

Council Corner – Fall 2022



It is with pleasure that the Council of the Town of Nipawin welcomes its new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Michele Sorensen will begin in her new role effective October 3, 2022.

Michele has worked with the Town of Nipawin since 1998. Over her career she has held various positions with the Town of Nipawin, most recently in the position as Executive Assistant to the CAO. Michele has long-standing family ties to Nipawin and the Northeast area. Over the past 26-years Michele has lived and raised her family in this community.

Michele received her Standard Certificate of Qualification in Local Government Authority in March of 2014 and the Advanced Certificate in Local Government Authority from the University of Regina in September 2020.

What Residents need to know about false alarms to Nipawin Fire Department:



Over the past year the Nipawin Fire Department has responded to an unusually high number of false alarms. Almost all have been due to one major factor:

- When the monitoring company cannot reach the primary key holder, 911 is called before trying any other additional numbers that may be on file. Often, the Fire Department arrives just as the homeowner finds their cell phone with the monitoring company on the other end. Or a second or third number has been called and that contact person is unavailable.



Helpful hints for those with alarm monitoring company coverage:

- **KNOW** your security password. If you have a security password to cancel the alarm, know it and/or put it your contact list!
- **ADVISE OTHERS** If you are going out of town, make sure whomever is watching over the residence has the code to disable AND contact number to follow up. If you are “out of the service area” most security company protocols will send the fire dept immediately
- **UPDATE information** – often phone numbers have changed or landlines have been disconnected
- Never assume that by disabling an alarm that the security company will not need confirmation, make sure you have their number in your contacts
- If you have a security system with a two-way speaker, make sure to confirm that 911 has been notified of the false alarm.

Although the Nipawin Fire Department is relieved when firefighters arrive at a residence and find there is no threat to life or property, your due diligence is required to ensure the Department is not called out unnecessarily. **BE AWARE:** Penalties are in place through Bylaw #1010/18 for repeated false alarm calls to a location.

REMINDERS:

- Remember that if you are planning to build...call the Planning Department for the Town of Nipawin as permits are required prior to beginning.
- Town of Nipawin Bylaw #1130/21 requires that all dogs are leashed when off owner’s property. For assistance call: **Animal Control** at (306) 862 6853 or to Bylaw Officer at (306) 862 9866.



UPDATES:

- The Highway 35 sidewalk extension is in its final stages of completion, although some landscaping and drainage issues remain to be completed.
- Jubilee Arena Dressing Room addition is nearing completion following some delays in obtaining necessary materials.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

- Reconciliation Nipawin “Walk for Reconciliation” begins at the Town Square on September 30, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.
- Vanity Cup events in Nipawin from September 30 to October 2nd.
- Nipawin Hawks Feathers and Ice Gala October 15th.
- Nipawin Performing Arts series – Features the Canada Ballet on October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.
- **Spook-a-Rama returns** on October 31st.



Items from Council meeting:

- Representatives of ToN Administration met recently to consider available funding for upgrading community facilities in relation to Green House Gas (GHG) reduction. Services through the FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) are available to help clients receive funding or be aware of facilities that may be eligible.
 - The process to begin looking at funding begins with a list of up to 25 facilities within the Town of Nipawin that will be reviewed for GHG reduction. All facilities must be included as this grant is a onetime application. There is zero financial obligation at this stage, Cimco/Toromont assists to help apply with a list of buildings to see if a community could be approved for the feasibility grant. This grant ultimately covers up to 80% of the cost for each facility you choose. It is recommended that all municipal assets be included in the reviews. There is no obligation to move forward with all, but a community cannot apply for them in the future if they have not been included in the review initially. The completion of the feasibility study is a pre-requisite to continuing the application for the retrofitting or new construction options.
- Transfer of financial information from a former financial system, Vadim®, to MuniSoft® software is underway and completion of implementation anticipated by mid-October. Implementation of the software will ensure increased timeliness of financial information in the future.
- Decommissioning of the former Landfill cells has begun utilizing the services of Pinter Engineering. It is anticipated that the decommissioning required by the Ministry of Environment, and funded through the ICIP Grant, may be completed in early 2024.
- Requests for bylaw services has increased significantly over the past year (approximately 164% increase).
- Animal Control infractions and concerns have also increased steadily over past years.
- Organizational structure review has been completed and will be presented at an upcoming Council meeting for approval.
- It is important to note that a **change to regular Council meetings** is proposed effective November 2022. Council meetings would continue to be held MONTHLY on the 2nd Monday of each month beginning at 5:30 p.m. This is a proposed change from two meetings monthly to allow for more comprehensive reporting to the Council by Administration.
 - **NOTE:** For presentations and requests to Council for the monthly meetings the information would therefore be required to be provided not less than one-week prior to the meeting to ensure it is on the agenda (examples: street closure requests, proclamations, delegations, etc.)

Looking for waste disposal information? Check out the short video (compliments of the City of Regina) posted on the Town of Nipawin website demonstrating the use of recycle and refuse carts. The video may also be viewed on *YouTube* at: <https://youtube/LoM1KJq3osk>.

Over the past months RCMP Staff Sargent, Terry Posnikoff, has reminded the public repeatedly to report ALL suspicious activity. Everyone is encouraged to continue doing that. Crime Stoppers is available anytime. If you see something unusual, please call either the 1-800 crime stopper number OR the local RCMP detachment at (306) 862 6270 or 911. Please don't hesitate.

**SASKATCHEWAN
CRIME
STOPPERS**
1-800-222-8477

Bylaw enforcement continues to be provided by LM Bylaw Enforcement. Please continue to report your concerns to the Town Office at (306) 862 9866 or to bylaw@nipawin.com.

If you have an **idea, concern or a bouquet** please don't hesitate to arrange an opportunity for a conversation. Call (306) 862 9866 to arrange an appointment or by email to mayorharper@nipawin.com. (**NOTE:** Anonymous concerns, written or by phone, will not receive response so please sign your concern and provide contact information.)