

**Mayor's Report from
May 28th – June 21, 2012**

I will begin with a comment to express my sincere appreciation to all residents of Belledune for electing me as Mayor. I have openly expressed that this Council will be transparent in all matters and that the decisions rendered will deal more with good common sense than politics.

The public has chosen the people they wish to guide our community for the next four years. I immediately can realize that the people have chosen wisely. The members of this Council have a wide variety of things to offer and all members are very attached to our community. I can see that this group of individuals will be able to express themselves openly and will be open to opinions from others. I want to congratulate each member of Council on their election.

I am ready to begin the job of presenting what will be the basis of our next four years. We will be a Council who will respect those who have elected us. We will treat all residents of our Municipality with the dignity they deserve and we will respond to all requests in a reasonable amount of time.

I will outline my activities on day to day basis as follows:

June 1, 2012

I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Port of Belledune. This was very informative on the financial position of the Port and outlined the expenditures that have been spent on infrastructure.

June 2, 2012

I attended the Sargent Mark Gallagher Memorial Gala held at Danny's Conference Center. The guest list included the Premier, David Alward, The Lieutenant Governor and many local dignitaries. The R.C.M.P. was present in their scarlet reds and over \$60,000.00 was raised to develop and support a school in Haiti which will bear his name.

June 3, 2012

I attended the sport banquet at the Jacquet River School and all the athletes had a very positive attitude.

June 4, 2012

I attended the Annual General Meeting of Enterprise Restigouche that was held in Eel River. The mood was very serious because of the announced cuts to their budget in early 2013. This group receives a large portion of its funding from A.C.O.A. and is now trying to look at ways to support its budget.

June 6, 2012

Council held the first meeting as a Committee of the Whole. This was very positive as Council received its first presentation from Marc Bouffard who is responsible for the Belledune District Planning Commission. Council was then presented with some issues that needed to be addressed. I was very pleased to see all the members present and the positive attitude everyone expressed.

June 7, 2012

I was present for a breakfast meeting of the Chaleur Mayors Forum. Enterprise Chaleur was our host and their director, Mr. Donald Hammond expressed the same concerns as their counter part from Restigouche. The cut backs will impact their abilities to offer the services they have previously provided. Also discussed was the outlook after the closure of Brunswick Mines. They are also working on having a flight to Wabush, NFLD, added to the Bathurst Airport.

June 9, 2012

I attended the opening ceremonies for the "Relay for Life" activity held at the Belle-Park area. I was very moved with the people who have survived this dreaded disease and how their enthusiasm never wavered. The presence of Jolee Donnelly was very inspirational for all those who walked.

June 11, 2012

Council held the public consultation to bring information to the public on which District would best suit the future needs of our community. I would estimate that approximately 75 people were present to hear the facts from the Nepisiguit Solid Waste Commission, Belledune Planning Commission and the Port of Belledune. The Village of Belledune presented the impact joining District 2 or District 3 would have on their taxes as a whole. I was very proud to be able to bring this information to those present however, the number of people indicates that most are either satisfied with the decision or have no preference in which direction we go.

June 14, 2012

I was present for the presentation by Minister Bruce Fitch concerning many of the issues that they believe need to be addressed for District 2 & 3. This meeting was held at the Nash Creek hall and there was representation from Bathurst to Campbellton on hand. There were many questions answered but there was also some very gray areas.

June 19, 2012

I attended the Annual General Meeting of Enterprise Chaleur and this was very informative. They are facing major cut backs for their budget and will need to re-evaluate their position before the first quarter of 2013. (8:00am- 10:00 am) (3:00pm- 4:00pm) I was also present at the Port of Belledune for the 10 year anniversary celebration of S and D Inc. who uses the port to ship Perlite within Atlantic Canada. This company was the first to sign a contract to use the facilities at the port. The directors present were very pleased to see their partners present and openly expressed how this facility is as professional as any in the world.

June 20, 2012

I attended the graduation ceremony for Dalhousie Regional High School where I presented Marcel Richard with a \$200.00 bursary from The Village of Belledune for academic achievement.

June 21, 2012

I attended the graduation ceremony for the Jacquet River School. The grade 8 class was very proud of their achievements and many of the students were looking forward to going on to High School.

In closing I was very impressed with the reception many people have given Belledune and what a critical role our community will play in the growth of the Chaleur area. I am committed to the people of Belledune to be represented in a professional and business environment and I look forward to addressing many of the challenges we will experience head on.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Bourque". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ron Bourque-Mayor of Belledune