

Municipal District of Bonnyville

Reeve's Message

2009 Year In Review

It was a busy and prosperous 2009 in the Municipal District of Bonnyville.

A late winter allowed the M.D. to rebuild 12 miles of road in contrast to the nine miles originally planned.

Also, thanks to the nicer weather, road oiling crews also went above and beyond their projected work, oiling over 25 miles of M.D. roads. This was in addition to maintaining the M.D.'s 2,600 km of roads, allowing M.D. residents and residents of neighbouring urban centres smooth roads while travelling within the M.D.

The M.D. also did some major work on upgrading infrastructure. Both the Ardmore and Fort Kent lagoons saw upgrades in 2009, including improved lift stations. This will help with future development and to take some of the pressure off of the Cold Lake and Bonnyville lagoon systems.

Work also started on the new shop, which will become home for Transportation and Utilities staff later this year.

But it wasn't just Transportation and Utilities department getting things done. Work began on the new chalet at the Kinosoo Ridge. And while the community won't be able to use it until next season, other upgrades, including a Magic Carpet lift and water lines for better snow making, were put in place and are making for a fun season at the hill. The new water lines will come in handy when the ski hill helps host the 2010 Alberta Winter Games in February. The M.D. is a major sponsor of the event, providing one-third of the funding.

The School Resource Officer program got off the ground, with two peace officers visiting local schools. The program received kudos from the Northern Lights School Division for helping increase the board's Safe and Caring Schools standards, resulting in high marks from the province. The program is offered in schools throughout the area, including the Town of Bonnyville, Glendon and Cold Lake.

Residents living in the rural areas of the M.D. received signs this year, giving them a new municipal address and making it quicker and easier for emergency services to respond to emergency situations.

Despite the economic tumble, the M.D. managed to maintain its level of support for local organizations.

Dozens of community groups in the M.D., Cold Lake and Bonnyville received thousands of dollars in funding to keep offering vital programs to the community. That was in addition to the donations to Family and Community Support Services, Regional Fire Authority, library boards, museums and affordable housing projects.

The M.D. also signed another Community Development Agreement with two urban partners – the Village of Glendon and the Town of Bonnyville, while the City of Cold Lake declined an offer of \$1 million. The money will be used to offset the costs of M.D. residents using facilities in those areas.

All in all, the M.D. had a busy year providing services for all of the residents and our urban neighbours.

Ed Rondeau
Reeve M.D. of Bonnyville