



October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Rural Community of Hanwell would like to sincerely thank Chris Melvin for his contribution to our community over the last several years as both a councillor and Mayor. We respectfully accept his resignation as Mayor.

We assume from Mr. Melvin's public statement that his resignation has come as a result of Council's decision to enforce By-Law # 02-2014. In reference to attendance, the By-Law states that:

*Council members must attend a minimum of 80% of rural community Council meetings unless they have a valid excuse approved by the majority of Council members. Any member who attends less than 80% of rural community Council meetings shall be penalized by having an amount equal to the percentage of absences deducted from his or her salary.*

As of October of 2018, Mr. Melvin missed 5 out of 13 Council meetings, or 38%, and had advised staff that he expected to miss more. The absences were brought to Council's attention and we were left with no choice but to enforce our own by-law and passed a motion to deduct the afore mentioned percentage from Mr. Melvin's salary.

This decision was a difficult one for Council as we recognize there is more to the job of mayor than Council meetings; however, all legislative decisions are made at Council meetings, and their significance can not be understated. Council has an obligation to uphold our community's By-Laws. They are in place to protect tax payers and we feel to do otherwise would have been unfair to our residents. We can not have double standards for elected officials and the residents of our community. We ask our residents to respect our By-Laws and without question Mayor and Council has an obligation to abide by them as well. We have a standard to uphold and we believe we have done so.

We would like to offer our sincere best wishes to Chris Melvin in all his future endeavors. It saddens us that we have lost a member of our team. We want Hanwell residents to be assured that Council will continue to function as it should and move the important projects we are working on forward. Deputy Mayor Dave Morrison will assume the duties of Mayor until the position is filled in this December's upcoming by-election.

Terri L. Parker  
Clerk/Treasurer



Dave Morrison  
Deputy Mayor