

Council Highlights



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

September 22, 2014

Photo Presentation – County Council presented a framed photograph of the symbolic Trumpeter Swans along with a letter to the City of Grande Prairie Mayor Bill Given, congratulating the City of Grande Prairie on their 100th anniversary.

County Administration Building and Shop Renovations – Council approved additional funding of \$100,000 to cover unforeseen expenses in completing the renovations to the County Administration Building and Shop.

Letter to Province – Council will write a letter to the Premier of Alberta, Minister of Municipal Affairs, and local MLAs expressing their disappointed about the lack of rural representation at the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Committee Review. They will also request more rural representation at future MGA Committee meetings.

Art Gallery of Grande Prairie Update – Fred Estlin, Kendra Davis and Griffith Baker from the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie provided Council with an update on the Gallery's operations and requested an increase in funding from \$50,000 to \$80,000 for 2015 operations. Council requested the Art Gallery bring back their budget/business plan to a future Council meeting to further discuss funding.

Staff introductions – County Council and staff welcomed Joy Dunn to the County. Joy will be working for the Public Works Division in the Shop as the Inventory Control Clerk.

Regional Enforcement Services Update – Stuart Rempel, Superintendent of Regional Enforcement Services introduced RCMP Inspector Don McKenna to Council. Inspector McKenna is the new RCMP Operations Officer for the Grande Prairie and Beaverlodge detachment(s).

Sergeants Dave Campbell and Stuart Fry along with Enhanced Policing Corporal Myles Peckham presented Council the first and second quarter reports for 2014 for Regional Enforcement Services and RCMP Enhanced Policing Unit.

Regional Enforcement Services Report – In the first quarter and second quarter (January to June), a total of 1,434 violation tickets were issued. Approximately 975 complaints were received and investigated.

Several enforcement positions were filled including a seasonal Parks Patrol Officer position; a joint County/City Poundkeeper for the Regional Animal Pound; and a Peace Officer position replacing a member that retired.

Traffic safety and road/infrastructure protection, parking, unsightly premises, snow removal, animal control, community safety, special events coordination, and crime prevention will remain as Regional Enforcement Services main priorities.

RCMP Enhanced Policing Unit – A total of 230 traffic violation tickets were issued in the first and second quarter combined.

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A positive report was presented on 2014 Special Events Policing for events including the Grande Prairie Stompede, Bud Country Fever, Guitars and Wagons, and the Teepee Creek Stampede.

During the next quarter, this unit will focus more on a number of infractions such as speeding, seatbelts, school zones, distracted driving, and intersection related infractions.

All sectors of the Regional Enforcement Services remained active in delivering several crime prevention initiatives such as special events coordinating, various patrols, Checkstops, P.A.R.T.Y., DARE, Rural Crime Watch, and Report-A Drug House; and traffic safety programs and presentations to various groups and communities throughout the County such as Bike safety, Detachment Tours, Internet Safety, Bullying, and Cyberbullying.

Next Council meeting is Monday, October 6, 2014.

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