

Messenger - July 2019

COUNCIL NEWS:

Schools are out and time for families to enjoy vacations, BBQ's, camping etc. Time to be out in the great outdoors or on the water enjoying what our great area and Country has to offer.

Mayor Gord Griffiths on May 22 attended the NOHFC (Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corp.) presentation in Dryden by Minister Greg Rickford. Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board Secretariat of Ontario was also in attendance with Minister Rickford. Our Mayor had a one on one chance to discuss our local issues with both individuals.

As part of National Public Works Week, Council and Municipal Staff held a lunch BBQ May 17th in appreciation of our Public Works staff, a chance to say thanks. This was also a chance to formally say Happy Retirement to Cory Comphorst (see photos on Municipal website).

Dennis Peterson our council representative for the Police Services Board attended the Annual Ontario Association Police Service Board (OAPSB) meeting in Windsor May 22-23 where provincial and regional issues were discussed. The provincial government is proposing to implement new laws which will affect our area. The Service Boards members present at the meeting strongly voiced their disagreement with the changes. These concerns will be discussed further in upcoming meetings between government officials and the local Police Service Boards members from the region. The local Police Service Board members will again express their disagreement to the proposed changes and through fair dialog hope to stop some of the proposed changes. Police costing for our communities will again be discussed as municipalities attempt to maintain or reduce our cost per households.

The resurfacing of Townline Road was completed the week of June 10th. We ask travellers too please slowdown. Many vehicles travel beyond what is safe of the posted speed of 70 km/hr. Council has supported Public Works recommendation to reduce the speed limit on the north part of Townline Road to 50 km/hr through the S-Curves to further keep travellers safe.

On May 29th Public Works Supervisor Jason Danielson, Mayor Gord Griffiths, Councillors Garry Parks and Ray Pilkey travelled the majority of the Municipal Roads for the annual spring road tour. It was a great opportunity to visually assess the roads and discuss issues and planned activities versus the budget. As in most rural municipalities, our large road network has a limited budget for maintenance and road improvements. Our Public Works department maintains 12 km. of paved/oiled roads and 77 km. of gravel roads. This does not include Highways 17, 105, 594 or 647 that run through the Municipality. The Municipality also has four bridges which it maintains and is responsible for.

The 2019 Machin Waste Disposal budget is \$97,400 and represents approximately 3% of our total Municipal budget. Included in this cost is our recycling program at \$27,500 (28%) which keeps a large volume of material out of our landfills and extends their life. A reminder that the new Waste Disposal fees take effect July 1st. Cards will be sold by the Landfill Attendant or at the Municipal Offices. The Landfill attendant will also accept cash which is not discounted as per the cards. Our Municipal Staff and Council continue to work with government officials on the expansion capacity of our two landfills.

Mayor and Council

MUNICIPAL NEWS:

Municipal History:

Our fine Municipality consisting of the communities of Eagle River, Minnitaki and Vermilion Bay is one-hundred and ten years old this year. Many of us don't realize that the Municipality of Machin was incorporated in 1909. The name Machin has been attributed to Harold A.C. Machin who lived in Kenora. He served in the First World War as Lieutenant-Colonel and then became active in provincial politics serving in the Legislature from 1908 to 1919. The Municipality of Machin includes the Townships of Sandford, West Aubrey, Temple and Langton. The Municipal offices were originally established in the community of Eagle River and later moved to Vermilion Bay when the old school became available which was a larger facility.

This history information and more can be found on the Municipal website under "Municipal Information -> Municipal History", check it out. We may have differences within our communities in the Municipality but we have a common bond of history and shared experiences.