



Mayor's Monthly Message

March 2019

This month saw Stirling play host to the 1A Boys Basketball Provincial Championship. Our Stirling Lakers took the gold medal to claim the provincial banner. In addition, many community volunteers put on a memorable and well run event. We are fortunate to live in a community where so many people willingly pitch in to help as we hosted teams from across the province. An additional thank you goes out to all the fans who turned out to make some noise for the hometown team. In related news, the Lady Lakers fought their way to the Girls 1A Provincial Championship in Paradise Valley and brought home the silver! A sincere congratulations to both teams for an exciting season.

The School Modernization Committee continues to actively seek donations and other funds to support the improvements at the school. The community theatre, arts space, recording studio/ green room, commercial kitchen and new gymnasium are major enhancements for Stirling. As a Community, we have not yet achieved the commitment of \$1 million to support the project. Your help is still needed to fulfill our obligation on this project. Tax receipts are available for all donations. You can contact members of the committee directly to find out more. (Jeff Nelson, Ben Nilsson, Sandra Nelson, Gary Bikman and Matthew Foss.)

Sergeant Kevin Wright is the new commanding officer of the Raymond/Magrath RCMP detachment. Sgt. Wright presented recent crime statistics to Council and asked for input on key priorities with respect to law enforcement concerns in the region. As the warmer weather finally returns, we can also expect the return of minor property crimes. Small rural communities like Stirling can be a target for transient thieves. Residents are reminded to remove valuables from vehicles, as well as lock vehicles, secure sheds and other out buildings. Motion sensors on exterior lighting can also be a helpful deterrent.

Sergeant Ross Bond also presented to Council on behalf of Ridge Regional Public Safety Services. Our regional bylaw officers are seeking the support of local governments to negotiate changes to their powers and operational procedures with the provincial government. Council was split on several of the requests but will be providing a letter of support for some of the requested changes.

This month also saw the passage of a revised Subdivision and Development Appeal Board bylaw. Recent changes to the Municipal Government Act by the province have increased the training requirements for citizens who sit on a Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. There are increasing administrative requirements under the province's new rules for the conduct of such appeal hearings as well. The new bylaw will allow Stirling to be part of a regional appeal process that will be administered by the Oldman River Regional Services Commission (sometimes known as ORRSC). We have a number of volunteers from Stirling who have served for past appeals and we will be looking for ORRSC to ensure that at least 1 resident of our community is a part of any appeal process involving a file from our community. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the Village office.

Trevor Lewington

Have a comment? Question? Idea? Suggestion?

c: (403) 330 3701 e: Lewington@stirling.ca