

## **April 15, 2019**

### **Presentation – 6:30 pm**

Marc Leger – Provincial Trails Coordinator

The regular monthly Council meeting of the Alma Village Council was held on April 15, 2019, at 7:00 pm at the Alma Activity Centre. Mayor Shortt, Councillor Bowron, Councillor MacCallum, Councillor Casey and Brenda Hoar (Clerk/Treasurer) were present.

Mayor Shortt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

### **Motion**

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to approve agenda.**

**Motion Carried.**

**It was moved by Councillor Bowron and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to approve March 18, 2019 minutes.**

**Motion Carried.**

**It was moved by Councillor Bowron and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to accept Financial Statements for March 2019.**

**Motion Carried.**

**RCMP Report:** No Report.

### **Committee Reports**

**Mayor Shortt** – reported that council met with Minister Andrea Anderson-Mason, Minister Mike Holland (MLA), Alaina Lockhart (MP) concerning funding for water exploration.

Mayor Shortt also reported receiving a letter with recommendations from Ombud NB. She also announced that there is a new communication policy on the Village's web page and that there is a new noise by-law being prepared which will be available for viewing on the village web site very shortly.

**Councillor Casey** – reported that he attended Southeast Regional Service Commission meeting on March 26, 2019. Most notable event was DMO or Tourism Levy. Another topic of discussion was ECO 360 introducing their new hazard waste mobile unit.

**Councillor Bowron** - Updates from Fundy National Park.

### **Infrastructure Projects:**

No new infrastructure projects to report since the March report.

### **Resource Conservation**

**Field seasons are gearing up** – Fundy’s Resource Conservation team is busy preparing equipment and finalizing plans for another busy season of ecological restoration, environmental protection, Species at Risk restoration and ecosystem monitoring activities. This work ensures Fundy’s entire natural landscape is maintained, improved, and monitored on behalf of Canadians.

Field operations begin in late April with the annual migration of juvenile salmon from the river to sea. These endangered salmon are about 2.5 years old and will spend the summer, winter, and next spring at sea before hopefully returning to spawn the next generation. In case too few returns from sea naturally, FNP staff collect a sample of these young migrating fish in May and June and transport them to a special sea farm on Grand Manan Island. At this farm, they will grow to adults in sea cages before being released back to the river in fall of 2020 to spawn on their own.

### **Staffing**

A term EG 02 Resource Management Technician II (Ecological Restoration Technician) external poster will be posted the first of next week (Monday or Tuesday) with a closing date of Sunday, April 28.

### **Visitor Experience**

- The 2019 Winter Visitor Season at Fundy National Park continues to be successful with accommodations reservations up about 40% over 2018 volumes (year to date).
- The First Annual **Fundy Sugar Woods Festival**, presented in collaboration with the Friends of Fundy was held during the weekend of April 12th to 14th, 2019. Featured activities included;
  - Guided programming with Wabanaki Tree Spirit Tours: Log kettle sap boiling demonstrations, sap pours on snow, short hike to a maple, demos of traditional tapping techniques, info on traditional uses of saps.
  - The Holy Whale Brewing Co.; maple beer on tap all weekend.
  - White’s Maple, just outside of Hillsborough on the Albert Mines Road, offering the quintessential sugar shack experience.
  - Broadleaf Ranch pancake breakfast Saturday morning from 8-11 with maple syrup from Lower Cape.

**Councillor MacCallum** - Councillor MacCallum took part in a webinar call that was hosted by Stephanie Hoey, Project Manager for the “Toward Parity” project which is a Canada-wide research and consultation project designed to identify and address the barriers to the participation of women in municipal politics. The webinar had much of the same content as the seminar that Councillor MacCallum attended in Fredericton in February, but one additional piece of good

news is that there will be a survey that will be distributed to participants to share with other interested parties to help ensure that the barriers to participation are accurately captured. When Councillor MacCallum receives the survey, she will share it with anyone who is interested in giving their view(s).

Councillor MacCallum attended the Fundy Guild/Friends of Fundy Board meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Micha Fardy provided a report highlighting the following Guild activities:

- many successful winter events were conducted in the park
- fat biking fun and a local, fresh lunch were provided for Minister Joly and our MP Alaina Lockhart
- Heritage Canada funding has come through for three locations for the Rising Tide Festival, and the Guild should be able to announce the headliner and the line up sometime soon
- the Guild will host two art interns for 16 weeks this summer at a pop-up art space on the second floor of Octopus' Garden Cafe as well as a small studio in another location
- they are in the final stages of organizing the Atlantic Region Mountain Bike Collective which will be conducted in the park this Fall (an excellent tourism opportunity for this region)
- it should be noted that Fundy National Park is a leader in best practices for mountain biking in Canada
- employment ads are out for hiring staff to man the merchandise gift shops this summer
- the ACCC and ACTA collaboration is going well thanks to the efforts of Kat Hallett
- some businesses were brought together in late January at the suggestion of Graham Copp to address housing and water concerns in the village
- a follow-up meeting on social enterprise investments via the Community Economic Development Corporation will take place soon (no date set yet)
- a Facebook collective group has been started for businesses or individuals who are interested in cost sharing for service calls/construction and repair work/plumbing, etc.
- the Guild has set a date in late April for their weekend strategic planning session, and all Board members believe the time is right for undergoing this exercise considering all the upcoming opportunities/asks and the new faces at the Board table
- the Guild will be taking a more active role in the management of golf cart and golf club rentals this tourist season by investing in a separate point of sale system, additional staff, some merchandise offerings for the pro shop, and some new golf equipment

The Alma Celebration Days committee had a meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the meeting was the Fleet Launch event. Shelley Pisegna from NB Tourism is committing some funding towards host event management to expand the timeframe and the activities offered for Fleet Launch weekend. The committee is in agreement that the host event proposal be accepted, but it has been conveyed in strong terms that Fleet Launch is a Village of Alma event celebrating our local fishermen. Residents and visitors can look forward to an Octoberfest event and a farmer's market and hopefully some kite flying and frisbee competitions in addition to regular Fleet Launch activities (lobster rolls, bagpipes and fireworks). The committee will meet again in early May to finalize the July 1<sup>st</sup> schedule of events.

The fire chief reports that things have been quiet since his last report. A fire hall visit has been scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>. All Council members are invited to attend.

### **Water Report**

No water report

### **Old Business**

Village Signage – Clerk reported that Henson Signs and Signway Signs both do sign repairs. Both companies need to see the sign first before they will give the Village a quote. It was decided that Andy Morrissey is to take down the signs and deliver them to these companies and see if the companies can give him a quote that day.

Parking Lot located at Alma Rink – Letter will be sent to the Alma Rec Council stating that the Village of Alma is willing to fix pot holes in the parking lot to form a partnership for the use of their parking lot during summer months.

### **Clerk Report**

No Report

### **New Business**

No new business

**Q&A Session** – Opportunity for community members to ask questions and receive answers. Thirty minutes were allotted, five residents attended and participated in the Q&A session.

### **Correspondence**

Tracey McDonald – No building permit report for the month of March.

Tracey McDonald – One building permit issued for the month of April.

### **Paying of Bills**

All bills paid

### **Motion**

### **“In Camera Session”**

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to go into “In Camera.”**

**Motion Carried.**

Local Governance Act 68 (1) (c)

**It was moved by Councillor Casey and **Seconded by Councillor MacCallum** to come out of “In Camera.”**

**Motion Carried.**

### **Adjournment**

Councillor Casey adjourned the meeting. Next meeting will be May 21, 2019.

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Mayor

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Clerk