

Mayor's Report for November, 2015

Council is now very involved in developing the budget for 2016. We do extend to the public, an invitation to express your ideas and vision to any member of Council who in turn, will bring those ideas to the budget deliberation process. Council will extend an invitation to the public to attend the open forum where we present the 2016 final version. This presentation will be in early to mid December at the Recreation Center as in previous years. The date should be available for publication in the December newsletter.

Oct. 15, 2015

I attended a meeting in Campbellton for the Chaleur Regional Service Commission based on a plan by the Restigouche Regional Service Commission to develop a trail in the Mount Carleton region. Because this trail will cross 5 Regional Service Commissions, all Presidents of these five Commissions were invited to attend this strategy meeting. All went well and I did discuss the return of the Jacquet River Gorge to our Commission because it contains our water shed. I will be following up on this issue again in the future.

Oct. 19, 2015 (1:00-2:30pm)

I met with Minister, Brian Kenny to discuss issues concerning developing some direction the Regional Service Commissions can share as a whole. We also discussed issues important to the Chaleur Regional Service Commission and I took the opportunity to discuss issues important to Belledune. All parties agreed to continue this dialogue on regular bases for future information and progress.

Oct. 19, 2015 (7:00-8:30 pm)

The monthly Public Meeting of Council was conducted and all agenda items were discussed. All motions of Council were finalized. All this can be found on the Village web site for follow up.

Oct. 20, 2015

I attended a work shop by the Province of New Brunswick to develop ideas on what would make our region a better place. The presentation was attended by 4 of the 6 local Mayors and a group of business managers who would have a vested interest in the region. This format will be followed up by a general meeting of all participants in the Province to be held in Miramichi on Nov. 13th and 14th. I will attend this seminar to discuss the most common issues in the entire Province and develop a plan to bring those ideas forward.

Oct. 22, 2015

The Greater Bathurst Chamber of Commerce held its annual Gala at Danny's and the event was a huge success. Five local businesses were recognized for their success in the area and what being an entrepreneur in Northern New Brunswick really means to our area.

Oct. 28, 2015 (8:00am-4:00pm)

I was present along with C.A.O. David Hughes, Clerk/ Treasurer Brenda Cormier and Councillor, Mario LaPointe to discuss preparation of our 2016 budget. This was held at the Atlantic Host Motel for the day and was very productive in the preliminary preparation of the 2016 budget to the balance of Council. I do believe that this time spent is extremely productive and greatly reduces the required evening meetings of Council to prepare this budget. Council will now have several evening meetings to finalize these numbers and determine what projects will be placed in this 2016 budget.

Oct. 28, 2015 (6:30pm- 9:00pm)

I attended the working session of the Chaleur Regional Service Commission to discuss the 2016 budget figures. The budget will be finalized soon and sent for approval to all of the Councils responsible in our Commission.

Nov. 5, 2015

I was present for the monthly meeting of the Restigouche Crime Stoppers unit. All is going very well and we are now preparing for the New Year.

Nov. 9, 2015

The monthly Committee of the Whole meeting was done and all agenda items were addressed. The information required for Council to make a decision on any motion brought forward will be available for our monthly public meeting.

Nov. 10, 2015 (10:00-11:30 am)

I was present for the annual Legion service held at the Jacquet River School for all the students. The awards for best poems and essays were awarded to the deserving students. I will comment that all submitted poems and essays were very well written and all told a story of remembrance.

Nov. 10, 2015 (Noon-3:00pm)

I attended an action plan Executive meeting for the Chaleur Regional Service Commission. This will be finalized soon and the Commission will make a motion on approval to be presented to all municipalities for their Councils to approve.

Nov. 11, 2015 (10:30-11:30am)

The annual Remembrance Day ceremony was held at the Jacquet River School and a very large crowd from our area was in attendance. The ceremony was very well done and is an example of participation in our community. I can only express that our local veterans can feel the pride in many our citizens recognizing their contribution to their community, Province and country.

Nov. 11, 2015 (Noon-2:00pm)

I attended the luncheon at the Royal Canadian Legion Durham Branch #77. The local people present were very heart warming for our local veterans and the ceremony at the luncheon was very well received. I can only express my personal appreciation to the Royal Canadian Legion Durham #77 for recognizing my contribution to our Legion. I was awarded the "President's Award" for my involvement in our Legion. I was also presented with a "Branch Service" medallion for my contributions to the growth of our Legion. I only wish to express my appreciation to all my follow comrades for their participation. I did express that I do consider being Mayor of Belledune a "privilege" however being an active member of our Legion is an "honour".

In closing, the next few weeks will be extremely busy for our administrative staff and Council as a whole. The 2016 budget will need to be finalized, our Strategic Plan should be reviewed for future development and recommendations for the new Council of May, 2016. The calendar year is closing very quickly on 2015 and I would express to all members of our staff my personal appreciation for your continued dedication to our community. The only question left to be answered is, who will be the new fire chief and when will he or she arrive. I can only answer that C.A.O.Hughes and his committee are working on that very important issue now and we look forward to their recommendation to fill this critical position in our community.

Sincerely,



Ron Bourque

Mayor