

Town of Altona

Newsletter

A Message from the Mayor

Who would have thought that a motor vehicle accident, which unfortunately claimed the life of a young woman, would have such a bearing on how those municipalities that supply their own police services would need to change their operations.

Crystal Taman, for those that are not familiar with the case, was a young woman who died as a result of a car accident involving an off duty police officer just outside of Winnipeg. Because of the circumstances surrounding this matter the provincial government launched the Taman Inquiry. The inquiry was called largely because of concerns about the police's actions respecting the investigation of the accident.

After a four year probe, the Inquiry's appointed commissioner Roger Salhaney, recommended several changes, among them that a new police commission should be introduced and a special investigation unit should be formed which would investigate serious complaints against the police.

It is a widely held opinion that many of these recommendations were needed and all the local politicians and police officers I've talked to lauded these changes as necessary. The present government however felt that they would go a step further, beyond Mr. Salhaney's recommendations, and they have required that all jurisdictions

having their own police service need to establish a police board. These boards would oversee the administration of their local police service. Meetings were held with many of the communities being impacted by this new legislation, with most of those municipalities arguing against making these police boards mandatory. Our opinion being, "*if it isn't broken, why fix it*". Hearings were held at the legislature last year, and again many of the affected communities argued against making these Police Boards mandatory.

The provincial government has been unwavering in this concept and they require that we in Altona establish a police board. We have suggested to the Justice Department that we set up a five member board. The board we propose is to be made up of one member appointed by the government, one member appointed from the council of Altona, one from member from the town of Plum Coulee and two members from the community of Altona, at large.

Once we have received approval from the Justice Department as to the makeup of our Board we will be seeking volunteers who would want to serve on this Board. The request for volunteers will be advertised in the local newspaper and on the Town's website. If you or someone you know is interested in this new role, please have them contact me or the Town offices.

Meeting of Council

Council meeting
at 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday,
September 11th,
2012 &
September 25th,
2012

Committee of the
Whole meeting at
3:00 p.m. on
Tuesday,
September 18th,
2012

All Council and
Community of the
Whole meetings are
open to the public.



Chief Administrative Report – by Russ Phillips

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Daniel Gagné to the Town's staff. Dan started his new role with the Town of Altona on July 30th taking on the newly designated position of Supervisor of Financial Services. This is a new position and was created as a result of an administrative reorganization and the redistribution of duties when former Secretary-Treasurer, Larry Driedger left early this year.

Dan is a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) with many years of experience and he has a solid understanding of accounting principles and preparing financial statements. He also has experience in developing annual budgeting processes and in the collection and generation of invoices. In his new duties he is responsible for all financial and administrative duties pertaining to the Town including budgeting, financial planning, investments and policy advice to the Chief Administrative Officer and Council.

Dan was formerly employed by Friesens as their Assistant Controller / Credit and Invoicing Manager. Prior to moving to Altona he was employed by Winnipeg based firms as an Assistant Controller, and before that, as a Financial Analyst.

Dan, along with his wife Lisa and two sons, Coen and Loch reside in Altona. Please join with me in welcoming Dan.

I would also like to recognize the work of our staff and volunteers for their efforts in preparing and coordinating the recent Manitoba Sunflower Festival. Our staff worked diligently in readying the parks, streets and surrounding community. The Festival committee also worked tirelessly for months, often behind the scenes, making this a special event for all ages. Great work folks. To staff, festival coordinators and volunteers...hats off!

Enjoy the rest of our warm summer....

Reminder – All loads must be properly secured.

Altona/Rhineland/Gretna Landfill Site Hours

Effective

April 2 – September 30

Tuesdays, Thursdays,

Fridays

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon



Did you know that there is an oil recycling depot at the Altona/Rhineland/Gretna landfill? Please bring your used oil and anti-freeze to be recycled.

NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS

Grass clippings, leaves, and vegetable waste will be accepted – branches and twigs will not be picked up. Compost material must be placed in containers or bags that are manageable for collection staff - bulky containers and containers weighing more than approx. 50 lbs. will not be picked up. Bags containing compost must be left untied.

Attention Pet Owners

Reminders to all pet owners please pickup your pet(s) waste and dispose of it properly, preferably in a **tyed** plastic bag and THEN place the bag into a waste receptacle.

Solid Waste and Compost Collection: Reminders for residents

The following waste will NOT be accepted at the landfill:

- E-Waste including Microwave ovens, TV's, Computers, etc. – This waste can be taken to Blue Sky Opportunities.
- Paper, plastics, cans, glass containers, etc. – please utilize the curbside recycling program
- Fluorescent light tubes.
- Appliances that use refrigerant such as freezers, refrigerators and air conditioners – refrigerant must be professionally removed.
- Household hazardous waste including solvents, pesticides, batteries and oil paint.

Did you know...

- Used oil and Antifreeze may be dropped off at the Used Oil Depot at the Landfill Site
- Used Tires are accepted at the Landfill
- Branches, grass clippings, leaves, and compost material may be dropped off free of charge at the Town of Altona Compost Depot Located one-mile east of Altona
- Extra Garbage bag "tags" may be purchased at the Civic Centre for waste that exceeds the household limit for \$1.00 per tag.

Compost Pick-up Reminders:

- Please limit the weight of compost containers to a reasonable limit (approximately 50lbs or 22.5kg)
- Bags must be left open (**untied**) – tied bags will not be picked up!
- Branches and twigs of any size are not accepted in the curbside compost pick-up program. Branches, twigs, etc., can be dropped off free of charge at the Town Compost Depot located east of Altona

Altona Library

BUY A BOOKSHELF

“Buy a Bookshelf” Fundraiser”
Make a donation toward additional shelving. “Buy a Bookshelf” for \$100, or “Buy a bank of shelves” (6 shelves for \$500. Your purchase will be commemorated on a plaque bearing your name, or if you prefer, the name of a child, grandchild, or in memory of a loved one. Forms are available in the library, or from board members Ted Klassen or Norma Thiessen. Deadline is September 15th, 2012.

Pre-school Storytime At the Altona Library

Registration for the fall session of Storytime “Alphabet Soup” will begin September 12.

For more information visit our website at www.sclibrary.mb.ca

Watch your mail box and the Town’s website www.altona.ca for the new Fall season of recreation programs. There’s always something for every age group, from your favorite activity, hobby or exercise class. Call us for more information at 204-324-9005. Registration for the upcoming season starts on **Tuesday, August 28th**



Call us to book your meetings, wedding social, wedding reception or other event at 204-324-9005.



The Altona Aquatic Centre is still the best way to keep cool during the summer heat. Public Swimming runs 7 days a week from 1:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The last day for pool operations this season will be Sunday, September 2nd on the long weekend.



Before you know it, the new hockey and skating season will be here. The Sunflower Gardens Arena in the Millennium Exhibition Centre will open for the ice-in season in early October. Watch the Town of Altona website www.altona.ca for more details.

October 25th – 50+ Healthy Living Forum

If you have questions regarding many life issues please plan to attend this informative day where we will feature many interesting “healthy living” topics and display booths. Stay tuned from more information.

The Gallery in the Park second season is now up and running as of Saturday, August 11th and runs through to the Thanksgiving Weekend. This second show features Manitoba Craft Council “Unravelled” curated by Jennifer Smith art by Teresa Barrows, Lisa Dyck, Lita Fontaine, Helga Jakobson, Roy Liang and Melanie Wesley.

Gallery hours are 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, and the Sculpture Gardens from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily.

