

# FACTS

## regarding the Royal York Golf Course

### Points of Interest about the golf course from the Dec 10th Council meeting -

During the discussion about the 2019 budget the Public Works manager mentioned that the planned improvements to the Hunter Avenue sewage lift station for the area would not meet the requirements of any new development in that area. Two more lift stations would be needed at the taxpayers expense.

The City has budgeted for a new Planning and Development person so it would be obvious that no current proposals should be considered until a professional manager is in place to evaluate the full consequences of any new developments especially one this large.

A letter from Don Cominetti and the letter sent out by Todd York were both accepted into the record of correspondence received. No discussions were started.

The Chief Administrative Officer did state to those in attendance that the City has not received a single application or any kind of notice from either party with regards to the sale and potential development.

Paul Britten spoke about the rumour that there were discussions before the elections and these were kept secret until the existing Council was re-elected. He stated that this rumour is \*\*\* not \*\*\* true and the first time he knew the golf course was for sale was when he saw Todd York's letter. Jim Wright stated that the course has been actively on the real estate market for years.

The Official Community Plan (OCP) must be modified to change the Parkland / Commercial designation of the golf course lands to some form of residential land before rezoning can proceed. A public meeting must be called before any changes can be made to the OCP. This process could take some time as the new Planning staff member would have to be up to speed on the City's future plans.

Jim Wright spoke about the process of the OCP and rezoning happening concurrently in Armstrong rather than consecutively as is common in municipalities in BC. No real discussion followed to see how the members of Council felt about the timeline. Rushing these kinds of decisions is not the way to go.

It was announced that the minutes of the recent in-camera meeting held with Council and Todd York would be released to the public and would be attached to the minutes of the meeting on Dec 10th. As these minutes must be approved at the next Council meeting on Jan 14th before they can be released, a copy will not be on the City's website until Jan 15th.

## **Agricultural Land Commission -**

**Question** - I have lived in Armstrong BC for 25 years and there has always been a rumour that the land which has been used by the Royal York Golf Course in Armstrong was removed from ALR in the late 1980's. Several people remember that the ALR Commission allowed the golf course to proceed with the provision that should the golf course ever close, the land must be returned to its ALR classification.

Can you comment or verify this provision on the land?

Lindsay Thachuk

**Answer** - The Royal York Golf Course was removed from the ALR by Cabinet decision in the mid 1980's. There is no provision that it be returned to ALR uses if the golf course use ceases.

I will send you some documentation in another e-mail. (RECEIVED)

Regards

Martin Collins

Director of Policy and Planning

Agricultural Land Commission