

Monthly Report from Sept. 17-Oct.12, 2012

I will begin this report with the clarification of several comments that were made in public. I have a copy of the letter submitted to the Tribune which states clearly the “no tax payer’s money” has been spent on the C-Force memorial. I have confirmed that to date, there has been \$9,300 (+ or -).

I also want to clarify a statement made by the Fire Committee representatives of the Fire Department concerning insurance coverage in the Village of Belledune. The comment was that without a Fire Department all house insurance in our community would go up. This comment would only be true provided that no action was taken by Council to address this issue. The advisory board that evaluates these types of problems would not raise the insurance rate the next day. All avenues would need to be exhausted in trying to replace, upgrade or look for alternatives before this would happen. Many months would be considered before such an action would occur and the failure of any Council not to address such an important issue would only be neglect to address such a problem. I am very confident in expressing to the people of Belledune that this Council will always remember its obligations to the people who elected them and to the people who serve on our Fire Department.

Sept. 19, 2012

I attended a workshop on Human Relations that was held in Bathurst. I found this very informative and enjoyed sharing time with many people who are experiencing the same issues.

Sept. 20, 2012

This was the first Fire Committee meeting with Council and the Fire Chief and the two Deputy Fire Chiefs. It also marked the very first time members of the public attended such a meeting. The public was very receptive to this meeting and Council dealt with a list of issues that needed to be addressed. Many items were finalized and some will need to be looked into further. All went well and I am looking forward to our next meeting.

Sept. 24th & 25th, 2012

I attended the training course on the Rights to Information & Protection of Privacy Act. As the recognized head of this very sensitive access to information law, I was very much informed on what is acceptable and how these requests should be handled.

Sept. 27, 2012

I attended the Federal Boundaries Commission and made a presentation on behalf of the citizens of Belledune where our desire to be aligned with on a federal basis should be. I did express our request to be attached with the riding of Acadie-Bathurst.

Sept. 27, 2012

I also attended the public meeting held in Campbellton to address the issue of VIA Rail discontinuing passenger service along this line. There were over 200 people in attendance and they expressed various ways to deal with this very sensitive issue.

Sept. 28th, 29th & 30th, 2012

I attended the annual Union of Municipalities for New Brunswick conference held in Fredericton. This was a very positive experience and many of the presentations were positive and well done.

Oct. 2, 2012

I attended the information session on Entreprise Chaleur. All of these organizations are being evaluated and the announcement as to how they will be restructured was advised.

Oct. 9, 2012

The Committee of the Whole meeting was very interesting. I enjoyed the presentation by Ambulance New Brunswick and gathered some very important

information. Also the presentation on the C-Force memorial was clarified and hopefully will be finalized at the public meeting with a motion.

Oct. 10, 2012

I attended the monthly meeting of Crime Stoppers. I will be organizing an information session at the Jacquet River School very soon to bring more detailed information on drug awareness. I have requested that the R.C.M.P. be in attendance to answer questions and deliver the message on what to look for, how to address this and what affects this type of issue has on the community.

In closing I want to extend to the public an open invitation to attend all meetings of this Council. This will keep you informed and give you a strong understanding of the issues Council face every day. I have seen positive growth in this Council and their dedication to make our community a better place to live. There is much left to be done but I am confident that making positive decisions, discussing problems openly and evaluating issues by priority is going to benefit our community in the future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Bourque", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ron Bourque - Mayor of Belledune