



St. Alban's, NL Strong Roots



The Resident Connection

Volume 4 Issue 1: Winter 2016

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Residents and Stakeholders,

This newsletter is released at the same time as Budget Circular 2016. All past newsletters and circulars are also available on-line at the Town website.

First and foremost, a sincere thanks to Leonard House for his dedicated service to Council. Recently, Councillor House has advised Council that he regrettably will not be continuing for the remainder of Council term. Council and staff have very much enjoyed serving and working with him.

There will be a bi-election this winter and residents with an interest in making a difference should seriously consider offering themselves for this community service opportunity. If anyone is interested but reluctant to partake in an election, there should be no hesitation whatsoever. That is, anyone that puts forth their name should be commended just for offering themselves for service. If there is an election, I would strongly encourage everyone to vote to select the person whom they would like to join Council for the remainder of the Council term to September 2017 (next regular election).

This newsletter and Budget Circular 2016 contains an update on plans and projects for 2016 (and longer term goals beyond). In recent years, the current Council was able to build upon the work of previous Councils. During the current Council term, Council has engaged staff and volunteers involved with the Town and the community at large for input into our future. Council has obtained significant capital works funding projects and more projects are planned. This is made possible from increases in much needed funding and tax revenue. There will never be enough resources but we will continue to improve each year. Most often progress is unseen by residents from pipes underground to software systems. Communications such as this is important so that residents and stakeholders are aware of matters and what Council, staff, and volunteers are doing in their roles.

Most Sincerely and Respectfully,
Jamie LeRoux, Mayor

Town of St. Alban's

“A Proud History and Hometown Strong”



TOWN OFFICE

Public Service Hours:

9:00 am to 4:00 pm / Monday to Friday

Office & Emergency Contact:

Phone: 538-3132

(For after-hours emergencies such as water shut off, etc. call 538-3132 to get the on call contact #s via recording.)

Email: st.albans@nf.aibn.com

Website: www.stalbans.ca

Facebook: **St. Alban's, NL**

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month (Tuesday in case of Council designated holiday).

Council meetings are open to the public. To add an item to the agenda please contact the council office. If a delegation wishes to address council, please make a request and designate a spokesperson.



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YOUR COUNCIL UPDATE

Council Bi-Election

Nomination Day will be February 16th and Election Day will be March 8th between the hours of 8am and 8pm. Contact the office for more information.

Community Engagement Update

Council is awaiting the finalization of the results and will take time to look at the highest Council priorities and most aligned with community input and the most realistic potential to implement. The process covered what we can do to make the Town a better place and covered topics such as employment, economy, housing for families and seniors, recreation, services, environment, social well-being and more. Input came from Council, staff, departments, community organizations, businesses, and residents. This activity is going beyond water, sewer, fire protection, roads, etc. It is looking at what makes lives of residents better by way of things that matter.

Municipal Capital Works Projects Approved/Planned For 2016

The next phase of water service upgrades from Rabbit Town road area toward Canada Post and beyond is anticipated this construction season. The projects to date combined with the work ongoing by the Public Works Department has made significant improvements to the water delivery system. The construction is anticipated of a new chlorination facility this year as well. Although our water quality continues to be excellent scoring 97 out of 100 as per most recent water quality report (and past reports), the water still needs a modern, safe, and automated system to treat the water. This is presently a manual process/system monitored daily (7 days a week).

More 2016 Budget Highlights

The following are more detailed budget highlights in addition to those in the Budget Circular 2016:

- Purchase/install of a new Town Financial System. The Town office is extremely busy and the efficiencies of a new system combined with improved reliability will enable greater productivity, security, and accountability.
- Lease of sewer monitor system at treatment plant to be compliant with federal waste water regulations impacting all Canadian communities.
- Purchase of new town pickup as maintenance costs of a decade old pickup will exceed cost of new one otherwise.
- Continuation of annual effort to paving Town streets with hope to leverage potential federal-provincial infrastructure funding being considered by federal and provincial government (thus can triple funds earmarked if that happens).
- Ongoing equipment upgrades and improvements for fire and rescue protection. The equipment is as expensive as it is important for lifesaving.
- Review and update of municipal plan and regulations. There may be opportunities to adjust where it makes most sense to do so.

Future Projects

Applications to Municipal Capital Works have been submitted for upgrades where needed to entire lift station system. Contractors, vendors, and engineers have been looking at entire system in 2015. A number of engineer firms have been consulted to review drainage on Valour Place to consider all options and funding/financing options including application to Municipal Capital Works. The Fire Department through community support has been investing into fire protection assets over the years and the Town has increased in this area as well. However, the need is there for a new pumper (current pumper is 23 years old) and as they are larger a new modern facility is required and for other activities. Funding is being sought for both and the Town will continue to do so ongoing. When realized it may be a combination of Town funds, government funding, and Fire Department annual fundraising efforts.

PEOPLE FEATURE

During the public engagement process back in November, one significant community asset was repeatedly acknowledged by participants at all sessions – St. Ignatius Church. Additionally, visitors to the area are amazed and even more so when advised of the skilled workmanship without modern tools and resources, as well as the community effort in general. Generations past to present are to be commended for the results of their efforts.

Digging, Building, Dismantling, Paving, etc.? Plan Ahead and Check For Required Approvals & Permits

Don't risk your time and investment for non-compliance to regulations and/or required approvals. Improper land use impacts costs to all taxpayers as per complicated maintenance of town and effects on other properties. Council prefers to prevent all stop work and/or removal orders.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire Department: 538-3000
Emergency Services: 538-3117
Police: 882-2230
Medical Centre: 538-3244
Or to Get a # call 911
(911 is directory service)

Visit www.stalbans.ca and click the "Emergency Contacts" and "Emergency Preparedness" links in the red bar at the top of each webpage in the website.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES?

Check out the below sites:
www.getprepared.gc.ca
www.gov.nl.ca/fes/emo/