

Hanwell Community News

April 2012

Newsletter of the Hanwell Local Service District Advisory Committee

www.hanwell.nb.ca

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New Brunswick's Regional Service Commissions

By Susan Cassidy <scassidy@hanwell.nb.ca>
Chair of the Hanwell Local Service District
Advisory Committee (HLSDAC)

The provincial government is undertaking to change the governance system for local government in New Brunswick. A major part of that action is the establishment of 12 Regional Service Commissions. You may read all the announced details of the plan at the Local Government web site:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/lg-gl/pdf/RegionalServiceCommissions.pdf>.

This is my summary of the Government's objectives for the establishment of the new Regional Service Commissions.

The Hanwell and surrounding Local Service Districts (LSDs) will be affected as we become part of the new service model which includes the City of Fredericton, Towns of Oromocto, Nackawic, Villages of New Maryland and ten other villages as well as 32 LSDs. We have posted a map of our new Region 11 Service District as well as a community breakdown of the District on the Hanwell LSD web site, www.hanwell.nb.ca.

The proposed Commissions will initially have three main roles:

- Delivering or facilitating the delivery of mandated services to communities
- Facilitating voluntary service arrangements among interested communities
- Acting as a regional forum for collaboration among communities on regional issues.

Mandated Services are as follows:

Regional Planning
Local Planning in LSD's
Solid Waste Management
Regional Policing Collaboration
Regional Emergency Measures Planning
Regional Sport, Recreational, and Cultural
Infrastructure Planning and Cost-Sharing

Structure of the new Regional Service Commissions

The new Commissions will be governed by a Board of community representatives. They will be composed of all Municipal and Rural Community mayors. The unincorporated area representation will be based on population and tax base ratios. LSD Advisory Committee Chairs in each region would nominate representatives from among all Chairs in the region and they in turn would be appointed by the Minister responsible for Local Government.

How this affects the Hanwell LSD

What this means for the Hanwell LSD is that 10 of the 11 Mayors of the Villages in Region 11 who all have populations and tax bases much lower than Hanwell will have one weighted vote where our LSD and approximately 14 other LSD's with populations and tax bases greater than the Villages will have a much smaller percentage of voting power. This in itself is not the only concern, as it probably won't be of much consequence because the City of Fredericton will have over 60% of the weighted vote based on the population and tax base ratios.

I hope that this article will encourage residents of the Hanwell LSD to visit the Local Government web site to review the new Regional Service Commission model. Then engage in discussion with your neighbours and let us and our Government representatives know what you think of this new system that will be implemented in January 2013.

Hanwell Elections

Elections are scheduled to take place on April 23, 2012 to elect members to the Local Service District Advisory Committee. Any resident of the LSD of Hanwell who is 18 years of age may be nominated at the meeting. The Committee is composed of three to five members who serve for a term of two years.

The election will take place:

Monday April 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
St. James Presbyterian Church
1991 Hanwell Road, Hwy 640
Hanwell NB

HANWELL POLAR BEAR DIP



David Crispo jumps into the frigid waters of Lake Herkert as his father Gerry waits to catch him. Many brave souls took part in the annual New Year's Day polar dip.

Soccer and T-Ball

The **Brookdale Recreation Association** provides soccer and T-Ball for boys and girls aged 3 to 10 throughout the summer. This summer we will also be offering softball for the first time.

T-ball begins on June 12 and ends on August 14, on Tuesday evenings. Softball begins on June 13 and ends on August 15 on Wednesday evenings, and soccer begins on June 14 and ends on August 16 on Thursday evenings.

All programs will cost \$35 for registration, which will open shortly on-line at hanwellsoccer.com.

HCDA

Hanwell Community Development Association

Recreation Park Update

by Detlef Rudolph <drudolph@hanwell.nb.ca>
Secretary-Treasurer, HCDA
www.gohanwell.ca

Our Association met recently with representatives from Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Transportation (DOT), and Department of Environment (DOE) regarding the recreation park. They liked the sketch showing the proposed trails and the areas for future development. They were also appreciative of the detailed concept plan that was done and that we are developing in stages according to the wishes of the residents.

Although access to the property would be easiest initially using the existing culvert off Route 640, this would require building an expensive bridge across the creek. The two crown parcels together give us good access to the portion of the property on the far side of the creek. On-site parking will ensure that no cars will be parked along the side of the road, either Route 640 or "Road 1501."

That road is currently a public non-maintained road, being looked after by the property owners. Heavy road use would require an upgrade to the curved portion fronting the park property; then the responsibility for that part would be transferred to DOT. We have been in contact with Envirotherm, who don't have any issues with the development, and we are also cleaning up some of the junk that had been tossed in that area; we hope that the development would deter that kind of activity.

We all agreed with DNR's suggestion to write a five-year timeline for road upgrade into the lease. This will defer that cost for the time being.

Regarding the status of the Kingsclear/Hanwell rural community proposal, we need recreation in Hanwell so it is the right thing to proceed regardless of what happens later. The lease will be assignable to a municipality, whatever form that takes in the future.



The location of the park is on the west side of Route 640, across from Eaglewood subdivision at the intersection of 640 and Eaglewood Drive .

The long-range plan includes the possibility of a combined community hall and school. We have made sure the property is zoned for that eventual use, and we will eventually engage in discussions with the District 18 Advisory Council.

Since we just want trails in the initial stage, DOE will not be requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment until further development work is undertaken in future.

A resolution to the road upgrade question had been the only issue holding up the lease. So now it should not be much longer before we have the paperwork in our hands.

Numbers to Remember



Police (non-emergency)- 357-4300

Environment (report oil, pesticide, chemical spills and other environmental emergencies) - 800-565-1633

Trius - 459-7300

NB Power (power outages) - 800-442-4424

Dog Catcher - 458-8863

Bear Sightings/wildlife concerns - 453-2345

Chalmers Hospital - 452-5400

Chimo Helpline - for those in emotional crisis - 800-667-5505

Gambling Help Line - 800-461-1234

Alcoholics Anonymous - 455-3094

Astronomy



Free public stargazing sessions are still hosted at the "Hanwell Observatory" in Eaglewood subdivision most any clear Saturday evening, where these activities are possible because there are no street lights. For directions to our site or more information, check the web site <http://stars.hanwell.nb.ca> or send an e-mail to stars@hanwell.nb.ca.

Yoho Lake Association News

by Gwen Martin <gwenmart@nbnet.nb.ca>

Lakes, like people, can die.

Several New Brunswick lakes—Baker, Chamcook and Utopia, for instance—have recently suffered a dramatic decline in water quality. Degradation of lakewater quality can affect human health and slash property values.

The Yoho Lake Association is working hard to help prevent such deterioration from happening at Yoho. Our goal is to systematically monitor the water quality at Yoho Lake, starting in spring 2012. Regular testing provides scientific data that can identify water problems before they become irreversible.

We've taken several steps to make our goal a reality. First, the Association has formed a Water Committee headed by Warren McLaughlin and Kim Lipsett. The committee is compiling a database of existing information on Yoho Lake water. It also will oversee water monitoring activities once that program begins.

Second, we have created an informal "Group of Five" that represents the Yoho, Harvey, Magaguadavic, George and Davidson lake associations. Representatives from these associations gather regularly to discuss shared approaches to effective lake stewardship.

And third, the Yoho Lake Association and other Group of Five members have applied jointly for a New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund grant. Such a grant will help us to 1) collect solid data on water quality of our lakes using proper equipment, 2) store that data with the Canadian Rivers Institute (CRI) at University of New Brunswick, and 3) spread the word about good lake stewardship practices.

The CRI has kindly agreed to store any data we gather from Yoho Lake. And the Department of Environment has provided excellent technical advice about water monitoring. We'll meet the Environment folks again soon to learn more about water standards and testing methods. With luck and a lot of work, we'll start monitoring Yoho Lake come spring.

Hanwell Local Service District

2012 Budget Summary

The following information summarizes the Hanwell LSD's 2012 budget and the major changes since 2011. Please note that you can see an expanded summary on the Hanwell LSD web site, www.hanwell.nb.ca.

The LSD budget is divided into two sections the Hanwell Street Lights and the Hanwell tax authority. This is to allow a different taxing authority to pay for the street lights in those neighbourhoods that have approved them. To have a clear picture of our tax base and budget we need to combine the two. The following is the combined amount for the whole of the LSD.

	2012	2011
Administration -	\$32,195	\$2,700
Rural Planning -	\$59,724	\$67,382
Cost of Assessment-	\$80,726	\$76,806
Fire Protection –	\$299,560	\$284,643
Dog Control –	\$13,961	\$13,848
Street Lighting –	\$43,000	\$40,000
Recreation & Community Services –	\$132,834	\$126,772
Solid Waste Management –	\$416,997	\$416,698
Deficit –	\$1,554	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$1,080,551	\$1,028,849
Non-tax Revenue –	(\$21,062)	(\$19,075)
Surplus –	(\$5,795)	(\$13,428)
Net Budget –	\$1,053,694	\$996,346
Total Grant amount –	(\$48,131)	(\$48,284)
Warrant –	(\$1,005,563)	(\$948,062)
Tax Base -	\$416,113,150	\$395,906,750

The major change in this year's budget would be in the Administration line item. This is a result of the Provincial Government's decision to cost recover the services provide to the LSD's by the Regional Service Managers and their support staff. This was announced by the Minister Bruce Fitch on November 24, 2011 where he introduced an amendment to the *Municipal Assistance Act* to place the cost of administration on the local tax rates of local service districts and rural communities that are receiving administration services from the provincial government.

RURAL PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION COMMISSION DU DISTRICT D'AMENAGEMENT RURALE

PUBLIC NOTICE

WE ARE MOVING!!!

Effective April 23, 2012 our Fredericton office will be located at 860 Prospect Street, Fredericton.

PLEASE NOTE

The office will be closed Friday, April 20th for the move and will be open for business on Monday, April 23rd at the new location.

Our new mailing and physical address for our Fredericton office is as follows:

Rural Planning District Commission
860 Prospect St
Fredericton, NB E3B 2T8
Telephone: (506) 453-2956
E-mail: rpdcruralplanning.ca
Web site: www.ruralplanning.ca
