

Mayor's Muse: Mayor Lorne Mann's biweekly column

Congratulations to Ann Palmer on her 101st Birthday last week...she was out and about having a Birthday lunch with her many friends and family, and I gave her all our congratulations and respect.

Mayor and Deputy Mayor were requested to read to the future community leaders at the Sugar Plum Day Care. I now know the demographic where we have 100 per cent support and acceptance, look up "sooo cute" in a dictionary and you will see the class pictures from there.

The first "Professional" gymnastic performance occurred at the "tba" Gymnastics gym facility, where while on an impromptu tour of this "amazing building". I pulled off a handstand captured on camera, and was awarded a 9.9 from one Judge.

Building permits total in 2011- \$25 million, 2012 \$30 million...this does not count projects that are shovel ready but not at permit stage yet. Permits in 2011 before election of this Council in October \$ 7 million (down from \$21 million in 2007 de election year). We expect to fund growth through revenue from growth...and that is what is happening.

Council, 7 people, have but one employee it can direct...that is the CAO who holds that responsibility 24-7 365 days a year. The total assessment value of TPR is approaching 1 Billion dollars, staff # on my return had risen from 43 to 75 (exclusive of contracted services) and was effectively taking up the entire property tax. The first run capital budget was \$20.3 million, the first run operating budget was \$15.5 million. I had one CAO that took TPR to award winning status for first 9 years in office, de-elected 2007 group had 4,... we hired one- until Kelly Bunn interviewed with 4 Councillors who unlike 3 did not walk out on their sworn duties.

As an elected official, having put myself out to the public for voter choice in 7 Municipal elections, I well know that part of the turf is to be thick skinned about fair comment, and while that gives wide berth there is a DUTY to correct falsehoods, and protect Corporation and all those who work there and all those whom it serves. (Alberta Press Council Code of Practice 1 accuracy, 2 opportunity to reply, 4 balance, 5 forum for reply where Journalism of opinion where


opposed to editorial position)

I have as Mayor and Councillor sworn the oath 6 times, and my professional & personal reputation & livelihood of my family and staff depend on honouring the oath of office. It is made difficult when right to timely or at all, respond not allowed in face of outrageous falsehoods made before, recanted as lies, and now again excreted. I do not charge for Town meetings, but do receive a monthly honorarium of less than 2 hours of my day job... and am proud to thus serve you, and am a rather large taxpayer.

Previous Council passed a bylaw that said the Mayor "or the Mayor's chosen designate" is the ONLY spokesperson on behalf of the Town Corporation. And that once decisions are made the entire council gets behind the majority decision.

This weekend was likely the busiest 2 days in the 50 + year history of the Peace River Ski Club! Two of the coolest sights were a large group of snowshoers heading up on the chairlift, as well as Erin Steele!!

Mayor Lorne Mann, QC




NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED BYLAW NO. B219/13**

Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 of the Statutes of Alberta, notice is hereby given that the Council of Northern Sunrise County will hold a public hearing prior to the second reading of Bylaw No. B219/13 for an amendment to the Northern Sunrise County Land Use Bylaw B88/02.

Amendment to the Northern Sunrise County Land Use Bylaw B88/02, that land within SW-28-81-20-W5M; Plan 1222064; Block 2; Lot 1 as shown on attached Schedule A be redesignated from Agricultural District 1 (A1) to Rural Recreational District (RR).



The Public Hearing is to be held on **February 11, 2013 at 10:30 am** in the Council Chambers at the Northern Sunrise County office. Information regarding this proposed bylaw may be viewed at the Northern Sunrise County office during regular work hours, Monday to Friday from 8:15am to 4:30pm, or on the Northern Sunrise County website at www.northernsunrise.net. Please forward written submissions to the Director of Engineering, Planning and Development no later than noon on February 7th 2013.

If you have any questions regarding the hearing please call the County office at: (780) 624-0013.



TOWN OF PEACE RIVER

9911-100 Street, Peace River, Alberta
780-624-2574 • Website: www.peaceriver.net
Email: info@peaceriver.net



Snow Angels
THE NEIGHBOURLY THING TO DO.

We live in Northern Alberta and snow is no stranger to Peace River residents. When it snows, town crews clear our roadways and property owners clear their sidewalks, all in an effort to keep Peace River moving. But for some Peace River residents, particularly seniors and persons with disabilities, moving snow can be difficult and dangerous. They need your help—they need a **SNOW ANGEL**.

About Snow Angels
Snow Angels is an awareness and recognition program encouraging Peace River residents to help a neighbor in need by shoveling snow for them and to acknowledge those kind volunteers as a Town of Peace River Snow Angel.


Why Volunteer?
Keep our Town safe and accessible
Snow that remains on sidewalks is hazardous for everyone, but especially for people with limited mobility who may be severely injured from a fall on ice or snow. Un-cleared walkways also make it difficult for people who deliver services in our town—mail carriers, meter readers, delivery drivers, firefighters and paramedics. Watch out for the people in your neighborhood who could use help shoveling their sidewalks and driveways and ask if you can lend a hand.

To Nominate:
Please visit the Town of Peace River website to print the Nomination Application Form at www.peaceriver.net. Snow Angels will then receive a recognition certificate and a special thank you from the Town of Peace River in appreciation for their kindness. For more information about the program please call 780 624-1000.

FREE PUBLIC SKATING

The Town of Peace River Community Service Department is pleased to announce that **Public Skating** on February 3, 2013 at the Baytex Energy Centre is being sponsored by AUPE (Alberta Union of Public Employees).

Public Skating will start at 5:00 PM and conclude at 8:30 PM. So sharpen your skates, tell your friends, and plan on having some fun at the Baytex Energy Centre during Public Skating sponsored by AUPE (Alberta Union of Public Employees).





Mental Health First Aid CANADA

Mental health concerns often first develop during adolescence or early adulthood, with half of all mental disorders beginning by age 14, with 75 percent beginning by age 24. The earlier the concern is identified and treated, the better the outcome.

If your child had a broken leg, you wouldn't hesitate to rush them to the hospital for help. Why should your loved one's mental health be any different?

If you think your loved one may be showing signs of depression, anxiety or possible mental crisis but you're just not sure how to help them, this session will give you the tools to be a comforting and knowledgeable support for them in their time of need.

Who can attend the workshop?
Anyone who is concerned about the mental and emotional wellbeing of a youth; whether you are a parent, caregiver, family member or concerned adult.

What skills will you gain by taking the workshop?
Mental Health First Aid for those Who Interact with Youth is a 14 hour course specific to issues affecting youth, aged 12 to 24. The program does not teach people how to be therapists. It does teach people how to:

- Recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health problems in those you care about
- Guide your loved ones towards appropriate professional help

FREE Evening Sessions in Peace River
February 4th, 6th, 11th and 13th, 2013 • 5:30pm - 8:00pm
At Peace River High School
Registrants must attend all four sessions.
To register, please contact Peace River FCSS at 780-624-1000 (before February 1st, 2013).
This workshop is a partnership initiative provided by:







TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS - TIME CHANGE

Please note that Town of Peace River Council meetings will now commence at 5.30pm. Regular Meetings generally take place on the second and fourth Monday of the month and Committee of the Whole Meetings generally on the first Monday of the month. Meetings take place at Council Chambers in the Town Office and are open to the public.