

ASVA 2018 CONFERENCE – WISDOM CIRCLES SUMMARIES

WATER / LAKE HEALTH

- Watershed – Levels and conditions
- Lake Health including opposing further development in the adjoining county
- Upgrade sewer system; banning outhouses
- Approved fertilizers
- Need money from Alberta Environment
- Watershed wide management of septic fields
- Aquatic invasive species
- Ice Hut regulations
- Management of environmental and municipal reserves including shoreline restoration
- Water management- lake level and quality
- Recreation activity access
- Regulating boat docks, lifts, etc
- Monitoring program
- Water Quality; High level of algae
- Water Quality; without good water access we lose our appeal
- Lake Water Quality; shoreline
- Drainage – no plan 30-40 years ago; now need to do something – cost!
- Extending WILD water to SV and cost of potable water
- Mandatory sewer inspection to keep our lake clean

FUNDING

- Predictable Funding – MSI – 5-year stable scenario
- Sustainable funding / cost of providing services (required to promote higher service with no additional dollar support)
- Funding – there continues to be new initiatives to develop and update and we receive no funding to manage these initiatives. One example is the requirement to collect school taxes for the government
- Grant funding is unpredictable and inequitable
- MSI needs to be updated

GOVERNANCE

- Collaboration – process very time consuming and costly
- Sewer line – regional line and local lines – grant shared cost resident 100% hookups
- Sustainability indicators – already working from a deficit
- Ministerial Support: excess bureaucracy exists in Municipal Affairs which continues to restrict the municipalities from being effective
- Administration support for the needs of municipalities is a lot of talk and no action
- Inconsistency between government ministries
- Emergency Management – continuity through out all regions; very costly to repeat – spinning wheels

POLICING / CRIME

- Not affordable for most SVs
- Protection of property against theft
- Golf carts – not legal on any roads, not legal in summer villages – should lobby to get exemption
- Police services
- Speeding traffic – lack of enforcement; vehicles travelling double the speed limit on the roads around homes
- Bylaw Enforcement cost; not enough hours covered
- Bylaw Enforcement – don't have funds to appoint bylaw officer
- Policing – enhanced policing – what can be done to help support us and at what price
- Bylaw Officer: inability to hire or retain; lack of enforcement, nobody on the ground (compliance)
- Break ins – Crime Watch
- Rural Crime – no consequences; slap on the wrist
- Bylaw clarity and enforcement – well written enforceable statements

BOAT MOORING

- Boat Launch/Docks/Mooring: no regulations; use by non-residents

MGA WORKLOADS – ICFS AND IDPS

- Downloading of Services
- Government downloading – very expensive; need more knowledge – re: ICPs and IDPs, strategic planning and disaster planning
- Too much 1) Policy, 2) Regulations, 3) Reporting, 4) Work with weed control – downloaded to municipalities i.e. summer villages
- Too much government red tape
- Our CAO is overloaded with requests from Municipal Affairs
- Management of the transition to the new MGA
- Downloading services – IDPs, MDPs, additional requirements
- Dealing with the MGA – imposed requirements for the MDP, IDP, ICFs, etc; large draw on manpower, time and funding resources; very little value added to ratepayers, process for the sake of process
- IDP agreement – a fair prorated distribution of funding for projects, roads and sewer

OTHER

- Lack of tax base – no industry
- Neighbour disputes – source and retain an independent mediator; paid staff (CAO) and councils should not be involved only for conveying information
- Too many RVs, sewage hookups, divides community when trying to regulate

- Eliminating paper transactions (e-transfers, tax collection, pay taxes – automatic monthly debit
- Intermunicipal relationships – working effectively with larger municipal neighbours
- Shared roads – access to village over County roads
- Feral cats – draw in unwanted animals such as skunks, coyotes, no one has ownership of these cats; SPAC will not accept; cost is too high
- Noncompliant building and development
- Broadband/ cell phone safety / emergency monitoring
- Quads / ATVs – driving on roads, damaging ditches, noise
- Lack of wifi in summer villages – safety concern