

COUNCIL CORNER



2020 Year End Edition

As 2020 comes to a close and everyone awaits a New Year a quick review of the past twelve months in the Town of Nipawin seems helpful to remember that despite the impact of Covid-19, collectively the community was able to accomplish a number of very positive things:

- The Pool @ Central Park building was completed with the assistance and generosity of the community and area
- The Chiller at the Arena was replaced, as was the header trench at the Evergreen Centre (makes it possible to have curling ice)
- A NEW Zamboni was ordered for the arenas
- The Town successfully completed an inventory of its trees
- Mural rehabilitation project was begun – the Magnet Grocery mural rehab was completed and the rehab of the “Town on the Move” mural is underway
- Pinedale Playground was developed in partnership with Nipawin Kinsmen and Kinettes
- Numerous new activities and programs for all ages were developed (and are being well used despite COVID)
 - Cross Country skiing (rentals at the Evergreen)
 - Snow Feet
 - Snowshoe rental at Evergreen
 - Pickle Ball
 - Virtual Java Tots
 - ...and others
- 2020 saw the implementation of a Community Garden program which the town is anxious to expand
- Discussions underway in collaboration with a Community Group in regard to the development of a dog park
- Reduction of lot prices (in-fill and in Coventry) to promote development
- New F/T Bylaw EMO officer hired to implement the Town’s EMO plan as required
- Implementation of a comprehensive OH&S plan for the Town of Nipawin
- Implementation of GIS (Global Information System) to complement the Town’s Asset Management Plan
- Completed the Fire Underwriter’s Survey to evaluate existing fire department equipment
- The new Water Treatment Plant was commissioned in June of 2020 following many years of planning and work by many which will be a legacy into the future
- Kept taxes low to help relieve some of the stress of COVID in 2020
- Successful application for Municipal Economic Enhancement Project (MEEP) to address safety issues at Gordon Subdivision
- A comprehensive Traffic Study was conducted utilizing student resources and public input
- Discussions continue with area partners in regard to the development of a Helipad at the Nipawin Hospital
- Conducted the annual Open House to provide public information and seek input on a variety of issues including (zoning, traffic, housing)
- Implementation of an Enterprise Risk Management strategy for the Town of Nipawin is in progress
- Implementation and staff training for Asset Management

- Reduced the number of Council Standing Committees from four to two to reduce staff overtime and to improve councillor involvement
- Ongoing work with partners continued without interruption
 - Boreal Area Regional Waste Authority Inc (BARWA)
 - Sask. Ministry of Environment Site Audit was conducted in October/November
 - Twin Lakes District Planning Commission
 - Successful application for grant to develop a Future Land Use Map (See attachment for more information)
 - Community Economic & Tourism Advisory Committee begun (CETAC)
 - Mutual Aid
 - Regional Fire Partners
 - North East Area Transportation Committee
 - Work with First Nation Partners and Nipawin Reconciliation Committee
 - Involvement with MuniSask
- Establishment of an Emergency Operations Centre – type committee at the beginning of the COVID pandemic to help communicate between interagency partners (Interagency Pandemic Operations Committee – IPOC)

I am hopeful that this will provide residents with a brief summary of many projects and partnerships that are underway in the community and among partners, the various departments and committees.

Please accept my heartfelt **THANK YOU** on behalf of the Council of the Town of Nipawin for the positive impacts that everyone in the community has had on Nipawin over the past year, despite COVID-19's obvious impact.

I must conclude this newsletter with a reminder that COVID remains prevalent here and throughout the world. Please keep yourselves and others safe by following **three very important** things to help keep you, and others as safe as possible:

1. Keep your **DISTANCE** – 6 feet/2 meters between yourself and others
2. Wear a **MASK**, to protect others and yourself if you can't keep the 6 ft/2-m distance
3. **WASH** your hands often!

Happy New Year

Be patient with each other, support each other with kind words and positive reinforcement because all things are possible and better if we do them together.

As always, I welcome conversations with residents of Nipawin. If you have an **idea, concern or a bouquet** please don't hesitate to arrange an opportunity for a conversation. Please don't hesitate to 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.)

Reminder

2021 Garbage & Recycling Calendars are available for pickup at the Nipawin Town Office.
 2021 Dog & Cat tags are available at the Nipawin Town Office and Honeywood Vet Clinic.