

Mayor's Report – Thursday August 15, 2019

Welcome to all in the public gallery. Thank you for taking the time to join us this evening. It is my hope that you had the opportunity to speak to council members before the meeting. Since we have a closed session at the end of tonight's meeting (and sometimes run late) I am available by phone or email if you have any questions or concerns.

Your Council has had a break to enjoy the beautiful summer weather during the month of July. It has been just over 7 weeks since our last regular Council meeting and it has flown by! Time never seems to move quite this quickly when it is -20.

I attended a hearing of the Renfrew County's Land Division Committee at the Admaston/Bromley municipal offices on June 25th. I am the alternate committee member. I received a short orientation and observed the deliberations of a property subdivision issue.

On June 26th I attended the monthly County of Renfrew Council meeting and yesterday August 14th, the Health, Social Services and Renfrew County Housing Corporation committee meetings as well. I also attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Miramichi Lodge Long Term Care Home and official opening of the lodge's Green Garden Oasis yesterday with some of my fellow County Councillors.

Ms. Fischer, Deputy Mayor Villeneuve and I had an introductory meeting with our regional Red Cross Emergency Management Coordinator, Mr. Jay DeBarnardi on July 25th. It was his first visit to HCM and we were able to discuss many of the unique aspects of our rural location. He also informed us of a "new to me" emergency program offered by the Red Cross. PDA is the Personal Disaster Assistance program available to individuals in need of 72 hours of support in an emergency or personal disaster situation. It is my hope that Mr. DeBarnardi can return to make a presentation to Council about this and other ways we can receive emergency support if warranted.

I would like to offer my thanks to Councillor Dowser and his brother Todd for their work on the Canada Day fireworks display. As we see in the RAC minutes there was a great attendance at OMP of 40 to 50 celebrators. I am told more bugs than people though!

These past weeks we have welcomed our summer student, Sneha Patel to the municipal office. He has been helping with many aspects of the municipality's services, among them - the busy summer Lending Hub and assisting staff with the digitization of documents.

In closing, I am sad to report the passing of a friend and HCM neighbour, Wesley Clouthier, on July 4th, 2019 in his 88th year. He was a long-time resident and often called the "Mayor" of Mackey. Wes was a much loved brother, uncle and a dear friend of Karen and Gary LeClerc. He will be missed in our community.

Mayor Debbi Grills