



A Message From The Chair



Veronica Bliska, Chair
Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency

The fall season has arrived which keeps us all busy with harvest and preparing for winter in the Peace County. Although I have grown accustomed to the winters here, it seems that when that first cold wind hits, it strikes through to the bones and tells me that summer is gone for another year.

In this newsletter, we are intro-

ducing our new staff members. As we welcome Charli, David and Dolu to our staff, we also bid a farewell to our summer student - Pankaj Nalavde. Pankaj joined us for the summer as he took a break from his studies at the University of Calgary. Although he was with us for a few short months, he was able to make a great contribution to the Agency. We certainly wish him luck in his studies and hope that he is able to come back for a visit.

The staff have had an extremely busy summer, keeping up with the current planning projects and finalizing the last of the outside contract work. We have all experienced the effects of the current boom in some form or another. For municipal councils, the pressures from the development sector require immediate attention and it is sometimes difficult to remain focussed not only on the current

issues but on the future needs of our communities. It is this current situation that reinforces the need for a planning agency such as the MMSA. With their expertise, we are able to face the demands with some degree of competency and also ensure that we have the proper plans in place to meet the challenges that the future may bring us.

As we are in the final stages of completing our new contracts with the Agency, I would like to thank all our members for their continued support. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for a job well done and for their continued efforts in ensuring the future of the Agency.

In closing, I wish you and your families, good health, a bountiful harvest and lower gas prices!

Mackenzie Historic Mile Zero Park

Barry Heinen, Vice President of the Mackenzie Forest Education Society (MFES), Jeannie Kalyn, and Mayor Brian Allen of Grimshaw were a few of many who attended the planting of a Lodgepole Pine in Grimshaw's soon to be completed Mackenzie Historic Mile Zero Park in honour of the Region's

friend, and Past President of the MFES - Tom Baldwin. The new Park will be home to the Region's newest arboretum: "The Tom Baldwin Memorial Arboretum".



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Special points of interest:

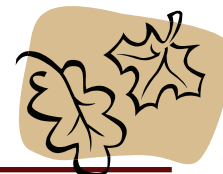
Joyce Sydnes Retires

Joyce Sydnes, CAO, Municipal District of Peace, No. 135, retired this year after 30 years of service. All of us at MMSA would like to extend our best wishes to Joyce, she will be missed!

Meet The New CAO's

We at MMSA are looking forward to working with all the new CAO's!

- Lyle McKen—MD of Peace, No 135
- Ray Coad—Clear Hills County
- Lori Wood—Town of Manning



Planning Snapshot—Town Of Rainbow Lake

*RAINBOW LAKE ADVANCES SOUTHEAST AREA
STRUCTURE PLAN AND INFRASTRUCTURE
INITIATIVES*

In January 2005, the Town of Rainbow Lake endorsed the Southeast Area Structure Plan to guide future land use, subdivision and development within the Southeast portion of the Town. The plan was the result of a collaborative process with Town administration, Council, several government agencies and the general public. The plan provided a cohesive framework guiding industrial and commercial development throughout the, while also providing policy and direction to protect significant environmental features as well as community infrastructure assets including the water reservoir, and wastewater treatment facilities.

The plan has helped guide recent development

in Rainbow Lake including:

- An industrial subdivision and development
- Highway commercial subdivision and development.
- Watercourse protection

Protection of vital community assets

In conjunction with the recent implementation of this plan, the Town of Rainbow Lake and area has been busy with a host of other initiatives including:

- Replacement of old arena
- Completion of new ball diamond

- Completion of new tennis courts
- Construction of new water treatment plant

Highway #58 upgrading

In response to recent development and the completion of the last major planning initiative, the Town has continued to utilize agency planning services to help define and implement a vision forward. The Town has embarked upon the review and replacement of there existing municipal development plan to help establish macro land use policy for the balance of the Town.



The Municipal Heritage Partnership Program

The Municipal Heritage Program held a meeting at the Grande Prairie Museum, September 14, 2006 to inform the public of the importance of this program. Dolu Gonzales attended the meeting on behalf of the MMSA and is pleased to provide you with some of the highlights of the program.

The Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) is designed to help municipalities manage their historic places. This program provides opportunities for municipalities to access funding assistance, expertise and networks to establish heritage conservation programs.

The MHPP supports the development of municipal heritage management programs, by providing funding to municipalities, based on a cost sharing basis (i.e. 50-50). This cost sharing provides opportunities to assist in the preparation of surveys, inventories and heritage planning.

Surveys: collection of information and documentation.

Inventories: evaluative step accordingly to the criteria of significance and integrity of assessment.

Designation Process: legally protects historic buildings by the Historic Resources Act.

The Province may cost share the following:

| | County/MD | City | Town | Village |
|------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Survey | \$30,000 | \$30,000 | \$20,000 | \$10,000 |
| Inventory | \$30,000 | \$30,000 | \$20,000 | \$10,000 |
| Mgmt. Plan | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$15,000 | \$ 7,000 |

For this reason, Alberta community Development has identified a criterion for evaluating potential historic resources. This criterion was designed to help municipalities, counties, municipal districts, cities, towns and villages, to help determine what resources are truly historically significant, therefore, which will qualify as a Municipal Historic Resource.

To be eligible for consideration under this program a resource should:

- Be on its original location
- Be at least 50 years old, and
- To meet at least one point of the criteria of significance and posses integrity.

For more information, please contact:

Scott Barrett, Coordinator— Municipal Heritage Partnership Program
Old St. Stephens College, 8820—112 Street, Edmonton, AB T6G 2P8
Telephone: (780) 431-2334, Fax: (780) 427-5598 or E-mail: scott.barrett@gov.ab.ca—www.mhpp.ab.ca

Dolú Mary González Molina, Junior Municipal Planner

Dolú Mary González Molina, a native of Colombia, South America joined our staff in August, 2006 after completing her Masters Degree in City Planning at the University of Manitoba.

Dolu completed her Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from the University of La Salle, Colombia. During her last two years of University there, Dolu developed an interest in Social Planning. This interest is what brought her to Canada and eventually to the Peace Country. Her thesis was based on International Development

of the area near her hometown of Bucaramanga, Colombia.

Dolu has come to Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency in the position of Junior Municipal Planner in which she assists Nathan Petherick using her many skills in the various projects she is involved with. Dolu's main interests fall into "Community Planning" and "Neighbourhood Planning", where she applies her design skills to strengthen and empower our communities.

Dolu has already become an valuable

asset to MMSA and its members!



From Left to Right
Dolu Gonzalez, David Zhong, Charli Brownlee

David Zhong, GIS Technologist

David Zhong, a native of China joined our staff in August, 2006 after completing his Advanced Diploma in Geographic Information System at the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

David graduated from the University of Science & Technology of China with a Bachelor Degree in Computer Science. After graduation he worked as a programmer at a GIS software company for more than 5 years in

China and accumulated extensive experience in GIS application development in Natural Resources, Law Enforcement, Public Safety and Urban Planning. David's skills on GIS include mapping, programming and database administration.

David has filled the newly created position of GIS Technologist and will not only be assisting Ron Rauckman in the Drafting Department but will also be developing a GIS based planning support system.

David's technical skills have added a new dimension to the services that the Agency can provide to its' members and we are very fortunate to have him on our staff!

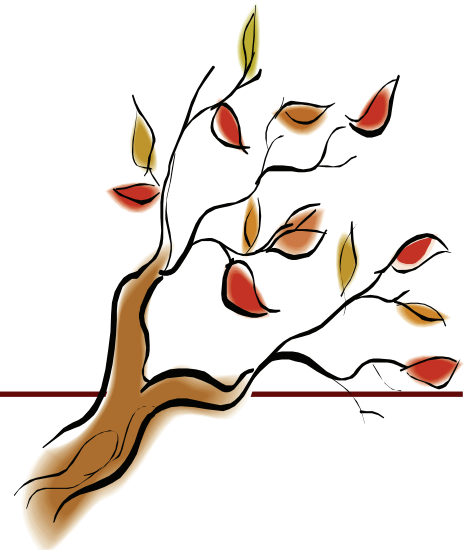
Charli Brownlee, Administrative Assistant

Charli Brownlee joined our staff in July in the position of Administrative Assistant, filling the vacancy left by Michele Coutu when she obtained employment closer to home.

Charli, born in Edmonton, Alberta comes to us with 29 years of diverse experience within the office environment and holds degrees in Account-

ing (CGA) and Business Administration/Management. She also has an extensive self taught knowledge of computer software and networking.

These are but a few of the skills Charli brings to the position. In the short time that she has been with us, we have found her to be a definite asset to our team at the Agency.



Aiden Michael Petherick

Aiden Michael Petherick is the newest addition to the MMSA family. Born May 6, 2006, his career as a Planner is a ways “down the road”, but we are sure his Dad will teach him everything he needs to know! Congratulations Nathan & Katiga!



*Planning is bringing the future into the present
so that you can do something about it now.*



Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency Members

| Municipality | Representative | Municipality | Representative |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Village of Berwyn | Brian McBain | Town of Rainbow Lake | John Watt |
| Village of Hines Creek | Robert Seidler | MD of Clear Hills, No. 21 | Marlene Maxwell |
| Village of Nampa | Bill Lister | MD of Fairview, No. 136 | Wayne Frank |
| Town of Fairview | Rick Nicholson | MD of Peace, No. 135 | Veronica Bliska |
| Town of Grimshaw | Bob Regal | Northern Sunrise County | Evens Lavoie |
| Town of Manning | Sunni Walker | | |

Contact Us:

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| Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency Box 450, Berwyn, AB T0H 0E0 Phone: (780) 338-3862 Fax: (780) 338-3811 | |
| Karen Diebert , Manager & Subdivision Technician karen.diebert@mmsa.ca | Ron Rauckman , Senior Graphics Technologist ron.rauckman@mmsa.ca |
| Nathan Petherick , Director of Planning nathan.petherick@mmsa.ca | Charli Brownlee , Administrative Assistant info@mmsa.ca |
| Dolu M. Gonzalez Molina , Junior Planning Assistant dolu@mmsa.ca | David Zhong , GIS Technologist david@mmsa.ca |