



COUNCIL CORNER

April, 2017



Due to unforeseen circumstances, there was no *Council Corner* newsletter last month. Therefore, I trust you won't mind if I mention a couple of items that ordinarily would have shown up in the March *Council Corner*.

Firstly, although it seems that the snow isn't keen to leave this year, I wish to ensure that I compliment the Town's Public Works Department and workers for the timely way in which the massive amounts of snow were handled in our community. On behalf of the community, thank you and thank you to citizens for your patience and your neighbourly efforts as well.

I wish to recognize and convey a special thank you a certain Town employee. While moving snow after the last storm, Chris Regier was observed going above and beyond to assist an elderly citizen who had fallen on the street. Thank you for your assistance and for going the "extra mile" to help. Your actions epitomize what this community is all about – helping our neighbour.

This month it's important to recognize the Chase the Ace committee for the hard work in organizing such a successful and fun event that engaged the entire community and simultaneously raised funds for the Pool. Thank you to each of those who volunteered and to those who participated. I think I speak for everyone when I say "We can't wait until the next round."

Congratulations to the Nipawin Jr. Hawks on a successful season. The community thanks the players and the organization for your contributions to our community.

Over the past year or so residents have become familiar with the term, North East Regional Waste Authority (NERWA). As the Waste Authority began the process of incorporation it was discovered that the name was already being utilized. Therefore, the corporation has been renamed the Boreal Area Regional Waste Authority Inc. (BARWA). The first meeting in the process of formalizing the new Waste Authority was held. Currently the membership of BARWA consists of: Town of Nipawin, Village of Codette, RM of Nipawin #487, RM of Connaught #457, Village of Aylsham, and the Resort Village of Tobin Lake. More information will be available as the new Corporation moves forward.

Citizens are aware that the Council and Administration have been actively working on the 2017 Budget. As work on the budget was being done some of the provincial impacts were anticipated, however items (such as elimination of grants in lieu) were not foreseen and therefore required some adjustments, and as a result a slight tax increase for 2017 is included in the numbers. Restructuring has also formed part of the budget, as has a new process of "Fee for Service" applications that will be implemented next year.

Every four years, all properties in Saskatchewan are reassessed in what is known as revaluation year. The last revaluation was in 2013, when properties were assessed at their market values at January 1, 2011. For the 2017 revaluation, all properties are assessed to their market values at January 1, 2015.

Beginning in 2017, the Province of Saskatchewan has updated the Percentage of Value (the percentage of the assessed value of a property that is taxable) for residential properties from 70 to 80%. Commercial properties continue to be taxed at 100%. Council uses a variety of tax tools, including base tax and mill rate adjustment factors to set tax rates. Council is currently deliberating the tax rate options for the Town of Nipawin and will provide further information as deliberations continue. With the passing of the 2017 budget on April 24th, 2017, overall municipal property taxes are estimated to increase by approximately 2.2%.

In addition, the Provincial Government sets the Education Property Tax rates. The changes in assessment and percentage of value mentioned above **may** have an impact on your education property taxes which are included in your overall property tax bill.

Finally, I would like to remind citizens that the Town of Nipawin's **Bylaw Enforcement Officer** Luc Morin can be reached to discuss issues by contacting him at (306) 862-9866. Luc will assist with resolving issues.

Beginning May 1st, the Town will see the advent of the Town of Nipawin's new website at www.nipawin.com.

I am pleased to meet and discuss any concerns directly. To arrange an opportunity to speak with the Mayor, please contact the Town Office at (306) 862 9866 to arrange for an appointment. I am also available by e-mail at mayorharper@nipawin.com.

REMINDER—NO SPRING BACK LANE GARBAGE PICKUP

With the formation of the Boreal Area Regional Waste Authority (BARWA) the Town of Nipawin is no longer the managing partner of the landfill and therefore have had to **discontinue** our annual spring and fall back-lane clean-up program as well as the extended hours at the landfill in the spring and fall.

No gate fees are charged for clean wood, tree trimmings or compost materials.

Compost Collection:

Residents are reminded that the weekly curbside compost collection program will begin Wednesday, May 17, 2017 and run until October 25, 2017. For a complete list of ac-



Did You Know

Now that spring has finally arrived it's time for those construction or renovation projects you've been planning all winter! Did you know that a Town of Nipawin Building Permit is required for most construction and renovation projects, including decks and garages as well as larger building projects? Contact Jeff Hrynkiw at the Town Office for details and to obtain a building permit prior to starting your project.



With the warm weather, our furry friends like to be outside. Please ensure you are abiding by the Town's Cat Bylaw and Dog Bylaw. The **Town's Cat Bylaw 619/90** states that no cat shall create a nuisance by defecating, spraying or Ululating (howling) on public or private property other than the property of its owner. If your cat is discovered creating a nuisance, you could be fined \$50 or more.



The **Town's Dog Bylaw 745/99** prohibits loud or frequent barking, howling or yelping, chasing vehicles, creating an annoyance or causing discomfort to other persons residing in the neighbourhood, or to the public at large. The fine for breach of this bylaw is \$300.00



Nipawin Primary Health Care Clinic Same-Day Appointments

The Nipawin Medi-Clinic keeps same-day appointments every weekday for patients with minor complaints or illnesses that cannot wait, such as sore throats, ear ache, cough, bladder infection, etc.

Patients are encouraged to call early, phone calls will be answered beginning at 8:30am.

Always call 911 in case of life threatening emergency.

For more information, please contact Sherry Little, Manager Nipawin Medi-Clinic.



BUILDER OF SPORT, CULTURE & RECREATION AWARD

Congratulations to

**SHARLENE SERHAN and
SHARYL BIGELOW**

In recognition of your contribution
to Curling in Nipawin