

Hanwell Herald

November 2009 Newsletter of the Hanwell Local Service District Advisory Committee

www.hanwell.nb.ca

Focus on Community Development and Recreation:

- Hanwell Community Development Association Inc. pursues property
 - Request for Recreation Proposals
 - Local clubs invite participation
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Community Development Association Gears Up

In early 2007 a group of citizens in Hanwell, New Brunswick, became concerned about the lack of community parks and recreational facilities and programs in the Hanwell Local Service District (LSD). Under the current government structure it is very difficult to procure property for the benefit of the community, because the LSD is not incorporated.

The group was particularly alarmed that the Government of New Brunswick had decided to sell a parcel of land, identified as "Somerset Park" without notice to or consultation with the residents. Specifically, there was no process by which the community could purchase and develop this land for the benefit of the community, as envisioned by the original land developer.

Therefore an application was submitted under the Companies Act, and the Hanwell Community Development Association Inc. was incorporated in April 2007 as a not-for-profit company, for the purposes of acquiring and managing property for the benefit of the community. The Company has a 7-member Board of Directors.

It should be emphasized that this is an autonomous and separate body, and that local taxes are not being raised to support the Association.

GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING

**Tue Nov. 24, 2009 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
at Holy Family Catholic Church**

A need for sports fields, a community hall, and parks/trails was identified, and a 5-year strategic plan was developed in 2008. Several parcels of land have been identified as being potentially suitable parcels to further the Company's objectives.

Hanwell Community Development Association Strategic Plan

Vision

To provide the community of Hanwell with functioning recreation facilities, including a community centre, tennis courts, walking/biking trails, and playing fields within five years.

General Objectives

1. To support and facilitate the acquisition of property for the benefit of the community.
2. To oversee and manage the property for the benefit of the community.
3. To explore opportunities for the development of projects related to civic improvement and the provision of community services for the benefit of the community; and to, wherever necessary, provide leadership for the implementation and operation of those projects.

Specific objectives:

1. To obtain by purchase, lease, contract, donation or otherwise a parcel or parcels of land for the provision of community center and playing fields
2. To enter into contracts for community services
3. To obtain funding to carry out a capital program, and
4. To obtain funding for operational expenses for recreational facilities

The 5-year plan includes acquiring land, improving and developing the land, building the structure and fields, completing the grounds work and landscaping

Anyone is welcome to join the Association. For more information:

Web: <http://community.hanwell.nb.ca>
e-mail: community@hanwell.nb.ca

Hanwell Recreation Facts

- In 2004, the Hanwell LSDAC responded to an initiative by the Brookdale Recreation Assoc. to help establish a community playground on Camber Dr.
- A petition for recreation and sports facilities was forwarded to the minister to initiate the addition of that item in our annual budget.
- In December of 2004 a public meeting was held to add recreation as a line item to the Hanwell LSD budget. At that meeting residents voted overwhelmingly in favor (88%) to add recreation to the budget.
- As a result, the Hanwell LSDAC recommended that funding be approved for the park which has enabled the Brookdale Recreation Assoc. to have the soccer field leveled and play ground equipment installed.
- This park is open to all residents of the Hanwell LSD. As a result of improvements, the park has seen a significant increase in usage.
- The LSDAC also helped to develop a Hanwell Recreation Committee. The committee's mandate was to look at recreation within the Hanwell LSD. They have established funding guidelines for recreation proposals.
- In 2006 the LSDAC recommended the approval of funding for two proposals which the Recreation Committee felt met guidelines. Local Government only approved one of the requests.
- In 2006, the Hanwell LSDAC was told that the Minister of Local Government has moved away from the practice of holding land for LSDs. This practice, however, is still in place for other LSDs.
- The LSDAC was also informed that recreation funds could not be utilized to lease or rent land. It also cannot be utilized to establish an incorporated body which could hold land for the LSD. This put the LSDAC in a catch 22 position. Regardless of this, the LSDAC requested that crown land be conveyed to the LSD. Our Local Service Advisor sent a memo on March 5, 2007. To date we have not heard back from the Minister of Local Government.
- At that point, a group of concerned citizens started the process of forming an incorporated non-profit company which could hold land for the community. They have established the Hanwell Community Development Association. The Association is able to hold land for the Hanwell LSD. Its purpose is to acquire property which would benefit the community. This could be done through projects for civic improvement or to provide community services. This will be a tremendous asset for the Hanwell LSD.
- The Association identified a community hall, sports fields and trails as priorities.

Request for Hanwell Recreation Proposals

Funding is available for 2010

The Hanwell LSD Advisory Committee is inviting recreation proposals for 2010.



Proposals should be submitted to the Hanwell LSD Advisory Committee for consideration. All proposals must include a detailed business plan and sketches. If the proposal is supported by the LSDAC it will be sent to the Department of Local Government with a recommendation for approval. The Department of Local Government will make the final decision on funding.

In 2006, the Hanwell Recreation Committee developed funding guidelines for recreation proposals, and all proposals must meet these guidelines.

Proposals will need to be submitted soon in order to be considered for the 2010 budget in December. For more information please e-mail holly.hyslop@hanwell.nb.ca.

Astro Club Invites Public



The Hanwell and New Maryland Astronomy Club

is hosting public stargazing every clear Friday night, dusk to whenever, at the club's dark sky observing site on Falcon Lane in Eaglewood subdivision. This is a street-light free area. Everyone is welcome. For information visit <http://stars.hanwell.nb.ca>.

Book Club Picks

The Eaglewood book club recommends:

- The Secret Life of Bees — Sue Monk Kidd
- The Uncommon Reader — Alan Bennett
- A Map of the World — Jane Hamilton