

Mayor's Report for February, 2015

The planning on projects for the beginning of spring are now being discussed and prepared. The preparation for work on another section of Jacquet River Drive is moving forward and is only a question of how far we go. A section will be done, however if the Building Canada funding is approved, more will be done. Council is also very active in planning our new Community Memorial Park. I am very confident that the end results of this project will be something our community will be very proud of for many years. I also wish to thank all the supporting sponsors on this project and there will be more information coming in the future with the dedication ceremonies for the Park Opening planned for late September, 2015. The Mark Arsenault Gentleman Hockey Tournament will begin on March 23, 2015 and the Tournament is celebrating its 25 anniversary. I do wish to advise that Paul Arsenault will be presenting his book on the Stanley Cup being in Belledune last year. I hope everyone is excited to promote and see what Belledune can do when the Stanley Cup, one of our greatest Canadian icons, came to our community.

Jan. 19, 2015

Council met with the Trailblazers and Jacques Ouellette to discuss ATV trail development in Belledune. This is designed to have 4 wheelers and snowmobilers having access to the Lodge. The trails will be dual trails with some shared infrastructure such as bridges. All parties will meet again to discuss where the trails should be located.

Jan. 21, 2015

The CN training for all first responders was conducted at the Rec Centre. There were 82 persons from all branches (E.M.O., Fire Chiefs, Glencore, Irving and Port of Belledune) present for this very well presented and organized day. This is the first of 3 scheduled training and Council would like to extend our appreciation and congratulations to our Fire Chief, Paul Boudreau.

Jan. 21, 2015

I organized a tour of the Port of Belledune for all the Mayors in Chaleur and Restigouche Regional Service Commissions. I also extended an invitation to the Mayors on the Gaspé to attend this information session on Port of Belledune preparedness in case of an event. There were approximately 20 representatives present and all expressed how impressive and prepared the Port is.

Jan. 22, 2015

I travelled to Fredericton with Tara Hickey to meet with Minister, Cathy Roger who is the Minister of Social Development. The meeting was very positive and very productive and we will await confirmation on the future developments of a Special Care Facility at the former Belledune School facility. I am optimistic on the presentation and all Belledune is awaiting the decision.

Jan. 28, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Chaleur Regional Service Commission met to discuss all issues on the agenda. I was very appreciative of our President, Luc Desjardin and his comments concerning Belledune's invitation to attend the presentation on Port preparedness.

Jan. 30, 2015

There were 2 members of the R.C.M.P. who came to present the preparation video on the Musical Ride coming to Belledune on June 12, 2015. I was very happy to confirm that Claudia Duivenvoorden will handle all the stable duties to accommodate the 36 horses that will perform the ride. There will be more information on the Musical Ride as it approaches.

Feb. 3, 2015

I did a presentation at the Crime Stoppers meeting on the Musical Ride requirements for the members. All are very excited about this great event and will co-sponsor with the Royal Canadian Legion on June 12th to make this a memorial day for Belledune.

Feb.9, 2015(3:00-5:00pm)

I attended the ENGAGENB seminar hosted by Minister, Victor Boudreau on ways for the Province to come up with ideas from the public on how to save money or cut the budget by \$400-\$600 million by 2016. Although the attendance was not large, it did allow dialogue for those in attendance.

Feb. 9, 2015 (6:30-8:30pm)

I attended the ENGAGENB seminar held at the K.C. Irving Centre in Bathurst. This was a cafe style forum and approximately 100 people attended. The Government was represented by Minister Victor Boudreau, Minister Brian Kenny, Minister Denis Landry and M.L.A. Daniel Guitard. Many recommendations were expressed and will be presented to the public at the end of March, 2015.

Feb.10, 2015

The Committee of the Whole meeting had a presentation from Jacques Ouellette to the public regarding ATV trial in Belledune. Some members of the Board of Directors of the Snowmobile Trailblazers Club were present to hear his recommendations on where ATV trails could be developed in Belledune. The next step will be to walk the properties in the spring and present some cost figures for this to happen.

In closing, I am very confident that 2015 will be a very positive year for our community. There are projects being evaluated that will benefit and change the look of our community, there are over 100 jobs in the community waiting to be announced from 2 companies who are in the development stages, a park to show our appreciation for our Veterans, Fire Fighters and Emergency Responders, and the evaluation of ATV trail development which will contribute to tourism in our community.

Sincerely



Ron Bourque
Mayor