

A Message from Mayor Fernets



Photo Courtesy of Laddie Wesolowski

Hello Residents of Thode,

Thank you to the majority of residents for giving me their confidence and choosing me as their Mayor! For those residents who I may not have convinced, I hope to change your mind in the upcoming term!

It was a well fought election. I want to thank my opponent, Steve Schwenker, for giving me a run for my money at the ballot box, and over the past term in office as a Councillor.

Thank you to the other Councillors who served during the past term on council, James Soanes, Jolene Soanes, and Neil Vandendort. Thank you for taking the time to sit and contribute your ideas!

Lastly, thank you to our outgoing Mayor, Alan Thomarat. Thank you for the years of service you have given to the council.

I want to welcome our new Councillors Vanessa Ursel, Curtis McDougall, Brad Stewart, and David Squires. We all look forward to helping our community grow over the next few years!

Village Updates

As promised, I wanted to give more regular updates about what is going on around the village and issues that affect our residents. Some of those highlights are:

Summerfeldt Drive Road Resurfacing

If you have travelled down to the south-end of the village lately, you would have noticed something new...the road surface! An application of SB-90 was applied to approximately 350 metres of roadway this past August. This is part of a 5-6 year plan to resurface the entire length of Summerfeldt Drive. Each year, a new section will be resurfaced to fit into our annual budget without hitting taxpayers with a tax increase. This has been a long-time request by residents. I am sure we are all glad to see some progress!

Pelican Pass Lot Sales

For anyone who joined us on Zoom for our special meeting August 29, you are aware that we had offers on two lots on Pelican Pass and that we had counteroffered. Unfortunately, the buyer did not sign off on the conditions, however, we will continue to work on developing those lots to help our village and our tax base grow.

Thode Entrance Sign

You may have noticed that there is NOTHING on our entrance sign!! Don't worry. Fred has obtained quotes, and a durable and cost-efficient vinyl sign replacement will soon be installed to repair the current sign which was suffering wood rot.

Connector Road

There have been many delays and complications in trying to develop our connector road to Hwy 211 for the past 4 years. With our new council, we are reorganizing our approach and hope to make some progress in the coming months.

Playground Equipment

After working alongside the administration team searching through Community donations in past years and determining the current funds to allocate to the playground, we are happy to announce the purchase of new playground equipment is on the horizon. Stay tuned!

Dundurn Fire Commission

During our council meeting on June 20, 2024, as a partner of the Dundurn Fire Commission, Thode approved the Dundurn Fire Commission to purchase a tanker truck for the Fire Department, up to \$150,000. We will be looking forward to seeing the fire department present us with options for fire trucks to purchase.

RM of Dundurn Zoning Bylaw

On Wednesday, Sept 4, the RM had their council meeting and passed the new zoning bylaw. Our Deputy Mayor Vanessa Ursel was there as a delegate to once again reinforce our opposition to the removal of the lesser separation agreement; however, the RM Council passed the bylaw's 2nd and 3rd readings at the meeting. As a result of your voices being heard at the RM's public hearing, the RM adjusted the separation distance table to an ILO, however, we did not win the battle with the inclusion of the lesser separation agreement into the proposed Bylaw. The Bylaw will now go to the Ministry of Government Relations to be signed off. We have already sent letters to said ministry, as well as to the Ministries of the Environment, Agriculture, and the Ministry of Parks, Culture, and Sport voicing our opposition to those changes.

Building and Development Permits

We cannot stress this enough! When you are considering doing any kind of structural work, such as driveway resurfacing, installing a deck, or house additions, please fill out a permit application and submit it to the office at least a month prior to your planned start date. All applications need approval before any work commences.

Any work done to the RV of Thode's right of way (outside your property line) needs to be approved by council at their next available council meeting. There may be restrictions or utilities that you are unaware of, therefore, if you construct without permit approval, you may have to remove your project at your own cost. We would like to prevent this kind of situation from occurring.

If you are unsure whether a permit is required, please contact the office to inquire.

Until the next update,

Mayor Corey Fernets

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