



Mayor's Monthly Message

March 2018

It was an exciting month for varsity sports in Stirling with both senior Lakers teams winning 1A zone championships to secure berths in their respective Provincial Basketball Championships. The senior boys fought well and placed a respectable fourth place. The senior girls team continued their multi-year streak to capture gold again. Congratulations to all of our coaches and players for continuing to show that hard work, passion and good sportsmanship are some of the keys to victory on the court versus the size of school you come from.

We also welcome new members Virginia Reeder, Jenna Smith and County representative Heather Walters to the Community Recreation Committee for a three-year term. We are grateful to such engaged residents who are willing to give of their time to ensure events like Settler Days, Fall Festival and many others are well planned and executed to be enjoyed by our community and visitors.

The AXIA team was in Stirling on March 15th to host a Technology Learning Event. About 15 residents took advantage of the session to learn more about internet phone service, available television options and other technology solutions that our highspeed fibre optic service now makes possible. I know that I have personally enjoyed reducing my monthly land line and long-distance bill with Telus down from approximately \$65/month to just over \$10/month through OOMA. I'm still learning about how to leverage other services to truly leverage the power of fibre. In addition, the Village administration is exploring how to do the same to further reduce our organizational operating costs. Innovation and efficiency is a key consideration for Council as we work to reduce the cost of local government.

Council has spent many hours in Committee of the Whole this month reviewing options for road rehabilitation and maintenance. It was clear in the last municipal election that improving roads in our community is a high priority. We continue to explore options for both short term solutions like building up road bases with additional gravel and oil as well as more long-term strategies to continue paving roads where possible. At the same time, we need to continue to address priority drainage issues in some lower lying areas of the Village. Balancing all of these needs while at the same time being financially responsible has been at the core of these discussions. The recent provincial budget has provided some clarity around how capital transfers and grants will work for 2018. Council will be reviewing the available funds and recommended priorities from public works in the coming weeks.

Finally, a reminder for all those junior candy hunters out there that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 31st at 9:00 am sharp. (It usually doesn't last very long!) More details will be available on Facebook and the Village website. Good luck!

Trevor Lewington

Have a comment? Question? Idea? Suggestion?

I'd love to hear from you.

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