September and October Reeve's Writing

September flew by and I did not get a Reeve's Writing out to you!

A Safety Issue has developed on the north Paddockwood Road Bridge (SW36-51-25-W2) ans we have to reduce traffic on it to one lane. The issue started last year, and over the summer, with the flooding, and the most recent engineer reports (three separate opinions) the conclusion is that the bridge deck is migrating off the supports, it requires traffic to be reduced to one lane and a re-build. We can hopefully make the bridge last until we get it re-built next summer - **BUT ONLY IF** it is restricted to one lane of usage. So, in order to not have to totally close that road till late summer of 2027, we are going to be erecting barricades. We realize it will be an inconvenience, but for everyone's safety - the bridge is restricted until it is rebuilt.

The following PDAP (Provincial Disaster Assistance Program) projects were completed in September/October:

✓ Paddockwood Road Washover
✓ Gobeil Road Culvert and Bridge Wash out (SW26-51-25-W2 and NW26-51-25 W2)
✓ Gobeil Road south bridge (NW27-50-25 W2)
✓ Forrester Road Culvert washout (SW27-51-25 W2)

Next PDAP Engineered project that we will focus on is grade raising Lempereurer Road.

Cheal Lake Road portion that slumped after the flooding disaster through the Little Red/Spruce River will be worked on in 2027. A temporary road will be utilized until project completion.

Good news regarding the deductible the RM has to pay as part of our PDAP claim - we received a 12.5% reduction because of the quality and reviews of our Official Community Plan (OCP). We also received another 12.5% reduction because of our Emergency Operations Plan. Both of these combined save the RM about $80,000!

Civic Addressing Project (the blue signs at all driveways) was greatly delayed this year due to the lack of line locating services. Project will continue next year.

Congratulations to the Councillors who were acclaimed in their divisions: Division 4 - Melinda Lavoie; and Division 6 - Lillian Jacobson. Welcome back!

Remember: November 9th is election day for Division 2 Councillor. Running are Leonard Yungwirth and Jason Zalewski. Voting is at RM Office, 99 River Street East, P.A.

28-Oct-2026 Wed:	Advance Poll (Evening) - 3 pm to 8 pm
31-Oct-2026 Sat:	Advance Poll (Daytime) - 10 am to 3 pm
09-Nov-2026 Mon:	**ELECTION DAY - 9 am to 8 pm**

Your Council has been working with Policing Agencies and provincial representatives to see what can be done to improve rural safety. In September the Marshalls Service spoke to Council and in October, Staff Sergeant Hurst of the P.A. RCMP was in to talk with us. Basically, the need for increased security and responsiveness is recognized. Unfortunately the RCMP detachment is down due to staffing leaves from 29 to 17 members. Soon, another 6-10 new recruits will be assigned here temporarily. When asked what we, as a Council, can do to help, the RCMP answer was to assist in getting this message out:

1) Lock everything up 24/7 and tag what cannot be locked up (Air tags, or other digital tracking markers)
2) Do not engage with perpetrators of crime, or escalate the situation - remember your life is the most important thing!
3) Report, report, report! Reporting is absolutely necessary: every report must be logged by the RCMP (even though you may not see anyone attend) and with that logged report come benefits: the movement of suspicious people and perpetrators can be followed, which helps RCMP to identify and catch them, the number of reports help the RCMP to make the case for additional personnel to be stationed here. (And yes, we also had frank discussions about what some call a 'catch and release' world…. Hopefully there will be feedback on that later!)

Five members of Council attended the September "Enough is Enough" meeting at Spruce Home. Rural Crime Watch meetings are great places to voice your concerns. Keep attending and keep organizing!

Stay safe and be aware of your surroundings!

Division 2 folks - remember to vote!

Please check the RM Facebook page and visit the website https://rmbuckland.ca/ before calling the RM Office or your Councillor. You will find constant new information there and updates. Thank you to our Administration for ensuring important information is posted in a timely manner!

Linda