

## **2021 Mayors Report**

Dear citizens,

Overall, 2021 was a successful year despite the challenges from the pandemic. Below are some of the highlights:

### **EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT 2020**

Upon completion of its mandate, the auditor is of the opinion that "the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Municipality of Otter Lake as at December 31, 2020".

### **FINANCIAL REPORT 2020**

Operating revenues for the year 2020 were \$2,703,726 while expenses were \$2,529,204 resulting in a current year operating surplus of \$174,522.

### **REMUNERATION OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS**

Pursuant to section 11 of the act respecting the remuneration of elected municipal officers, the annual remuneration paid to elected officers, in 2021, for all of their municipal council duties was: Mayor: \$19,620, Councillors \$6,540

### **2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

**Taxes** - The property tax mill rate of 0.62 cents/\$100 evaluation was maintained. It has not been raised in 6 years.

**Roads** - A grant from the MNA André Fortin's office was used to rebuild a section of Stephens road and cut high brush on Belmont and Picanoc roads.

- Painted centre lines on Picanoc and Belmont roads to improve safety
- Passed a "No Heavy Vehicle" By-law 02-05-2021 for Farm Lake road and installed signs.

**Equipment** - Purchased a snow blower for our Kioti tractor (8 K\$) and a water tank mixer (16 K\$)

**Security** - Installed security cameras at the municipal garage, the municipal hall and the recreation grounds.

**Environment** - Improved the Transfer Station site with a new custodian office, a composting shelter and a cement pad for the metal recycle area. These were funded by a grant. Also 7 additional recycle bins were purchased. Thank you to all citizens for your continued participation in recycling and composting. This reduces waste and saves taxpayers money. Your involvement makes a difference!!

**Summer Students** - Hired Kendra Vadneau to organize youth activities and Noah Côté as a general laborer for a period of 8 weeks. The cost was funded 75% by the Canada Summer Jobs Federal grant.

**Boat Wash** - Completed the boat wash station upgrade, installed signs and started enforcement. The boat wash station is free for tax payers to use. If you have not done so, contact the Municipal Office for your boat wash magnetic card and boat stickers. Grants were received for the boat wash program.

**Leslie Park** - Signed a new agreement with the foundation in early 2021. The park had a successful 2021 season even though it was challenged by the pandemic.

**Communications & advertising** - The following were funded through grants to promote Otter Lake:

- Installed new Otter Lake town entrance signs which are also reflective at night
- Completed the restoration of the mural at the Millennium Park
- Started the beautification of the recreation grounds entranceway sign which will be completed in 2022

**Human Resources** - Please join me in welcoming new members to the team: Ronnie Vadneau (Municipal Foreman), Ginger Finan (Municipal Inspector) and Ricky Lafleur (Snow plow driver)

**Council Members** - A new council was elected in November, 2021. The members are: Mayor: Terry Lafleur, Councillors: Penny Dubeau, Darren Knox, Kathleen Gauthier, Jennifer Quaille, Serge Sabourin, Robin Zacharias.

In closing, I look forward to working with the elected officials and all employees who are committed to providing quality services. In addition I am looking forward to working with the many citizens, volunteers and organizations that help make the Municipality of Otter Lake a success. Finally, I thank the previous Council who left the Municipality in a strong financial position.

Thank-you for your support

**Terry Lafleur**, Mayor