

COUNCIL NEWS:

We hope everyone is having a great start to the spring/summer season enjoying outdoor activities with family and friends as often as is possible.

The NOMA (Northern Ontario Municipal Association) meetings were held in Thunder Bay April 24 – 26 with our Mayor and a Councillor attending where they were able to have a meeting with the Hon. Monte McNaughton Ministry of Infrastructure for the province. The one-on-one meeting with the Minister allowed us a chance to discuss first hand our Municipality's priorities. It was also an opportunity once again to express our concern that most of the available provincial and federal partnership funding programs do not fit with small community needs of the north. Your council representatives also discussed local and regional issues with Mayors and Councillors from the region on relevant issues.

Tammy Rob our Municipal Clerk/Treasurer participated in the annual AMCTO (Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario) conference in Thunder Bay April 29 – May 1 where workshops were provided on current and new government standards.

Fire Chief Todd Montgomery and a Councillor Garry Parks attended a one-day Municipal Fire Protection workshop in Kenora on May 15th. Instructors from the Provincial Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Office provided the "Essentials of Municipal Fire Protection" which covered a detailed overview of Provincial and Municipal fire regulations, structure and responsibility.

With the hiring of our second Municipal Water Plant Operator the Municipality is now able to run the Plant without the assistance of an independent contractor to cover scheduled Municipal Operator time off. Council wishes to thank Northern Water Works Inc. for their excellent service and support.

Noel Dumontier Chief Building Inspector (CBO) for the Municipality of Red Lake will provide CBO coverage for Machin's building activities this summer. For anyone needing his assistance for renovations, additions or proposed new buildings, Noel can be contacted through the Municipal office. Please welcome Noel to our community.

The Municipal Revitalization Committee members are Erin Leutshaft, Carmene Hampe, Caleigh Ross, Norbert Bruyere with Council represented by Councillor Ray Pilkey. Please feel free to contact and discuss your ideas with the committee members.

A reminder that Council members will remain available at council chambers for approximately ½ hour after the closure of the 2nd General Council meeting of this month on June 24th to provide residents more communication opportunity to discuss general items of interest in the community.

MUNICIPAL NEWS:

Volunteering:

Any community that has the support of volunteers is a richer community for its quality of life and happiness of its citizens. In our Municipality we are very fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who help to enhance and improve our quality of life where we live.

We have dedicated volunteers at the Municipal Fire department who train to provincial standards and are called out 24/7 to all 911 calls including accidents, fires, and other emergency calls. They help to keep our families safe. As well they participate in volunteer events that make our community better to live in i.e. Christmas Parade, winter sliding parties.

The Pine Tree Pathways Committee has worked for many years applying for grants, building and maintaining walking trails including Nick's Lookout on Eagle Lake near the Vermilion Bay government dock. Please check it out if you have not been on the trails or at Nick's Lookout, they are worth the effort to enjoy.

Thank you to the unofficial group called the Eagle River Diggers who brighten the Eagle River area with their seasonal craft works, flowers and decorations at the arena Park. As the seasons change, they change the theme with colourful painted characters, flowers, and decorations i.e. spring, fall, Halloween, Christmas etc. It looks great.

Our community has several Service Clubs that help greatly in our community as well as on the National and International level to make life better for individuals and the community i.e. Kinsmen, Kinettes, Lions Clubs

Machin Area Helping Hands is another excellent local organization that helps individuals and families in our area that need a little extra support around the Christmas season.

We are thankful for the many volunteers who participated in the Municipality's 2nd annual Spring Road Cleaning day held on May 4th. Once again, we saw many of our roads and Highways in the area given a good cleaning of garbage and recycle material. Thanks again to Mike Durocher for setting up this worthy event.

Lillian Berg School staff and students have been out again this spring in the Vermilion Bay area cleaning many of the local trails and roadways.

Again, a thank you to the volunteers who helped with painting and repairs at the Eagle River Recreation Centre over the winter and to the volunteers who participated in a cleaning day at the Centre on April 27th. This is an excellent facility that is an unknown jewel of our community. More people should check it out. Currently the Rec. Centre is being rented out each Wednesday to the Vermilion Bay EarlyON Child and Family Centre program for children 7 year(s) and under. The children are accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

The Municipality's Woodland Arena/Recreation and Revitalization Committee members volunteer their time and commitment to improve our facilities and enhance our community.

Thank you to all the great volunteers listed here as well as those that were missed who help grow our community.