

## **Mayor's Report**

**February 19 - March 12, 2014**

**Council is preparing for many issues that will need to be addressed in the near future. Many of the decisions of Council will mold the future image of our community and how we are perceived by our neighbours. The information to make these decisions will be critical for Council members so that the process is transparent and justified; not only in our Councillors mind but also in the public eye. Council will hold two public meetings that will be very informative for the citizens of Belledune. Both meetings of the public will be at the Recreation Center with the first being a presentation by a new company who will be coming to Belledune in conjunction with the Port of Belledune. This new company is called Chaleur Terminal Inc. and they have purchased 250 acres of land from the Port of Belledune. The Company is located in Alberta and will transport crude oil to a storage facility tank farm that will be constructed over the next year. The Environmental Impact Assessment is being done at this time and that process should require at least several months to complete. The second public meeting to be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> is to bring information concerning how the public views either renovation to our present structure, building a new municipal office or scrapping this idea completely. The public is encouraged to attend both meeting because this is where the facts will be available and public input is the goal.**

**Feb. 19, 2014**

**I attended the Zone 7 meeting held in Tide Head because of the agenda item concerning Municipal Fiscal Transfers. I also used this meeting to request if other municipalities who had staff for water and sewage were interested in developing a partnership to control cost. This request was in conjunction with addressing our needs for the residents on our system servicing Chaleur Drive.**

**Feb. 26, 2014**

**I was present for the monthly Chaleur Regional Service Commission meeting and it was announced that President, Daniel Guitard will resign that position to seek the Liberal nomination for the coming Provincial election. As the acting Vice President, I will now assume this position of President until the annual General Meeting in May to choose a new Executive.**

**Feb. 28, 2014 (8:30-10:30 am)**

**I was present for a presentation by the Province of N.B., Economic Development Department on their services in our area and what they can offer.**

**Feb. 28, 2014 (12:00- 1:30 pm)**

**I attended the Mayors forum in Campbellton who are going to form an alliance with the French Association in N.B. and Quebec to address the closure of rail passenger service in Northern N.B.**

**March 5, 2014**

**I was present in Point-Verte for the announcement of the Medical Center moving to the building previously occupied by the Caisse Populaire.**

**March 10, 2014 (10:00 a.m. -Noon)**

**I was asked to attend the meeting at the Port of Belledune with the management of Chaleur Terminals Inc. so that they could inform me on the new facility coming to Belledune. They will have the public meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> at our Rec Center to bring many of the details to the public.**

**March 10, 2014 (7:00 p.m. -9:00 pm)**

**The monthly Public meeting was very informative and all items on our agenda were addressed. All is moving in the right direction.**

**March 12, 2014**

**I attended the luncheon by the Greater Bathurst Chamber of Commerce with a presentation done from the Royal Bank on global markets. This was very informative and showed many of the reasons inflation is so volatile.**

**In closing, I wish to express that decisions are not always popular but are important to the development of our community. Our community needs to realize that the status quo will not benefit us in any way. If we ask the question, are we better today that five, ten or twenty years ago, I am sure we would be very surprised with the response. This Council must address the difficult decisions to preserve our way of life and culture and our tax base because these are the things that make Belledune a very unique and beautiful place to live.**

**Sincerely**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald Bourque".

**Ron Bourque  
Mayor**