



TOWN HALL NEWSLETTER

August 2012

NEWS RELEASE

July 12, 2012 Espanola, Ontario

Survey Tallies 2012 State of the Community

The strengths, weaknesses and community priorities for the Town of Espanola are identified in the findings of a recent public opinion survey.

The survey was conducted by Oraclepoll Research Limited for the Town of Espanola in April 2012 to launch the Town's strategic planning process. A total of 425 randomly selected residents and 30 businesses were surveyed.

Council and municipal staff agree the survey has provided an unbiased and representational assessment of services.

"According to the findings the most important issues to our residents are taxes, the provision of activities for youth and the maintenance of water and sewer services," explains Mayor Lehoux. "This survey provides a fair community barometer for staff and Council to ensure our top community concerns are understood, addressed and remain a priority in our strategic planning."

Other key findings conclude, the most liked aspect of living in Espanola remains its size or the small town feel at 33%, followed by the related topic that it is quiet / peaceful, 11%, that it has nice friendly people, 9%, that everything is in close proximity, 9% and the benefits of the outdoors, 7%.

"We are pleased with the results of the 2012 Oracle Poll. The report is a good working tool for staff and Council to assess our services and track community priorities. The poll will be referenced in our ongoing work to ensure that Espanola remains the community that people are proud to call home." stated Lehoux.

The complete report, the 2012 State of the Community survey is available for download on the Municipal website at www.espanola.ca or by contacting the municipal office.

For more information please contact:

Cynthia Townsend, Clerk Treasurer/Administrator

Town of Espanola

100 Tudhope Street, Suite 2

Espanola, On P5E 1S6

Tel: 705-869-1540

Email: ctownsend@town.espanola.on.ca

CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS

Phase II of the Light Industrial Park Expansion includes the construction of a new road from McCulloch Drive to Panache Lake Road. Council would like your help to name this road.

Submission forms are available at www.espanola.ca or at the Municipal Office. Nominations must be submitted at the Municipal Office by dropping off your submission form in person, email to town@town.espanola.on.ca or fax to (705) 869-0083 by **Wednesday, September 5, 2012** to be considered.

Council

Mayor Mike Lehoux
P 705-869-8263

Deputy Mayor Jill Beer
P 705-862-7445

Councillor Robert Fairbairn
P 705-869-4283

Councillor Timothy Howard
P 705-869-6339

Councillor Marleen McMaster
P 705-869-4858

Councillor Jack McMillan
P 705-862-7762

Councillor Stewart Meikleham
P 705-869-6988
C 705-869-7975

Council Meetings

Council meetings are open to the public, and held the second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month (excluding the months of July and August) at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

All individuals or groups requesting an opportunity to make a presentation to Council must do so in writing, a copy of the subject matter should be included and submitted to the Clerk not later than 12:00 noon on the Wednesday preceding regular meetings of Council.

Full Council meeting agendas are posted on the municipal website Monday preceding regular meetings of Council by noon. www.espanola.ca

Special meetings are called as needed and notice is posted at the municipal office and on the municipal website.

During the months of July and August there is only one Council meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

NEWS FROM MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

Phase 1E of the Infrastructure Renewal Program

It is anticipated that this project will be completed by mid-September, achieving council's commitment of replacing approximately 4.4km of 100mm unlined cast iron pipes. These pipes were some of the oldest pipes in the community, were a contributing source of the brown water problem; and did not meet Fire Code Standards.

Phase 2 of the Light Industrial Park

The expansion project has been awarded to Terra North and is expected to commence mid-August, being completed in late fall. This project will develop 10 additional lots, (5 of which have been sold) providing economic growth opportunities as well as a new access road off Highway 6 to facilitate transportation of goods and services.

Mead Street Culvert Replacement at Black Creek

The replacement of the Mead St culvert will commence in August. Currently the culvert is operating at approximately 50-60% capacity.

This culvert is of significant importance to the community because of the infrastructure in this area. Surrounding infrastructure includes the main water line and force main of the water treatment plant as well as the gas line.

Further deterioration, significant rainfalls and spring thaws could result in the loss of the road to erosion causing potential damage or breakage of essential infrastructure around the culvert.

Community Economic Development

Espanola Revitalization Plan

Staff will be submitting a final application to both FEDNOR and NOHFC to access funding for the creation of the Espanola Revitalization Plan. The Espanola Revitalization Plan (ERP) is a multi-faceted approach that will be reaching out to address numerous deficiencies within the community including; downtown/highway corridor revitalization, streamlining development permit system, establishing grants/loans for business attraction/downtown renewal, tax increment grant system for housing developments that address the seniors/affordable housing shortage. Community Economic Development Officer, Colin Wilson has been consulting with provincial and federal agencies about the implementation and creation of this innovative and unique project, and foresees the project occurring after the completion of the new Strategic Plan.

New Town Commercials and Social Media Presence

With a renewed shift in the residential marketing campaign, and focus on the "quality of place", Town Staff are striving to create vibrant, innovative and authentic portraits of the residents and businesses of Espanola. Currently, there are three new commercials that are airing across Northern Ontario on CTV, and will be available on the Town website, www.espanola.ca and YouTube channel.

Fire Chief Urges Fire Safety during Power Outages

Espanola – August 2, 2012

During extended power outages, residents must take extra care when using alternative lighting, cooking and heating equipment.

The Espanola Fire Department is reminding the public that electrically-connected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms will not work when the power is out.

“Homeowners should ensure they have battery-operated smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms to provide early warning of fire and carbon monoxide,” said Mike Pichor, Fire Chief. “During a power outage, families should make sure electric stove elements and small appliances are OFF or unplugged to prevent fires from starting when the electricity is restored.”

The Espanola Fire Department reminds everyone that the Ontario Fire Code requires smoke alarms to be installed on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas. This includes cottages, cabins and recreational vehicles.

Failure to comply with this law can result in a ticket for \$235 or a fine of up to \$50,000.

For more information contact:

Mike Pichor, Fire Chief
mpichor@town.espanola.on.ca
592 Second Ave.
Espanola, ON
P5E 1C4

P 705-869-3888

For more information about these projects contact Colin Wilson at ecdev@town.espanola.on.ca or 705 -869-1961 ext 2204.

Espanola Public Library

CNIB Partners Program

Anyone who has difficulty using printed books due to visual, physical or conceptual problems, can use CNIB library materials at Espanola Public Library.



Get Books and Audio Books Delivered to You

If you can't come to the library, the library can come to you! Volunteers will select and deliver books and audio books. Phone 705-869-2940 for more information.

Building Department

As of January 1, 2012, houses and other small residential buildings must comply with the new energy efficiency requirements set out in the Building Code.

Under these new requirements, the energy efficiency of houses and other small residential buildings that are intended for occupancy on a continuing basis during the winter months must have a performance level that is equal or better than EnerGuide80 or conform to Supplementary Standard SB-12.

For more information on these requirements, please contact the Building Department at 705-869-6078.

Administration Department

Did you know the 2012 budget contains payments to...?

Ministry of Education - \$1,403,463

Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board - \$1,164,457

Sudbury & District Health Unit - \$174,388

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation - \$66,320

These payments represent 27% of your overall property tax bill for which the municipality has no control.

Public Works Department

The Municipal Athletic Fields are available to rent to public and private organizations; the Town of Espanola promotes and encourages participation in field sports which contributes to the overall benefit of the community.

It is the Town's policy that fields must be booked through the Public Works Department. Please refer to Bylaw No. 2133/08 at www.espanola.ca for more information.

Provincial Offences

Espanola has several community safety zones. If you are stopped for speeding in these specific zones, did you know that the set fines are doubled? Be aware of your surroundings, your speed and pay attention to the road.

Police Services

Increased drug enforcement and prevention has been a key focus for the Espanola Police Service. The Espanola Police Service has taken a more proactive approach to drug enforcement and prevention in a way that has never been done before in our community. We are currently part of a Joint Force Operation (JFO) which includes the Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau, the OPP Sudbury Drug Enforcement Unit, United Chiefs and Councils of Manitoulin (UCCM), Little Current OPP, Wikwemikong Tribal Police Service, Parry Sound OPP and the Espanola Police Service.

The primary goal of the JFO is to investigate drug related incidents in the region, but most importantly to target drug dealers and suppliers. By nature, drug activity is not limited to a small jurisdiction like Espanola. Drug networks cross borders and boundaries making drug problems in a town/city a regional issue, as oppose to a municipal one.

The following are statistics from the Drug Enforcement Unit as it relates to Espanola from January 2012 - May 2012:

- Number of people arrested for drug related offences: 43
- Number of charges laid: 138
- Value of drugs seized: \$378,678
- Drug money seized: \$33,270
- Value of offence related property seized: \$69,870



COMMUNITY EVENTS

"LORAX" Gigantic Outdoor Family Movie

Thursday August 23rd @ the Rec Complex Track & Field! Sundown (approx 8:30pm) bring your own chair or blankets. Admission/adults \$5 children free when accompanied by a parent or guardian. The Complex Canteen will be open.

START PUMPKIN PLANNING NOW!

Be part of the celebration! Plan An Event & Promote Your Organization, or Business. Run The Largest Pumpkin Contest, Create A Pumpkin Carving Activity, Plan To Decorate Your Business, Organize The Best Pumpkin Pie Of The Year Contest, Host A Scarecrow Making Event.

Submit your event for inclusion in the Community Schedule by September 30th. Email Community In Motion Coordinator at cimcoordinator@town.espanola.on.ca.

SCARECROWS WANTED

Create a scarecrow to represent your organization or business. Drop it off at the Complex by September 30th to be a part of the Pumpkin Power Celebration community décor!

ESPANOLA ON ICE!

Ice rentals, public skating and shinny times available starting August 20th, contact the Recreation Complex at 705 869-1961 or visit www.espanola.ca.

POOL SCHEDULE CANCELLATIONS



Effective until Sept 4th

- Fit lanes 8pm-9pm Tuesdays and Thursdays cancelled
- Public and Fit Lanes Friday evenings cancelled

TAX REMINDERS

The 2nd tax installment is due Friday, **August 24th, 2012.**

Taxpayers are responsible to pay their taxes on or before the due date. Payment received after the due date will be subject to a late payment fee.



Do you qualify for the Tax Relief Program for Low Income Seniors or Low Income Persons with Disabilities? To find out more contact the municipal office at 705-869-1540.