

TOWN OF GRAND COULEE

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Upcoming Events

February 8

Committee of the Whole @ 6:30

February 14

Town Council Meeting @7:30

February 18

Paint Night at 7:00, Town Hall

February 20

Office will be closed in recognition of Family Day

February 21

Recycling pick up date

MAYOR WALLY BOTKIN'S MESSAGE

I am taking this opportunity to send a massive thank you to all of you in the Town of Grand Coulee for making 2016 such a successful year!

By any measure our town had a tremendously successful 2016. Thanks to hard work of community members and local businesses we have made strides in the development of our community. There are still issues that need addressed and council is excited about improvements that will be made.

2016 was a busy year. A heartfelt thank you to our committees who volunteered countless hours towards the improvement of our town. The Grand Coulee Rec Board undertook a large project in building a new shack as well as an outdoor rink. This addition to our town will be enjoyed by our residents for years to come. It is a joy to see children enjoy this new venue and on behalf of the town I wish to express gratitude to the committee.

The MR2 Park Committee fundraised and organized the purchase and installation of a new park for the town. It is heartwarming to see how the new park/playground equipment brought joy to the faces of the children. The MR2 Park Committee as well as the town can be proud of this accomplishment for years to come.

As with years past the Harvest Hoe Down was a tremendous success. This doesn't occur without hard work and dedication of many people. This event is viewed as one of the town's highlights of the year. Event attendance was incredible as was the fellowship that was displayed by our community.

So what about 2017?

As a council we are looking forward to development of a 4-year strategic plan for the town. Once this process has been completed council will host a "Meet and Greet" event where we can further share this plan with you. This event will be an opportunity to meet each other and provide information so you can understand the direction our town will be moving in.

It is our hope that we can facilitate new events and programs to help foster a sense of connection and community. If you have an idea contact the town administrator or a member of the town council and share your idea. We are lucky to live in a community such as ours that continues to offer the traditional charm of small town living in an ever changing world.

With so much to look forward to I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

TOWN OFFICE

Tobi Duck – Administrator

**Brenda Appleton –
Administrative Assistant**

**Jim Pratt – Public Works
Foreman**

Don Einarson – Public Works

**OFFICE HOURS – Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday and
Friday 9AM to 4:00 PM; closed
from noon to 1:00 PM**

**Thursday 9 AM to 5:00 PM;
closed from noon to 1:00 PM**

Ask the Administrator

My water/sewer bill seems really high. What could be some of the reasons?

The town does not have its own water supply. As such we purchase our water from SaskWater who purchases the water from the City of Regina. Ultimately, it is the City of Regina that is the starting point. Once the yearly water rate is set from the City of Regina, shared with SaskWater and passed onto the town, our town council reviews all revenue/expenses associated with maintaining our water/sewer system and services within the town as well as having a small financial reserve in the event of an emergency or unforeseen expense related to water/sewer.

Expenses include costs related to daily testing to ensure quality, infrastructure costs, a percentage of public works salary, equipment and utilities. Water and sewer rates for residents are based on these factors. In Grand Coulee, we have a base rate which every resident pays regardless of how much water they use. In 2016 these rates were \$20 per month for water and \$35 per month for sewer. Actual usage rates also applied.

Given these factors, if you still feel your water/sewer bill is high, you might want to do some exploration on your own to determine the cause. Some possibilities are:

1. A slow drip from a kitchen/bathroom facet;
2. A slow leak in a toilet;
3. If you submit your own water readings, was the reading accurate;
4. Are there seasonal adjustments to your usage (many people use more water in the summer than in the winter)
5. Did you have company over the time period in question that would raise water usage?

I guess it is probably safe to say that costs associated with water and sewer are more complicated than what it might initially seem. If you would like to discuss your water bill, please give the office a call.



In the Community

Paint Night at the Community Hall

WHEN: Saturday, Feb 18th @7:00 PM

WHERE: Grand Coulee Community Hall

WHY: Make it a late Valentine's date, a fun girls' night out, get out and have some fun and meet some other great people from our community. Support the Grand Coulee Preschool.

TICKETS: contact

grandcouleepreschool@gmail.com

Yoga

Tuesdays from 10 – 11:15 there is yoga happening in the community hall. Please contact Lesley Farley at farmerfarley73@yahoo.ca for further information

Sparks and Brownies

Sparks and Brownies meet each Thursday from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Community Hall. Your daughter is welcome to join at any time. Please contact Courtney at courtneyridgway@hotmail.com for further information

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTHLY WATER METER READINGS (CHANGE TO CURRENT PRACTICE)

The town's current practice regarding monthly water/sewer readings is to have actual readings rather than estimates. These readings are received direct from residents and/or the public works staff accesses water meters to collect the readings. The town is implementing changes to this practice.

Starting January, actual readings will occur every three months. Should you prefer to have actual readings, it will be your responsibility as a homeowner to either **phone or email** your reading to us by the 29th of each month.

WEDNESDAYS ARE DESIGNATED ROADWORK DAYS

Every Wednesday will now be dedicated to community road work. That may include road grading, applying aggregate or removing snow. **Please move your vehicles from town roads on Tuesday nights** to help our Public Works employees effectively maintain our roads. If there is emergent road work requiring attention other than the designated day, it will get looked after.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A meeting date for the Committee of the Whole is scheduled for February 8, 2017 at 6:30 in Council Chambers. The meeting is open to any interested residents.

