
LUD TIMES

(Lorette)

Fall 2001

Well, our third year in office is quickly coming to an end and it's safe to say that it has been very busy and productive.

We officially opened the new lagoon, resurfaced two streets, completed the seal coat on two others, installed a new sidewalk and several new walkways, improved our existing park and built a new one, corrected several drainage problems, installed new welcome to the community signs, and had high speed internet introduce to our community. When you add this to the regular general maintenance items, it was a very busy year!!

Village Works Streets

This spring the 2nd seal coat was applied to River Drive, Lagimodiere Street and Station Road. Heavy traffic in some areas caused some problem, but the contractor looked after them promptly.

This spring several streets in the village suffered from frost related problems. Some of these trouble spots were repaired this year and several others will be looked at next summer.

Last year we had two separate contractors give us independent assessments and maintenance recommendations for all of our streets. Both contactors identified St. Micheals and Harpin streets as a priority. While these streets are relatively new, it seems that dips in the road surfaces were allowing water to seep in under the asphalt potentially affecting the integrity of the underlying road bed. To correct the problem some storm drain catch basins were repaired and the road surface received a new asphalt overlay. This may have seemed to some like money poorly spent on streets that looked quite fine, but the truth is, if this problem had been ignored we would have been looking at a very costly repairs in the future.

Sidewalks & Footpaths

Over the past three years we have made improvements to the community footpath system every year and this year is no exception.

This summer a new concrete sidewalk was installed along Johnson Ave. from Dawson Road to the schools. This sidewalk will improve safety in a very busy part of town.

New footpath bases were installed in the area of Belanger/Laurin Street. These footpaths add to the growing number of walkways linking different parts of our community and will lead you right into the new park area next to the Church on Station Rd.

Engineering studies have been completed, plans drawn up and a tender issued for the construction of a new footbridge over the Station Road ditch linking the Laurin/Belanger area to Therrien Street and ultimately the schools. The station road ditch can be dangerous as children often try to cross even in times of high water. This project will make it safer for children to cross and also add to walking routes in the community. We expect to start construction of this project next year.

Main Street Boulevard

It was a relatively quiet year on the boulevards. Curbs were repaired a drainage swail was installed near Brian's Drive-Inn, several trees were replaced, some new flower beds were installed and some drainage issues corrected.

But weren't those flowers unbelievable!!

The members of the Lorette Beautification Committee did a super job this summer.

The LUD Committee and the whole community would like to thank you all for a job well done. Also contributing to this years flowers were **C&S Garden Center and Bloomers Green House.**

Buying flowers, shrubs or garden supplies in the future?

Why not support our local suppliers they often work behind the scenes to support our community.

If you would be interested in joining a committee dedicated to beautifying and improving life in our community? Contact: Mona Turcott 878-3771, (Chair of the Beautification Committee), Chris at C&S Garden Center 878-3454 or Ron Tardiff 878-9585.

Questions or Concerns? Contact your LUD Committee for the facts.

Ross Deschambault 878-2052
Carol Laramée 878-3704

John Bruce (chairman) 878-4275
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Parks and Recreation

As promised a new sandbox and mini excavator were installed in Greg Smith Park. This addition seems to have been a hit with local children.

We also began the development of a new park in the area between Laurin Street and the church on Station Road. Drainage in the area was surveyed and corrected setting the foundation for recreational development in the area. We then proceeded to install a large sand box with two mini excavators, also installed was a set of swings which will accommodate both toddlers and older children. A professional quality beach volleyball court was constructed and has already been host to a mini tournament. As the volleyball court is likely to attract adults and teens, it was decided that a parking area should be built so as not to cause parking problems in the area.

Along with these improvements close to 140 trees and shrubs have already been planted by the beautification committee and area volunteers. It is also important to mention that the beautification committee was able to obtain funding for some of the trees from Manitoba Hydro, while others were donated by our friends at C&S Garden Center. The balance was paid for by the LUD.

Manitoba Hydro and C&S Garden Center definitely deserve special mention for their generous contribution to the community.

Just like building a house, the foundation has been laid for the premier park in this community. The beautification committee has discussed the possibility of adding a BBQ shelter, a play structure and of course benches and a picnic area. The balance of the landscaping will be finished next year. If you have suggestions call the beautification committee, we would love to hear from you.

Tennis Courts

It looks like tennis will soon be finished for another season. By all accounts the courts were well used again and the surface seems to be holding up well. Next year the courts will require some routine maintenance and the nets will require some repair. The area will be closed for the season, but if you need access please call Dave MacDonell at 878-2353.

We would like to remind everyone that the courts are for court sports only. Please DO NOT use this area for roller blading, skate boarding or cycling. This will damage the finish. Please use the paved rink at the high school for these other sports.

Outdoor Rinks

I'm sure we can all wait, but it won't be long and volunteers will be making ice. These rinks are available for use by the community anytime. Please remember that they are flooded and maintained by volunteers. If you come out bring a shovel as they might not always be cleaned immediately.

Have Fun!!

Welcome to the Community

New signs welcoming travelers to our community were installed at the East, West and South entrances to the village. We think they look great and so do those of you who called the office, your vote of approval is greatly appreciated. The temporary braces will come off of the signs next spring and the beautification committee already has plans for further enhancements next year. We can't give away all of their secrets so you will just have to wait and see what comes up next.

Thank you, to the students of Dawson Trail School who took the time to participate in our "Sign Design Contest" last spring. The winners were Kyndra Welsh, Laura Glowachuk, Breanne Sowards and Jessica Grossman.

Way to go Girls!!! The signs look great.

Citizens on Patrol Program

What a great program this has turned out to be. It would be foolish to think that it will totally eliminate crime in our community, but it has most certainly had a huge impact.

Thank you to Dave and Marg MacDonell as well as all of the volunteers for their help and time with this program.

To get involved contact Dave or Marg MacDonell at 878-2353.

Lagoon Update

The official opening of the new facility was held on July 3, 2001. With the decommissioning of the old lagoon site under way we hope that this issue will soon be nothing more than a bad memory.

Village Web Page

Last issue we reported that the Village was working with some students from Lorette Collegiate to construct a Village web page. This work is continuing, and while progress is slow we still expect to have this information site running in the near future. If you have suggestions please call us.

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Community Christmas Tree

This year the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree will be held on December 1st at 6:30 pm. Our special guests will be our MLA, Honorable Ron Lemieux and our MP, Vic Toews to both attend this annual event. We also hope that Santa will be able to take time from his busy schedule to attend.

Local youth groups have taken over from the LUD in organizing this event. They have advised us that there will be hay rides and hot chocolate. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and we will have a nice evening.

Come out and meet your neighbors!! The theme this year will be the year of the volunteer.

Thank you to the Tache Firefighters for their help with the lights and Tri-Clad Designs for their donation of the boom-truck and operator. It would be very difficult if not impossible to decorate a tree of this size without their help and the help of the other volunteers who gave their time.

Thank you also to councilors Bruce, Lapointe, Trudeau, Perrier, and Krockner, for your contribution to this event.

Other Community Issues

There have been numerous complaints this summer on these two issues.

#1 While there is no issue with someone having a small backyard campfire, it seems that the complaints come from some people burning garbage. This is sometimes items like household waste, old wire, or garden material. The odor from these materials is quite offensive compared to a wood campfire and often very offensive to your neighbors. It should also be noted that if the fire department is called out due to a complaint rather than an emergency. The offender may be assessed the cost for the fire department attending.

#2 Stray or dogs running loose has become another issue. There have been several incidents where dogs are either allowed to run loose or have gotten loose. While you may be very comfortable with your pet, there are others who have a fear of dogs of any size. It is particularly alarming when large dogs are loose as this creates the possibility for someone to be attacked. Your dog must be confined to your yard or when walking, your dog should be on a leash. If not you run the risk of your animal being picked up and there most definitely will be a cost to have your animal released. This could be minor when

compared to the implications if your animal attacks someone. Please think about this.

Lorette Community Complex News

In September and October there were Municipal Board hearings regarding the proposed community complex project. As of the date of publication there has been no word yet on the final Board ruling.

Overall, there was very strong support for the project. The only rational objections to the project were from the farm community and even they were not against the project. Their major objection was that the farm community would be taxed on both their household and their vacant farmland. While the LUD Committee understands that this seems to be double taxation, we also wanted to point out that the same double taxation falls back on those residents living in the village. Village residents pay for public works within the village boundary through the tax component levied by the LUD, while Council administers public works outside of the LUDS. If council overspends on public works projects outside of the villages creating a deficit, the residents of Lorette and Landmark are forced to pay a portion of that deficit through increased taxes the following year. In essence being taxed twice for the same service. This in fact has happened several times in the last few years.

We on the LUD Committee are not happy about it, but who ever said that taxes were fair. It's the system we have and we all make the best of it. Hopefully the municipal board will come up with a solution that we can all live with, as the current situation is not acceptable.

The LUD Committee is very much in support of the new plan, as we believe the new complex will offer much more than a facility for hockey. In fact the committee members have agreed to each make personal contributions equivalent to one months pay, should the project be approved. If you would like to make a contribution to the project please contact Susan Lepage at 878-4264.

The International Year of the Volunteer

This year as we celebrate the International Year of the Volunteer our community should be very proud.

This community is not defined by the village boundaries, but in fact is comprised of all of the homes, farms and businesses in the area.

Questions or Concerns? Contact your LUD Committee for the facts.

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It's the volunteer spirit in this community that makes Lorette such a great place to live. We won't even try to mention the names of those residents who so generously give their time, but suffice to say this community could not function without them. They give their time freely to organizations such as:

the churches	the schools
the community center	the Knights
the Tache Firefighters	youth groups
Boy Scouts and Girl Guides	4H Club
Youth Justice	C.O.P.P.

and the beautification committee just to mention a few organizations.

They flood rinks when it freezing out, they coach, guide and mentor our children and often without a thank you. Local businesses also generously donate time, money and expertise. Volunteers give so much to this community it is safe to say that it could not be run without them, and there are so many volunteers in this community it would be impossible to mention them all.

On behalf of the entire community, the LUD Committee would like to thank all of this community's many volunteers.

These photos are just some of those volunteers in action.



Beautification Committee in action



Tache Firefighters Helping with tree lights



Tri Clad Designs Helping with tree lights



Beautification committee at work

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