

Mayor's Report – Thursday January 16, 2020

A Happy New Year to my fellow councillors, the staff and our residents and friends in the public gallery this afternoon.

Since our last council meeting, I have had the opportunity to enjoy a relaxing Christmas and New Year's break. I know we are all eager to tackle another productive year in HCM.

At the January 6th Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) the 2020 Work Plan was updated, plans were made to gather a group to organize the kitchen and host a Mother's Day Bingo. The Trailside Café, held here in the hall will be back in business for 5 Saturdays in February. I hope to see you there.

On January 10th, Deputy Mayor Villeneuve and I attended a Site Visit for Local Elected Officials at the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories at Chalk River. It was an opportunity for me to have my first tour of the CNL campus and for Councillor Villeneuve to take a walk down memory lane and see the many changes that have taken place since his retirement.

CNL's President and CEO Mark Lesinski, outlined the CNL Business Update with A Year in Review. We had an update on the CNL supply chain by GM Phil Colwill, who explained the contributions made to the local economy and workforce. Steve Innes, director of New Builds presented a slide show to illustrate the revitalization and remediation of the site and then led a walking tour around the campus construction. The afternoon concluded with a presentation of the CNL Science & Technology Mission by VP Kathy McCarthy.

On stormy Saturday January 11th, I attended the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner hosted by the municipality. Despite the inclement weather those who were able to brave the storm enjoyed the Chinese buffet and the entertaining magic show by Steve Anthony. Many thanks to Stephany and Crystal for making it happen!

I attended the Public Works Advisory committee chaired by Deputy Mayor Villeneuve on Monday January 13th to hear the proposals from the inspections done by committee members after touring our 3 boat launches. There was also discussion of possible street light locations to improve safety at Highway 17 intersections and enhancements to Old Mackey Park.

Yesterday's meetings of the County Health and Social Services Committee meetings were held at Renfrew County Place in Renfrew. The change of venue was to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Human Services Integration. This model of service delivery provides "one stop" shopping for services such as Ontario Works, ODSP, Renfrew County Housing and Child Care Services. Clients can go to one counter for assistance instead of being rerouted to other buildings or offices. Warden Debbie Robinson welcomed visitors: MP Cheryl Gallant, Renfrew Mayor Don Eady and Pembroke Mayor Lemay, as well as the Renfrew County Councillors. After the opening ceremonies, we reviewed the budgets of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation, Health and Social Services departments to be presented at the month end Budget Workshops.

Mayor Debbi Grills