

MAYOR REPORT
December 19, 2019

Firesmart Initiatives

The major vegetation removal along Lakeshore Drive has been completed by the Alexander First Nation crew. The final sections that have been approved for removal will be completed in January 2020. As reported by our CAO the Summer Village is applying for another round of vegetation clearing in 2020.

A community member volunteer is still required for the Firesmart Committee. Any interested individuals should contact the SV Office at your earliest convenience.

FCSS Committee

The senior's programme proposal for snow clearing is at this point in time stalled. The Committee has written to the Provincial FCSS Executive Director explaining that this is a pilot project along with a request to enable unexpended 2019 funds to be "rolled over" for use on this project in 2020.

This is an unfortunate delay and the Committee, although not satisfied, will await decisions made by the bean counters.

Regional Emergency Management Agency

Due to the withdrawal of Castel Island, one of the original partners, we have signed off on a new partnership agreement to be forwarded to the Minister that now includes on eleven (11) partner summer villages. There is also the need to revise our own By-Law to reflect that change and this will be done at the December 2019 Council meeting.

Alexander First Nation Contact

I initially met with representatives of Alexander First Nation in May 2019, at their request, to be updated on various capital projects that were being planned. The development of a new and expanded gas bar, now open for business, was discussed at that meeting, along with the WILD potable water line and the development of a waste water treatment facility at Alexander.

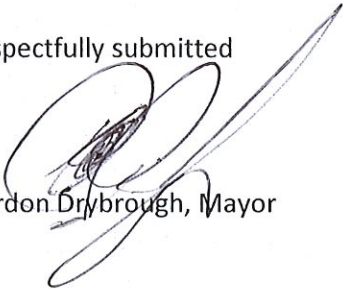
I met again on December 17, 2019 with these same Alexander representatives, when again the waste water (sewage) project was discussed. Knowing that the Lagoon Committee has not been able to formulate any decisions owing to the inability to complete an approved discharge at the lagoon, and also with the knowledge that the proposed Darwell transmission line remains in the discussion stage, I suggested that Sandy Beach should open and continue dialogue with Alexander. We should connect our engineer with the folks at Alexander for some technical discussions in order to Sandy and the Lagoon committee to have perhaps another option on the table concerning our own lagoon operation.

To that end, I request that the Council of Sandy Beach consider forwarding a letter of intent to Alexander First Nation for on-going discussions of a potential shared agreement with respect to their proposed upgraded lagoon and waste treatment facility. Copies of such a letter of intent should be forwarded to the Alberta Minister of the Environment as well as the Council of Sunrise Beach.

It was reported at this meeting that Alexander First Nation has accepted the invitation to join the West Inter-Lake District Water Commission and has officially be granted a seat at that table.

In closing I wish to thanks Council, our Administration and Public Works for their individual and collective efforts during 2019. On behalf of Council allow me to send Seasons Greetings to all in our Summer Village with the hope that you have a safe and happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Drybrough', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Gordon Drybrough, Mayor