



Mayor's Monthly Message

July 2019

Council expresses our sincere appreciation to the countless volunteers who helped with this year's Settler Days celebration. It was one of the most action-packed summer weekends in our history. A broad range of entertainment, activities and food meant there was something for just about everyone to enjoy. Thank you to Wolf Creek Colony and McDonalds for their generous financial contributions and ongoing commitment to our community by supporting the Firemen's Pancake Breakfast. It was great to have both our Member of Parliament, Mr. Glen Motz and our Member of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon. Grant Hunter serve breakfast as well as participate in the parade. Crazy weather, venue changes and a few minor delays did not appear to hamper any of the fun. Although it took many hands to prepare for and ensure a successful event, there is one person who took a lead role and so we express our gratitude to Laura Quinton for the many long hours she invested for our community's benefit.



Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) spoke to Council this month about creating a unique outdoor play space at the rear of their building. The play space will not only benefit FCSS clients but also support learning opportunities for the pre-school program at the Stirling School. Administration was

directed to identify any concerns but converting an empty concrete pad to a unique outdoor play space has the general support of Council. Another FCSS project discussed with Council was the use of colourful stencils on paths and sidewalks around town to encourage outdoor activity. With no cost to the taxpayer, this project promises to create some new games for residents to take part in with their families to stay active. Look for more information from the FCSS team in the coming weeks.



The summer weather has also allowed for some major progress on key capital projects. You will have noticed road rehabilitation happening on various interior and exterior roads across the Village. These road repairs and improvements should help reduce dust, increase road stability and improve drainage. Work has begun on our pilot project to bring raw water to the cemetery for irrigation purposes. The Village is exploring the opportunity to bring raw water to public spaces to reduce the requirement for treated potable water to keep things green. The pilot program will help us determine if there are sufficient cost and environmental savings to justify the investment needed to build this infrastructure more broadly in other areas of our community.



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There was also been progress on the partially completed basement on 4th Street that was abandoned long ago. The Village acquired the property through a tax sale recovery and recently removed the foundations and returned the land to a sellable vacant lot. In addition, a previously condemned home was demolished and removed from the corner of 5th Avenue and 2nd Street. A number of dead or dying trees have also been removed preparing the land for future sale as Council considers potential options for subdivision and development at the site. (See the before at left and after at right below.)



You will likely have noticed recent postings on the Village website regarding minor disruptions to water supply as key valves are being replaced to ensure the integrity and longevity of our most important underground infrastructure. Your patience with these brief localized disruptions is appreciated but minimizing unplanned downtime on our water system benefits everyone in the long run.

It was exciting to see two brand new homes under construction this month at the south end of the Village. Reasonable growth and in-fill development is important to our community's long term financial sustainability. In addition, there have been a number of homes with expansion or other improvement projects happening across our community. In fact, we have already seen 8 building permits pulled so far this year.

Did you know that most home improvement projects require a development permit? Prior to beginning any construction on renovations, additions, sheds, and accessory buildings – it's usually best to check with the Village office to ensure all the required paperwork is taken care of.

Lastly, one of the most well used amenities in our community during the summer is our outdoor pool. You can imagine the disappointment of many in Coaldale when they learned that their outdoor pool would be closed for the remainder of the season due to a critical mechanical failure. As a good neighbour, Stirling is making arrangements to accommodate a limited number of Coaldale residents each afternoon without placing a burden on our lifeguards or taking away from the enjoyment of our facilities by our own residents. Let's make these visitors feel welcome and show them what Stirling hospitality is all about!

Trevor Lewington

Have a comment? Question? Idea? Suggestion?

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