

Mayor's Report for the Month of April, 2014

This report will cover a very active and changing time for our community and Council. I would like to comment on another very successful "Mark Arsenault Gentleman Hockey Tournament" held in our arena. I would also like to recognize that the tournament will celebrate its 25th anniversary next year, so on behalf of our community, congratulations on a job well done.

I would also like to recognize that effective April 15th, Mr. Frank Guitard, former Fire Chief, and Mr. Gordon Russell, former Deputy Fire Chief, both submitted their resignations from the Belledune Volunteer Fire Department. Council would like to recognize their contributions to our community and their many years of service on the fire department. Council is advising the public that Mr. Lorenzo Grant (Former Belledune Fire Chief) has taken over the duties as Interim Fire Chief for a 90 day period. This will allow Council the opportunity to implement a plan to find a full time Fire Chief who will be on a contract of 12-24 months. The successful candidate will restructure our brigade and train the next Chief and Deputy Chief from our group of volunteers within the department. Council wish to inform the public that we are working very closely with the Fire Marshall, Mr. Douglas Brown, for the Province of New Brunswick, the underwriters association for home insurance, Mr. John Redden in Halifax, N.S. and the members of the Belledune Volunteer Fire Department to address the issues of concern for all parties involved.

Council would like to inform the public that Chaleur Terminals Inc. will begin operation in Belledune as soon as the Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed by the Province of New Brunswick. The company will create over 30 full time jobs when completed and will provide over 200 jobs during construction. The operation will transport crude oil from Calgary to Belledune by rail which will be one train per day of over 120 tanker cars. The facility will have 8 tanks of 150,000 barrels each, built in phase one, with another 12 tanks planned for the second phase. The company has already held its open house on the project and approximately 175 people attended this information session.

Council also held an open house to gather public opinion on whether to build a new municipal facility, renovate our existing facility or look at other alternatives to address municipal needs for now and the future. Council would like to thank all those who participated and expressed their views and opinions.

March 19, 2014

I attended the monthly meeting of the Restigouche Crime Stoppers unit in Campbellton. Our unit is very active dealing with several files.

March 20, 2014

I met with representatives from the Town of Dalhousie to seek information on possible alternate cost effective services for the operation of the Chaleur Drive water and sewage utility. They will visit the utility infrastructure to evaluate their position on this issue.

March 25, 2014

I met with the Committee from Chaleur Drive to address some mutual concerns on operation cost of the utility. I believe that these meetings have produced some very positive results that will be evaluated.

March 28, 2014

I attended a presentation on "Conflict of Interest" that was done for the Chaleur Regional Service Commission. This training was done by Chiasson & Roy Lawyers and the example used was a case in 2011 from Belledune.

March 29, 2014

I attended the opening of the "Relay for Life" in Dalhousie. Our community has a few teams involved and I wanted to show our support for this very worthy cause.

April 2, 2014

I was present at the Community Involvement Committee presentation done by Glencore. The management team conduct a very informative presentation on environmental concerns and future developments.

April 14, 2014

Council held a special meeting to address the fire issues in our community.

April 15, 2014

I was present during the open house held by Chaleur Terminals Inc. at the Recreation Center. This was a very positive information session for the public and was very well attended.

April 16, 2014 (10:00-11:00 am)

I was present for the official launch of the Dalhousie Nursing Home campaign. Many of the local Mayors, whose municipalities have made a contribution commitment to the campaign, were present.

April 16, 2014 (7:00-8:00pm)

I was present during the public presentation concerning our municipal office. Although there was not a large crowd, I was pleased with the information exchanged by the public and Council.

April 17, 2014 (2:00-2:30 pm)

I attended an information session for the fire fighters at Station #1. The purpose was to keep our fire fighters informed on the changes and how it will affect them in the future.

April 17, 2014 (6:30-7:00pm)

I attended another information session for the fire fighters at Station #2.

April 22, 2014

As President of the Chaleur Regional Service Commission, I attend a bi-monthly meeting with the Executive Director on issues that need to be addressed.

April 23, 2014

I chaired the monthly meeting of the Commission. The agenda covered the awarding of specific tenders for the Solid Waste and a general discussion of the Directors on Chaleur Terminals Inc.

April 24, 2014

I was present for an information session on "fracking" in New Brunswick; I was interested in the professional information presented.

In closing, I will be presenting to the public a list of our accomplishments during our 2 years as a Council. The month of May will be 24 months down with 24 months to go in our mandate. I have been advised to enjoy these last 2 years because I will not be re-elected should I reoffer. I will make it very clear publically that I have been committed and I will continue to be committed to a professional business environment where everyone will be treated with the dignity and respect they deserve as members of our community and that does include those who have expressed their views directly to me. I will also state that respecting policy and procedure may not be what some of the general public want to respect, however I will not deter from this direction because now everyone is treated equally. I will continue in this direction on the road to recovery for our municipality and I will continue to represent Belledune in exactly the same manner I have over the past 23 months.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Bourque".

**Ron Bourque
Mayor**