to be dedicated to anticipated capital expenses.
 - A projected additional **cost of the Airport Ferry Refit project of \$350,000** (currently in dry dock), which staff has requested come from the \$8.1 million capital funding mentioned above.
- Following a discussion of Council, **direction was provided to staff to move forward in developing the 5 year Financial Plan Bylaw and Property Tax bylaw** incorporating the suggestions above. This **budget includes a 2% reduction in property taxes, return of 2 additional RCMP Officers, return of an additional Bylaw Officer, purchase of a garbage truck with capacity for recycling, and funds set aside to service anticipated future debt to build a new mandated RCMP building.**

