

## Mayor's Report, February 18, 2016

### **Latchford Control Dam Project**

- Jeff Barton and I met with Kathryn Pirie on February 02 to review what the Town's options were in regard to the license of occupation (LOO) and the non-compliance with it by PWGSC. We are well within our rights to explore options as to possibly cancelling the LOO if our concerns are not responded to and also imposing a half load by-law on our streets is another option available to us. I hope that all of you will support this by-law tonight so that we can encourage meaningful discussions with PWGSC so as to resolve our issues prior to the end of March. I must stress that it would only be enforced, if required, on select streets.
- The location of their new control building is not fully on their property and is partially on Town of Latchford property, in excess of 2/3 of it. Further, the "survey" they provided indicates other planned activity on Town land and they have never brought any of this to our attention in any meeting or any correspondence. Clayton has been requested to ensure that they acquire a building permit for this project as it is an assessable entity and will result in payment in lieu of taxation from the Feds. We have requested him to get a written ruling on this as he is uncertain as to whether a permit is required. He has provided his response but it does not contain the specifics required so I have requested contact information for a John Gryffyn so it can be discussed directly with him.
- Late in January, we received the responses to our letters of December 15 and 22 which are included in the packages for tonight's meeting. It is the opinion of those of us involved in monitoring the project that these answers are inadequate. Numerous calls have been made and emails exchanged expressing this to Harpreet Gill, Marilea Pirie and a new contact, Daniel Champagne. We are pressing for a face to face meeting and insisting that the issues in respect to the LOO have to be resolved before the end of March. Little progress to report at this point. There seems to be a demonstrated tendency to push resolution of our issues down the ladder to Harpreet but she seems unable to resolve much.
- Harpreet Gill has committed to organizing a teleconference meeting with PSPC (formerly PWGSC), DFO, Construction Supervision Team, Construction Contractor, and the Town with respect to the environmental issues. While I think it might be acceptable to go this route at this time as the timing is not as critical for resolution as with respect to the LOO, Jeff feels strongly that a face to face meeting including the members of the CMR is the preferred method. That is what we will pursue.
- I had a call with Heather Flynn and her supervisor, Rick Janusz of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on January 26. It proved to be of little benefit and they even offered up a possible solution to my concerns for the long term impact on the downstream spawning areas would be to bring in a barge and siphon sediments that may be laying in that area. I responded by telling them it is hard to float a barge in rock

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- filled rapids. When I questioned Heather on whether she had actually seen the project site in Latchford, she responded that the DFO had been making a presentation on Bear Island so she had taken the opportunity to make a quick side trip to Latchford to view the site.
- Perry and I will be attending the Union Gas breakfast next Tuesday in Toronto as per the invitation we received. I have been unable to obtain any specifics, as has Jaime, about the nature of this announcement other than being encouraged to attend. I did touch base with Sheila Willis who works on the Energy East file for Trans Canada and she mentioned that the province has just announced "a pot of money for hook ups" which could aid Latchford.
- I took the opportunity to attend a one and a half day "Collections Management Workshop" at the Haileybury Museum last month. It was conducted by Kelly Gallagher of the Museum of Northern History in Kirkland Lake and very worthwhile. I had hoped to develop a program of meaning for the museum attendant this coming season and this will assist in that.

GLL