



Bayfield Ratepayers Association
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President's Final Report
BRA Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Saturday, August 2, 2014, 10 am at the Lions Building

As the President of the Bayfield Ratepayers Association (BRA) Board for the past three years and one year as a Director, I've had the benefit of the help of a number of BRA members, non-members, directors, Mayor and Councillors. My sincere thanks for all your help and support. Two that deserve special mention are "Past Director and Active Member" Paul Hill and Director Carol Thornley-Hall. Thank you!

Paul's career demands preclude his coming back on the Board but he'll continue to help as requested. Carol is now President of the Bayfield Historical Society (BHS) and is stepping off the BRA Board to focus on the BHS. We give her all our support in her new role and thank her for her work on the BRA Board.

There are many others to thank especially: Sondra Buchner for her work slowing down the traffic along the highway and all her good work with the Bayfield Tree Project, Communities in Bloom and now Blue Communities; Mayor Dowson & Councillor Geordie Palmer and our members for participating in our monthly Board Meetings.

My thanks and gratitude to Robyn McClinchey who said yes when I asked her to be our Treasurer. She always gave us good advice and always has a smile on her face.

WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED THIS YEAR:

We've attended / participated in:

- Bi-Monthly Council Meetings
- Arena Meetings
- Rural Stormwater Management Workshops
- Bayfield and Area Revitalization Meetings - Main Street

- ABCA (Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority) Landowners Meetings
- Planting water hungry plants in the watershed.
- Blue Flag Management Committee's Public Meeting.
- Won a prize at Soup's On.

Other:

- Held monthly open Board Meetings with minutes, reports and letters posted on our new web site.
- Held a Spring General Membership Meeting.
- Kept in touch with members through our gmail account.
- When Council decided to remove the ice, we canvassed members and submitted a report to Council on members' wishes for the future of the Arena.
- Initiated and partnered with the ABCA & the Huron County Health Unit to hold a Brain-storming Workshop of interested parties working on improving local watershed water quality.
- Successfully submitted a Bayfield River Water Testing Grant Proposal to the Municipality of Bluewater.
- Sondra Buchner set up separate meetings with MPP Lisa Thompson and the Chief of Police for us to discuss our Community Safety Zone Application Submission. Lisa Thompson is very supportive. The Chief of Police is not for it or against it, he has a neutral position. We continue to seek a response from the new Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, The Honourable Yasir Naqvi.
- Prepared a report on how our taxes are being spent.

There are a number of significant issues for the BRA and Village now. First, that past BRA Presidents form a temporary Board while we reach out to the community to form a new Board. I'm very pleased to let you know that former BRA Presidents' Dave MacLaren, Roma Harris and Bill Rowat have agreed to form a BRA Transitional Board along with me to search for new Board Members. We need to continue our participation in the Bayfield Main Street Reconstruction Design Project Advisory Team (PAT). We want to continue to honour its history, respect its simplicity but make Main St. work in today's world. The October municipal election is shaping up to be an exciting race to the finish line. It's important that we give all our candidates an opportunity to speak with us and answer our questions. Our future is in the winners' hands.

It has been a pleasure to represent the BRA members for the past three years as your President. I look forward to welcoming a new Board.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ainslie Willock
BRA President 2011 - 2014