

Mayor's Report
March 19, 2020

Firesmart Committee

~~Just a quick reminder that there is a Firesmart Open House at the Myrna Noyes Memorial Hall on Saturday March 21, 2020. The event starts at 1:00 pm. There will be light refreshments as well as a door prize and other prizes awarded.~~ **CANCELLED & POSTPONED**

FCSS Committee

The FCSS Committee has sent out a direct mailing to all residents of the Summer Village, highlighting the importance of securing applications for FCSS monies and operating local programmes for local residents.

Lagoon and Wastewater

Alberta Environment and Parks has now released permission to continue with the proposed emergency discharge at the lagoon. Weather and other conditions permitting, this may occur in April, May or June 2020.

There have been frequent meetings concerning the lagoon and its future as well as alternate methods of disposing of effluent, whether to the East or to the West. Both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, along with Council, our CAO and the Councils of Sunrise Beach and Lac Ste Anne County have been involved in on-going talks and negotiations.

At this March 2020 Council meeting Council needs to make a decision on a favoured/selected course of action.

Old Solid Waste Disposal Site

The Summer Village of Sandy Beach operated a solid waste disposal site adjacent to the current Bella Vista housing project site. It appears that when closed in the early 1990's the site was not properly decommissioned. A study of the old site, completed in 2018, had recommended further study, which is now favoured by Alberta Environment and Parks.

Council has been working closely with not only Alberta Environment but also Lac Ste Anne County. Moving forward, Council needs to approve a fifty-fifty cost-shared agreement with the County on this next study.

Summer Village of Lac Ste Anne County East

This group met on February 29, 2020. The costs of our annual membership requisition will remain unchanged for the year ahead. The group is encouraged by the cooperation demonstrated by Lac Ste Anne County.

Regional Emergency Management Agency

The elected officials Committee met on February 29, 2020 and affirmed the continuance of the current administrator and the Director of Regional Emergency Management. A Deputy Director (unpaid at this time) was announced. It was indicated that the Director will release the 2020 training plan to all Committee members in the coming weeks.

Alberta Budget 2020

The Alberta Government announced its budget in the last week of February 2020. Depending on your age, health status and whether you have children attending school, this budget will have various direct and indirect impacts on individual Albertans.

However, for municipalities, including this Summer Village, there are some clear implications. The cost of policing, particularly rural policing, is now downloaded to municipalities, and for the first time the Village will be assessed a direct cost. With changes to funding, the Alberta Government will be increasing the educational tax, which will have a very direct impact on your property taxes.

Respectfully submitted

Gordon Drybrough, Mayor