

# DISTRICT OF *Katepwa*

Photo courtesy of Janice Salter

## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016

### UPDATES FROM MAYOR PATTISON

It has been four months since the last newsletter. The number of hours that have been spent on your behalf and the District's cannot be displayed in these few words. Your council is working together very well, with all members contributing towards a common goal.

As laid out in the previous newsletter, Council had identified several issues that needed to be addressed. Here is an update on what has been going on:

- Implementation of Group Email Discussions with all of council which has created daily dialogue on District affairs. All of the council members are contributing to early solutions and our monthly meetings are being completed timely, as all of our homework has been done ahead of time. **Completed** 🙌
- A "new" Digital Newsletter with substantial cost reductions. **Completed** 🙌
- Lakeside Subdivision road slump repair, completed at a fraction of the proposed cost. **Completed** 🙌
- Road allowances - this is a common issue at all resort areas. Information is being collected from other Districts and Government Agencies to determine a fair solution for all rate payers. **Ongoing**
- Meetings with Environment Ministry to complete an agreement on the landfill and to have a multiyear plan put in place.  
**Should be completed within the month of February**
- Agreement with Trans Canada Trail Group, to assist in cost of repairing walking bridge along Highway 56. **Completed** 🙌
- Adoption of improved service agreements for new developments. **Completed** 🙌
- Adoption of new guidelines for building permits.  
**In progress**

- Agreement with Department of Highways regarding road restrictions for #56 Highway and to allow proper permitting for essential truck traffic. **Completed** 🙌
- Complete review of all District expenditures with a "new" Financial Plan to be announced.  
**To be completed in month of February.**
- Discussions with Province for elimination of upstream pollutants into the Qu'Appelle Valley. **Completed** 🙌
- Discussions with Lebret on better utilization of Katepwa lagoon, easing pressure on Lebret's Lagoon. This should eliminate the need to dump effluent into waterway. **Ongoing**
- Commence pilot project with Watersheds Canada and The Lower Qu'Appelle Watershed on a program which is the first in Saskatchewan, called "Love Your Lake". You can check it out at [www.loveyourlake.ca](http://www.loveyourlake.ca). **More info to follow**
- Discussions with Parks, regarding improved parking and additional pier at Main Beach to improve traffic flow during peak boating times. **Ongoing**
- Our District administrator, Gail Sloan, is moving on! This very important position has been filled with the new person starting in mid March. Introductions will take place upon completion of all previous employment details. **Completed** 🙌
- Discussions have been started with a major internet supplier for improved internet and possible television programming. **Ongoing**
- Stay tuned for *Very Exciting News* in the near future, regarding the District's Long Term Debt.

Please feel free to contact any council member to discuss District of Katepwa business.

Thank you to all those that take an interest and attend our Regular Council Meetings. We would love to see more people attend. Your input is greatly appreciated!

Summer at Katepwa is FAST approaching!!  
Get prepared to ENJOY!

## FAREWELL FROM OUR CAO

*Gail E Sloan*

I would like to thank everyone for a very enjoyable two years as Chief Administrative Officer at the District of Katepwa. The time has flown by and it is with sadness that I leave; however, being married to an RCMP officer I knew this time would come sooner or later! My husband and I have thoroughly enjoyed our life in Fort Qu'Appelle and area and we have made many wonderful memories.

I would like to thank past and present Council for their dedication to serving the District and wish them all the best with the future. Good luck to those incumbents that will be running in the Municipal elections this summer. It can be a very rewarding experience and I would encourage everyone to consider running for a term on Council.

I would also like to thank Mary Lynn for her dedication as Assistant Administrator and wish her all the best in the future. Thank you to Dawne Obleman for helping in the office when needed, and Bernard Behnke for his hard work keeping the District looking good through the year.

I wish the new CAO all the best in her position. I have known her professionally for many years and I'm positive I leave you in very capable hands! The District is very lucky to have someone with her experience and dedication!

Thanks again Katepwa - it has been a lot of fun!

## PUBLIC WORKS

*Dave Thauberger*

Public works will be doing road maintenance this spring. The roads that were dust proofed last year will be redone this year. The amount of rain we have in the spring will dictate when it will be applied, likely sometime late May- early June. All other gravel roads will be assessed for gravelling and possibly dust proofing. The parking area in East Maple (known as ground zero) will have new signage - it will read Resident parking - 72 hours, No camping. Other parking areas in the District will be reviewed this spring.

## ACTION TO LIMIT UPSTREAM POLLUTANTS

Calling Lakes District Planning Commission had a meeting with Premier Brad Wall and Deputy Premier Don McMorris in November. They received a letter stating that the Premier supports us in protecting our water by working with the Water Security Agency (WSA) to insure City of Regina follow the regulations.

An agreement between the WSA and the City of Regina to address the sewage bypass issues is available on the WSA website:  
[www.wsask.ca/About-WSA/News-Releases/2015/October/Water-Security-Agency-and-City-of-Regina-Address-Sewage-Bypass-Issues/](http://www.wsask.ca/About-WSA/News-Releases/2015/October/Water-Security-Agency-and-City-of-Regina-Address-Sewage-Bypass-Issues/)

## TREE IS NAMED AFTER KATEPWA

Katepwa has its own brand of Poplar! This poplar is male and does not have the cotton seeds. We have learned how powerful the poplar tree is at drinking nitrogen and holding water - keeping nutrients in the land instead of in the lake where it causes harm. We have begun a conversation with the PFRA and U and K Green House to insure that the right kind of plant material is available for the residents of Katepwa. Information on how to acquire the "Katepwa Poplar" will be available soon.

## SANDY BEACH IMPROVEMENTS

*Dawne Zahorski*

For those that may not been out since the fall or for those of you who have cottages in Sandy Beach, many trees have been planted in the green space by the tennis courts and play centre. Trees and bushes have been strategically planted on two of the Right Of Ways (ROW's) to help stabilize eroded water edges/banks and also to provide water filtering for the purpose of cleaning our lake. More bush will be planted on ROWs in the Spring to prevent further erosion of the lake banks. The trees and bushes have been provided by the District and by local residents. Thank you to all the Sandy Beach residents that took time to plant and water the trees. The trees and bushes planted by the play center will not only provide shade and wind break, but also beauty and color.

## AWARD CEREMONY MAY 4

On May 4<sup>th</sup> at the File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Governance Centre, the Calling Lakes Eco Museum will be hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual UNESCO's Regional Centre of Expertise Sustainability Awards. These awards are to recognize business, non-profit groups and government for moving in a more sustainable direction.

We are honoured to welcome UNESCO Chair Charles Hopkins as guest speaker to this event. Dr. Hopkins is currently at York University in Toronto, Canada. He is a UNITWIN/UNESCO Chair collaboratively working on the reorientation of teacher education to address sustainable development.

Small acts of sustainability are just as important as big ones. The awards are for sustainability that have an education component and are group projects. Education can be a website, written paper, a poster – anything to help the community move in a sustainable direction.

**Nominations for this award are welcome!**

Please visit this website to learn more about the award:  
[www.rceskreognitionevent.com](http://www.rceskreognitionevent.com)

## BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

*Murray Penny*

The District has no Bylaw Enforcement person or agency under contract at present. Again, we are assessing our options and deciding how to get the most service for ratepayers.

# KATEPWA & DISTRICT LIONS PROVIDES 10 YEARS OF SERVICE!

February marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of community service by the Katepwa Lions and District Lions. Throughout the past 10 years the Lions have been involved in a variety of projects and services. The Club has donated to the Guide Dog Program, Children's Hospital; and, closer to home, the Balcarres Integrated Care Centre and the Balcarres Lions Hall. On the recycle front, the Lions recycle used eye glasses, and have been involved in a variety of recycling projects.

Much of the kitchen equipment at the Katepwa Centre has been supplied by the Lions. Recent acquisitions have been bridge tables and a new computer for the Library. The park benches throughout the District and a play structure in the Provincial Park have been supplied and installed by members of the Lions. The most recent acquisitions have been AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator) and the trailer for the EMO Equipment.

Annually, the Lions conduct an Adopt the Highway program and provide maintenance on the Christmas lights and have provided assistance to Theatre on the Hoof, Perchfest, Get Active Glenwood and Breeze Park.

These activities are funded annually by the Fish Derby and Texas Hold'em tournaments. These fundraisers enable us to contribute to July 1 entertainment.

This year's Fish Derby will be held **March 12, 2016**.

Dates for upcoming Texas Hold'ems will be announced later - check the website for ongoing information.

New programs in the works: Welcome to Katepwa, feasibility of developing a new green space, CPR course, and diabetic screening clinic.

Lions are open to suggestions for new projects throughout the District.

Contact: Richard Teece, 306-332-4788

## Thank You to the Lions Club

*Mayor Rick Pattison*

*On behalf of the people of the District of Katepwa and the District Council we would like to thank every Lions member, present and past, for their hard work. The dedication of time, monetary contributions to the community and purchases of needed equipment have been so greatly appreciated. We wish the Lions Club many more years of membership with enthusiastic community involvement.*

## LOWER QU'APPELLE WATERSHED STEWARDS LOVE YOUR LAKE PROGRAM

LQWS is currently working on a partnership with the District of Katepwa and Watershed Canada to bring the "Love your Lake" program to Katepwa: "Healthy Shorelines for Healthy Lakes". Love Your Lake is a shoreline assessment and stewardship program that provides shoreline property owners with resources to help improve the health of their shoreline and their lake. This program is developed by the Canadian Wildlife Federation and Watersheds Canada and lake organizations to deliver it locally.

As participants in the Love Your Lake program, properties are assessed on a property by property basis by boat using standardized assessment protocol. Once complete, each shoreline owner receives access to a personalized, confidential property report consisting of valuable information on the state of their unique shoreline with suggested voluntary actions for shoreline improvement. These simple suggested actions help protect and enhance shoreline and lake health - not just for our pleasure but for wildlife too!

We want you to know that the District of Katepwa is the first community in Saskatchewan to launch this program! We are a proud community because of the accomplishments we have done to make a better environment footprint and for doing our part to keep our lakes healthy! Over the next couple of months lakeshore property owners will be receiving a letter .

Did you know.....

The LQWS has a Research and Monitoring Committee?

At the Annual General Meeting in 2013 a motion was passed as follows:

*To establish a working group to prepare a proposal for identifying the major contributors of nutrients and other pollutants to the Lower Qu'Appelle River to enable focused/targeted management actions, and;*

*Prepare a proposal for identifying the flow, lake and oxygen levels required to protect fish and other aquatic life within our system; and*

*Liaise with Water Services Agency, specifically the aquatic impacts hydrology groups, to obtain monitoring and research data from the basin and to obtain expert advice on applying this information to management of flows and pollutant sources.*

We currently have members consisting of Ecologists, Scientists, and Agrologists representing Water Security and the Ministry of Agriculture and watershed managers from neighbouring regions.

The priority of this committee is to provide the watershed steward group with the information needed to achieve the water quality goals. A critical component of this information is to determine which nutrient sources must be managed more effectively in order to achieve water quality goals as set out in our watershed plan.

LQWS also partnered with the Ministry of Health to do weekly beach water sampling at various beaches within the community. We have been approached to do this again this summer.

For more information, Terms of Reference, minutes and autobiographies of our members please visit [www.lqws.ca](http://www.lqws.ca).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Fax: 306-332-5808

E: [katepwabeach@sasktel.net](mailto:katepwabeach@sasktel.net)

W: [www.katepwabeach.com](http://www.katepwabeach.com)

## GARBAGE PICK-UP:

### Every Monday

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

The District of Katepwa will only pick up 3 household garbage bags placed in containers. Tags for additional bags may be purchased for \$2.00/bag at the District office.

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

## WINTER LANDFILL HOURS:

### November 1 - March 30

Mondays: 9:00am to 12:00pm  
(Contact Jerry at 306-331-9317 if you need access after hours)

## WINTER OFFICE HOURS:

### October 1 - March 30

Monday to Friday  
9:00am to 12:00 noon  
1:00 - 4:00pm

*Closed on all STAT holidays.*

## CALLING LAKES ECOMUSEUM WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

An Ecomuseum is not a bricks and mortar building, it is a process guided by local leaders. Ecomuseums are about fostering positive cultural change by encouraging community participation, local sustainable development, and in-situ preservation. Their overriding purpose is to help local residents and visitors create, rediscover, or reinforce cultures of sustainability. One of the projects is working towards **protecting our watershed.**

For more information, contact AuraLee MacPherson: Phone 306 539 6903 or [a.macpherson@mac-eng.ca](mailto:a.macpherson@mac-eng.ca)

## INVASIVE SPECIES

# ZEBRA MUSSELS THREAT

Last summer, you may have seen our student, Alex, cruising around in her PT Cruiser spreading the word about Zebra Mussels. She handed out fact sheets about the Aquatic Invasive Species as well as how to **Clean + Drain + Dry YOUR BOAT.** If you recall last summer, Lake Winnipeg announced that the lake was inundated with these mussels. Once introduced and established in the lake, they can spread rapidly – with one female producing up to a million eggs per year. They will disrupt natural food chains, create toxic algae blooms that can kill fish and birds, decrease property values and reduce recreational enjoyment of the natural areas. These mussels also pose a risk for cottages and homes that rely on these waterways for their water supply because they clog pumps, not to mention boat motors! **Please if you suspect that mussels have attached to your equipment please call the TIP line at 1-800-667-7561.**

We had substrate samplers located at all lakes throughout our watershed monitoring for Zebra Mussels, fortunately none were detected. However, let's keep on keeping them out of our beautiful lakes! We will be working again with the Ministry of Environment to bring more awareness of Aquatic Invasive Species this summer. Strategic plans to deal with this serious threat is occurring at various levels of local government. Watch the website for more information.

## JULY 1 CELEBRATION PLANS

*Dawne Zahorski*

With the help of Murray Penny, negotiations are underway for bands to perform on July 1.

Last year the Quilters Club set up a booth in the park. They reported enjoying their day and benefitted from selling some of their work. We would like to see more LOCAL artists get involved in the July 1 celebration.

**If you are interested in showing your work and selling it, please contact Dawne at [dzahorski@sasktel.net](mailto:dzahorski@sasktel.net)**

**JUST A REMINDER the District is accepting donations for the fireworks.**

Remember how wonderful they were last year? With the contributions that were received, those beautiful colours were better than ever.

## TRANSCANADA TRAIL

We all benefit from the TransCanada Trail. Please consider donations to help maintain the beauty and integrity of the trail. Donations can be made through the office to the TransCanada Trail Committee.

## STEWARDS OF OUR WATER

*Alice Davis, Manager  
Lower Qu'Appelle  
Watershed Stewards Inc.*

Sewage Survey

It was a very busy year for the Lower Qu'Appelle Watershed Stewards (LQWS) in 2015. The Sewage Survey is complete. Thank you to everyone that participated in the survey and a big thanks to the Administrative Staff at the District for entering all the data.

The information collected will be an excellent record to keep on file at the District office. It was good to talk to many residents this past summer to explain why we were asking for this information. We also increased awareness of private sewage systems and current wastewater management practices. It is important to know the effects and the consequences of improper disposal of greywater and sewage in the lakes.

We are happy to announce that one or possibly two more neighbouring communities will be undertaking the Sewage Survey.