

# 2017

## Annual General Meeting Summary of Results



**Presented to**

**Brazeau County Council**

*September 5, 2017*

*Annual General Meeting Feedback ~*

*Summary of Results*

# Annual General Meeting Feedback Summary of Results

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Brazeau County Council hosted two annual general meetings this year; the first taking place on June 27, 2017 in Council Chamber and the second at the Lindale Community Hall on June 28, 2017. The purpose of these meetings was to come together with residents in an informal, social manner over a meal of beef on a bun.

The meeting was chaired by Brazeau County Reeve, Bart Guyon, who introduced his Council members to those in attendance. Residents had an opportunity to ask a range of questions based on the information presented. This report is a summary of those findings.

Thirty community members came out to the AGM meetings, which represents .004% of the total Brazeau County population of 7,771; down 25% from 2016 AGM meeting attendance. This is a positive indication that the majority of the population are satisfied with service delivery of the current Council and Administration.

## Common themes of discussions (in no particular order)

- Weed control
- Road maintenance and priorities



Attendance at a past AGM meeting, similar to the ones hosted this year. We appreciate our residents who take the time to enter into engaging and insightful dialogue.

## 2017 Annual General Meeting Questions & Answers

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**QUESTION: Do we have custom spraying companies within Brazeau County and if so, do we have a list?**

**ANSWER**

*Brazeau County has a list of approved contractors we make available when we receive inquiries from the public. Residents can contact the companies directly about custom spraying.*

**QUESTION: In 2014-2015, TWP 494 off RR62 Road was to be paved and widened. What ever happened with that?**

**ANSWER**

*According to Brazeau County's 10-year Capital Plan, this segment of road is not up for paving, however, the section between RR52 and HWY 759 should be asphalt overlaid once culvert replacement is completed in 2017. 2018 budget discussions will determine if overlay indeed will be undertaken in 2018 or beyond.*

**QUESTION: At last year's meeting we had a discussion on how the grader operators are not grading our roads properly. We felt they needed more training on how to grade roads. We were also told by some of the operators that the County has told them not to dig in with the blades so much as they would wear down faster. Has the County changed their practices since last year? We have heard nothing. We feel nothing has been done as they are continually grading wrong!**

**ANSWER**

*Our grader operators are receiving on-going training in 2017 and attending external courses which will further add to their experience profile in grading roads and driveways. Grader operations along certain road segments are incorporating "blade dig in", where so required.*

**QUESTION: Are the County towers being taxed as commercial?**

ANSWER

*Brazeau County towers are exempt from taxation as they are municipal infrastructure. Tenants co-locating on the tower may be taxed depending on the wording of the lease agreement. At this time, we do not have any tenant agreements in place that would be subject to taxation.*

**QUESTION: Are the residents being subsidized to haul their sewage to other places due to the lagoon closure in Birchwood?**

ANSWER

*Yes, rebates for sewage hauling in 2015: \$80 and 2016: \$1,920.*

**QUESTION: Will Brazeau County place signage at Modeste Campground, ‘do not swim in the creek’? Check the rental contract that people sign when they rent the campsite and see if it is written in there so people know.**

ANSWER

*Currently Brazeau County does not regulate the use of Modeste Creek. Modeste Creek and all bodies of water (as defined by the Province) belong to the crown. It is the Province’s jurisdiction to determine the use of bodies of water. The rental agreement details the applicable bylaws and regulations for the use of the group campground.*

**QUESTION: Resident references minutes from a previous Council meeting where a member of Administration said they changed a policy.....how can Administration change a policy?**

ANSWER

*Need clarity on which policy and which item is being referenced. Administration does not have the force and power to change policy, Council does.*

**QUESTION: Request the Agriculture Services Board (ASB) to include acreages on the rebate program for weeds. Also will acreage owners be able to buy the same kind of spray as farmers?**

**ANSWER**

*Under current legislation acreage owners, being 20 acres or less, are not able to purchase most of the herbicides that are available to farmers unless they have a pesticide applicator certificate. The Province is evaluating the situation. Options for acreage owners are expected to become available soon. The County is monitoring the Province's progress.*

**QUESTION: Is Brazeau County going to be spraying environmental reserves (ERs)?**

**ANSWER**

*In most cases Environmental Reserve (ER) are adjacent to water bodies. There is legislation that restricts us from spraying close to water. In most cases we will not be spraying herbicides in ERs.*

**QUESTION: Is Brazeau County contracting out to the Town again for weed control?**

**ANSWER**

*We have a contract with the Village of Breton and the Town of Drayton Valley to inspect for weeds. Any weed control or enforcement work is the responsibility of Breton or Drayton Valley.*