



## City of Revelstoke Media Release

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### NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SOCIAL SERVICES

**Revelstoke BC** – The City of Revelstoke recognizes the need for a broad range of community services to address the increase in demand as our community grows and changes. As a result, with Council support, City staff have chosen to create a permanent staff position to help manage community development and work in collaboration with local social service agencies to support and improve the delivery of social services.

For over 10 years, Jill Zacharias has fulfilled the City's needs as a consultant for Social Development and has helped to advance the City's social service efforts to the utmost level. Upon careful consideration of the changing needs of the community in light of future economic growth, the impact of tourism, and the social issues that residents face, Council has recommended that a staff position to support community services be added to the City's Community Economic Development department. The criteria and responsibilities for this position are currently under review and it is expected that a full-time employee will be hired in Fall 2020.

"Jill's accomplishments on behalf of the City's social sector are to be commended", says Ingrid Bron, Director of Community Economic Development. "Over a period of almost twelve years, she has developed a deep understanding of the community needs, successfully accessed grant funding, and worked in collaboration with local agencies and community groups to address gaps in service delivery. In addition to her involvement in assessing housing needs and development of the Living Wage criteria, Jill's significant contributions include establishing the Youth Advisory Committee, the Seniors' Volunteer Coordinator Steering Committee, Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative (CYMHSU), the Welcome Week Program, the new [www.revelstokelife.ca](http://www.revelstokelife.ca) website, and the Working Group on Poverty Reduction. Jill has truly set the foundation for City social services and we cannot be more appreciative of her efforts."

Along with City staff, the Social Development Committee will continue to guide the on-going work of the new position to support grant writing, needs assessment, program planning and delivery, project implementation, and policy development. This position will also provide support to committees and working groups and assist with managing contracts to deliver programming with external funding.

Mayor Sulz commented, "Jill's hard work and unfailing advocacy has had a direct impact on our community's robust and high quality social services. Staff and Council would like to thank Jill for her high level of commitment to the City and for supporting the development of a strong social services sector that the community has come to expect and depend on."

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