

# *Nackawic-Millville Rural Community*

115 Otis Drive, Nackawic, NB, E6G 2P1  
Phone: 506-575-2241, Fax: 506-575-2035

June 1, 2023

Fellow citizens,

It's hard to believe that we are already over halfway through the Spring season. One of the initiatives that Council established early on was to create an ad hoc Communications Committee with the purpose of setting some goals and objectives in a formal plan on what, when, and how we will communicate with the citizens in our community. This quarterly update is a result of the work that was approved by Council in our communications plan.

Our various standing committees all now have a slate of members made up of a combination of councilors, citizens and staff and have started meeting with the newly appointed volunteer citizens resulting from this message back in February. I sincerely appreciate all those citizens who have stepped up and volunteered to participate in some of our standing committees and are working with us collaboratively towards the continual improvement of our wider community.

Our standing committee on Bylaw Review has met a few times now and we are focusing initially on bylaws that exist in the former Town of Nackawic and Village of Millville to determine if they need updated, as well as if any components of those bylaws may be applicable in the former Local Service District areas of Dumfries, Southampton, and Queensbury. We are still very early in this process, but as mentioned in my last communication, we are still committed to consultation with citizens on any new or substantially changing bylaws being contemplated.

We have met with local community hall boards in Southampton, Temperance Vale, and Bear Island to start discussions with how we navigate the relationship between the municipality and the various hall Boards of Directors, and more importantly how we may be able to support one another so they continue to thrive in those areas of our community. Similarly, we have met with M&H Mudrunners ATV club. We believe that there are common interests that we share with organizations such as these throughout our community, so it is important that we establish open lines of communication.

The May long weekend was busy at the Big Axe Marina. Destination Nackawic Economic Development Corporation supported the NB Bass Tour and NB Sport Fishing Association for the Destination Nackawic Smallmouth Open, where we welcomed 60 teams of anglers. We had

anglers from New York, Ontario, Nova Scotia, PEI, and New Brunswick come together for the 2-day tournament. During and following the tournament, the crew from the television program “Fish’n Canada” were also in our community filming for an episode of their show that will air on television sometime in early 2024. The event was very successful and is proving to put our community and our new marina facility into more of a national stage as a world class smallmouth bass fishing location. From an economic standpoint, we estimate that the tournament would have contributed more than \$125,000 in the regional economy over the course of the 2 days.

Council has had several discussions regarding signage and rebranding of the new wider community. On May 23, 2023, the Minister of Environment and Local Government announced funding that will equate to approximately \$50,000 per community to assist with new signage, website and/or branding work. We are grateful for this funding so these activities will not be an additional pressure on property tax rates. Some early work has begun in this regard and will likely begin with the name change on the municipal office and staff will be working on getting quotes on other signage and work that we need to complete.

We continue to engage our MLA Richard Ames on a number of issues in our community and we have met with Minister Green, who was recently given the responsibility for the NB Housing Corporation and the Housing file for the Province. Growth in our community will be directly dependent on expanding opportunities for additional housing in our region, so we will continue to have discussions with the Province on the appropriate levels of support.

We have also met with the CEO of Horizon Health and had preliminary discussion about the future of our Health Centre. In collaboration with Health Centre staff, we have identified a number of additional needs and services that could be offered but are limited due to space in the current facility. These discussions are set to continue in June with both Horizon and with the New Brunswick Government.

On June 11, 2023, we will be making an announcement regarding some investment in the Millville ward at the Millville Legion between 3:00pm and 5:00pm. All are welcome.

As we approach summer, I hope each one of you has an eventful and safe summer season and hope to see you around the community.

Yours in service,



Tim Fox,  
Mayor