



**Ward 8 CAN
General Membership Meeting Notes
January 20, 2016
Twin Forks Playground**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

2. Introductions

Rachelle Niemela, Chair of the CAN, introduced Gates Legault, Elyse Lamontagne, Mary Morrier, Tamara Warriner, Mike Morelli, Councillor Al Sizer and guest MPP Glenn Thibeault.

Executive members attending:

Rachelle Niemela, Chair
Gates Legault, Treasurer
Mike Morelli, Twin Forks Playground Association Liaison
Elyse Lamontagne, Member
Mary Morrier, Member
Tamara Warriner, Member
Al Sizer, Ward 8 Councillor

Regrets:

Jessica Valiquette, Communications
Nancy Deni, Chair, Community Gardens
Steve Mantler, Member
Jim Niesing, Westmount Playground Association Liaison
Renée Germain, City Liaison

3. Discussion with MPP Glenn Thibeault

Indicated that for any personal matters you can set up a meeting with him one on one at his office.

Provided updates on what is happening provincially and what is happening that is of interest to the ward.

Bears:

This past summer, there was conflicting information being given by Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), BearWise, City of Greater Sudbury (CGS) and Greater Sudbury Police Service (GSPS) and there was lack of coordination between these agencies.

What is being planned for next year?

More coordination and communication between MNR, CGS, GSPS and BearWise

Hopefully, blueberry season will have improved, but the reality is that climate change might contribute to reduced blueberry crop in the future

CGS By-Law that will be in effect from April 1, to November 1, 2016 will require residents to only put their garbage out after 5 am.

Education and awareness campaign on how to keep bears away and what to do when you encounter a bear

MPP Thibeault is currently advocating for more MNR resources

Extended spring bear hunt to all hunters, not only those from in the province

- Additional rules on protecting female bears and cubs as well as baiting
- Hunt will be good for the economy and tourism

Statistics:

105,000 black bears in Northern and Central Ontario

Sudbury generated 60% of the calls this past summer

8 bears killed

3500 nuisance calls to police

Police are the only ones trained to shoot within the city limits

Concerns/comments made by residents

- Bears are affecting quality of life in the area (e.g. children playing, walking in the neighbourhood)
- Consider diversion feeding if blueberry crop doesn't return
- Looking at opening the garbage dump fences
- Extending hours that MNR goes out on calls
- Cost to the homeowner for property damage are very high in some cases
- Consider Bear Dogs that are used in Alberta

Maley Drive Extension:

Provincial and Municipal shares of the project are ready

Waiting for federal government to put forward their infrastructure funding

Will bring many jobs to the area

Questions from residents:

Should it be spent elsewhere (i.e. current road infrastructure)?

The Maley Drive project has the support from the province and those proposed funds cannot be transferred to other projects.

Is it possible to have local contractors or construction companies obtain contracts?

Has to be fair and open process to obtain best price
Even if local firms don't get the RFP contract, there will be spin off for the local economy

Hwy 69

Next part of the Hwy to the French River Trading Post: RFP will be out shortly and 4 lanes should be open by June

Negotiations with First Nations and environmental assessment is still required for the next section which is planned to be open by 2021, which includes 10 bridges and will be a very large construction undertaking

P.E.T. Scanner:

Important for all of North Eastern Ontario

Communities need to fundraise the capital costs

Many were waiting for the province to commit to the operational expenditures, so fundraising should be easier moving forward

Cycling Infrastructure for Hwy 69:

Currently doesn't connect to southern Ontario

Would be great for tourism

Waiting for the CycleON Strategy; Mr. Thibeault is on the All-Party Cycling Caucus and is working to address the deficiencies

Gas prices:

Currently, great discrepancy between Sudbury and surrounding Northern Communities and Sudbury and Greater Toronto Area

When at the federal level, Glenn Thibeault held an email campaign to the Competition Commissioner, received 10,000 signatures/emails

However, Competition Bureau can only launch investigation if the issue is brought forward from within one of the companies or if someone comes forward as a whistleblower

Glenn Thibeault, Paul Lefebvre and Marc Serré are still looking at ways to look into the issue

Hydro rates:

Concerns about high hydro rates and selling of Hydro One were raised

Fund for Northern Ontario businesses to help with hydro costs

High prices are related to investing in the grid and closing coal fired power plants.

Closing the coal plants has eliminated smog days and is helping with climate change

Debt retirement charge will be eliminated from hydro bills soon

By divesting in Hydro One, the plan is that this will help improve the company

Province will always keep 40% ownership

Ontario Energy Board will keep setting the rates, Hydro One has to apply to raise the rates. Hydro One only responsible for transmission and distribution of electricity

Arena/Events Centre:

Part of many projects that the city is considering after presentations last year from many groups advocating for large projects in the city (Place des Arts, Indoor Farmers Market)

City has received two proposals for arena/events centre

One would be a public-private partnership located on Hwy 17 East

Some councillors feel it should be a City project only

Community Hubs:

City has declined to purchase old schools due to large investments needed to retrofit, update and modernize

They are looking at other options such as libraries to house the hubs that the province is hoping to implement across Ontario

4. Greater Sudbury Police Service Update

The GSPS was not in attendance.

5. CAN Updates:

Healthy Kids:

- City received \$2.1 M over 3 years to deliver programming to kids 0-12
- Programs revolve around 3 themes: healthy play, good nutrition, less screen time
- Currently working on finalizing plans for the first theme – Run, Jump, Play
- Jan. 27, 10:30 – media event at TDS to announce the plan and activities
- Feb. 6 – Snow Day at on Ramsey Lake – 10 to 4
- Active your neighbourhood – groups, neighbourhoods, families, and individuals can apply for help in running neighbourhood activities for kids; support includes sports/games equipment to borrow, funding to provide nutritious snacks and drinks, promotion of your event, logistical help to arrange a site or permission to hold your event, insurance coverage if required. Application forms are now available online, at any citizen service center or public library
- Activate you way: walk, bike, roll, where you want to go
- Activate grades 5-8: drop-in sports and fun at youth centers, community centers and the YMCA for kids age 10+. There will be programming also in the South End and New Sudbury
- Activate your day: in schools and day care
- Winter Wonder: outdoor experience for students at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area
- Sudbury Cycles: learn to ride courses, bike rodeos and free bikes and helmets for eligible kids who require them

- Sudbury Swims: learn to swim lessons to grade 2 and 3 classes at city pools and the YMCA
- Sudbury Skates: learn to skate courses for kids 6-12. Kids who need equipment will be provided with skates and helmets.

6. CAN Projects:

- Twin Forks revitalization
- Twin Forks community gardens
- Community engagement project

7. Additional projects:

- Put down your ideas for your neighbourhood on the flip charts

8. Councillor updates:

- Currently in budget deliberations
- Looking at current sidewalk and bus shelter maintenance
- Improving transit infrastructure options (i.e. park & ride, additional fare ptions)

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting:

Spring visioning session:

Hoping to get a visioning session organized for this spring, where the community will help us determine the future directions of the CAN – stay tuned.