

Municipal Minute

June 2017

The Municipal Minute is a publication dedicated to providing residents with important information to highlight significant developments, milestones and other noteworthy items from the Placentia Council Chamber. The Municipal Minute is published following each Public Council meeting.

TWINNING WITH PLENTZIA, BASQUE COUNTRY

Council, in recognition of the relationship of the Basque with Placentia, Newfoundland and Labrador since the 16th century, approved the affiliation of Plentzia, Province of Biscay, Basque Country, Spain and the Municipality of Placentia as Sister Towns. Mayor David Crestelo Dominguez, Councillor Zutoia Azurmendi Gil, Councillor Keltse Macias Zarraga and Councillor Jose Luis Gomez Bellido from the City of Plentzia attended the meeting as part of the four day visit to the Town. An official ceremony to recognize the twinning was held on June 21. During the visit the delegation participated in various tours, cultural and social activities.



DUMPING IN WATERSHED AREA

A contractor working for the provincial government was observed to be dumping fill from road construction in the Clark's Pond watershed area. The Department of Transportation and Works was contacted and the act was stopped. Council has requested that the department install a permanent barrier, perform an environmental assessment of the area and reinstall watershed signage that was in place prior to this activity.

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Council approved the motion to go to public tender for disposal of surplus Town equipment. Information will be available at www.placentia.ca or the Town Hall.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Public Works Manager

Mr. Harold Power, Public Works Supervisor will be retiring as of January 26, 2018. Council has now begun active recruitment for the position of Public Works Manager.

PLACENTIA AWARE

The Placentia Aware Community Notification System was launched at the Placentia Bay Age Friendly Fair and is publicized on Town social media sites. Residents can register for the system at www.placentia.ca or by visiting the Town Hall. Cards will also be mailed out next week for anyone wishing to complete a manual registration card.

HUSKY

Mayor Power and the Executive Committee recently met with Husky Energy officials to discuss the Argentia project following the recent sanction of the West White Rose Project. Various topics were discussed including project update, timelines, employment and supplier opportunities, community impact and permit requirements.

CONGRATULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council extends congratulations to the following:

- Brittany McCarthy - 2017 Premier's Athletics Award
- Dandy Dan's Seafoods - 2017 Business of the Year Award from NL CBDC
- Laval Class of 2017 - Prom Celebration
- Amy O'Reilly - School Sports NL Varsity Regional Recognition Award
- Liz Roache (Individual), Blake O'Keefe (Youth), Star of the Sea
- Ladies Auxiliary (Group) - Age Friendly Bridging Generations Awards

EXPENDITURES

Highlights of expenditures approved by Council this month include:

- Cessation of contracts with Bell Mobility and entering into a service agreement with Telus Mobility which will result in cost savings for the Town.
- \$2,484.28 plus HST over a 60 month period for lease purchase of a 2016 Case 580 Backhoe with a \$10 buy out at the end of the lease.
- \$1,500 for Canada 150 Celebrations.
- \$2,750.00 plus HST to purchase flowers for Town parks and community spaces from Hickey's Greenhouse.
- \$1,444.33 plus HST to purchase recreation supplies.
- \$100,000 for asphalt repairs to municipal roads from the Town's Special Project Fund.

PERMITS

- Council granted approval in principle to "Shanties on the Sound" to construct 12 cabins and 100 campsites on a designated area near Drummers' Pond on Fox Harbour Road pending approval from all government agencies and interested parties including Port of Argentina.
- Council granted a vendor permit for operation of a carwash.
- Council granted waiver of permit fees for businesses operating under the Youth Ventures Program at CBDC Avalon West.

TOWN CLEAN UP EFFORTS

Street sweeping and road line markings are completed and a considerable amount of garbage was picked up (450 bags) during clean up period. A special thank you to Mr. Clem O'Keefe for helping with beautification at the Blockhouse.

DUNVILLE WATERLINE PROJECT

Tenders have closed on the Dunville water line project and work will commence this summer. A public information session is scheduled for 6:30 pm, June 28, 2017 at the Dunville Lions Club regarding this project.

STATEMENT ON FRAUD AND FORGERY

Mayor Power read a statement by the Town related to conclusion of the judicial process involving fraud and forgery perpetrated against the Town into the public record. The complete statement will be attached to the official minutes of Council, which will be available after adopted by Council at the July meeting.

GRANT FOR BRUSH CUTTING

The Town received a grant from the Department of Transportation and Works in the amount of \$25,000 for brush cutting of provincially owned roads around the Town of Placentia.

GOVERNOR GENERAL CANADIAN LEADERSHIP TOUR

The NL Study Group of the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference toured Placentia in June. The group consisted of 16 leaders from various fields from across the country. The group toured various sites focusing their discussions on heritage, economic and community development, governance and the future.



JUNE IS RECREATION MONTH

Mayor Power and Recreation and Community Programming Manager Gord Pike visited St. Anne's Academy earlier in the month to proclaim June is Recreation Month in the Town of Placentia. All residents are encouraged to live an active and healthy lifestyle, not only this month but everyday.



MULTICULTURAL EVENT

The Annual Multicultural Celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at the Placentia Bay Cultural Arts Centre. The Town was successful in receiving a grant from Canadian Heritage to host the event.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS



SUMMER RECREATION

School is out and that means one thing – the start of our Town of Placentia / Placentia Area Development Association Summer Recreation Program. We would like to welcome Ms. Melanie Whyte as our new Summer Recreation Coordinator. This year's program will run from July 10 – August 18, and consist of two three-hour sessions per day from Monday – Thursday. The first session will be from 9 am -12 pm for children ages 4-8. The second session will be from 1 pm – 4 pm for children ages 9-12. Our activities will be fresh, interactive and inclusive. Children will be provided with choices and opportunities for self-expression. Our recreation leaders are competent, well-prepared, enthusiastic, energetic and fun to be around. They will ensure that the best possible experience will be provided for your child. In addition, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our summer program, the Town, in conjunction with PADA, has developed and adopted a Canada Summer Jobs Leader Handbook.

New to our program this year will be a Senior's Wellness Session, which will take place on Fridays from 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm. This healthy living initiative will take place either at the Legacy Garden, located across from the Municipal Building, or in the Placentia Bay Cultural Arts Centre. There is no cost associated with this session. Let's get out and have some fun!!

For further information, please contact:
Melanie Whyte, Summer Recreation Coordinator
709-227-3996 or Gord Pike, Manager of Recreation and Community Programming 709-227-2151 ext 225

SUMMER ART EXHIBITS

Two exhibits related to the Basque heritage in Placentia are showing at the Placentia Bay Cultural Arts Centre this summer. The first exhibit is based on a series of vignettes that was written by Ms. Lee Everts for the Placentia Area Theatre d'Heritage (PATH). Laval junior high students under the direction of local artist Christopher Newhook created a range of tableaux. The exhibit showcases several of the pieces that were completed by the grade 7-9 students of Laval High School. The second exhibit was donated to the Town of Placentia by l'association Indioak-Ibaialde in France and also focuses on the history of the Basque in Placentia. It also highlights the Ternua 2017 expedition.



SWIMMING POOL UPDATE

Discussions continue with the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment in relation to the swimming pool project. These discussions are focused on moving the project forward to the next step in the development process. The Town and its partners thank the public for their continued support of this project.

EVENTS

The Tourism and Culture, Recreation and Economic Development Committees noted several upcoming community events which the town is hosting or partnering to deliver, including:

July 1: Memorial Day Ceremony

July 1: Canada Day Folk Festival / Canada 150

July 1: Canada 150 Celebration & Fireworks

July 9: Southeast Playground Grand Opening

July 22: Placentia Regatta

July 26/27: Ternua 2017 – Basque Celebration

August 4: Canadian Citizenship Ceremony

August 4-6: Voices of Placentia Bay Festival

August 12: Placentia Area Historical Society Annual Tea Party

For more information including up to date event information please visit www.placentia.ca

FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

The Placentia Volunteer Fire Department reported minimum standards and defensive firefighting training completed by five new recruits; 14 members completed advanced first-aid for firefighters, and members attended provincial fire school including: Steve O'Keefe (Hazmat Certification), Chris Newman (Fire Services Instructor) Jamie Bixby and Jeff Richardson (Firefighter Level 2), Brent McGrath (Air Brake and Live Fire Burn). Council thanks all members for their commitment.

NEXT PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING

The next Public Meeting of the Town of Placentia Council is scheduled for July 18, 2017. Submissions, including permit applications, for consideration by Council are due by Friday, July 7, 2017. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend all public council meetings.