

Mayor's Report from May 21, 2013- June 21, 2013

I will advise that we are now beginning our second year on Council. The objective for this term will be to do very detailed planning for the future. The Strategic Plan will be looked at very closely and revisions will be addressed. I will be recommending that Council address the details of the plan and not the wording. There are many ideas in the present plan that are only "political talk" and have never been acted upon. Over the next few months I will ask Council members for ideas on their vision for our community. I will then restructure the plan with a recommended time frame, cost and budgeting strategy that will make our annual budgeting process more organized, achievable and current. The Plan in the past has a lot of ideas that have never materialized because of various reasons however lack of planning would be the main reason. I will use the example of expanding the present facility. The need has been looked upon for over seven years however nothing has been done because no plan is in place. Council will need to evaluate this problem and make the decision to either cancel or plan to move forward.

May 21, 2013

The Public meetings of Council are beginning to take a life of their own. The public has been very receptive to the agenda and Question Period has been well received and respected.

May 22, 2013

I was present at this month's meeting of the Regional Service Commission #3 which will now be identified as Chaleur Regional Service Commission. Also the recycling program is expanding to Pointe-Verte. Belledune will evaluate our position for early 2014.

May 27, 2013

I met with M.L.A. Greg Davis to discuss the importance of a Special Care Facility in Belledune. He was very receptive and we appreciate his time in listening to our needs.

May 29th & 30th, 2013

I attended a training session on “Dangerous or Unsightly Premises”. This was very informative with the presenters demonstrating the importance of following procedure to achieve the desired results. I was very pleased to be informed that Belledune is on the correct path to addressing many of the buildings that do need to be demolished.

June 6, 2013

I attended the presentation on “healthy aging” in Campbellton that was done by the Province. This was very informative and beneficial to having a meeting with Minister Dorothy Sheppard to discuss the issue of a Special Care Facility in Belledune. The information was confirmation that Belledune does require this type of facility for the support of families with aging relatives.

June 8, 2013 (2:00 – 4:00 pm)

I attended the Relay for Life walk at the arena in Belledune. The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm of the people who organized and participated in this event. I believe there should have been more local support for those who were walking however everyone appeared to be in a very positive spirit.

June 8, 2013 (6:00 – 10:00 pm)

I attended the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony that was in Dalhousie. The event was very well organized and was enjoyed by all those who attended.

June 10, 2013(10:00 – 11:00 am)

I met with Mr. Sheldon Hovey of N.B. Power to discuss the mutual aid agreement contract that our village has with them. We are both in agreement that this should be updated. Other issues were discussed and agreed upon.

June 10, 2013 (7:00- 9:00 pm)

The monthly Committee of The Whole meeting was done. There were many agenda items that needed to be addressed and all went very well. The information to this meeting can be read on our web site within the next few weeks after the approval of the minutes.

June 11, 2013(7:30-9:00 am)

I attended the Greater Bathurst Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting sponsored by Kent & White Insurance. The information presented had to do with the packages of insurance offered to their many clients.

June 11, 2013 (6:00-8:30 pm)

I attended the presentation on “Healthy Ageing” that was done in Bathurst. I was present with Mrs. Tara Hickey and we had a very good conversation with the Deputy Minister Carolyn McKay. She committed to asking Minister Dorothy Sheppard and Minister Madeline Dube to arrange a meeting with all parties to discuss the Special Care Facility in Belledune.

June 13, 2013

The Chaleur Regional Service Commission had a special meeting to discuss the recycling programs that the Solid Waste Commission will offer. All the members were informed on start up dates for the program for their municipality. Our Council will need to discuss this issue and prepare a plan if we are to proceed with recycling.

In closing, there is much planning and preparation that will be required by Council to prepare our municipality for what lies ahead. Council will need to recognize that talking about moving ahead and actually moving forward will require action and not words. I am confident that Council has addressed some very sensitive issues in the past and this will be another hurdle in the road to success. I will prepare, plan and ask Council to implement a very clear picture of where we need to go. The due diligence of any decision will be how we will achieve the desired results.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Bourque". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Ron Bourque
Mayor**