NIPAWIN
EXCEPTIONAL BY NATURE

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September 25, 2026

Public Statement from the Mayor's Office

Nipawin & District Citizens on Patrol

The Mayor's Office is aware of recent public criticism and comments surrounding the Nipawin & District Citizens on Patrol (COPP) organization and believes it is important to clarify the facts for our community.

Nipawin & District COPP is currently active. The organization continues to conduct patrols when possible, recognizing that the number of volunteers currently available and willing to drive does limit the frequency of those patrols. Like many volunteer organizations, COPP relies on people willing to give their time to make these programs possible.

It is also important to be absolutely clear that **any suggestion or allegation of misuse or theft of funds by the Nipawin & District COPP organization is untrue.** There is no basis for these allegations, and publicly suggesting otherwise is unfair to the organization and, more importantly, to the volunteers who dedicate their time to serving our community.

COPP provides much more to Nipawin than vehicle patrols. Some of the important initiatives they have been involved with include:

- **Lost Children Wristband Program** during the Nipawin Exhibition, helping reunite lost children with their parents or guardians.
- **Business Keyholder Program,** which provides the RCMP with important information and a database of business keyholders that can be accessed in an emergency.
- **Green Shirt Program,** which maintains information about seniors in their homes to assist emergency services when assistance may be required.
- **Community patrols** and other initiatives focused on safety and community awareness.
- A role in advocating for and supporting the implementation of **Nipawin's current back alley bylaw.**

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The organization is also looking toward the future, with potential initiatives including a **camera registry, back alley lighting program and bicycle registry.**

These are tangible programs that benefit our community.

The Mayor and Council fully support the Nipawin & District Citizens on Patrol organization and recognize it as an important community asset. The members who volunteer their time deserve our appreciation and support.

There is certainly nothing wrong with asking questions or seeking information about any community organization. However, **public allegations questioning the integrity of an organization or its volunteers should not be made without factual evidence.** Such comments can cause significant harm to the reputation of a volunteer organization and may discourage the very people we need to step forward and volunteer.

COPP needs **more community involvement, not less.** If residents believe in the work this organization is doing, one of the most constructive things they can do is volunteer their time, participate in its programs, or support the organization in other meaningful ways.

The Mayor and Council encourage residents to recognize the considerable volunteer effort that goes into keeping programs like COPP operating. These volunteers are giving their time to help make Nipawin safer and stronger.

Nipawin & District Citizens on Patrol is an asset to our community. We encourage residents to support the organization, support its volunteers, and help build its capacity for the future.

Sincerely,

Marlon Zacharias
Mayor
Town of Nipawin