



FEBRUARY 2015

MAYOR'S REPORT

As a general comment, things in the District are moving along pretty well: we've managed to get the new by-laws and Official Community Plan in place after five very long years, the lagoon is being used and we have an emergency measures program in place. Along with those items we have two 'defibrillators' and four 'landing' kits for the Stars emergency helicopter evacuation system in house to be carried by our first responders. We do need a few more first responders though.... so step up, become a volunteer.

We (the District) are members of an environmental group called the 'Lower Qu'Appelle Watershed Stewards Association' (LQWSA). This group was put together by towns, villages, resort villages in our watershed with the intent of

improving the water quality across our watershed. This watershed includes our chain of lakes from Regina (the big player) through to Round Lake and beyond. The theme is 'We love our lakes'.

For years fingers have been pointed at everyone from the big cities on down to the lake villages and the farmers as to who is responsible for the pollution of YOUR watershed. Currently Regina is under the magnifying glass but they are not the only culprit.

Katepwa, as a member of the LQWSA, agreed (in fact, suggested) that we demonstrate our willingness to prove that our sewage system (individual tanks) was secure and that we were onside with the purity of our lake and quality of

our drinking water. We felt that if WE, the District of Katepwa, were willing to put ourselves to the test then perhaps the other towns and villages up and down our chain of lakes would do the same. Already B-Say-Tah has taken an interest.

Here's how this is rolling out:

- 1) Summer 2014, Community involvement. The Public meeting, was the first minor exposure to this program and was combined with the Official Community Plan open house and Lake Dock policy.
- 2) Fall 2014, creation of a Sewage By-law, presented to and approved by the Ministry.

continued on page 2...

continued from page 1...

- 3) Fall 2014, the actual sewage survey. The response to the survey has been phenomenal. We have had a 25% plus response, over 200 surveys filled in and returned. If you haven't done one, we are still accepting them at the office. Please go to the Katepwa website www.katepwabeach.com, under "What's New" to download the survey. The district and the LQWSA are hoping to increase awareness on how important it is to improve the water quality. This survey is an important step!
- 4) February 2015, this newsletter outlining the process and time table. We encourage your written (email) response to the contents of this roll out schedule.
- 5) February - March 2015 a detailed review of the information at hand:
 - 5.1 Review of the surveys to see who we need more information from or who needs assistance in determining their needs.
 - 5.2 Review of the records of each of our sewage haulers.
 - 5.3 Telephone campaign (volunteers) to gather information on locations that have had questions arise from the combination of the Sewage Survey and the Hauler's records.
- 6) April - May 2015 one final refinement of the list of tanks that need to be checked for leaks either from the tank or the seal.
- 7) May 2015, a public meeting on either the long weekend or the following weekend looking for input from all rate payers.
- 8) June - August 2015 we will have a trained septic tank checker and a local resident (volunteer again) start the process of confirming which septic tanks need to have a detail check done and recommendations for the correction of any problems that have shown up.

Additional Comments: Checking the tanks can be done in any of three ways:

First: vacuum checking empty tanks which is expensive and presents the possibility of collapsing the tank.

Second: is chemically testing the soil around each tank. This is very expensive and very time consuming.

Third: which we will use, is simply measuring (dipping) the tank and requesting that the ratepayer not use the septic system for a 24 hr period then re-dipping the tank. This is the least expensive and most economical time wise. We will accommodate all ratepayers involved to limit any inconvenience. For example: if, after 24 hours, the level in a tank has dropped... the tank has a leak. If the level in the tank has increased then either household water/waste is still running into the tank and the test will need to be repeated OR the top seal on the tank is leaking and letting in ground water. A more detailed test will then be required. In all cases, if the tank remains within tolerances, then the tank is fine.

If a problem is found the District will provide the ratepayer with options as to how to remedy the situation.

We anticipate very few problems. At this time the cost of the program should be minimal, LQWSA is applying for a summer student and the District has agreed to provide \$3,000 plus a volunteer to work with the individual checking the tanks. We expect this program to be completed by Aug 2016.

We are hoping that the feeling of 'I LOVE MY LAKE' will be prevalent and we look forward to being able to tell the 'finger pointers' that the District of Katepwa has their **** together!

Fred Weekley, Mayor

FINANCE REPORT

We are at the end of the 2014 year and about to start the budget process for 2015. You might say it's a 'sensitive' time of year with the emergencies we've had over the last few years. I guess we're having trouble scheduling our emergencies!

Seriously, we're looking pretty good, close to budget and... we've managed to pay down \$100,000, as budgeted, on our lagoon debt. Even more exciting is the fact that we may have an additional \$100,000 from the provincial government that will go directly to our long term debt. This obligation must be addressed before we set out on any other major project such as our landfill changing to a transfer station.

Your Council is focused on finding the best and most cost efficient ways of managing the District.

As always, if you have any questions please join us at an open session of council or just give your Councillor or myself a call, we'd be pleased to talk to you.

Fred Weekley, Mayor

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (OCP) AND ZONING BYLAWS

It has been a long process but we are pleased to report that both the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning Bylaws received a third and final public hearing and were unanimously approved at the January 19th Council meeting.

The OCP provides an overarching framework for how development in our District will unfold which includes proposed residential and annexation boundaries, conservation areas, and slope and elevation restrictions when considering developing along the hillsides. Through every step of the process every effort has been made to engage the community residents and other stakeholders to ensure the plan reflects the best possible vision for future land use in our District. At 84 pages the OCP is a comprehensive document – as a reminder I would like to highlight just a few key points:

PURPOSE:

The Purpose of an OCP is to provide an inclusive policy framework to guide the physical, environmental, social, and cultural development of the municipality.

VISION:

The District of Katepwa's natural beauty remains while protection of the environment, sensitive lands, and water systems are maintained. This natural state of the District allows for a peaceful and quiet community where residents and visitors can enjoy the outdoor surroundings and experience.

The services and amenities provided within the District are supported and enhanced. Overall development is managed in sustainable manner and complements the rural resort look and feel.

OBJECTIVES:

- To avoid and minimize potential land use conflicts.
- To maintain public safety.
- To maintain and enhance the established low-density resort character of the area.
- To ensure that future development recognizes the physical capabilities and limitations of the land including the preservation of environmentally sensitive land and wildlife habitat.
- To ensure that future development within the District does not have a negative impact of the water quality, environmental resources, and sensitive areas and surrounding the valley and lakes.
- To minimize the risks of flooding, erosion, instability, and other physical hazards within the District.
- To encourage consistent signage for new developments in the District.

Once approved by the Department of Municipal Affairs, the OCP becomes the guiding document for current and future councils to follow.

The plan is not “cast in stone” but any changes require public consultation and a similar process that went into the existing plan. There is also mandatory review every five years.

The OCP is the big picture; it defines four residential zones - these are outlined in the zoning maps. The Zoning Bylaw is the companion document that provides specific detail (lot sizes, setbacks, building heights, etc) for any proposed development in any of the zones. If you plan to excavate, renovate, pave, or build a home, detached buildings, this is the go-to document that outlines what is permitted and the process for obtaining development permits.

The Zoning Bylaw has met all legislative requirements and has been prepared in cooperation with The Calling Lakes Planning Commission so that development is consistent throughout the Qu'Appelle valley.

We are extremely excited that we have reached the stage of approval as it will define how we shape the valley we have grown to love for future generations. I strongly encourage you to familiarize yourselves with both documents if you haven't already done so (at the District website - www.katepwabeach.com).

Development Chair - Michael Alport

KATEPWA AND DISTRICT LIONS

The Katepwa and District Lions extend a sincere thank you to the many volunteers and sponsors who have helped with our various projects throughout the year. Without these many helping hands, projects like the Annual Adopt-a-Highway, fish derby, Texas Hold'ems would not be possible.

During the past year the Lions helped with Perchfest, Get-active Glenwood, replaced the water cooler and purchased additional card tables for the Katepwa Centre.

To begin the new year, the Lions will host the annual fish derby, March 14, 2015, as well as continuing with the annual adopt-a-highway in May.

Plans are underway for Texas Hold'ems and the Grey Cup pool tickets.

Like many organizations, the Lions need new and continuing members in order to carry out projects, suggest new projects, and gain fresh ideas for service activities.

Contact:

Richard Teece at 306-332-4788

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES!

DISTRICT OF KATEPWA SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The District of Katepwa is seeking an ambitious, self-motivated individual to work in the District Office and Community Centre during the summer months.

Duties include: data entry, issuing receipts, answering phones, filing, data collection, running the public library during weekends, this includes selling used books.

Hours of work:

4 days per week as follows

District Office:

Thursday & Friday 8:30am-4:30pm
(closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch)

Katepwa Centre Library:

Saturday & Sunday
8:30am-4:30pm

(closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch)

Salary \$15.00 per hour

Students are more than welcome to apply.

The District of Katepwa
Box 250, Lebret, SK S0G 2Y0

Phone: (306) 332-6645

Fax: (306) 332-5808

Email: katepwabeach@sasktel.net

*Deadline for receipt of
resumes is May 10, 2014.*

MAKE IT A BIG BANG!

It's time to start getting organized for summer and part of that is planning for Canada Day. As you recall in a past newsletter, the council proposed that the District of Katepwa would match every dollar collected from donations contributed toward fireworks. We are now asking for your support in this request. The council would very much like to put on a fireworks show to celebrate Canada's birthday, but we need your help to do so. The more money we have the bigger the bang! If you choose to contribute please mail a cheque made out to the "District of Katepwa", attention fireworks:

District of Katepwa: Box 250, Lebret, SK S0G 2Y0

Thank you in advance

Dawne Zahorski and your council members

The District of Katepwa is looking for two people to take on the position of

SUMMER ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

Job Description:

- Responsible for coordinating and implementing activities for children between the ages of 3-12.
- Must make a calendar of scheduled activities and post them on bulletin board throughout the district. It must also be formatted so the District Office can have it put on the website.
- The activities take place at the main beach

Dates:

Tuesday June 30 - Friday July 31
(Monday-Friday only)

Times: 9:00-3:30

Can be open for discussion as long as 156 hrs within 24 work days are accounted for.

Experience:

- Must be a min. of 16 years of age.
- Must have experience with working with children

Assets:

- Well organized, creative
- Takes initiative, must be actively with the children
- Able to work with others

Salary \$15.00 per hour

**MOST OF ALL YOU MUST
LIKE TO HAVE FUN**

please contact:

District of Katepwa office
306-332-6645

or send resume to
katepwabeach@sasktel.net

*Application deadline is
Monday, June 1, 2015*

DISTRICT OF KATEPWA SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The District of Katepwa is seeking an ambitious, self-motivated individual to work as summer student for during the summer months.

Duties include: Grass cutting, weed whipping, tree trimming, sign maintenance, general maintenance duties.

Must be comfortable with power equipment such as riding mower.

Hours of work:

Monday - Friday, 7:00am-4:00pm
hours may vary up to 40 hours per week.

Wages: \$15.00 per hour

Students are more than welcome to apply.

The District of Katepwa
Box 250, Lebret, SK S0G 2Y0

Phone: (306) 332-6645

Fax: (306) 332-5808

Email: katepwabeach@sasktel.net

*Deadline for receipt of
resumes is May 10, 2014.*

HIRING - SWIMMING LESSON INSTRUCTOR

Friends of the Katepwa Provincial Park working with the Katepwa Provincial Park are looking for a **Swimming Lesson Instructor** for the summer of 2015.

This is a contract position.

Applicants will require their Red Cross WSI level of certification.

As part of the contract - the applicant will need to purchase their own insurance (about \$600), to supply the swimming badges (\$100/year) and to advertise the lessons with posters and website in the Valley.

The Provincial Park will provide office space for storage and a work area for the instructors.

Swimming lessons will be taught on one week bases from June 29 to Aug 7, 2015. There is an average of 135 students per summer at an average of \$35-\$40 per student for lessons.

For more information contact
Dallas Chorneyko 306 332 3218
or Aura lee MacPherson at
306 584 0578.

BYLAWS REPORT

The District of Katepwa has again contracted Commissionaires to do bylaws enforcement for 2015. This year initial contact with ratepayers, in many instances, will be via the District Office. In the case where infractions have not been resolved, they will then be followed up by Commissionaires.

A complete list of bylaws is on the website.

<http://www.katepwabeach.com/katepwa/bylaws.html>

A great time to start clean up property and possessions is when the snow goes. Please pay attention to where your property actually is! Frequently, violations are due to items being improperly stored outside of your lot boundaries.

Our goal is to not need Bylaws Enforcement Officers.

Murray Penny

INDIAN HEAD HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Indian Head Hospital Foundation Annual General Meeting will be held Monday, April 20th at 7 pm. Location: Indian Head Hospital Board Room. Everyone is Welcome.

TRANS CANADA TRAIL

In the fall I attended a meeting for the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) in Lumsden. The meeting was to inform those in attendance that at 38% completed, Saskatchewan has the least amount of trail completed in all of Canada. In 2017 Canada turns 150 years old and it is the national trail committee goal to fully have the trail connected from coast to coast. The meeting was to collectively discuss what communities across Sask. need to do to connect the TCT throughout this great province of ours, and to the rest of Canada.

The District of Katepwa, the TCT committee and the community at large should take pride in knowing that all

of the trail in our area has been completed and maintained for years. Special thanks to all those that help groom the trail annually.

At the meeting I heard how passionate and enthused some communities are about maintaining the trails' safety, integrity and making their trail an interesting and exciting trail to travel. Lumsden has done this and what I saw in their presentation makes their trail an inviting place to visit.

I will be sharing more about the trail over the next few newsletters. If you have a question or comments about the trail please send them my way at dzahorski@sasktel.net

Dawne Zahorski

WOULD YOU LIKE A POSTAL CODE??

The District has received a request from a rate payer to make application to the Postal Code and Civic Recognition to Canada Post Corporation for the District of Katepwa. This would mean that the District of Katepwa could have its own postal service. We will be able to provide everyone with more information in the near future however, if you would be willing to join the group in campaigning for a postal code please contact Sharon Blenkin at sjblenkin@gmail.com or by phone at (306) 332-2886.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

This past summer we had 28 beaches closed in the Qu'Appelle Valley due to high levels of E. coli. The City of Regina was permitted by the Saskatchewan Dept. of Environment to bypass just under one million cubic meters of raw and practically screened sewage into the Wascana and Qu'Appelle River System. And for seven days the Department of Health posted warnings that the water was unsafe.

In September we began a working partnership with the University of Regina. Students from Luther College conducted interviews with Cottagers, First Nations, Farmers and Residents of the Valley. Here are some of the findings:

1. *Communication is critical – people need to know what needs to be done and how they can get involved. Change will not happen overnight, but it is imperative to get started now.*
2. *Planning needs to get started, without getting mired down in bureaucracy. There is distrust at the present time, coming from rumours and speculation.*
3. *Almost everyone spoke about the need for integrated and comprehensive planning throughout the Valley.*

So where do we go from here?

We have come to learn that our water quality is being affected by 8 to 10 different sources. The plan is to stop pointing fingers and do what we can.

And it might seem odd, but the best gift we can give the water is a communication strategy. We need to be able to get the information out, and we need to gather and to share. It is when we get together the ideas will flow.

We will be hosting an information workshop of Cottage Country in June. Please watch for details. We would love your help if you are interested in sharing 2 – 4 hours of your time to plan this event please give me a call.

Aura lee MacPherson 306 584 0578

CONTACT INFORMATION

Box 250, Lebret, SK S0G 2Y0

Phone: 306-332-6645

Fax: 306-332-5808

E: katepwabeach@sasktel.net

W: www.katepwabeach.com

GARBAGE PICK-UP:

Every Monday

If Stat holidays fall on a Monday, garbage pickup will be Tuesday.

PLEASE, keep garbage bag weight to NOT more than 20lbs

LANDFILL HOURS:

November 1 - April 30

Mondays: 9:00am to 12:00 noon

May 1 - October 31

Monday, Friday & Saturday:

9:00am to 5:00pm

(otherwise call for appointment)

WINTER OFFICE HOURS:

October 1 - April 30

9:00am to 12:00 noon

1:00 - 4:00pm

Closed on all STAT holidays.

LOCAL ECOMUSEUM TAKES ROOT AS PART OF UN-RECOGNIZED PROJECT

The working group that consists of the Calling Lakes District Planning Commission, File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council, Kairos and The Friends of the Katepwa Park is delighted to announce the official launch of the Qu'Appelle Valley Ecomuseum. Ecomuseums are community-based "museums without walls" that foster sustainable forms of social and economic development through the conservation and interpretation of natural and cultural heritage

The ecomuseum being developed here is one of several demonstration sites associated with the Saskatchewan Ecomuseums Initiative (SEI), a multi-agency research and community engagement project led by the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. The SEI was recently recognized

by the United Nations University as an outstanding Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) flagship project in the category of "Bridging Local Knowledge and Global Perspectives on Sustainable Development." The project was singled out in Okayama, Japan at a meeting of over 150 international delegates, including over 70 RCEs on Education for Sustainable Development as well as representatives from UNESCO and other UN Agencies.

This is a great honour and congratulations and thanks go out to everyone who has been involved at the local level and through the SEI. This award confirms that we are moving forward in a way that will have significant and sustainable impacts on the Calling Lakes area.

For more information about the SEI and RCE-Saskatchewan, visit:

<http://heritagesask.ca/resources/saskatchewan-ecomuseum-project>

<http://www.saskrce.ca/>

— WINNING PICTURE —

If you have taken an outstanding picture of our beautiful lake, valley or hillsides please send it to the district office.

Your picture may be chosen to be put in the next newsletter.

Please have it submitted by the middle of May.

SHORELINES AND DOCKS

Spring is approaching! The ice shacks come off the lake and the docks go in around Katepwa. Hopefully, there will be minimal erosion or flooding this year. 2014 was damaging to many shorelines.

Will you be getting a permit from the Water Security Agency (WSA)? Please check their website.

<https://www.wsask.ca>. An Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit may be required before you proceed.

During the course of the past two summers, The District of Katepwa has debated implementation of a Dock Policy requiring anyone who wants to have a dock in the lake have a license or permit to do so. Previous council members had attended a

workshop where a government official indicated a desire to remove all docks. Some jurisdictions have implemented a dock policy, District of Lakeland being one of the first. My consultation with them suggests that many docks were placed on municipal reserve, and they needed to control where and how these docks, lifts and even boathouses were being placed. They have an application process and also assist with the Water Security Agency Aquatic Protection Permit. Please check their website under bylaws: <http://www.lakeland521.ca/bylaws.php>

There will be public consultation on this policy. Watch for notices on the website.

Murray Penny

BREESE PARK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

100 evergreens have been purchased through fundraising and will be planted in West Breeze Park early spring.

If anyone is interested in helping plant these trees please call

Karen Behnke at
306-332-5649.

Watch Katepwa Facebook, district website and posters for the date and time. Your help is appreciated. Let's make a beautiful park.