

MAYOR'S REMARKS
July, August and September 2016

I've chosen to encapsulate the entire summer under one report, and will do so in a monthly fashion.

JULY

The NB Nature Trust hosted the Great Fundy Clean Up, and crews were dispatched to the Pea Point Nature Preserve amongst other coastal areas. A barbeque was held at the completion of the event, with many participants attending. We extend our gratitude to those participants, who greatly aid in keeping our shores pristine.

The Planning Management Committee (from the RSC) met on July 25th, in St. Stephen.

On July 26, the South West New Brunswick Transit Authority Inc. held their AGM at the Landfill, of which both CAO Heather Chase, and I, are members.

I also attended a training session on the Regional Service Commission's Procedural Bylaws.

AUGUST

In August, I met with new resident, and entrepreneur Gerald Bernard, owner of the old Keith's Building site. He showed me his plans, and we had discussions, on his new business venture, Charlotte County Storage, and I did some research for him in terms of new business developments. We wish him all the best.

Work continued to develop and flourish with the tourism partnership with the Village of Plaster Rock. I also spoke with Vaughn MacIntyre from Discovery Maps, to facilitate a regional map for their area.

The SWNBTA Inc. continued to meet over the summer, with a meeting held on August 11th at the Landfill.

The Executive Committee of the RSC, and of which I am a member, met in St. Stephen.

August Regular Meeting of Council was cancelled due to no quorum. It is unfortunate when work commitments take one away from their duties, but that does not happen frequently, and is only the second time, during my 13 year tenure, that it has happened. My apologies to my fellow Council members, our Staff, and our Guests.

The Regional Service Commission did hold it's meeting on August 25th, and I do believe I have forwarded to Council and Staff, the draft budget for your perusal and comment. We will be voting on it before year end, and I will be seeking direction from Council on that matter.

We did hold a zone 4 meeting here in Blacks Harbour, where I was elected Director, as was Councillor Wayne Sturgeon from Grand Manan. Alternates selected were Councillor Natalie Harris - Blacks Harbour, and Deputy Mayor Jason Carr from St. Stephen. The UMNB AGM is being held this weekend, in Fredericton, and I have offered for the position of President of the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick. My almost 10 year tenure on the Board, as a Director, with my 6 years of service as 1st Vice President, gives me an in-depth history and insight into the direction of the Board, and I am excited for this potential opportunity.

SEPTEMBER

Our Labour Day weekend, here in Blacks, was fabulous!!! We had a weekend jam packed full of activities, and events, which were well attended. Our staff deserves special recognition of appreciation, where in many instances, they went above and beyond the call of duty. All of our volunteers played a vital role in ensuring such a wonderful weekend, and we are so appreciative of their service. Thank you one and all.

On September 2nd, I attended a Premier's Round Table forum, in McAdam, to discuss regional opportunities, current provincial policies on a variety of subjects.

Mayor Alexis Fenner, from the Village of Plaster Rock, was in our municipality over the Labour Day weekend, for her inaugural visit to our community. She absolutely loved our Village, and wrote a very articulate synopsis of her visit, which I will share with you once I receive it (she will soon present it to her Council first).

On September 25th, I attended the Pennfield Ridge War Memorial Service which was hosted by the Pennfield Parish Military Historical Society. Myself, and Mayor Crystal Cooke laid the Mayor's wreath, and I gave a speech as well.

I should also mention that soon, our Gazebo will be moved to a site at Pea Point, while our new one will be constructed. This project has taken longer than first anticipated, but will be so worth the wait, once it is completed. Exciting times indeed!!

As you can see, it has been a very busy time of late, and with budgets requiring review, and the upcoming holiday season, I don't see things slowing down anytime soon.

I'm here - working for you ...

Mayor Terry James