

Council won't forget charges

Mayor Colin Kinsley was in attendance as the first cement was poured for the Laurier Crescent Senior's Housing Project but the city won't be waiving development costs for the \$3 million complex.

Council denied the Northern Interior Regional Health Board's request to waive Development Cost Charges to the tune of \$34,308 for the senior's housing slated to be finished construction early next summer.

"It's a slippery slope if we started waiving DCC's for government projects," says Mayor Kinsley. The Laurier Crescent building is funded completely through a grant from BC Housing. Construction began in August. When complete the facility will have 32 units, with a maximum occupancy of 64 seniors.

The in-house care and services provided at the new complex will extend out to nearby seniors, including those living in the existing Alward Place senior's housing.

Bob Radloff, director of development services for PG, says that the city did not anticipate this exemption into calculations of DCC fees and would lose revenue if the waiver was granted.

Also on Monday Council approved an informal hearing on the move of Bonanza Charities Association bingo from 1395 Sixth Avenue to 490 Vancouver Street. Bonanza Charities applied earlier this summer to the BC Gaming Commission for the move and are seeking



Health board chair Lorraine Grant watches as the first concrete is poured for the new senior's complex. DOUG BROWN/FREE PRESS

the city's endorsement. The hearing is slated for September 17, after which Council will consider the resolution to support Bonanza's three-block move.

If the City didn't hold the hearing the BC Gaming Commission would be forced to hold their own

public meetings to gather input, delaying the process.

A three-hectare parcel of greenbelt land near Foothills Boulevard has been rezoned to make way for what the developers call a "snow tube park." The park will incorporate snow tube

runs, a rope town and buildings for concession, ticket sales and washrooms. Lust Enterprises is negotiating a lease with the City, who owns two of the three lots, and the province which owns the third to run the winter-themed park.

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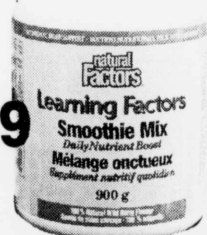
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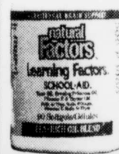
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