

# Council Highlights



An initiative Designed to Keep **YOU** Better Informed of Council Decisions and Initiatives

**October 6, 2014**

**Curbside Waste and Recycling Program** – The Dunes on 17 Homeowners Association requested curbside waste and recycling services be provided to the homeowners. Council approved their request. A fee of \$13.25 will be added to their' monthly water and sewer bill.

**County Fire Service POC Firefighters Retention Review** – Fire Chief Everett Cooke made a presentation to Council about the County Regional Fire Service Paid-On-Call Firefighters retention review. The County introduced the POC firefighter program as a part of the new service model during the build phase of the expanded County Regional Fire Service in 2011. The POC program has been successful since its inception, with a high retention rate of 75 per cent annually; many POC firefighters being hired as full time staff with the County; and many gaining full time employment with fire departments in other Alberta communities.

**Doctor Recruitment Efforts** – Councillor Brock Smith, County representative for the South Peace Recruitment and Retention Committee (SPPARC) presented SPPARC's new website to Council. The website was created to help recruit doctors from around the globe to practice in County of Grande Prairie and the participating communities of Beaverlodge, Hythe, Sexsmith, Wembley and Horse Lake First Nations. The County has funded the project in the amount of \$7,500 and the provincial government contributed \$3,000. The website has information about the region and participating communities; incentive details; and career opportunities. The web address for SPPARC is [www.spparc.ca](http://www.spparc.ca).

**Balisky-Hodges Area Structure Plan** – Council gave the Balisky-Hodges Area Structure Plan/Bylaw 3010 third and final reading. This will allow for the development and subdivision of S-1/2 11-72-06-W6M within the Hamlet of Clairmont. The land will be developed into multi-parcel with a combination of highway industrial, rural residential, high density residential and institutional/recreational uses within the urban areas of Clairmont.

**Crossroads North Area Structure Plan** – Council gave the Crossroads North Area Structure Plan/Bylaw 3011 third and final reading. This will allow for industrial development of Crossroads Business Parks. The lands south of Bauman Road/84 Avenue, Clairmont will be subdivided and developed into industrial lots.

**United Way Proclamation** – Terri Sudnik on behalf of United Way Northwest made a presentation to Council. Council approved the motion to proclaim October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 as United Way Day.

The United Way Northwest brings together service providers, community organizations, businesses, and dedicated individuals with a focus of encouraging healthy lifestyles, strengthening communities, finding solutions for reducing poverty, and creating programs for children and youth. On United Way Day, the County along with several other organizations, businesses and individuals will join together in an effort to raise \$100,000 in one day. United Way Day will be taking place on October 30<sup>th</sup> at Centre 2000 in Grande Prairie.

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**Four-way stop in La Glace request** – Council will write a letter to Minister of Transportation requesting four-way stop signs be installed in La Glace at the Highway 59 and 724 intersection.

**Meetings with Provincial Ministers-** Council approved the motion to contact locals MLAs to set up meetings at the AAMDC convention with Minister Johnson regarding seniors, Minister Fawcett regarding the Wapiti River Corridor, and Minister Mandel regarding the Clairmont Family Care Clinic and the Beaverlodge Family Care Centre and Minister McQueen regarding the Alberta Community Partnership Program.

**Home Support Appreciation Week** – Council proclaimed October 26 to November 1, 2014 as Home Support Appreciation Week in the County of Grande Prairie.

**Bezanson Grade 5/6 student presentation** – As a part of a social studies project to learn about the role of local government and the importance of regional partnerships, the Grade 5/6 students from the Bezanson School presented the Bezanson Old Towne Site 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Flag to Council. Over the last school year, the students conducted research through online surveys and interaction with several local organizations to gain feedback on the design of the Flag. They also hosted a contest which raised \$1,100 to cover the costs of the flags; one for their gymnasium and one for the County.

**Staff Introductions** – County Council welcomed Justin Brown and Jennifer Barnfield to the County. Scott White was recognized for his promotion to Sub Foreman.

Justin will be working in the Corporate Services Division as the Risk Management & Insurance Coordinator. Scott will be working in the Public Works Division as the Area 2 Sub Foreman; and Jennifer in the Public Works Division as an equipment operator at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management.

**County contributions** – Council approved the contribution of a \$3,000 grant to go towards the SPARKED Early Childhood Coalition to help fund the Family Resource Guide. The Resource Guide will have information on the SPARKED early childhood programs available to families. The guide will be distributed to various agencies throughout the County and given to families.

Council approved the sponsorship of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual PARDS Dine & Dance event in the amount of \$1,000. The event is taking place at the Five Mile Hall on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. All proceeds raised at the event will be going towards PARDS therapeutic programs.

Council approved the contribution of a \$150 silent auction item for the Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dinner where proceeds raised at the event will go towards providing senior citizens, low income families and individuals with affordable, appropriate housing and support services. The event is taking place at the Stonebridge Hotel on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Council approved the donation of a silent auction item for the Miss Grande Prairie Stompede Support Rally and Fundraiser which will be taking place on October 24<sup>th</sup> and the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre. The event is in support of Miss Grande Prairie Stompede's quest to run for Miss Rodeo Canada at the Canadian Finals Rodeo in Edmonton, Alberta this November.

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County of Grande Prairie No. 1

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**Mighty Peace Day Update** – Hailey Winnicky-Lewis and Moira Muir of the Mighty Peace Day organizing committee made a presentation about the 2013 Mighty Peace Day event to Council and requested a contribution of \$10,000 for the 2015 Mighty Peace Day. The funding request will be discussed at 2015 budget deliberations.

**Next Council meeting is Monday, October 20, 2014.**

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