

Mayor's Report – October 19, 2023

At the September 27th COR Council meeting the morning was reserved for a number of delegations. A presentation was made by the Pembroke & Area Airport. The theme of the presentation was the airport as a critical infrastructure for economic growth in Renfrew County. It presented a compelling message to the Council. Our municipality is one the letters of support (to date) for the airport's pursuit of funding to improve infrastructure for the future.

The same day I had the privilege of attending a beautiful smudging and tobacco ceremony at the COR reconciliation garden to mark Truth and Reconciliation Day.

September 28th was a bad rural internet day! Slow or no connectivity.

I was scheduled for a MNRF Wildfire Briefing on TEAMS and a ZOOM Teeny Tiny Summit with our friend Peter Kenyon. Sadly, I cannot report on either. However, I have requested a link to Peter Kenyon's address – he was sharing his experiences of his Tour through Ontario.

At last, we have been able to return to our monthly lunches brought to HCM courtesy of the North Renfrew Long Term Care Centre housed in Deep River! We are delighted to welcome the team back. Director Shelley Yantha came along with her amazing staff to our facility for the first time since the 2021! Forty attendees were served a delicious lunch and the paramedic service was also available for wellness checks. The lunches will continue on the first Wednesday of every month.

On October 5th, I had a call from Mr. Yakabuski's Constituency Assistant. We discussed a number of items of interest. Among them, MTO regulations that must be adhered to by individual land owners as well as our municipality. Policy can sometimes have a "work around", regulations from any Ministry must be adhered to the letter.

It was a beautiful sunny day in Stonecliffe on October 6th for a photo opportunity on the COR's Algonquin Trail overpass on Highway 17. The County of Renfrew's Warden Emon accepted a \$50,000 cheque from OFSC presented by Lorraine Pecoskie, President and Governor of Snow Country OFSC District 6.

It is the time of year for all levels of government to review Emergency Management Programs as we have done this morning. On October 11th, I attended a review of the COR Emergency Response Plan as a member of the Emergency Management Program Committee (Health Committee). The plan was presented by Paramedic Steve Osipenko. The local municipalities have the primary responsibility for emergency management. If an emergency significantly implicates the resources of the COR, they are prepared to provide important emergency response information related to: roles and responsibilities, services and equipment outlined in the Response Plan. Mayor Neil Nicholson from the Municipality of Whitewater gave our committee an excellent presentation of the flooding experienced in the Spring of this year. He especially highlighted "lessons learned" from his first flood emergency as Mayor.

I would like to again thank this Council and our staff for their support in making Head, Clara and Maria a better place to live, work and play.

Mayor Debbi Grills