

**Report to Council: "Coffee Talk Express"**  
**January 29, 2010**

I talked to staff at Chetwynd's *Coffee Talk*. Ten copies of "*Coffee Talk Express*" are now being delivered to Hudson's Hope on a trial basis on Monday's and can be picked up at Marg's Mini-Mart.

*Coffee Talk* is published three times a week, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They are interested in doing a once-per-week delivery to Hudson's Hope for Monday, Tumbler Ridge for Wednesday and Dawson Creek for Friday. So Monday's edition would be the "Hudson's Hope focus." Delivery will be done by DHL to one location in town (Marg's at the moment) and that is organized by *Coffee Talk*. If more businesses in town have them available, an in-town delivery would have to be organized.

Advertising rates seem quite reasonable. A quarter page black & white, for instance, is \$35.10; color is \$46.80 and rates go up and down from there depending on size and whether it is color. A 2" x 2 1/2" is \$9.00 b/w; \$12.00 color. Deadline for Monday's edition is 11 am the previous Thursday.

I attach a current copy for Council to have a look.

This would seem a valid way to get information to the public on a more timely basis than the monthly *Bulletin*. If Council decides to buy a space for "Upcoming Events," then a system would need to be set up to ensure it is submitted by the Thursday deadline.

Respectfully Submitted:



Councillor Johansson

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## NEWS RELEASE

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December 4, 2009

Ministry of Community and Rural Development  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities

### ELECTIONS TASK FORCE GETS UNDERWAY

VICTORIA – A task force dedicated to reviewing and making recommendations for B.C.'s local government electoral process has held its first meeting. Co-chairs Bill Bennett, Minister of Community and Rural Development, and Harry Nyce, president of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), announced the composition of the Local Government Elections Task Force and the scope of its work.

“The aim of the task force is to improve the fairness, accountability and transparency of the elections process at the local government level,” said Bennett. “We’re looking forward to working with UBCM to ensure legislative changes work for local governments and all British Columbians.”

“The elections task force will provide a forum to review and improve the legislation directing local government elections,” said Nyce. “In recent years, B.C. local governments have proposed a number of resolutions to amend the legislation, and we appreciate the Premier’s invitation to further explore specific issues related to elections.”

On Oct. 2, Premier Gordon Campbell announced that a special joint task force co-chaired by Bennett and Nyce would be making recommendations for changes to local government elections legislation. Two other UBCM designates and two government MLAs were confirmed at meetings on Nov. 27:

- Surrey Councillor Barbara Steele, first vice-president, UBCM.
- Quesnel Mayor Mary Sjostrom, third vice-president, UBCM.
- Donna Barnett, Cariboo-Chilcotin MLA.
- Douglas Horne, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain MLA.

The task force, which met Dec. 3, will review specific issues related to various local government elections topics, including campaign financing, enforcement, the role of B.C.’s chief electoral officer, the election cycle, the corporate vote, candidate eligibility and other items to be mutually agreed upon.

The task force recognizes the importance of seeking feedback from a diverse range of stakeholders and will invite input from local governments, representative groups and the public on topics under review.

January 14, 2010

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The recommendations of the task force are to be presented to the Province no later than May 30, 2010, in time for approved legislative changes to be implemented for the 2011 local government elections.

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*Chivras.*