

Council Corner – April 2018 - Spring Has Sprung



This month's newsletter begins with remembering and acknowledging the very tragic accident that occurred in our area on the evening of April 6th. The Town of Nipawin's sympathy, heartfelt thoughts, prayers and condolences continue to go out to the community of Humboldt as well as to the families of those who lost loved ones or who are supporting injured loved ones or those who have been affected in any way. Our thoughts and prayers continue for the entire "hockey family" and the numerous people and first response services (including our own) who have been impacted by the tragic crash.

Tributes, condolences, and encouragement were received by phone, text, email, letter and donation from across Canada and the U.S. Mayor Muench of the community of Humboldt sent his appreciation of support, as did the Saskatchewan Health Authority who thanked all the surrounding Hospitals & Health Care/Facility Staff (Tisdale, Melfort, Nipawin, Saskatoon, etc.).

On behalf of the Nipawin Fire Department, Fire Chief Brian Starkell writes, "We would like to thank the people who were first to arrive on the scene and assisted in any way they could; local residents, organizations and businesses, towns and municipalities, our families and friends, firefighters and fire departments from all over Saskatchewan and Canada (from Vancouver to Newfoundland), and the US. Thank you to everyone for the gifts of appreciation – food, donations, cards, texts, emails, words of encouragement, support and concern."

Jessica Brost owner of North East EMS asked to pass on the following thoughts, "On behalf of the Paramedics at North East EMS we would like to thank Nipawin and area for the tremendous support we have felt from the communities. The out-pouring of love, food and kind words have been a source of uplifting support in these difficult times. We will continue to proudly serve this North East region alongside the other emergency services. Thank you."

Thank you to Premier Scott Moe, his wife Krista, and his assistant, David, to MLA Fred Bradshaw, and to Humboldt Mayor Rob Muench and Councillors, for coming to Nipawin to show your support. Arrangements were made to provide opportunities for Mayor Muench and the Premier to speak directly with representatives of many of the services who were present, as well as to the Coach and Players of the Nipawin Jr. Hawks Team.

Thank you to our Apostolic Church family who rallied so very quickly to provide prayer, nourishment, and space for people to gather.

Thank you to the RCMP and to so many people, services and organizations who came together so quickly to offer your assistance and support (I won't try to list lest I inadvertently miss someone). Please accept our very sincere

THANK YOU.

Catching up with Town activities:

- On the weekend of April 20 to 22, the Nipawin Fire Department hosted the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighter Association's Spring Fire School. The Provincial event brought Volunteer Fire Departments from all over the province for training, support and comradery. Nipawin has hosted this event several times in the past and is applauded for the excellent organization and hosting. Thank you to the support of STARS, 911, SVFFA, Emergency Management and Fire Safety and the Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM), the Fire Departments of Prince Albert, Flin Flon and Buckland for being here to lend your support. Thank you also to the various vendors who set up a Trade Fair for the event.
- April 10th saw the 2018 Provincial Budget delivered. The 2018-2019 Provincial Budget caused the Town of Nipawin's Revenue Sharing to decrease by 6.8%. The SaskEnergy Municipal Surcharge was re-instated, which generates approximately \$58,000 in 2018 for the Town of Nipawin. The net effect to the Town's budget is minimal. As a result, the Town of Nipawin has determined that there will be no need to re-open the budget that has been passed. We have just received the annual taxation assessment information from SAMA and will be preparing to determine this year's tax levies sometime in May.

Congratulations & Thanks:

- On Tuesday, April 10th, the 17th Annual Builders, Achievers and Volunteer Recognition event was held. The event provides an opportunity to honour the accomplishments of individuals and teams who, while representing Nipawin, have excelled in the areas of sport, culture, recreation, and provides an opportunity to publicly thank our volunteers for outstanding contributions throughout the year, and every day. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients and a special thank you to our community's numerous Volunteers...you are the heart and soul of our community.

Special congratulations to Derek Seckinger who was named 2018's Builder of the Year Award. Derek shared his award with the Nipawin Jr. Hawks Team and four Hawks' players were on hand to accept the award on Derek's behalf.

When Hawks player Carter Doerksen accepted the award he very graciously thanked the community for its ongoing support of the Junior Hockey Club and players and said, "thank you to the community for making it possible for us to do what we love to do."

- Congratulations to the Nipawin Jr. Hawks on the team's accomplishments this season. The Hawks won the Canalta Cup after a 7th Game 2-1 victory over the Estevan Bruins. They are now playing against the Steinbach Pistons for the Anavet Cup. GO HAWKS GO!

Reminders:

- On May 9th from 5:00 to 9:00, the Town of Nipawin will hold its annual Town Hall meeting at the Evergreen Centre Auditorium. The Town Hall is an opportunity for citizens to meet and interact with various Town departments and staff as well as with the Mayor & Council and Administration. It's also an opportunity to provide your input about the Town's Strategic Direction Plan.
- On Saturday, May 12th, the Town of Nipawin and the Nipawin Apostolic Church will be organizing and hosting a special recognition and celebration BBQ in Central Park between 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Members of all the support and emergency and first response services are invited (Tisdale, Zenon Park, Melfort, Arborfield, Carrot River, Nipawin, Department of Highways, RCMP, Nipawin Hospital and all healthcare providers, STARS, EMS, etc.). The public is invited to give you an opportunity to personally thank those services. There will be a short program, fun activities for the kids, and entertainment by Magician Roger Boucher of Boucher Entertainment Inc., who has donated his services to the people of the area. It's a public event, and everyone is welcome. Let's come together to show our support and as a way of saying thank you and to begin moving forward with the steps to healing.

To arrange an opportunity to speak with the Mayor, please contact the Town Office at **(306) 862 9866** to arrange an appointment. I am also available by e-mail at mayorharper@nipawin.com.

Our website: Visit us at www.nipawin.com.

Did you know...

On April 6, 2018, the wireless emergency alert system, Alert Ready, was introduced across Canada. Download the free **SaskAlert** app to receive a "shortened" version of the issued alert.



Bylaw News

The Town of Nipawin updated the Smoking Bylaw. It now includes no vaping or smoking including nicotine and cannabis in all Parks, Playgrounds and Municipal Facilities and vehicles. For more on this updated Bylaw visit our website or stop in at the Town office.