



SEPTEMBER 2014

MAYOR'S REPORT

Happy summer ending and welcome to the Autumn! Weird Summer! I just have a couple of items to cover at this time.

1) THE BIG BLOW! We had another unforeseen big wind come through that took out lots of trees on August 8 and the cleanup should be just about done. I was asked why the District didn't do the clean up for individual properties, and the answer is that ratepayers are responsible for the cleanup of any debris that comes from their property. The District is NOT equipped to handle this as we have one staff member full time in the summer, one summer student and one half ton truck!

The District will clean up the trees that have fallen on public spaces (not placed there). Please do not dump trees on public property as they will not be picked up by district employees.

2) LAKE IMPROVEMENT! If you have had a chance to look at the 'web' page you will realize that the following (for the most part) is a repeat of what was on that page. If you haven't had that opportunity then read on.

I was down at Sandy Beach on the 16th of August and the water there was unbelievable! Floating 'gobs' of blue green slim, long stringy 'stuff' that was unidentifiable . . . Our lake is going downhill at a rate that seems to be accelerating.

We need to get a handle on what is happening to the lake and where the problems lie so they can be addressed and fixed. It has become critical!

The District has long been trying to get some action on water improvement, Regina has started a process that will help however there are other issues throughout our watershed.

The District joined a group called the 'Lower Qu'Appelle Watershed Stewards Inc. This group is made up of residents in the lower Qu'Appelle Watershed as well as a representatives of Government Departments who help us with monitoring and, hopefully, improving the water quality for our children and grandchildren.

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As a starting point, in our watershed, the District has asked the Government to assist us in setting goals and monitoring the progress. Hopefully our efforts to clean the water will have other Resort villages such as Lebreton, Fort Qu'Appelle, Fort San etc. pick up the idea and carry it on throughout the watershed now that we have a process in place.

We are doing a survey of our Resident's septic systems and we need your help to make it a meaningful one. A lot of our Ratepayers aren't aware of what they actually have and what the regulations regarding 'septic' systems are. This survey will help us identify those who may need help identifying the type of system they actually need.

The survey is in this news letter and on our web page www.katepwabeach.com. Please fill it out as best you can and drop it off, fax or mail it to the District office. Remember. . . it's your valley and your lake!

Thanks for your cooperation, it is appreciated.

*Fred Weekley
Mayor for the District of Katepwa*

BYLAWS ENFORCEMENT

The District has employed the services of a Bylaws Enforcement Officer since about 2007. The person or agency works on behalf of the District and ultimately the Ratepayers to deal with complaints and infractions of our bylaws which are in place for the safety and enjoyment of all.

A complete list of the bylaws is on The District of Katepwa website: www.katepwabeach.com

The position became vacant and with no applicants, we did as other communities nearby and hired The Commissionaires www.commissionaires.ca/en/national/home. They are the same people that you find at many Government and professional buildings, RCMP F Division, the University of Regina and so on. The agency has been dealing with infractions and also provided additional security in conjunction with the RCMP during the July 1st weekend.

Their contract will be reviewed as we do with all of the District contractors. We will determine what is working and what needs improvement.

The input of our ratepayers is essential in determining the value of the services provided.

Murray Penny



Community Plan Update

We want to hear from you.

The District of Katepwa is now in the final stage of developing its first Official Community Plan (OCP). The draft plan is now ready for your feedback.

The Official Community Plan is important to residents and visitors to the District of Katepwa because it puts policy in place that allows us to maintain the resort character of our District now and into the future. The OCP is based on the vision and goals of the community and involved residents, business owners, community organizations, Council, administration and a broad range of stakeholders.

Visit katepwa.publicengage.com to review the draft Official Community Plan and provide your feedback.

The website includes general background information about the Plan, our community vision and goals, future land use and reference maps and proposed future actions such as establishing an annual summer festival, adding or expanding walking trails, and conducting a water quality study of Katepwa Lake.

Most importantly, the OCP includes a number of policy areas that will help guide the overall use, planning and development of the District. The website includes a separate page for each policy area and at the end of each section is a feedback form. You can also download the complete draft OCP and email general comments to katepwafeedback@mpathengage.com

We need to receive all feedback by October 3.

Your thoughts and comments are important. All feedback will be reviewed by Council and will be used to develop the final Official Community Plan.

Katepwa DISTRICT OF

HARD WORK FOR PUBLIC WORKS

As the summer come to a close we are reviewing at all the work that our employees managed to accomplish. You may be amazed to learn that we only have one fulltime employee during the summer and one student assistant. Through their efforts and by using some contractors we have continued with our road maintenance program, our tree cutting program and our lawn cutting programs. Our road maintenance program has involved: filling pot holes, fixing washboards, fixing culverts and fixing wash out. We have not been able to pave any new roads, but we have a priority list and will continue paving as we can afford to do so. I am very pleased to see how the grass we seeded has caught in Breeze Park west and we are hopeful that by next year it will have choked out most of the weeds. Volunteers have added trees to Breeze Park east and they are also doing very well. Thank you to everyone who has been involved! We have had our tree trimming program continue and we will try to get most of the trees cut back from some of the road allowances to make snow clearing easier this winter.

We were very happy when we got our report card from the Government that our new lagoon passed all their tests and meets all their requirements. It has been a long process but we now have a new lagoon. It is quite impressive and should last for at least twenty five years according to their growth predictions. We are still planning to add a gate to the enclosure to make everything complete.

Our Landfill has been quite an interesting story this year, beginning with the fire last fall and all of the work that was done to remedy the situation and to get the government to allow us to continue to use our current facility. At this time everything is going smoothly but we are filling up with trees as a result of the latest plow wind. All in all I am very pleased with the efforts of our staff at the landfill and on our maintenance crew and on behalf of all the residents I would like to thank them for all their hard work and extra efforts this summer!

Bob Burnett

Chair of Public Works and Environment

DISTRICT BETTER PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

The year started off with a landfill fire. Then we got hit in July with 6 inches of rain. The month of August gave us a plow wind. So when the going gets tough the best thing to do is.....MOVE. Of course that's stated jokingly, but there is concern that the lake level is still quite high, and if it doesn't recede by the time freeze up hits we might have some flooding issues AGAIN. But we will cross that bridge when we get there.

A special thanks goes out to Warren Bobbee for all his help guidance and expertise in tackling what the District of Katepwa and surrounding areas had to endure in the last three years. There wasn't much we couldn't face with Warren on our side. With the EMO (Emergency Measures Operations) manual which he constructed, we are now better prepared for whatever happens.

Dwight Fisher

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE WATER QUALITY

Visit this website for some practical advice:

www.lakefriendly.ca/at-the-cottage/

Watch for ongoing updated information.

Greywater is water from your bathroom sinks, showers, tubs, and washing machines. It is not water from the toilet or from washing diapers.

If you are releasing greywater into the lake or surrounding earth, be aware that you are contributing to the poor water quality.

Please engage your friends and neighbours in conversation regarding what WE can do to begin improving the quality of our lake water.

OUTSTANDING BUILDING PERMITS

The District of Katepwa is in the process of closing out files (building/construction of homes, cottages, boat houses, garages, etc.). In order to do this a final inspection must be completed on your project. That means the building inspector must be given access to your dwelling in order for him to complete the final inspection. We will then invoice you for the final inspection and upon receipt your file can then be closed. Letters will be sent to all outstanding project files.

QUILTERS PAY IT FORWARD

The Country Stitches Quilting Group would like to thank everyone for their support of their "Pay it Forward Project". We have donated 1,150 pillowcases to the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic. These cases are given to new chemotherapy patients, usually on their first visit to the facility. We raffled a quilt to raise money for more material to make pillowcases.

The draw was performed at Perchfest.

Mary Baylak was the happy winner.

For more information, contact Ann Noble:
andnoble@sasktel.net

LIBRARY REPORT

It has been a very busy year for volunteers at the library. Sometimes as many as 12 in numbers have continued to work to keep the library shelves full and neat. They meet about once a month and sort and stamp books and shelve returns. Thanks to the ladies who donate their time to this.

Good news, a large selection of best sellers has recently been purchased. Look for them in the "New Books" section.

Due to inclement weather I was unable to attend the spring Library Workshop and meeting in Weyburn.

Darwin Chatterson

RECREATION REPORT

Well summer has past and fall is on its way.
I hope that you enjoyed your time spent
at your cottage or campsite.

Summer students Bradie and Cole had fun entertaining the children in the park during July. There were some rainy days, but they managed to make the best of a few of them.

On some days, the number of children participating were low. Council is looking for feedback, suggestions as to how to improve things and suggestions on new, and creative activities to offer the children. If you or someone you know has a special interest or talent, and would like to share that one day during July we would love to have you volunteer.

Please contact the office via e-mail:
katepwabeach@sasktel.net

Council has had mixed reviews in regard to the cancellation of the July 1 events, especially the fireworks. The comments were both of support and disappointment. In discussion, we have come up with a suggested match for match plan. It was done in years past and we are willing to try it again.

The office administration will send out letters for corporate sponsors. We ask for your donations as well. For every dollar that is donated council will match. Due to the poor financial situation the district is currently in, we are hoping this request will help provide a great light show for July 1, 2015.

Please send your donation to the District Office
Box 250, Lebret, Sk, S0G 2Y0

Hoping you enjoy the wonderful fall days
that are on the way.

Dawne Zahorski

LION'S REPORT

The Katepwa Lions have been busy this summer, in addition to three successful Texas Holdem tournaments June 12, July 19, and August 23. We have helped other groups with their fundraising. July 12 we assisted the "Get Going Glenwood" group at their pancake breakfast. Lions got going with Glenwood, cooking pancakes and sausage; we also presold tickets for their highly successful wheel barrel of booze raffle.

August 17, Perchfest at Katepwa began rainy and cloudy. Lions assisted the committee by registering Marathon runners in the morning and by passing out water at the aide station along the route.

Watch for us out there selling our Grey Cup Pool Tickets.
It's hard to find Grey Cup Pool tickets around anymore so remember ours!

If you are interested in being a Katepwa First Responder please call our
President Dick Teece (306 332 4788) for more information.

Elaine Chatterson
Katepwa and District Lions Club

DISTRICT OF KATEPWA SEWAGE SURVEY

The District asks that all ratepayers fill out this survey so that information can be gained regarding the environmental impact that residents have on our water quality. Unfortunately many residents are not aware of the type of septic system they have both for their cottage and outhouse. We hope that by filling this survey out you will also become more aware of your use of a septic system.

Please mail, scan and email, or fax this to the District Office by October 17, 2014.

District of Katepwa
Box 250, Lebret SK, S0G 2Y0
Fax: 306-332-5808
email: katepwabeach@sasktel.net

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE: _____ PROPERTY OWNER NAME: _____

Property Street/Civic Address: _____

Is accommodation year round, or seasonal? *(Circle One)* YEAR ROUND SEASONAL

What is the number of bedrooms? _____

DOES THE COTTAGE / CABIN / HOUSE / BUSINESS HAVE:

How Many				Do they all drain into the tank?	How Many				Do they all drain into the tank?
Hand basin	Y	N	()	Y or N	Hot Water Tank	Y	N	()	Y or N
Kitchen Sink	Y	N	()	Y or N	Hot Tub	Y	N	()	Y or N
Toilet	Y	N	()	Y or N	Garburator	Y	N	()	Y or N
Bathtub	Y	N	()	Y or N	Other facilities that use water	Y	N	()	Y or N
Clothes Washer	Y	N	()	Y or N	Outside Toilet/Out house	Y	N	()	

With vault (tank), what is the size of vault? (in gallons) _____

Does it have a pit privy with an unlined hole in the ground? If yes, how many _____

DOES THE PROPERTY USE A SEPTIC TANK? *(Circle One)* Yes or No

What is the tank capacity in gallons? _____

How often is the tank pumped out? _____

Name of Septic Hauler? _____

Type of Construction: *(Circle One)* Concrete Fiberglass Other: _____

Is this sewage disposal method connected to a jet that spreads the tank contents on the landscape? *(Circle One)* Yes or No

Is the sewage disposal method connected to: *(Circle One)*

Mound Seepage Pit None Other *If other, please describe* _____

TANK INSTALLATION INFORMATION

When was the holding/septic tank installed? _____

Who installed? _____ Do you have a copy of the permit? Yes or No

Is the holding tank servicing two or more separate properties? Yes or No

Is the holding tank servicing more than one building on this property? Yes or No

FLOOD, FIRE AND FINANCIALS

How are we doing financially now that all the taxes are in and our busy summer is coming to an end?

We are in a financial place that we need to get out of! This year you saw a significant increase in property tax as compared to 2013 but a fairer comparison would be to look at the 2012 Municipal tax with reference to 2014.

The guidelines set out by the province limit both our debt limit (generally 2 times our Municipal tax, about \$1.9mill) and our reserve (1x our Municipal tax, about \$950,000). We are at our debt limit which means we will not be allowed to borrow any more money and we are really at zero on our reserve funds. In short, there are no funds available for any project that is not in our budget.

We lost our reserves to the flood, Lagoon and Landfill fire so things are rather tight. As long as we don't have another emergency we will be ok till next year at which time we will start to rebuild the reserve.

There is a potential for us to recover some of the Landfill fire costs from the Provincial Government as their response to our call for help was essentially nonexistent and the directions they did give us in the early days were countermanded by the Department of Environment themselves at a later date. So, if we get funds back we will be able to pay down some to the Lagoon debt as promised.

For those with inquiring minds. . . our books are always open and on the web page and there is an open session at the beginning of each Council meeting.

Thanks for your patience,
Fred Weekley, Mayor

WATER QUALITY ACTION

In the evening of August 20th, we held our first water quality meeting at the Treaty 4 Governance Centre Tipi. This was a collaborative meeting of the Calling Lakes Planning District, Friends of the Katepwa Provincial Park and File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council.

We had planned for 100 people to attend the meeting, but far exceeded that number with over 225 in attendance. The meeting was designed to allow those interested in the quality of the water to ask questions. We had the very best involved on the panel – concerned and informed leaders, scientists and social scientists to answer questions. The idea was to begin the process of educating ourselves to become active and part of the solution.

Our first goal is to ask the Saskatchewan Government to care and take action. We have written a letter as a start and it can be found at the Calling Lakes website at their environment page (www.4callinglakes.ca/regional/environment). We are asking everyone to print off this letter or create your own and mail it to Premier Brad Wall.

The Calling Lakes website (www.4callinglakes.ca/region/enviroment) is going to be used as a clearing house and will be posting articles for you to read, information on upcoming meetings and other items of interest on water quality. This web site will be where you can educate yourself and become part of the solution.

This brings us to our second goal - to organize ourselves into action. The lakes do not have time for us to reinvent the wheel – we need to know what talent we have that can help us take action too. We are looking for all of us to help, e.g. Scientists who can help us read and understand the studies, artists who are creative thinkers, photographers who can record the changes happening to our lakes, etc. We are asking that you go the website and email us to share your talent.

There is a lot of work to be done (which I am not afraid of) and if we work together and laugh a bit, nothing is impossible. I am doing this because I believe that the water quality of our lakes is tied to our future - our kids - and it is worth it do something now.

Aura Lee MacPherson
Chair of the Friends of Katepwa Provincial Park

CONTACT INFORMATION

Box 250, Lebret, SK S0G 2Y0

Phone: 306-332-6645

Fax: 306-332-5808

Email:

katepwabeach@sasktel.net

Website:

www.katepwabeach.com

GARBAGE PICK-UP:

Garbage day changes from

Monday to Tuesday,

starting **October 13**

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

LANDFILL HOURS:

May 1 to October 31

Friday, Saturday & Monday

9:00am to 5:00pm

After November 1

call for appointment

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Until September 30

9:00am to 12:00 noon

1:00 - 4:00pm

October 1 - April 30

9:00am to 12:00 noon

1:00 - 3:00pm

Closed on all STAT holidays.

DUST PROOFING

Because of a lack of funding for capital road repairs, in an attempt to deal with broken pavement and pot holes, some roads have had to be returned to gravel.

This has created another problem – dust! To rectify this, dust control has to be used. Therefore, we are researching the cost of Calcium Magnesium, the best product for this, and looking for someone capable of and willing to apply it.

Should you know of someone, please contact the office at 306-332-6645 .

D. Thauberger

STARS (SHOCK TRAUMA AIR RESCUE SERVICE) LANDING SITE OFFICIAL

We have been working for several years to have a site for helicopters to do pickups in emergency situations and it is now official! The location is roughly half way between the end of our District and adjacent to highway 56 at the intersection of Valley View Hill and the Fort Ellis Trail.

Thanks to the efforts of the District we have a site (a Heliport sign is already there), with agreement from Stars and the land owner that this will be the official site. There is more work to be done and a cairn/plaque to be place in memory of Mickey Boyle who owned the land through his company Capital Farms.

Your Council has taken an additional step with the purchase of four (4) 'landing' kits to go

along with the Stars program. These landing kits allow the Stars pilots to find the location of a local accident or emergency WHEREVER and WHENEVER they are placed by our 'First Responders'.

The Stars pilots use NVG (night vision goggles) to find the locations in the dark and the 'landing kits' provide guidance, day or night, to a specific location.

All we need now are volunteers for our First Responders program so we can get the 'landing kits' into their hands.

Soooo.... step up, take the course and be a first responder. You can call the District Office for details on the First Responders Course.

Fred Weekley Mayor

PERCHFEST 2014 SHINES DESPITE WEATHER



ShredKelly is a high energy stokefolk band from Fernie BC. They capped off an all day line-up of performers playing from the gazebo at the Park. Perchfest shone though a little rain. Each musical group and performer added some beauty to the Park.

*Danny Jewitt, Organizer of Perchfest
Perch Be With You.*