

June 2020

COUNCIL NEWS:

Once again, our Mayor and Council would like to give a big thank you to frontline medical personnel, paramedics, police officers and fire fighters for their commitment during the Covid-19 pandemic. To our local businesses and all essential workers during this pandemic thank you for your continued commitment in keeping services open and keeping us safe.

On Monday May 18th Mayor Gord Griffiths welcomed Ontario Northland Transportation Commission's (ONTC) new, permanent intercommunity bus service to our community. The bus service will run twice weekly from Thunder Bay to Winnipeg with community in-between stops at Upsala, Ignace, Dryden, Vermilion Bay, Kenora and Prawdla in Manitoba. This is a very welcomed addition to our region providing a vital transportation link to major service centres. The Vermilion Bay Co-Op store is the designated bus stop for pickup and drop-off in our Municipality. Dignitaries in neighbouring communities also welcomed the new service to their communities with the ONTC's inaugural run as well. See their website for more information and bookings.



After review of the current Covid-19 emergency restrictions, Council and Staff have decided to reduce the total number of seasonal hires at the start of the summer season and to utilize Municipal Staff in other departments where possible i.e. Public Works Department. Manpower requirements for Municipal departments will be monitored and adjusted as required during the pandemic to meet the essential services of the community while minimizing unnecessary expenses. We thank the Municipal Staff for their commitment in helping to keep us safe while we work through Covid-19 emergency closures and restrictions.

MUNICIPAL NEWS:

V. Bay Dock:

Construction of the new Vermilion Bay accessible dock was completed by the contractor in May. The provincial government funded 65% of the new dock through an approved grant - Making V.Bay Dock Accessible for all Ontarians. The new dock will provide enhanced accessibility for all boaters. If you have not already used or seen the new dock please take a drive and check it out. Remember to please follow proper Covid-19 guidelines of physical distancing.

