

Mayor's Report for October 2014

Council will begin the budget process for 2015 in the very near future. Many of the items to be looked at by Council during the process have been submitted by all parties. Council will determine which items will be on the list for completion in 2015 and which items will be placed in our Strategic Plan for continued evaluation. The fourth quarter of 2014 will be a very active time for all members of Council. The items that will require attention will include the pending announcement of Chaleur Terminals, the Mayors forum on open and transparent information, the Special Care Facility at the old Belledune School and the pending decision of the Committee on a new facility. I am very confident that many of the items listed, and some that are not, will all be given the attention they deserve to move our community forward. I believe that our community is at a cross road where the short term decisions of this Council will be determining the long term impact on our municipality. Council will need to determine whether their actions are for political reasons or for the long term interest of Belledune. I do very strongly believe that Belledune is positioned to be the economic driving force in Northern New Brunswick. The goal of Council should be to professionally position our community to get the respect Belledune has earned in the region. Belledune has demonstrated that it is willing to share its growth with our neighbours, what has not been demonstrated is that our neighbours respect and appreciate our contribution to their economic growth. As Mayor, I will continue to bring this message forward and I have seen some progress in this direction.

Sept. 17, 2014

I was present where the Chaleur Regional Service Commission discussed the Emergency Measures Plan for our region. Options were evaluated and some recommendations were made to address emergencies in the future.

Sept. 18, 2014

The R.C.M.P. and the All-Terrain Enforcement Agency were present at the public presentation I requested at the Jacquet River School. Approximately 70 people were present to express their issues concerning services and problems with A.T.V. The agency advised that they will conduct tours of Belledune and provided their contact information to all those present.

Sept. 24, 2014

The monthly meeting of the Chaleur Regional Service Commission was done and all agenda items were dealt with.

Oct. 3rd, 4th& 5th, 2014

I attended the Union of Municipalities for New Brunswick annual conference. The agenda was very active and many ideas were expressed. I wish to advise and congratulate, Deputy Mayor, Tracy Culligan on her appointment as Secretary/Treasurer of the board of directors.

Oct. 7, 2014

I was extended an invitation to attend the ceremony of the new Liberal government ministers taking their oath of office. The North can be very proud of those who were appointed to be ministers with Donald Arsenault, Daniel Landry and Brian Kenny being given very important cabinet positions. I would also advise that our own M.L.A. for our riding, Daniel Guitard has been appointed Assistant Whip for the party.

Oct. 8, 2014

I attended the meeting of the local Public Advisory Committee at the Smelter. The information shared was very interesting and will be determined as the results develop.

Oct. 9, 2014

I attended a pre-budget meeting in Bathurst to eliminate distractions affiliated with being in the office. All went very well in this preparation and I wish to thank C.A.O. David Hughes and Clerk/Treasurer Brenda Cormier for their input.

Oct. 9, 2014(7:00-9:00pm)

I attended the monthly meeting of Crime Stoppers and I was informed that my request to bring the R.C.M.P. Musical Ride to our area has been approved. I will partner with the Crime Stoppers Unit and the Royal Canadian Legion Durham Branch #77 to have the ride in Belledune on June 12, 2015. I will advise on further developments as they arise.

Oct. 10, 2014

I met with, Jacques Ouellette of the Federation to discuss having a trail developed to our Lodge. This was very informative and I will arrange for him to make a presentation to the local Trail Blazers Club.

Oct. 14, 2014

The monthly Committee of the Whole meeting was done and Council met with a perspective Company looking at coming to Belledune in the near future. All the agenda items were finalized.

Oct. 15, 2014

I was invited to attend a ceremony celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Catholic Women League at Saint John the Evangelist Church. This group of very dedicated ladies have demonstrated that they are truly inspirational in their cause to represent their church and religion. The people of Belledune wish to thank and congratulate these Ladies on their contribution to their beliefs.

Oct. 16, 2014

I had a meeting with the public relations officer for the C.N.R. I gave him a tour of the area and also of the Port of Belledune. All went very well and he is prepared to be the spoke person for the C.N.R.

In closing, I am confident that Council is prepared to face the many challenges ahead. I realize that some will be much more sensitive than others however decision making is what will move our community forward and place many problems to rest. I am confident that the remaining 20 months of this Councils mandate will be challenging, exciting and satisfying all at the same time. I look forward to their vision for our community and their recommendations on how we will get there.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Bourque". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "e".

Ron Bourque-Mayor