



MUNICIPALITY OF SHUNIAH

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Message from the Reeve

Best wishes to all Shuniah residents for the year 2009. It will be another busy year for our community and your Council. In my last update to you, Council was discussing changes to the policies for our two Landfill Sites. It was determined that improvements to maintenance, efficiency and reductions of waste was required and Council has developed a new policy in order to address these issues. Here are some of the new well worked out plans.

Replacing the yearly vehicle stickers is the new punch card which does not have an expiry date. One punch per bag of garbage, however you will not receive a punch to your punch card for recycled materials. So it makes more sense than ever to recycle. Recycle bins are located at both sites!

Another important issue is CN's Kinghorn Rail line especially for those whose property is adjacent to the tracks. Discussions with CN and other stakeholders are currently being held in hopes of finding a resolution to the future use of this land. We will keep you up to date with any new developments.

For almost a decade the Municipality of Shuniah has been working with Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to bring changes to the Official Plan to allow recreational properties to convert to year round residences. The Official Plan Amendment No. 2 for Cottage Conversion has finally been approved by the Ministry. The amendment sets out regulations to now allow those people who own undersized lots the possibility to apply for cottage conversion. The amendment also includes a framework for Associations to be considered for future conversions. Both the current and previous Councils have spent much time and hard work in getting this amendment in place. We are very pleased at the outcome.

I would like to invite you to come to our council and community group meetings. They are interesting, informative and at times fun, you will not be wasting your time.

I would like to thank the Municipal Office Staff, Roads Department and Fire Services for their hard work and dedication to our community. To our volunteers who serve on our boards and committees a sincere thank you.

Wishing each of you a healthy and prosperous 2009.

Maria Harding, Reeve

Significant Changes to The Landfill Sticker System ..New Punch Cards to take their place!

Council adopted a new punch card for the Shuniah landfill sites to replace the vehicle sticker. The new \$25.00 punch card will allow for the deposit of 104 bags of garbage and 2 special clean-up events. 2 free clean up punches will be replacing the spring clean up week. Each clean up punch will allow for the deposit of one 1/2 ton load or 3m³ of non-hazardous household waste. Only now you can decide when you will use them. These cards do not have an expiry date, so the less garbage you deposit the longer the card will last.

We will be holding an information Open House at the MacGregor Recreation Centre at 800 Lakeshore Drive on February 19th from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm. We will also have representatives from Eco Superior, Recool Canada, Shuniah Fire Department and Shuniah Youth Group, so it will be a great forum to ask and have your questions answered. If you wish to purchase a new punch card we will have them available for purchase (cash or cheque only).

These are **your** landfill sites and we are trying to ensure that Shuniah continues to be an environmentally responsible community by maintaining a sustainable landfill deposit system.

Thank you for your co-operation and please take the time to reduce and recycle whenever possible.

Craig Baumann, Manager of Operations

Council is very pleased to inform you that the Ministry has at last approved Official Plan Amendment No. 2 For Cottage Conversion

The OPA will now allow property owners who own lots with less than the minimum lot width and area (30 metres lot width (100 ft) and 1800 square metres in lot area), the ability to apply to convert their recreational cottages to permanent dwellings. The Ministry is allowing the potential for conversion by introducing mandatory servicing studies to be undertaken by the property owners, in order to ensure the abutting properties would not be adversely affected upon conversion.

Association Lands: In an attempt to support conversion within Association Lands, Council requested that Associated lands whose sites met or exceeded the minimum lot width and area, be included in the Official Plan Amendment in the same manner as those who hold freehold title to their land. However the Ministry did not approve Council's request, but instead has provided, to interested Associations, a framework, including servicing option studies, hydrogeological studies, reference plans, as well as other criteria outlined in the policy, to be completed which may assist towards rezoning these lands for future conversion. This will alleviate the need of going back to the Ministry for further amendments to the Official Plan. (The permitted use within Association lands are currently zoned recreational only.)

Please call our office or visit the website for the full version of the Amendment and By-law.

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority will be hosting a series of **Lake Superior Shoreline Stewardship Open Houses** this spring. The Open Houses will provide information regarding stewardship practices that property owner's can implement to help in the protection of our environment. For details see our website www.lakeheadca.com or call 344-5857.

Lakehead Conservation Foundation **2009 Dinner Auction will be held Thursday, February 12, 2009 at the Slovak Legion.** This is a new location and seating is limited to 240 guests. Get your tickets today from any Foundation Member or the Lakehead Conservation office, 130 Conservation Road in Thunder Bay. Call 345-2377 to purchase using your VISA card. Tickets are \$50.00 per person and include a fabulous 5-course sit down dinner.



If you are planning to do any work near lakes, rivers, streams or wetlands, you may require a permit from the Lakehead Region

Conservation Authority. Regulations apply to the following development activities: construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure **of any kind**; the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material, and any alteration to a lake shoreline or watercourse including culvert, bridge, dock and boat launch installations. Call LRCA for more information.

Shuniah Volunteer Firefighters Association

The Shuniah Fire Department is starting a **blanket program** which will provide a warm wrap for children and those in need during the tragic loss of their homes to fire. In order to achieve this goal, the Fire Department requires donations of new blankets or fabric and supplies which could be used to make blankets. If anyone is interested in donating their time to help please contact Sue at 344-1878.

We are asking all of the residents of Shuniah to **NOT FEED THE DUCKS, GEESE and DEER**. We are experiencing a growth in the Canada Goose and Deer populations and by encouraging them into populated areas creates problems for both residents and animals. There have been a number of vehicle accidents involving deer along the highways. The incident of cercarial dermatitis or "duck itch" can be reduced if the infected aquatic birds are kept to a minimum. So in all, encouraging these wild animals into areas where they might otherwise not be, can have very negative consequences. Thank you for your co-operation.

Josh Klukie Memorial Fundraiser Winners: 50/50 – Ian Bolduc, Door Prizes Dinner for 4 – Eldorado Bed and Breakfast – Al Pomanti, Leather Jacket – Dennis Smith and Car cleaning kit – Bernie Blake.

Thank you to all who attended, the volunteers for all their hard work, the very generous sponsors and a special thank you to the men of the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment for providing the tents and support for our event.

In-Line Skate for MS

on

Lakeshore Drive

Sunday, July 19, 2009

From 7:30 am – 9:30 am

For the safety of the skaters and drivers using Lakeshore Drive during that period of time the OPP and volunteers will ensure a safe flow of traffic during the event.

For more information, please contact the MS Society at 344-2944.



Having year round access to roads and properties is imperative to having the Shuniah Fire Department respond to all emergencies. Roads and driveways must be a least 10 feet high & 10 feet wide or 3.3 meters high or 3.3 meters wide for fire truck access, this would include tree branches, gates and snow in winter. If there is access trouble with your property when calling for help please make note of this for responding emergency personal. It could make the difference between seconds or minutes.

A Community with More than Meets the Eye

The Municipality of Shuniah financially supports **NOSTA (North of Superior Tourism)** each year. This year NOSTA has updated their website in order to better promote Northwestern Ontario Tourism. Councillor **Alana Bishop** is the Shuniah representative for NOSTA. Alana has reviewed all the businesses and attractions in Shuniah and has completed an entire website insert for our municipality. If you would like to see the complete overview of your community go to the website at www.nosta.ca.com Click on "towns and cities" then click on "Shuniah". Enjoy!

What is happening...

SHUNIAH RECREATION...

800 Lakeshore Drive – MacGregor Recreation Centre

Early Years Playgroup – Tuesdays 9:30am

Youth Program – Wed. 6-9pm & Fri. 6-10pm

NEW! Adult Daze – starting Tuesday February 3rd 1-4pm

NEW! Yoga – starting Wednesday February 4th 6:30 pm

Everyone Welcome!

For more information call 344-1908

or check out the rec centre calendar on the web at www.shuniah.org



Snow, sleet, wind and hail? Did you know that citizens using the green community mailboxes are the ones responsible for keeping the area free from snow and debris. Canada Post workers are obviously encouraged to put safety first. So if you have not received your mail take a look around your mailbox. It is up to you to keep the area clear.