After 30% business tax hike, five town councillors go to Quebec conference

Five Morinville town councillors flew to Quebec City for a conference only a month after voting in favor of a taxation bylaw which resulted in an average increase of 30% in municipal property taxes for local businesses.

The five attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference in Quebec City and Mayor Barry Turner stated, “While we do not yet have all of the cost information available at this time, I can report that the professional development of 2019 budget for Council is $26,000 and represents 7% of Council’s overall budget.”

Turner — who remained in Morinville to attend a local charity event — was one of the two council members who did not attend the Quebec event.

However, he tried to justify the situation for those who did attend, stating: “The 2019 budget was reduced by $1,000 in this area (council professional development) compared to 2018 based on actual expenditures being typically lower than budgeted,” stated the Mayor.

“The 2019 mileage and subsistence budget for Council totals $41,300 and represents 10% of Council’s overall approved budget. The 2019 budget was reduced by $8,600 compared to the 2018 budget, again based on actual expenditures being typically lower than budgeted. These budgets cover costs associated with professional development opportunities for members of Council in support of their duties, as well as attendance at both the FCM conference and the AUMA (Alberta Urban Municipalities Association) conferences. Attendance at these events is encouraged, as they are opportunities to keep on top of trends in municipal government, hear from municipal, provincial and federal leaders, and learn about what other municipalities are doing across the province and country in service to their residents,” concluded Turner.

Pressed for the cost for the five councillors to attend, noting that attendance would have been arranged weeks prior to the Quebec conference, the Mayor responded, “Currently members of Council are in the process of submitting expenses for the event, and administration continues to enter and compile the information. It is not possible to provide you with accurate information prior to going to print. We can provide accurate information once everything is submitted and reporting of actuals can be accommodated.”

The town of Morinville is expected to set a policy on releasing tickets to town residents for certain free events, before they become available to Sturgeon County or other residents of the region.

“Tickets for ticketed, free, Town organized and executed events, will be available to Morinville Residents a minimum of 3 business days prior to regional residents,” states the draft policy going to council on June 7.

The proposed policy states that each Town of Morinville resident, over the age of 16, will be able to collect a maximum of eight of the free tickets and that Morinville residents will be required to provide proof of residence by way of driver’s license, bill, or other official documentation to get the early release tickets.

In the past the free events have included such things as Oktoberfest, Halloween family dance, and the French Heritage event.

The town has been trying to find a way to give a ‘Morinville Advantage’ to its residents for the events paid for by town taxpayers. The documentation shows that attendance at these events in the past has been predominantly by town residents.
Outdoor education

Isabelle Pettifer and Mateo Matsuba were two of Morinville’s Ecole Georges H Primeau grade 8 students who attended the outdoor education overnight trip near Cooking Lake from May 23-24. The students were divided into groups of 4 and had to create their own menu and grocery shop, and when onsite they built their own shelters, created their own fires, learned archery skills and orienteering.

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John Ross of Bon Accord sits on his motorcycle and visits with Gerald Dyck of Lamont before the start of the Redwater Ride for Hunger on June 2. Ross attended the first and many additional annual Redwater Ride for Hunger events from 2003 to 2013 before it was discontinued temporarily to return as an annual event starting this year. It was Dyck’s first time at the event which fills the town’s main street with motorcycles and supports the local food bank. “It was awesome,” said Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank president Mechthild Brennen. “It was just amazing how everything came together, the weather and all the volunteers. The ride was a huge benefit to the food bank. We raised about $10,000, which is enormous and great, after not having it for six years.” She said the organizing committee could not have done it without so many volunteers and the support of so many community organizations.

“It was a fabulous renewal of this event,” said Ride co-ordinator Lisa Dakus. “I want to thank all the riders for coming back and the community and everybody in town who showed up and made this happen.” She estimated close to 200 bikes participated in all or part of the event which attracted hundreds of spectators. This year’s 12th annual ride honored Audrey McIaac, a charter member of the food bank and one of the original Ride For Hunger committee members. She passed away in 2018.

### Gibbons Farmers’ Market

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**WEDNESDAYS** *June 19th thru September 11th*

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At the GIBBONS CURLING RINK

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**1st Time Vendor**

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Sturgeon County’s Community Bulletin Board showcases non-profit, non-recreational organizations in our community, running the second week each month throughout in The Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review newspapers.

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For more information on how your group might qualify, please contact Ruth at 780-939-6335 or email r.kieser@sturgeoncounty.ca

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**FCSS Sturgeon County Family and Community Support Services**

www.sturgeoncounty.ca
Mayor talks about business opportunities

by Grant Cree

“As part of the 2019 budget, Council approved a new tax strategy that included the development of a split mill rate for businesses. Up until this year Morinville was one of the only communities not utilizing a split tax rate,” Mayor Barry Turner told about 50 guests at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon. The event took place on June 5 in the Community Cultural Centre.

Apart from Mayor Turner, Councillor Stephen Dafoe was the only Town Council member who attended the gathering comprised mostly of local business leaders. Other elected officials included Sturgeon County Mayor Alanna Hnatiw and Councillor Patrick Tighe.

“The 2019 Budget reflects a 4.98% increase overall (residential) along with the lowest split ratio rate again in the Metro Edmonton Region.”

No reference was made to the impact of the 15.5% mill rate increase with a 15% average commercial assessment increase resulting in a 30% municipal tax hike for businesses in 2019. Mayor Turner began his presentation with an update on the Morinville Leisure Centre, a multi-purpose recreation facility that opened May 27.

“It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Pearl Gibson on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the age of 83. Pearl will be lovingly remembered by her children, Sheila, Greg (Christine), Lori (Ken), Sandra (Dean), Karen (Gary), Randy (Joalene); grandchildren, Robin, Graham, Kathaileen, Steven, Michael, Becu, Blaine, Stephanie, Clinton, Colton, Serena, Hannah, and Leah; sisters, Fern and Lenore; as well as numerous great grandchildren, family and friends. Pearl was greatly loved by her husband, Wayne Gibson, parents, Clifford and Violet (nee Cox) Corrigal; sisters, Eileen and Josephine. A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, June 8, 2019. Arrangements entrusted to Sturgeon Memorial Funeral Chapel (780) 921-3900.”

“Sponsorship and donation opportunities are available for the Morinville Leisure Centre,” concluded Mayor Turner. “Let’s continue the conversations to realize our full potential.”

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Pearl Gibson

[nee Corrigal]
January 1, 1936 – June 3, 2019

It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Pearl Gibson on Monday, June 3, 2019 at the age of 83. Pearl will be lovingly remembered by her children, Sheila, Greg (Christine), Lori (Ken), Sandra (Dean), Karen (Gary), Randy (Joalene); grandchildren, Robin, Graham, Kathaileen, Steven, Michael, Becu, Blaine, Stephanie, Clinton, Colton, Serena, Hannah, and Leah; sisters, Fern and Lenore; as well as numerous great grandchildren, family and friends. Pearl was greatly loved by her husband, Wayne Gibson, parents, Clifford and Violet (nee Cox) Corrigal; sisters, Eileen and Josephine. A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, June 8, 2019. Arrangements entrusted to Sturgeon Memorial Funeral Chapel (780) 921-3900.”

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Notice

This week in Morinville photo enforcement will be conducted in the following areas:

- Cardiff Rd & Grandin Dr
- Morinville Dr & Sunnycircle Rd
- East Boundary Rd & 95 St & 100 St
- 104 St & 107 G & 103 Ave
- 101 Ave & All School zones
- All Playground zones
- All other areas where speeding is a concern

Please slow down!!
On June 1st, Coach’s Corner in Morinville held the 2nd annual Danny Getzlaf Community Spirit to End ALS fundraiser. The grand total raised for the one day event was $12,050 which included $1000 from the Lions meat draw and Lions donation, $2000 from Ice Dunk Tank, $750 from 50/50, $1850 Barbeque ticket sales and $6450 silent auction and donations. In these photos Danny is shown with wife Linda and his brother Jack (who drove from Saskatoon for the day).
**Auctions**

**Saturday, June 29**

- **From Edmonton**
  - **5pm Auction**
  - **For: Herb & Kathy Trautman**
  - **5pm Auction**
  - **JUNE 27 AUCTION / 5PM AUCTION**
  - **FOR: HERB & KATHY TRAUTMAN**
  - **JUNE 27 AUCTION / 5PM AUCTION**

**JUNE 27 AUCTION / 5PM AUCTION**

**LOCATED:**

- **From ALCOMDALE**
  - Go N on Hwy 794 for 1 mi turn E on Twp 571 for 2 mi to 26230 Twp Rd 571.
- **From LEGAL CORNER**
  - On Hwy 2 go 8 mi W on Hwy 651 to Hwy 794. Then 3 S to Twp Rd 571. Then 2 E to 26230 Twp 571.

**GOOD EQUIPMENT:**

- **JD 6330 Premium tractor w 105 hp, (700hr), 3 pt, 420/70 R24 FWA, JD 673 self level loader, bucket, bale forks 9' JD quick att snow blade 3 pt bale fork 12' Heston 1345 Hy Sw disc bine (done 1200 acres) like new Sovema WR V12 H 12 wheel V rake JD 530 baler 1991 real 20' GN stock trailer very nice 30' PJ GN flat deck trailer w 3 axels HD beaver tail, FD ramps new grain treat pump new 2" banjo pump used 1 ton truck hoist 2 of 500 fuel tanks w stands large tidy tank log chains

**VERY NICE GARDEN ITEMS:**

- **Yammar 165D diesel tractor in (72hrh) 10hp, FWA FE loader, 42" rototiller, 3pt plow & blade nice JD 42 mower in FM deck trailer w 3 axels HD beaver tail, FD ramps new grain treat pump new 2" banjo pump used 1 ton truck hoist 2 of 500 fuel tanks w stands large tidy tank log chains

**NEW IDEAS TO CROP/RECREAT:**

- Two matching 2009 Honda 750 Shadow Spirit motor cycles in white, grey flame, burgundy stripe w extras (2700km) Triton 12' alum Ski Doo trailer w ramps motor cycle stands truck combo diesel tank & tool chest Honda EU 3000 gen

**GOOD SHOP ITEMS:**

- **JD 873 self level loader, bucket, bale forks 9 JD quick att snow blade 3 pt bale fork 12' Heston 1345 Hy Sw disc bine (done 1200 acres) like new Sovema WR V12 H 12 wheel V rake JD 530 baler 1991 real 20' GN stock trailer very nice 30' PJ GN flat deck trailer w 3 axels HD beaver tail, FD ramps new grain treat pump new 2" banjo pump used 1 ton truck hoist 2 of 500 fuel tanks w stands large tidy tank log chains

**HORSE/EQUIPMENT/RECREATION ITEMS:**

- nice western saddle tack sq plastic meat hooks 2 ornate wood benches w carved eagles & bears lobsters pot 2 antique wood heaters

**Canadian military involvement in the Second World War is included in a D-Day exhibit at the Musée Morinville Museum in early June.**

**photo by Grant Cree**
FROM WASKATENAU: Highway 28 - 9 km east to Range Road 184, turn left (North) 9 km to Township Road 602, turn right (East) 4 km to Range Road 183, turn right (South) 3 km. Farm is on left hand side.

FROM SMOKY LAKE: Highway 28 - 5 km West to Range Road 180, turn right (North) 5 km to Township Road 600, turn left (West) 7 km to Range Road 183, turn right (North) 3 km. Farm is on the right hand side.

AUCTION ITEMS FOR SALE: Much to list, farm tractors, tillage machinery, vintage sleds and more! TRACTORS: JD 4020 dsl, dual hyd, good rubber, second owner, stored inside  IH 1066 turbo, must see, new seat, 2700 hrs showing, good rubber, dual hyd  1952 McCormick tractor w/ Leon loader, good rubber, 2100 hrs, must see, new seat, DOC 1770 dual hyd (recently repainted), dealer trade. MACHINERY: Cockshutt double deck, 10 ft  Cockshutt 14 ft deep-till cultivator  JD deep-till cultivator, 16ft  IH vibra-shank, 16ft  Oliver 7 bottom plow  vintage one-way disc  HD Farm King 50ft harrows, nice shape  Melrow 16’ seed drill w/ grass, fert. & grain 11 ft  Versatile  Kansas City wheat cleaner w/ auger screen  Versatile 640 grain cleaner w/ auger screen.  TRAILERS: 1949 16’ Van, open station, runs nice  1962 16’ grain trailer, runs nice 1959 22’ grain trailer, runs nice, 10’ box 1982 20’ grain trailer, runs nice 1984 22’ grain trailer, runs nice 1969 22’ grain trailer, runs nice, 10’ box. BINS: MF 775 swather, Chrysler industrial motor, w/ spare reel  IH 210 swather, 15 ft, open station, stored indoors  MF Super 92 combine, 1964 & 1965 MF super 92 combine, runs nice. ANTIQUES & VINTAGE SNOWMOBILES: 1974 Skidoo Nordic TNT, rare, complete  Skidoo 640, no tracks  Skidoo ski-boose  3- brown jugs  vintage belt drive grain crusher  enamel basins  Wisconsin motor  wooden grain bins for re-purpose or storage  oil pails and pumps  Vintage cream separator (Westfalia) MEAT CUTTING EQUIPMENT & MISC: Advance meat saw, 115 volt, single phase, c/w meat grinder  shovels, hand tools, potato forks  2 rolls farm fence 400 gallon water trailer  4 large piles lumber x 2  large metal sink  pkg wood siding  hay forks  hyd cylinders, bikes, ice auger  used Lennox furnace, MC mower  tidy tanks 50-300-500 gas plus one 500 gallon oil tank  Zenith 5 hp tool. AUCTIONEER: Nick Gulka 587-982-4306 or 780-960-1914 www.heartlandauctions.ca

Ocean Wise is an organization based out of the Vancouver Aquarium who’s mission is to inspire the global community to become ocean wise by increasing understanding, wonder and appreciation of our oceans. They held a full day in-school field trip at Morinville Public School on May 29th. Here, Aurora Rakowski manually explored the textures of the surfaces of a whale’s baleen plate during her group’s presentation about whales and their various characteristics.
Morinville council to consider policy on video surveillance of town property

The town of Morinville is preparing to use video surveillance on some areas of its premises or properties. Council will be considering a Video Surveillance in Public Areas policy on June 7. Under the policy and related rules, administration states “Surveillance equipment such as video cameras, may be installed in identified public areas inside or outside where surveillance is a necessary and viable detection or deterrent activity.”

“Cameras shall not be directed at or aimed into locker rooms, showers, washrooms, etc.,” states the policy. “Cameras shall be located in such a way that they only monitor town owned facilities, infrastructure and assets.”

“Active monitoring may be instituted during specific times, and any serious incident that the monitor observes may be reported to the Community Peace Officers or Law Enforcement.”

Administration also notes in the background information to council that “the surveillance systems will be used to deter both property and person crimes” stating that “to date, video surveillance systems have been installed in town facilities and one open space to ensure the security and safety of Town of Morinville facilities, the individuals who use them and the assets housed within them.”

Limitations on the use of the video surveillance does not apply “to covert or overt surveillance cameras being used by the Town as a case-specific investigation tool for law enforcement purposes, where there is statutory authority and/or the authority of a search warrant to conduct the surveillance,” according to the documentation. It also does not apply to body or dash cameras being used by town staff, or to workplace surveillance systems installed by the town to conduct surveillance of employees.

Casey Bishop has a hands on lesson about reindeer antlers from one of the staff at the Edmonton Valley Zoo. Bishop liked how they were both smooth and fuzzy. She and her kindergarten classmates from Ecole Notre Dame Elementary School enjoyed a full day field trip to the zoo on May 30th. --photo by Amy Habib-Rissock
Increased permits reflect development activity in Gibbons

The Town of Gibbons had a huge spike in the value of permits issued compared to last year. The $3 million total value of materials and labor for the building, electrical, gas and plumbing permits issued during the first four months of this year is 50 percent higher than the $2 million total for all of last year.

Thanks to a building permit for materials and labor valued at more than $1 million issued in April plus 37 other permits issued to the end of April (there were 36 during the same time last year), 2019 is on track to have the highest safety codes permit numbers in five years.

Mayor Dan Deck said he believes the increase represents a growing confidence in Alberta’s economic outlook.

“Mayor Deck said that a testament to Gibbons’ proximity to the Industrial Heartland and the tremendous investment being made by NWR, Pembina Pipeline, and Inter Pipeline — to name just a few firms who collectively represent over $3 billion in added investment by 2020 to supplement the $60 billion already in place — plays an integral part in driving the interest.”

Deck said, “Our primary focus as a community that is truly Rooted in Family is to keep the momentum going. I also believe it is confidence in Gibbons as a whole that is demonstrated via our actions and ability to create meaningful partnerships and to identify innovative solutions to challenges that is evident in moving ahead with our partners in the P39 development.”

He said some key additions that stimulated further growth were the new Petro Canada, Drive Thru Car Wash, and Dairy Queen. New underway are the construction of a new four-unit townhouse project adjacent to the Legion, the commencement of the four Duplex Building project by Centre Park, and the construction and the revitalization of Gibbons Hotel and Restaurant. Deck described those “extremely positive investments in Gibbons that only serve as a testament to the long-term future of Gibbons.”

From Jan. 1 to April 30, 2019, Gibbons issued 16 building permits (seven last year) with materials and labor valued at just under $3 million.

Electrical permits during that time totalled 11; there were 15 in 2018. Gas permits numbers also decreased, with eight issued in 2019 and 11 during the first four months of 2018. Plumbing permits in that time totalled three in both 2018 and 2019.

The total number of building, electrical, gas and plumbing permits in 2017 was 119 (total value of nearly $3 million). In 2016 the 90 permits were valued at over $1 million while 2015’s 106 permits had a value of $3.7 million.
Sturgeon County couple celebrates 60 years together

James and Sandra Shaw celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this month. They lived most of those years on their farm northeast of Gibbons, raising their four children next to the homestead the Shaw family has owned since 1910.

Although James and Sandra left most of the organizing of their June 9 special event to their family, they contributed several special items. They renewed their marriage vows following the original booklet containing their marriage ceremony and vows from 1959. They also displayed the portraits they exchanged when they became engaged in November 1958.

Sandra was originally from the Belmont area. Her parents, John and Hilda Elzinga, had a home where there is now a movie theater beside Manning Drive. Her family, which included her three older brothers and her older sister, moved to Gibbons in 1950.

James and his sister, Ellen, were James and Catherine Shaw’s children. Young James attended Heathfield School on the corner next to the Shaw farm for his first six years of schooling. From grade seven to nine he took the bus to school in Gibbons.

“After that, I stayed home and worked on the farm,” he recalled. “A lot of us did that at that time.”

Sandra and Ellen both attended school at Gibbons. James and Sandra got to know each other at various community events. Sandra graduated from high school in 1955, took a year of college in Edmonton, and went to work for Palm Dairies.

They were married at the Christian Reform Church in Edmonton. James remembers it was a sunny day with a few clouds that sent down a “spit of rain” around 4:00 in the afternoon.

Their wedding reception was held at Cordano Community Hall.

After getting married, they lived in a basement suite in Edmonton, in the 111 Avenue and 165 Street area, for about three years. Sandra continued to work at Palm Dairies while James worked as a plumbing stock keeper for the provincial government.

In 1963, when their first son, Stuart, was one year old, they bought the quarter mile east of the Shaw home place and moved to the country. The house was old and cold, but they spent three winters in it before finding a newer house to move onto the property. They still live in that house. It is where they raised their four children.

James and Sandra Shaw were married June 6, 1959. – photo by Ian Gow

Stuart, Karen, Graham and Blaine. Like most family farms in the 1960s, they raised an assortment of animals including chickens, turkeys, ducks, cows, pigs and milk cows as well as crops. They never had any horses.

An annual summer camping and fishing trip, fit in just after the haying was done, was an important family outing. Neighbors and parents took care of the chores while James and Sandra took their kids fishing, often vacationing with another family. In winter, they played on the ice.

“Our whole family curled, every one of us,” said Sandra. “I volunteered a lot at the church and the school. A lot of our activities are still centered around the Cordano United Church.”

In the mid 1980s, when their kids were mostly grown, James and Sandra joined the Bon Accord Kick-A-Poo Kids and regularly square danced for the next 26 years.

They also enjoyed travelling, and although they did some earlier, most of their trips happened after they sold the cows and retired. In 2009 they drove across Canada, leaving in August and returning in October.

“It wasn’t quite long enough,” said James. “There was good things to see in every province.”

“We had a wonderful time,” Sandra said. “We loved Newfoundland.”

After that they went on a series of bus tours, going to Alaska three times and to various parts of the United States and Canada. Destinations included the Queen Charlotte Islands, Nashville (they stood on the stage at the Grand Ole Opry), Memphis and many other places.

James and Sandra say they have slowed down a lot and do not travel as much now. They enjoy spending time with their children and their families, which include nine grand-children (with another on the way) and nine great-grandchildren (with another on the way).
Fort Air Partnership (FAP) has released a new Data Trending and Comparison Report that provides important information about how annual averages of five key substances that affect local air quality have changed over time in the FAP Airshed, located north-east of Edmonton, including a portion of Sturgeon County.

Substances included in the report include fine particulate matter, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and ozone. All of these substances, with the exception of ozone, are referred to as Criterior Air Contaminants by the Government of Canada’s Environment and Climate Change department. Criterior Air Contaminants are classified as such because they contribute to smog, poor air quality and acid rain. Ozone was also included in the report since it is a substance that has an established Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standard and is used in the calculation of the Air Quality Health Index.

Data for some of the five substances show notable changes from year to year that can be tied to major natural events like wildfires. Other substances show changes over a longer period of time, which can be attributed to the introduction of environmental policies or the application of new technologies.

“Annual average trends for the five substances measured within FAP’s Airshed are comparable to or lower than most other Alberta and international jurisdictions used for comparison in the review,” noted Executive Director Nadine Blaney.

She added FAP prepared the report to increase public understanding and awareness of Airshed air quality trends. “It is part of our mandate to be transparent in sharing credible and objective ambient air quality data in as many ways as we can.”

The Alberta and international jurisdictions were chosen for comparison because they represent a variety of urban population sizes and industrial density. Validated data were used to compare and compile information within the report.