

Community Development

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Recently my title of "Economic Development Officer" was changed to "Community Development Officer". Council feels that this title better represents all aspects of this often misunderstood department within the Town of Morden. Business development is still the integral function of this office, but there is more to business retention and growth than dollars and cents. On a day to day basis, the Morden Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is tackling issues related to immigration, education & training, business facilitation, health & wellness, tourism development, and providing citizen access to resources at the regional, provincial and national level.



EXTERNAL INTERESTS EYE OPPORTUNITIES IN MORDEN

The experts say that "Word Of Mouth" is the best form of advertising. I agree with this statement, but I must say that national press coverage in the major newspapers and television networks doesn't hurt either. These last few months have seen the Town of Morden recognized for its many assets. We all have our copies of the Harrowsmith article, then our Museum gets national coverage and recognition for its latest colossal find, and we have just come away from the largest crowds ever at the Corn & Apple Festival! So many people visited that the bank machines ran out of money!

Firms and businesses from outside of town are starting to ask some serious questions, like "Should I bring our business to Morden"? My answer to them is, "Of course you should!" It is a very exciting time for this community, and with the growth coming to our regional retail sector, it is not hard to see where the buzz began. People are taking a long hard look at what our community has to offer, and recently the Town was approached by a film company that plans on shooting a special children's program in our downtown. National franchises are looking at what Morden has to offer as a place to grow their business. New families are immigrating to Morden and more often choosing it as their new home because they feel the friendly warmth of our community right away while staying in our transition house. On the surface, our cozy little town may seem like it is moving slowly, but be assured that Morden is on the map, in more ways than one. The question is, are you ready?

CONTACT US - WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

Ernie Epp - Chief Administrative Officer 822-4434 (eepp@mordenmb.com)  
 Garry Hiebert - Finance & Admin Director 822-4434 (ghiebert@mordenmb.com)  
 Stacey Dunnigan - Community Development Officer 822-5088 (sdunnigan@mordenmb.com)  
 Carol Martin - Community Resources Officer 822-4434 (cmartin@mordenmb.com)  
 Les Wieler - Director of Public Works 822-5119 (lwieler@mordenmb.com)  
 Barry Elliott - Director of Community & Social Development 822-5413 (belliott@mordenmb.com)  
 Brad Neduzak - Police Chief & Andy Thiessen - Fire Chief as noted on the front page.

MAIN STREET FACELIFT

We would like to send a sincere thank you to the citizens that have brought the many historical documents and photographs forward for our review. As a new person to the community I have thoroughly enjoyed going through the pictures and seeing what Morden looked like many years ago. These photos have become the inspiration for an initiative that would give our main street buildings a 'facelift' to bring them back to their original glory. Morden is very fortunate to already have some very impressive and well-preserved homes and commercial buildings. There has already been a good start on major projects that are an integral component of any main street district. The sidewalk improvements will continue into 2005, and improved light fixtures are planned for Stephen Street. Our hope is that through some cooperation we can enhance our historic downtown, and utilize these elements in the other core area of Thornhill Street. Our commercial areas are a tourist attraction in themselves. (the #1 tourism activity is shopping Ladies!), and more emphasis will be put on maximizing their potential.

People often ask me why I moved to Morden, and more often than not the people asking me are from Morden themselves. I moved here because I see the potential for the future, and people who aren't from here see it too now they are asking how to be a part of it.

If you too are excited about the possibilities, come and see me at the Civic Office. My door is open, and I look forward to speaking with you.

Stacey Dunnigan - Community Development Officer

"Town of Morden" JOBS

Equipment Operator/Water Plant Operator  
 Visit the website for details at  
[www.mordenmb.com](http://www.mordenmb.com)

AGASSIZ MEDICAL CENTRE NEWS

Now the new medical clinic has a name and a board of governors. The next step will be a fund raising campaign, which I hope everyone will support. Funds will make it possible for our community clinic to have the right equipment with the future in mind. They are hoping to move in to the new Clinic in November 2004.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

September 2004 Issue 2

TOWN OF MORDEN  
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Phone: (204) 822-4434  
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Website:  
[www.mordenmb.com](http://www.mordenmb.com)

We are here to serve you.

Mayor:  
 John B Wiens

Councillors:  
 Alex Fedorchuk  
 Wayne Hosea  
 Maurice Butler  
 Irvin Wiebe  
 Ron Lavery  
 Pryce Wood  
 Kerri Earl

Management Team:  
 Ernie Epp  
 Garry Hiebert  
 Les Wieler  
 Barry Elliott  
 Stacey Dunnigan  
 Carol Martin

Police Chief:  
 Brad Neduzak

Fire Chief:  
 Andy Thiessen



Mayor's Desk

Town Council and I wish to express our appreciation to the Festival Committee for a job well done. With record crowds, new events and record numbers of vendors we can only applaud the committee and all of the volunteers for the high quality of their program and its delivery.

Special acknowledgement should also be given to the Town crews for their extra effort in the preparation and cleanup of the festival. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL.

John B. Wiens - Mayor

Amazing Vision

As Chief Administration Officer for the Town of Morden I wanted to take this opportunity to share some thoughts in this our second edition of the Quarterly Newsletter. What prompted me to do this was the article in the Morden Times dated August 23rd, 2004 where Lorne Stelmach wrote "A vision through the crystal ball." Reading the article made me realize that this dream is very close to what we as a community are aiming for. The following are just a few comments to support this vision from the Town's perspective.

- Businesses on the corridor - negotiations are going on between the RM of Stanley, City of Winkler, and the Town of Morden to allow for this type of development.
- Walking/Cycling Path between Morden & Winkler - Morden and Winkler have jointly put in an application to the C4 (Climate Change Community Challenge) and one of the items listed in that application is for a Cycle/Walking Path between the two towns.
- Hotels Full - the Marketing Team are actively helping the tour operators to produce packages that will encourage tourists to come to Morden and stay for the weekend.
- Historic Downtown - work on a project is currently being initiated that will revitalize the downtown by promoting changes which will give back it's historic look.
- Marketplace Mall - MCDC is actively working on just such a facility in our downtown.

There is so much more but I think you get the idea. Lorne's dream is a good one and can be shared by all of us who call Morden home. It can only be accomplished by everyone contributing towards the goal. One of the main reasons for this newsletter was to let residents know what is happening in our community. Sometimes the finish line is a long way off, so it may take a while to accomplish - but that doesn't mean we aren't continuing in the race.

Ernie Epp - CAO

Points of Interest

WHO TO CALL?

**MORDEN POLICE**  
 822-4900  
 NON EMERGENCY  
 822-6292  
**EMERGENCY 911**

**MORDEN FIRE**  
**FIRE 911**

**MORDEN HOSPITAL**  
 331-8800  
**AMBULANCE 911**  
**HOSPITAL 331-8800**

"WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY!"

See Page 3



HOT LINE problems with-

STREETS SIDEWALKS WATER SEWER

See Page 3



Parks getting lots of attention. More on Page 3

## Fire Department News

Summer 2004 is going down as one of the coldest and wettest in history. That may be one of the reasons that out of control fires were down this summer. I am sure a large part is due to the fact that fire safety and prevention was on everyone's mind while they tried to enjoy the summer.

Well summer will soon be officially over and a gorgeous fall awaits us (fingers crossed). Here are a few fire safety tips.

### FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR THE FALL

- Fall cleanup of leaves and garden refuse. They are not to be burned in your fire pit. You know the one that you enjoyed cooking wieners over this summer. Ya, it was way back in July, you remember! Please take all yard refuse to the compost site for recycling, your neighbours will thank you.
- Generally the ground is dry with old, dying grass and leaves and can catch on fire easily during the fall months. Please take care when enjoying the outdoors.
- November 11th is a day that we remember the war veterans during the Remembrance Day ceremonies. It is also the time that we TEST our Town siren. At exactly 11:00 a.m. The Town siren will be sounded. The reason for the test is to check equipment for public emergency awareness and as a reminder of our fallen heroes.

In the event of a Town emergency the siren would be sounded and the public would be encouraged to listen to local radio stations, T.V. etc. for direction in dealing with the emergency of the day. An example would be a spotted Tornado. The radio would have info on what to do and how to respond. Pre-planning on your part will save confusion for your family later.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all those people that supported the Morden Fire Department during the 2004 Corn & Apple Muscular Dystrophy boot drive. For those people that had visitors with them at the parade and generously gave to our fund raising cause, could you please thank them for us as well.

We were able to totally smash any record we have had in the past with regards to money collected. In the 2004 parade a total of \$7,678.00 was raised for Muscular Dystrophy. According to our records, we have raised almost \$45,000 since 1996. We have been doing this fund raising for the past 16 years. My hands are shaking while I write this. This area has so much to be thankful for and one of them is the people in it. Again thanks for your support, we feel it.

*Andy Thiessen* - Fire Chief

## Communication - It Is Working

### THANK YOU

Since our last Quarterly Newsletter I have received many good ideas and suggestions. I appreciate all of them, so please keep sending them through.

### WEBSITE

Visit the website to see the upgraded version with the Town's new logo and the new drop down menus. This is just the beginning. I hope you like the changes so far. Your patience while more changes are made is most appreciated. More pages full of information for you the residents will be added. Note that the By-Laws and Council Minutes are now on the website. Some pages are under construction and for this I apologize - they will be completed as soon as possible.

### NEW LOGO

The Town has a new logo. It is shown on the cover of this newsletter and was launched on September 10th at the Civic Centre. Some of the inspiration for the style of the logo came from our Town being recognized as the "Best In Country Living" If you would like more information about this new logo, please call or email me and I will send you the full Question & Answer page that was handed out at the launch.

### DID YOU KNOW

- The Research Station has developed a new apple tree and has named it "Morden Festival". This new tree was announced at the Grand Opening of the Corn & Apple Festival and is now available from your local nurseries.
- The Mayor is interviewed on Maverick 105 Radio every Monday Morning at 9:30 and is available for you to see every Monday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Civic Centre.
- **94% Property Tax Collection Rate** - The accounts department would like to thank the residents. The collection rate of 94% by August 31st, 2004 shows how strong this community is.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone number: 822-4434  
or email: [cmartin@mordenmb.com](mailto:cmartin@mordenmb.com).

*Carol Martin* - Community Resources Officer

## Morden Police Service News



### EMERGENCY NUMBERS - Where do you call???

As a result of the presentations on Elder Fraud and Elder Abuse by the Town of Morden Police Department, there were requests for the emergency numbers. Magnetic Cards with the Emergency Numbers on them will be posted to everyone in town with the water bills. If you did not received one, then come to the Civic Centre Office and we will supply you with one - as long as quantities last.

**VEHICLE THEFTS ON THE RISE** - people are leaving their keys in their cars and the doors unlocked. As a result cars are being stolen and then torched. Please take care by locking your vehicles.

**BACK TO SCHOOL** - We ask that the motoring public use caution because there is an increased number of vehicles on the road as well as pedestrians and cyclists going to school.

*Brad Neduzak* - Police Chief

## Community & Social Development News

In our ongoing efforts to improve the Town of Morden parks and green spaces, new playground equipment has been installed at both Rampton Park and Elk's Park, and lighting has been installed through Morden Park. New park benches are being installed at various parks, the entrance to Livingston Nature Park has been improved, and the new walking bridge in Morden Park is expected to be installed later this year.



Dr. Charles Thomsen, Professor and Associate Dean from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Architecture, has begun a review of Morden Park that is expected to form the basis of a development plan of this park.

A number of improvements have been completed at the Recreation Centre including the painting of the main lobby area, the installation of a new roof over the East Arena, and refinishing of the Community Hall floor. Preparations are now underway for the beginning of the 2004/2005 ice season.

Anyone who has suggestions, questions, or concerns about any aspect of our department's services is encouraged to contact me directly by phone at 822-5431 or email: [bellioott@mordenmb.com](mailto:bellioott@mordenmb.com).

*Barry Elliott* - Community & Social Development

### Contact Information

General Inquiries Phone: 822-5431 Fax: 822-6619  
Beach Manager Phone: 822-4991 Fax: 822-6494  
Parks Manager Phone: 822-5352 Fax: 822-6494

## Public Works Department

### WHO DO YOU CALL???



Call the Hot Line for Streets, Sidewalks, Water & Sewer

**822-5119**

The Public Works Department wants you to know that this line is open 24 hours a day - 7 days a week.

There is an answering system that will take your message and it will be picked up on a regular basis. If you call in with an emergency then the message you hear when you call will always give a current emergency cell number to call.

The summer projects of sidewalks, paving and the Stephen Street project are complete. A big Thank You to all the contractors and employees who worked so hard to complete the Stephen Street Project EARLY!

The following are some of the projects for this fall;

- Morden Park Bridge is being decided and will likely start construction soon - subject to budget availability.
- Preliminary work on the walkway from Gaslight Drive to CPR track to be completed.
- Ornamental streetlight design has been looked at and confirmation of design will be determined.
- Parkhill bridge work is still under discussion.
- Sewer main relining will likely start in October.

*Les Wieler* - Director of Public Works