

MAYOR REPORT
May 23, 2019

Contact with Alexander First Nation

As the representative of the Summer Village, I was invited to and attended a meeting with Alexander First Nation on May 8, 2019. During that meeting I was introduced to the economic development people, the public relations outreach people, two members of the Alexander First Nation Council as well as one of the Elders.

A variety of topics were touched on, but from my perspective this was an opportunity to begin to establish some personal relationships and open the door to further future discussions.

During the meeting the following was discussed:

- Sandy's proposed lagoon emergency discharge
- Alexander's planned tourist expansion, including newly constructed ball diamonds and a desire to rehabilitate their campground
- A mutual interest in seeing water levels in Sandy Lake rise and improved joint lake stewardship initiatives
- Alexander First Nation indicating the development of a new waste lagoon and treatment facility, including an invitation to truck or pipe our effluent to their lagoon in the future

Alexander offered to join with Sandy, Sunrise Beach and Lac Ste Anne County to engage in efforts to move water in to Sandy Lake and to work with these partners in joint lobbying efforts.

At this time, I see this meeting as being a positive step toward developing some real relationships with a neighbour. I would encourage our Council to reciprocate and extend an invitation to the folks at Alexander to attend one of our meetings in the near future.

Onoway Public Library

I attended a meeting with representative of other summer villages and the Onoway Public Library several months ago and learned of the library's significant financial difficulties. As recently as ten days ago we received information that Onoway Public Library now has a entirely new board of directors and has instituted some cost saving measures, including reduced hours of service.

When SV Sandy Beach participated in the Municipal Services Package with Lac Ste Anne County a portion of the annual service fee was designated to the Onoway Public Library. Once SV Sandy Beach severed ties with the Municipal Services Package no further funds were forwarded to the Library.

SV Sandy Beach contributed in 2013 the sum of \$4,212.48 to the Onoway Library. There is a current request for the SV to consider making an annual contribution. At present, SV Sunrise Beach, Nakamum Park and Yellowstone are contributing to the Onoway Library.

I urge Council to consider setting aside an annual budget amount to contribute to the Onoway Public Library.

Wildfire Occurrence

On Sunday May 5, 2019 Sturgeon County Fire Service responded to a call of a grass fire adjacent to Lakeshore Drive in our Summer Village. The temperature was 5 degrees Celsius and winds were out of the south a 13 km/hour, gusting to 20 km/hour. Morinville Fire Department and the District of Calahoo Fire Department were dispatched and due to the nature of the fire a wildland trailer and UTV unit were utilized.

Fire Chief Pat Mahoney reports that the cause of the fire was undetermined and thus no identifiable address or resident was deemed responsible. As such, the SV Sandy Beach is responsible for the entire cost.

Sturgeon County Fire Services invoiced a total of \$11,537.50 for putting out this fire, but has graciously consented to reducing the bill to just over \$3,000.00.

Residents are asked to exercise caution and due diligence when burning outdoors, either in a fire pit or burning barrel. Fires should not be lit under fire bans or when winds are gusting. Proper pit/barrel screens should be used and the fire should be attended at all times. Some sort of fire suppression equipment, such as an extinguisher or garden hose should also be readily available. When retiring for the night or leaving the property, the fire should be fully and properly doused.

At this time, the SV will absorb the cost of attending to this fire.

Residents are reminded that FireSmart brochures are available at the Village office and copies will also be available at regular Council meetings.

Council and Administration thanks all residents for the cooperation regarding outdoors fires.

FireSmart

The final proposal for vegetation mitigation was forwarded to the Forest Resource Improvement Association, (FRIA), prior to the April 26, 2019 deadline. Word on approval is anticipated by mid June 2019.

Now that grant funding has been received the SV has forwarded the order for the supply and installation of village signs. In addition to new street signs this also involves an address sign for each property within the Summer Village. House address signs will be installed in accordance with suggested

guidelines and in the same location for each property to ensure uniformity and easier identification by any and all emergency vehicles, fire, ambulance and police.

West Inter-Lake Water Commission

WILD conducted its annual meeting on April 27, 2019. Although approval of Stages 3 and 4 was announced March 15, 2019, WILD informed that no funds have actually been approved and no funds have been forwarded. It is hoped that shortly after the new government has been installed a further announcement will be made.

Respectfully submitted

Gordon Drybrough, Mayor