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Background Notes from the Mayor's Desk – July 2017

Have you ever heard the phrase "Don't rush to failure"?

There are a lot of projects being undertaken around town at the moment. We will not "rush to failure" by shortcutting the time necessary to get all the planning done right for projects that will last, in some cases, for generations to come. Everyone on Council, as well as our new CAO, Linda Nelson, want you to call us if you have questions, or if you want an information update. In the meantime, we appreciate your patience as we move forward.

Broadband

The survey is done. Council has directed administration and staff to get more details and information by September, to make a decision on whether to move forward - or not. The survey results are available on line at sundrebroadband.com if you want to check them out, or if you want any further information on what we have researched to date. There is lots of talk in the community, some of it uninformed. Council will be taking as much time as necessary to make an informed decision because nobody wants to move ahead with an incomplete plan that will cost ratepayers unnecessarily in the long run. Please call if you have questions, concerns or suggestions.

Highway 27 Roundabouts

Watch for work to begin this summer to be completed by October. Remember, this is a pilot project that will be studied for a year to determine whether it is safer for pedestrians and efficient at moving over 7 million vehicles per year through town. Alberta Transportation will be asking for your thoughts after completion.

Centre Street North

Tenders will be considered in July with the first phase being completed from 6A Ave NE to 12th Ave NE by October. Landscaping and final touches will be done during the construction season of 2018.

6 Ave SW Greenway Corridor

The Trail Project north of the Sundre Seniors Housing Building was approved to proceed, even at a higher than anticipated cost. It is important to get it done and beautify the surrounding area around a building that is "the new gold standard" in "campus of care" seniors housing in Alberta.

Repairs to Water System Leaks

Leaks in the aging underground water and wastewater pipes must be addressed and that project will occur this summer. We must continually upgrade and maintain the efficiency of the systems that are essential to all of us.

Lagoon Expansion

Our wastewater (sewer) treatment plant upgrade/expansion planning is ongoing and will not occur for 3-5 years. First we need a plan that takes advantage of the very latest environmental protection technology, and then we need to beg and plead for provincial and federal funding, so your taxes don't skyrocket out of affordability. We are "on" this project continually.

Doesn't all this information make you want to run for Council? Have I got a deal for you. There is an election in October. Candidate packages are available right now :) Watch for an orientation session coming up to learn how you can run for Council and be part of the exciting business of planning for the future of your community :) If you decide to run for Council, you will not be "rushing to failure." The next term will be exciting and challenging, and you do want to be part of it.

Please call me at [403-559-7352](tel:403-559-7352) if you would like to talk further about any of the information above. Happy Canada 150 everyone!!!!!!

Terry Leslie, Mayor
Town of Sundre