

CAO Corner

Council has taken their first hard look at the 2020 budget with an anticipated decrease in assessment first reductions in expenditures have been to legislative allowances for mileage and subsistence. In the past Council has budgeted \$2000 per Councillor and have come in well under. A hard look was taken at water and wastewater consumption rates. The mandate of Council has been to have these services offered at a full cost recovery however we ended 2019 with a deficit of approximately \$22,000 in full cost recovery as our metered water sales were down 10,000 cubic meters from 2018. In 2018 we ended the year only in a \$7,000 deficit for full cost recovery. 2019 was a tough year, as the early part of the year we had numerous water bibs going due to the water main freeze on 52nd street. So far for 2020 with the water freeze ups have been significantly reduced and the new infrastructure has helped with this for the residents on 52nd street and 50th avenue. Water and wastewater consumption and infrastructure service fees are scheduled to increase 7% for water and 4% for wastewater (sewer). Along with infrastructure charges to increase 4.5% for water and 5% for wastewater (sewer). Council therefore decided to hold any further projected increases for these services at this time. While awaiting their final assessment numbers to roll in before another look is taken at budgetary numbers.

In 2019 Council budgeted for the replacement of one public works vehicle and proceeded with this replacement in January with the purchase of a new 2019 Chev 1500 Silverado 4X4 which will replace a 2004 GMC 1500 Sierra 4X4 with 300,000+km's for \$36,887. One further capital upgrade is scheduled for 2020 which is the replacement of another fleet vehicle with another used low mileage vehicle.

Council reviewed a draft proposed Tax Incentive Bylaw which would provide property tax incentives for Non-Residential property. Council is taking the draft document to the public for input on criteria, to be brought back at the February 11th, 2020 Council meeting for further considerations.

With the modernization of the Municipal Government Act, in April 2018 all municipalities must adopt an intermunicipal collaboration framework (ICF) with each municipality they share a common border with. For the Town of Hardisty, we enter into an ICF with Flagstaff County. This process commenced in January with two appointed elected officials to meet with two appointment elected officials from Flagstaff County along with their Chief Administrative Officers. The purpose of the

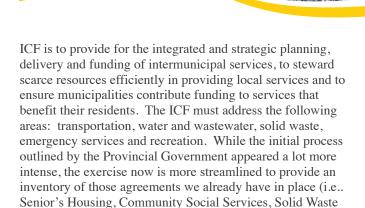
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Church service & Sunday school at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

Spaghetti supper and auction April 6 in the Community Hall; watch for posters!

Town wide garage sale and pancake breakfast June 13. Breakfast at Elks Hall





Management, and the soon to be new Regional Fire Services

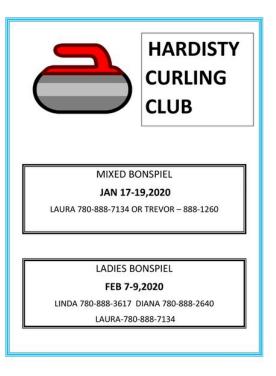
Society) and perhaps agree to review in the future.

The recent announcement sent to the Town on January 23rd, 2020 of the proposed motion by the Battle River School Division (BRSD) to close the Allan Johnstone School effective the end of this school year have members of Council along with the community analyzing the effects on the Town and school age families. AJS Parent Advisory along with the Hardisty & District Business Development Group are looking at options and scenarios that could be proposed to BRSD in consultation with the community. February 6th @ 7:00pm, Hardisty Community Hall is an open house organized by the Hardisty & District Development Group to listen and discuss effects of the proposed school closure. While February 7th @ 7:00pm, Hardisty Community Hall, the AJS Parent Advisory Council are hosting a guest speaker called the "Prairie Principal" who has helped other small rural communities in Alberta go through these same proposed motions of other Alberta school boards. February 12th, @ 7:00pm, Allan Johnstone School – Gym, BRSD will be hosting an information session for the community and parents of AJS children. The proposed motion of BRSD will be debated and voted on at the March 19th, 2020 Board Meeting. During these trying economical times, provincial funding cutbacks, reduced population size, decreased assessment bases for local governments, having these important discussions and community involvement makes us work better together.

On a positive note, the Hardisty Toddler's Inn Playschool is hosting their Annual "Ladies Night Out" February 22nd at the Hardisty Community Hall. Brittany and her parent crew are planning an evening of "Girl's Just Wanna Have Fun", hot appy's, shopping via local home based vendor tables, raffle table, beverage bar and local trivia for entertainment. Call Anj (780)888-7525 for your tickets.

"When you face difficult times, know that challenges are not sent to destroy you. They are sent to promote, increase, and strengthen you." – Unknown.







Board of Trustees Battle River School Division

BRSD Board votes to consider closure or consolidation of schools



Faced with ongoing budget challenges, caused in large part by declining rural school populations, the Battle River School Division Board of Trustees passed a series of motions at their January 23 meeting that will allow them to consider the possible closure or consol some of the Division's smaller schools, effective June 30, 2020.

The Board voted to consider-

- Closure of Allan Johnstone School in Hardisty;
- Closure of Round Hill School:
- Relocating Grades 10 to 12 from Ryley School and consolidating Holden School and Ryley School into one K to 9 school site.

Over the next two months, the school division will compile and consider information on the potential implications of these changes and share information with families at public meetings, as well as invite input either in writing or through a presentation to the Board.

- Public meetings will take place at:

 Allan Johnstone School, on Wednesday, February 12 at 7 p.m.
- Round Hill School on Thursday, February 6 at 7 p.m.
- Holden School, on Monday, February 10 at 7 p.m.

As Board Chair Norm Erickson said at the January 23 meeting, these are not decisions that will be made lightly.

"We've been watching the enrollments of these schools; we've been considering a wide range of actions that will help us address our budget shortfall; and we've been listening to our stakeholders input to the online consultation process. There are lot of difficult decisions to make. We have to put all options on the table for consideration."

The Board will vote on whether or not to proceed with these closures and consolidations on Thursday, March 19.

These deliberations are likely only the beginning of possible changes to educational services Battle River School Division will make for next year.

Ph. 780-672-6131 ext. 5248: Cell 780-806-6632: dhutrhin

Vice Choir: Karen Belich ogstoff County East: Laurie Skori West: Jeff Kimball Administration Rita Marier Natasha Wilm istont Supt, Bu

The Board of Trustees

Inter- Municipal Assessment Review Board (ARB)

IS SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS

If you would be interested in serving on the ARB and feel that you are able to meet the following If you would be interested in serving on the AHB and feel that you are able to meet the following eligibility and fine commitment requirements, please submit a letter of interest and a resume to: Inter-Municipal Assessment Review Board co Town of Hardisty PO Box 10 Hardisty, AB. 70B 1V0 Fax: 780-889-2200 Email: IARB.clerk@hardisty.ca

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- EUGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
 A member of the Inter-Municipal Assessment Review Board must successfully complete a training program. A member of the Inter-Municipal Review Board should have:

 A personal history of acting ethically and with integrity
 An understanding of the principles of administrative law and natural justice
 The ability to participate in hearings with an open mind making decisions in a fair and unbiased manner
 The ability to write in plain language
 Excellent analytical and reasoning skills
 The ability to speak in public and communicate effectively with parties to the appeal
 Demonstrable ability to read, understand and apply complex plans, the Municipal
 Government Act and other pertinent Acts

TIME COMMITMENT

- m is three years

- The term is three years
 Complaints can only be submitted within 60 days of assessment notices being mailed and hearings are scheduled after that term has expired
 Meetings can be held during business hours or in the evening, whichever time frame better suits the majority board members
 Board members are expected to read the hearing materials prior to the meetings

TRAINING

Training is coordinated and provided by Alberta Municipal Board

Lardisty Toddlers Inn Presents

- ARB Members are required to attend training sessions
 Training sessions are three days in length and will require travel to a training session as scheduled by the Province of Alberta

REMUNERATION

- Remuneration is provided for meeting attendance
 Reimbursement for travel expenses and out of pocket expenses directly related to hearings or training sessions is provided

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Theme Hardisty Handivan

is looking for drivers for the Handivan. Drivers are required to have Class 4, 2 or 1 to be eligible to drive. The drivers are paid an honorarium for driving.

> Anyone interested can contact Wilf Buelow, Belva Dosdall or Anita Miller.





Local Trivia Entertainment

Party!!

"Hot Appy's" *Sweet Shopping* "Raffle table" *Bar*



Tickets: \$45 at the door Buy in advance \$40 or \$280/table E-transfer: hardistytoddlersinn@gmail.com

Please leave a memo when sending e-transfer

Any questions Call Anj-888-7525

FEBRUARY 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Ladies Bonspiel	8	9
10 W	11 Coucil meeting @ 7 p.m.	12 Hardisty Market	13	14 Valentines Day	15	16
17 Family Day	18	19	20	21	22 Toddlers Inn Party	23
24 W	25	26	27	28	29 Leap Day	

LEGEND



Curb-side Gargbage Pick-up



Hardisty Fire Department Meeting



Hardisty Library Open



Hardisty Bottle Depot Open



Bingo at Elk's Hall

Would you like to see your event listed in our newsletter and our website or announced on our Facebook and Twitter accounts?

Email upcoming events to **marketing@hardisty.ca** no later than the 29th of the preceding month.

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Website: www.hardisty.ca Phone: 780-888-3623 Fax: 780-888-2200



HARDISTY THRIFT SHOP

The Hardisty Thrift Shop is open five days a week to serve the community and surrounding area.

CLOSED Mondays

OPEN Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.,

Tuesday evening 7 - 9:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Seniors FIRST with FFCS

Thursday, February 6th 10:00 a.m. - Noon FFCS will be in Hardisty at the Town Office to assist Senior Citizens.

COFFEE TIME

Monday to Friday 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. At the Seniors Drop In Center