

September Messenger 2020

COUNCIL NEWS:

As the weather continued hot and dry in August, Machin for the better part of a week became another host community for the emergency evacuation of residents from Red Lake and neighbouring communities due to Red Lake Forest Fire 49. In normal years we do not register as a host community because of our limited infrastructure and capacity to house large numbers of people. However, due to Covid-19 we were able to do our part this year. A big thank you goes out to the residents of Machin and the surrounding areas for a job well done. Tourist Camps in our area also opened their doors and helped greatly with the evacuees. It was nice to see our community come together in a big way to help when needed. A special thank you to the Vermilion Bay Lions Club for their hard work and long hours of making food hampers, answering questions and being there for support for the evacuees.

As part of the Northwest Health Unit area, in August our region moved to the next chapter in the Covid-19 battle as masks became mandatory in public indoor spaces. Council was also directed through legislation to pass a Covid-19 policy detailing how we conduct business.

Thanks to MPP Greg Rickford and the Provincial Government, Machin will receive \$82,500.00 from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and \$15,273.00 from the Ministry of Transportation to help with Covid-19 operating costs. In August, we also saw our MP Eric Melillo and MP Scott Aitchison from Parry Sound visit Machin to talk about Covid-19 and the tourist industry.

In other council news, Council passed the water treatment financial plan covering the next ten years. The Public Works Department was without their grader for almost three weeks due to a major breakdown. We thank residents for their patience as some gravel roads were in need of a good grading.

Congratulations to Andrea at our Water Treatment Plant for passing her exam and becoming a certified Class One Operator.

Council has approved the startup of the Seniors Bus on a trial basis beginning Tuesday September 8th, with the bus service resuming twice weekly runs to Dryden. Please contact the Machin Office @ 227-2633 to book the bus.

Mayor and Council