



The Town of Bay de Verde
P.O. Box 10
Bay de Verde, NL A0A 1E0
T: 1-709-587-2260; F: 1-709-587-2049
towncouncilbdv@persona.ca

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2015

In an effort to keep residents up to date the following items are presented for your information.

Strategic Planning - Long Term

The previous Council decided to create a long term plan for initiatives in the community. These items were prioritized without a firm timeframe.

- Debt reduction and elimination - Approximately \$1,000,000 - Repaid in full.
- Water supply upgrade and stabilization - Approximately \$3,000,000 - Completed
- Municipal road surfacing/resurfacing - Completed as planned to date at a cost of \$165,000.
- Sewer extension - See explanation below

Sanitary Sewer Extension

BAE Newplan Group was engaged by the Town to conduct a study for sewer extension. The funding was secured through the Engineering Design Initiative (EDI) at a cost of \$41,210. The results of the study have been received and studied by council. Based on the analysis by the engineers, council has decided the following:

- **Phase One:** This extension will complete the sewer line for the remainder of Cherry Hill Road, across the main road and service the households of Highland Road. The project has been tendered with a projected cost of \$517,500. This project will be completed entirely by the Town from accrued revenues. No provincial contribution will be required. Construction is anticipated to commence by late spring or early summer.
- **Phase Two:** This phase will be a continuation along the main road to include Potter's Road. This phase is tentatively scheduled for 2016.
- **Phase Three:** This phase will include Lockyer's Ground with an expected date of completion in 2017.

Council has also applied to Municipal Affairs for a 90/10 cost shared project for the current fiscal year to extend sewer services to Barter's Lane and Noonan's Lane. Projected cost is \$672,000. This extension is subject to approval for funding.



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Fire Department

New Equipment: Council has made application on behalf of the Fire Department under the 90/10 cost shared Fire Protection Assistance Program for 12 bunker suits at a cost of \$22,500. In the past several years they have received funding for the 6 breathing apparatus' they required and in 2014 they received 2 bunker suits under this new program.

Remember to support our Fire Department, through the regular weekly bingo and other fundraising initiatives (hosted by the Department and by the Ladies Auxiliary). The efforts of our Fire Department cannot be "overstated and overvalued."

Municipal JCP

With the financial assistance from the Town and through a Job Creation Project (JCP) the Town Hall and Fire Department space are receiving some necessary upgrades.

Financial Status

The Town is in a very healthy financial position. Through prudent fiscal management and a prioritized approach. This systematic approach will eliminate the pitfalls of unmanageable debt. The debt service ratio is currently below 9%. It cannot be emphasized enough to continue to operate "within the financial means of the town". Through systematic and strategic planning, capital expenditures will rebuild the Town's infrastructure.

Our budget for 2015 is as follows:

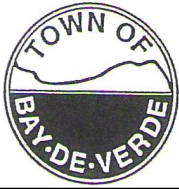
Total Income:	\$661,408
Total Expenses:	<u>\$656,364</u>
Total Surplus:	<u>\$5,044</u>

Major Income Includes:

Property Tax	\$128,000
Municipal Operating Grant	\$71,996
Water & Sewer - Residential	\$45,780
Commercial Water Sales (Projected)	\$170,700

Harbour Clean Up and Remediation

To date I can report little progress other than brief conversations and discussion. Nothing at the very least substantive has been achieved. Council will continue to work with the Processor and Harbour Authority to create a solution. The problem is easily forgotten this time of year. However when the season commences for shellfish and temperatures increase, the odour will again become an issue within the community.



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Eastern Waste Management

Waste Management continues to collect the Town's waste on a weekly basis and now collects recyclable materials on a bi-weekly basis. This spring's bulk collection day is Monday June 8th and Monday September 21st. All items are to be at the curb by 7am that morning.

As of January 2015, Eastern Waste as reduced the amount of bags collected from each residence from 10 to 7.

The actual annual Waste Management Fees for 2015 are \$39,780. The cost per household amounts to \$180.00 per year and continues to be absorbed within the budget without the additional levy to residents.

Recreation Committee

The Bay de Verde Recreation Committee has been successfully hosting an "In House" bingo on a monthly basis since August of 2014.

Through the proceeds of this income they have purchased playground equipment and materials needed to make repairs to the playground. They have also hosted their first social for ages 55 and older, movie night for 12 and under, fun day at the pool and a card game. The costs of all these events were free to residents of Bay de Verde and surrounding communities.

The Recreation Committee will continue to plan events from September to March each year and are looking for your input. Any ideas can be forwarded to the Town Office. Your continued support of this fundraising program is greatly appreciated.

Bay de Verde Kids Group

Congratulations to the committee members of the Bay de Verde Kids Group (Juanita Emberley, Dana Coish, Mary Lynn North, Tracy Coish, Anita Walsh) for organizing the 2015 Winter Carnival from February 15 to 21st. Well Done Ladies!

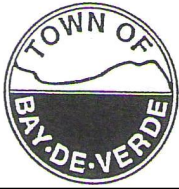
Reminders

Street Lights

If a nearby street light is not working or is cycling please contact the Town Office as soon as possible so it can be repaired.

Playground

Equipment has been purchased and upgrades made to keep children in our community active. There has however been vandalism to the playground on an ongoing basis. Each



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time the playground is vandalized the costs to maintaining it are increasing. The council asks residents to be vigilant and report any incidents of vandalism to the Town Office. Please help keep our playground safe.

Building Permits

A note to residents that a building permit is required in order to make improvements, repairs, renovations or construct on your property. Permits can be obtained by contacting the Town Office. The cost for a Shed, Garage or General Repair is \$20.00. If work is undertaken without a permit, stop work orders will be issued immediately.

Property Taxes

All property tax invoices are due on June 30th. If you wish to take advantage of the 7% discount (one of the highest in the province) the deadline for payment is May 29th. The Town Office now accepts Debit, Visa, MasterCard and email money transfers as methods of payment.

Community Profile - F.Y.I.

The 2011 Census population for Bay de Verde was 398. Three years later, the number is now less.

The median age was 52 in 2011. For the province it was 44. (For statistical purposes, the "median" is a numerical value separating the higher half of the sample of age from the lower half).

In our town, 12.6% of the population migrated out between 2001-2006. In 2006, Bay de Verde had 190 dwellings (housing for residential purposes).

The number of children aged 17 and under as of the end of 2014 was 54.

These numbers and percentages are subject to change from any given reference point in time. The numbers however provide a degree of insight as to the direction of rural Newfoundland and Labrador. The division between rural and urban life is expanding and the future of rural life in our province remains in decline. It will be a challenge as time progresses to meet local servicing needs with a sharply declining population.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as Council works diligently to move our community forward.

On behalf of Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gerard Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Gerard Murphy
Mayor
The Town of Bay de Verde