MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PEACE NO.135
NEWSLETTER
2007

COUNCILLOR PROFILES

Division1: Sandra Friesen is the newly acclaimed Councillor for Division 1. A long-time resident of the area, Sandra and her husband Brad farm southeast of the Hamlet of Brownvale.

Division 2: Rick Keillor is the newly elected Councillor for Division 2. A long-time resident of the area, Rick and his wife Trudi farm northwest of the Hamlet of Brownvale.

Division 3: George Brightwell is the newly elected Councillor for Division 3. George and his wife Ethel moved to the area in 1983 and currently reside southeast of the Village of Berwyn. George is a businessman and real estate agent.

Division 4: Veronica Bliska and her husband Don farm east of the Town of Grimshaw. A long-time resident of the area, Veronica was acclaimed to Office in the October municipal election and is entering her 4th term as Councillor. At the October 18, 2007 Organizational Meeting of Council, Veronica was elected as Reeve.

Division 5: Don Palmer and his wife Valerie reside west of the Town of Peace River. A retired teacher, Don is a long-time resident of the area who was acclaimed to Office in April, 2006. Don was again acclaimed to Office in the October municipal election and is entering his 2nd term as Councillor. At the October 18, 2007 Organizational Meeting of Council, Don was elected as Deputy Reeve.

If ratepayers in the Municipal District have any comments, concerns or suggestions with respect to any policies or ongoing programs pertaining to the M.D., please feel free to contact your Councillor or the Municipal Office.

Sandra Friesen	338-2423
Rick Keillor	597-2136
George Brightwell	332-4807
Veronica Bliska	332-4329
Don Palmer	624-8589
Municipal Office	338-3845
Email address	mdpeace@wispernet.ca

TAX PENALTY

On the 15th of January, a 10% penalty will be added to all outstanding tax account balances.

PREPAYMENT OF TAXES

Your 2008 property taxes may be prepaid on or before January 15, 2008. The prepayment must be **received in the Municipal Office by January 15, 2008** in order to receive the 4% discount. Payment is based on the previous year's taxes; therefore, depending on assessment changes and mill rates you may still owe a small amount of tax which is due to be paid by May 30, 2008.

SNOWPLOW FLAGS

We again remind residents that a snowplow flag must be purchased prior to having your driveway plowed. Flags are available at the M.D. Office in Berwyn at a cost of $25. + GST. Driveways are usually plowed when the grader is clearing the road, therefore, for best service, you may wish to have at least one flag on hand at all times.

PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

Each year the Municipal District undertakes a number of projects to maintain or upgrade the municipal road system. In 2007, the following projects were undertaken:

- Regravelling of approximately 85 miles of municipal roads. The loading and hauling contract was awarded to Tri-S Concrete (1996) Ltd. at a cost of $85,571.

- Reconstruction of approximately 4.44 km. of municipal road known as Township Road 820. This major reconstruction project was tendered out with the $1,168,749. contract being awarded to Cox Contractors Ltd. The project started on October 22, 2006 but was shut down on November 5, 2006 due to the weather. The contractor completed the project on June 29, 2007.

- Culvert replacement project on an unnamed water course west of the Town of Peace River on Range Road 222. This $668,949. project, scheduled for completion by June 30, 2008, was tendered out with the contract being awarded to Glen Armstrong Construction Ltd. Due to the depth of the fill over the existing culvert, a new pipe will be installed using the "jack and drill" method of installation.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

The Municipal District is sorry to advise that our Agricultural Fieldman, Shara Stolhandske, resigned effective October 3, 2007. Shara is currently employed by the Canadian Wheat Board as the Peace Region Rep.

The Agricultural Service Board continued with their annual weed control efforts undertaking a municipal wide spraying and mowing program.

Gerard Aldridge, the Rural Extension Specialist, continues to deliver Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural programming. The M.D. of Peace shares his services with the M.D. of Fairview and Clear Hills County.

The Municipal District continues to participate in the V.S.I. program. The program will pay for 50% of approved veterinary services.

The Municipal District will have limited involvement in the Mountain Pine Beetle program in 2007/08. If you had infested trees last year, please check the pine trees on your property for re-infestation. Check your pine trees for pitch tubes and fresh sawdust in the bark crevices or at the base of the tree.

RECREATION

The Municipal District has several recreation areas that are available for the enjoyment of our ratepayers and the traveling public. These areas include: Strong Creek Park, Wilderness Park, Lac Cardinal Municipal Park, Brownvale Ball Park and Elk Island Campsite.
The Municipal District gives an annual grant, to be used for recreational purposes, to the neighboring urban municipalities. In 2007 the following amounts were paid:

Village of Berwyn	$ 2,000.
Town of Grimshaw	$ 6,500.
Town of Peace River	$13,925.

FCSS PROGRAM

Although the Municipal District does not operate their own Family and Community Support Services program, the following FCSS funding is provided to the neighboring urban municipalities:

Village of Berwyn	$14,310.
Town of Grimshaw	$14,310.
Town of Peace River	$14,310.

LANDFILL

Hours of operation are Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
For a minimal fee, residents of the Municipal District can access the Long Lake Regional Landfill Site Transfer Stations located in Grimshaw and Weberville. Please remember to ensure that your load is secure.

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

A sign of the increasing development in the Municipal District can be seen in the number and value of Development Permits issued:

2006	19 Development Permits, Value $2,026,000
2007	32 Development Permits, Value $6,372,000

A Development Permit is required if you are planning to build on your property. An Application can be obtained at the Municipal Office. Information required to complete the application includes a legal description of the property, the proposed use, a site plan of the proposed development, the estimated commencement and completion dates and the estimated cost of the development.

LOTS FOR SALE IN BROWNVALE

The Municipal District has 5 fully serviced lots available for sale in the Hamlet of Brownvale. For more information, please call the Municipal Office at 338-3845.

WEBSITE

Council is currently discussing the merits of developing a website for the Municipal District. A website would allow the minutes of all Council meetings, the newsletter and information of general interest to be made available in a timely manner. It would also provide the ability to receive direct feedback from ratepayers/residents.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank Brian Grant, George Musa and Edward Pimm for their dedicated service as Councillors with the Municipal District. Brian and George each served 6 consecutive terms (18 years).

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR