

# News & Views

PUBLISHED BY THE BAIE D'URFÉE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

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JULY, 1955

## SATURDAY, JULY 16 - BAIE D'URFÉE DAY - ALL DAY

This is the day that Baie d'Urfites, young, old, medium and indifferent, all turn out and have a whale of a time. It is Baie D'Urfites' National Holiday, so to speak, and has been carried on annually with increasing success almost since the days of Abbe D'Urfée's blood-thirsty feuds with the Iroquois in this very same community.

Chairman Bill Norcott and his committee can't stage any of those massacres, but they are planning activities just as exciting for one and all, if not so permanent. But nobody's talking, and all we can tell you is that it promises to be a rip-snorting day, with land sports, water sports, fun and games, dancing and entertainment, prizes, etc.

A complete, special program taking the form of a special News and Views will be delivered to each home well before THE day. But in the meantime, make sure that Saturday, July 16, is marked and reserved for BAIE D'URFÉE DAY, for all of us.

Ninth Year  
No. 91

SATURDAY, JULY 16 - TOWN HALL, ETC.

BAIE D'URFÉE DAY

Our Next  
Meeting

## PROPOSED SHOPPING CENTRE DESCRIBED TO COUNCIL

A shopping centre is being considered in a section of the commercial zone west of Morgan Road and bordering the Metropolitan boulevard.

In a letter to council, Lakeview Gardens Corp. said the centre would have "food, hardware, drug, clothing and general stores; restaurant, bank and gasoline service station, with regular parking areas".

Outlining the benefits they felt such a centre would bring to the community, the firm asked if a definite tax rate for the centre could be set right now to cover the next 10 years. On motion of Councillors Smythe and Christie, council replied that Baie d'Urfée had to comply with the Cities and Towns Act and therefore no such 10- year commitment could be made.

The company also reiterated its former request that the 66 feet for the service road paralleling the highway be not taken out of the 300-foot depth allocated for the commercial zone, but be additional to the commercial area. To do this a referendum of landowners affected must be taken, and council said they would hold such a referendum re modifying the zoning by-law, providing the sponsors of the proposed shopping centre could give the town adequate assurance that the project was indeed going through.

The highest bid for \$34,000 of Baie d'Urfée bonds was received from La Cie de Valeur en Placement Ltee. Council accepted their offer of \$97.81 for \$15,000 of 3 1/2 per cent bonds (1956-1965) and \$19,000 of 4 per cent bonds (1966-1975). Thus by calling for tenders the town got a better price.

Councillor Jost, at the special council meeting, May 25, reported that as of May 25 taxes totalling \$18,000 had been collected. It was decided to borrow \$29,096.61 from the bank mainly to pay H.J. O'Connell Ltd., (\$17,197.40) and Lakeview Gardens Corp. (\$9,412).

Erection of 50 hydro poles and 14 anchor poles in Lakeview Gardens and completing Oak Ridge was approved. When a promoter asked for a commercial zone in the Oak Ridge area, council said there was already sufficient commercial area within the community.

A letter of congratulations to Notary J.A. Savoie, recently appointed chairman of the Quebec Hydro Electric Commission, will be written. The following accounts were paid: Metropole Electric (the new transformer)-\$4666; John W. Long - \$311. Appointment of John Fisher and E.M. Pilkey to assist in the investigation of building applications, plans and specifications was approved.

## "OUR" BEACH - KEEP IT NICE, SAFE AND OUR'S

Each year as the weather gets warmer and the humidity higher hundreds of thousands of people in the Montreal area flock to beaches and swimming holes. Monday morning's paper and radio newscasts are nothing more than obituaries for those drowned, at those same beaches and swimming holes, or killed in motor accidents.

We Baie D'urfée-ites are fortunate in having a lovely, shaded, well-kept park and beach with all accessories, including lifeguards and swimming instruction for our youngsters.

While part of the Town, the beach and its facilities have been built and maintained by hardworking members of the Citizens Association. The Accessories, such as dock, rafts, etc., were built by members and are maintained by volunteer workers with the co-operation of all.

Our lifeguards are and have been competent young men, usually university undergrads, paid out of the funds contributed by members to the Association. A lifeguard's job is a tough one - mentally and physically. They work a 9 hour day, 6 days a week, on the alert at all times. Their main job is to try to prevent accidents by ensuring that the rules of "Safe Swimming" are adhered to - that is your responsibility, too. The lifeguards are not there for the sole purpose of looking after your "Johnny" or "Susie". That, you will agree, is impossible for in a twinkling of an eye, a youngster can disappear in the water only to be discovered too late. Water Safety is serious business and everybody's business.

The rules of the beach were set out in the last issue of News and Views; make sure you and your children understand them thoroughly.

Observance of the following will also help make our bathing safer:

1. Accompany your toddlers to the water's edge and stay there and watch them as they wade around - you cannot properly supervise from the lawn.
2. Leave your dog at home; under a town by-law, dogs are not allowed in the park. Dogs have been known to cause drownings.
3. Do not bring your boat into the wharf or rafts - it may cause someone grievous injury.
4. Help the lifeguard by adhering to the rules and make sure your children do.
5. The lifeguard is not a BABYSITTER.

Here are a few points which will improve our facilities:-

1. Do not throw paper or other articles on the lawn; put them in the receptacles.
2. The shore line is naturally stony so if you have a spare few minutes, remove stones from the beach area. This delightful area was developed by citizens like yourselves doing the little things that count.
3. Keeping this park for our own use is everyone's business. Ask anyone you suspect is an interloper if he is a resident of Baie d'Urfée. Explain that this is a private beach.
4. If you have any ideas for development of the beach bring them along to the Citizens Association meetings.

As a property owner and member of the Baie d'Urfée Citizens' Association you have a right to use the Town park and beach-you also share all the responsibilities and liabilities that go with it, and that does not mean just paying your taxes and your Association membership.

We have the nicest spot on the island - let's have the safest.

Bill Norcott.

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## COUNCIL QUIZZED RE BUILDING INSPECTOR

The Baie d'Urfée Citizens' Association met June 10, with about 45 members present.

Town Plan: Chairman Jack Mitcham read a reply from the town which said the town plan in the Town Hall was the official one. It had been prepared by C.C. Lindsay, Q.L.S. The Bland Plan had never been officially adopted. Chairman Mitcham said the town had no plan for its future development, except for the street plan referred to previously. Councillor Brookhouse said the Bland Plan was kept in mind by council in its deliberations. Ken Miller asked why the Bland Plan had been dropped. Brookhouse said it was too expensive to homologate the projected roads all at once. Chester Ellis said the new plan showed an access to the metropolitan highway on St. Andrews Rd. thus differing from the Bland Plan, and that is why he had raised the question.

Chairman Mitcham said a group would be formed, including two council members, if possible, to study town planning generally. The group would seek to determine what standard of house is required in Baie d'Urfée to produce sufficient tax revenue in the future to sustain the town services that would be necessary, including police and fire protection, water and sewer systems. They would seek estimates of cost of these services, and this information would also be useful to town council. Council was kept busy by normal business, and it seemed advisable for the C. A. to undertake this work, with cooperation of the council. Chester Ellis and Ewing Tait commended the project and urged that the committee press forward with it. The chairman described the Bland plan in general terms and said that it should be kept in mind for future planning.

Town Elections: Mr. Mitcham said the Nominating Committee were half-way toward a list of candidates. There was the question whether a slate should be selected by the Citizens' Association or sufficient candidates be chosen to hold an election. It was hoped two or more candidates could be found for each vacant seat. Chairman reminded that any citizen could put forward a candidate, providing the candidate agreed.

School Affairs: Mr. Mitcham read a letter from W. Spriggs, chairman of the Baie d'Urfée-Senneville School Board, concerning need for an appointment to the board. Senneville has the privilege of appointing two members and Baie d'Urfée, one. Councillor Smythe had declined to continue due to pressure of other work. Several citizens had been suggested to him, Jack Mitcham reported. Consequently he had approached Ron Baker, who had accepted, subject to approval by the Citizens' Association.

After Mr. Mitcham had spoken a few words about Ron Baker, it was moved by Peter Smith, seconded by Pat O'Flaherty, that Baker be appointed.

Membership: Two new members were reported by Ginny Higman.

Recreation: Sand for the beach would be delivered in a week and rafts and wharf put in. Volunteers were requested.

News and Views: Chairman reported most of the advertising revenue in.

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Baie d'Urfée Day: Bill Norcott said arrangements would be similar to last year. Admission to the dance would probably have to be increased. Handicrafts would not be exhibited that day, but would take place in August with Mrs. Buckham in charge.

Town Council: Herb Brookhouse reported there were three applications for the position of postmaster, and the new post office would probably be located in one of the Barn buildings. Time of the move was still uncertain. Questioned about adequate access to the Coop and prospective post office, chairman said Charlie Johnson was looking after this for the C.A. and would propose a plan.

Beach: Bill Norcott remarked on the greatly-increased number of children using the beach and expressed concern about lack of adequate supervision. He urged parents to watch their children and avoid possibility of a tragedy. A boom enclosed a shallow area for children and non-swimmers. The general opinion was that any water pollution was not dangerous, and no case of disease resulting from it was known. For anyone wishing to have lake water near their home tested, Unité Sanitaire in Lachine will do it free, reported Pat O'Flaherty.

Dog By-law: Chairman reported council had decided against a by-law curbing the freedom of dogs.

Toilet Facilities--Beach: Chairman read a letter prepared by C. Johnson and presented to council last year, and stated need for these facilities was more urgent this year. Herb Brookhouse said a committee headed by Selby McLeod would likely do something about it this year.

Building Inspection: In response to a request made at the last general meeting, the chairman will send another letter to council asking whether a permanent appointment to this position will be made. Several candidates had been suggested to him. Ewing Tait said it would be a good idea to combine the position of town engineer and building inspector and the chairman said he would add that suggestion to his letter.

Al Loke said if the present outlay for building inspection were approximately doubled a qualified though perhaps junior engineer could be obtained.

Chester Ellis recalled that council had been approached four times last year and this to adopt the principle of employing people whose business had no relation to their duties for the town, but without success. He felt this should be taken into account by the nomination committee for the forthcoming town elections. Chairman Jack Mitcham felt he should not instruct the committee but let the candidates appear before the citizens to outline their platforms. Herb Brookhouse reminded that the last day for nominations was eight days before election day, Oct. 1.

Al Loke suggested a special meeting if necessary to hear candidates, and Chester Ellis suggested an election meeting during July to select a slate.

Traffic: Mrs. Wighton reported there was much speeding by trucks along Somerset and Coventry, which was dangerous, to children particularly. Chairman said he would write council suggesting remedies; and Al Loke suggested assistance of the Provincial Police be sought. The chairman would also bring to attention of council the posting of advertising signs within town limits. Peter Smith raised the question.

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EXCAVATION

GRADING

FILL



New Members: Approximately 10 new residents were introduced. Chairman introduced two councillors present, Messrs. Brookhouse and Smythe.

Lawrence Marshall, secretary.

### DOGS BREATHE EASIER AS BY-LAW CANNED

At regular council meeting June 7, Secretary Treasurer H.A. Soucy was instructed to get from Jack Mitcham, chairman of the Citizens' Association, a copy of the remarks Mr. Mitcham made to council concerning Buildings Inspector C.O. Grimm.

Reg Vidler was appointed weeds inspector, under the chairmanship of Selby McLeod, and Mr. Vidler will survey the community for ignored weeds and report accordingly.

Councillor Smythe proposed a by-law to control dogs in town. Town Solicitor John Long suggested such a by-law would not be feasible if it couldn't be enforced. That brought up the question of dog permits, too.

Mr. Smythe said we'd have a dogcatcher, and when loose dogs were picked up, the owners by claiming them would be admitting their guilt. Thus police action would not be required. He said there had been complaints of dogs damaging gardens, knocking over garbage pails, chasing cars and bicycles, and even biting people.

Councillor Corbett said he endorsed the letter from Ewing Tait opposing any such by-law. Mr. Corbett said people moved out to Baie d'Urfée to have space, dogs and room to play. Children also damage gardens, sometimes chase cyclists, maybe knock over the odd garbage can but surely, he suggested, we're not going to tie them up.

"I'm both a gardener and a dog lover," he said, "but it's a case of live and let live. I don't think the whole town should be legislated because of a few. Individuals should be able to resolve their problems with each other."

Mr. Smythe said he didn't propose his by-law because of any specific dog case.

Mr. Jost suggested dogs were an asset from the standpoint of protection, particularly since the town had no police. Tied up they might not be so effective. On motion of Mr. Corbett, the matter was dropped.

Councillor Brookhouse said three people had applied for the job of post-master. Reg Vidler's resignation will be accepted with appointment of his successor.

Council was informed that the new hydro sub-station serving Baie d'Urfée and this end of the island went into operation June 6. When Councillor Smythe said some of the road patching wasn't too satisfactory, Mayor Gelinas replied that the job wasn't yet finished, but it wouldn't be paid for until done to the town's satisfaction.

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Frank Booth recalled that council had a year ago agreed to provide toilet facilities in the beach area. Councillor Christie said that a real job, including a proper septic bed, would be required. Mr. Christie suggested perhaps the toilets could be put where the greenhouse now stands. It was finally decided to use the post office space when the post office is moved to the Barns. Mr. McLeod will do the investigating.

Mr. Booth enquired if council had any set policy regarding the various parks around town - care and maintenance, proposed improvements, projects undertaken on the initiative of citizen groups, etc? Selby McLeod, parks chairman, said there was no specific policy, but if a local group had something in mind, council would try to help wherever and however possible.

### SECURITY IN YOUR HOME

The following tips concerning "security in your home" are contained in the booklet "Crime in Your Community" published by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The tips are particularly appropriate at this time with so many Baie d'Urfités contemplating summer vacation trips and stays away from home.

Many householders make things easy for the criminal by leaving doors and windows unlocked and advertising their absence by leaving the house in darkness.

There have been cases where thieves have stolen a truckload of furniture, rugs and household effects, as well as silverware and clothing, when the family were temporarily away from home.

#### IF YOU ARE GOING OUT FOR THE EVENING:

MAKE SURE that all doors and windows are securely locked.

LEAVE TWO OR THREE LIGHTS burning in the house to make it appear that someone is at home.

#### WHILE YOU ARE ASLEEP:

A NIGHT LIGHT over your garage doors will discourage prowlers and safeguard your car and implements.

#### IF YOU ARE GOING AWAY ON A VISIT:

BE SURE to stop milk and newspaper deliveries so that a collection of them will not advertise your absence.

NOTIFY THE POLICE so that they can check your home during their patrols.

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DO NOT leave luggage, parcels, or personal property on the seats where it may be seen and tempt the thief. Lock such articles in the luggage or glove compartment.

"IT IS AN ANCIENT RULE OF SOUND GOVERNMENT . . ."

Our town council doesn't see anything untoward in having as a town employee a man whose personal business interests could conceivably clash with those of the community which he is also paid to represent.

A quick glance at newspapers of recent weeks indicates that on the principle involved our council stands in splendid isolation.

In the McCann-Dempsey embroglio, both Finance Minister Walter Harris and Opposition Leader George Drew quoted this dictum of ex-prime minister Winston Churchill:

"It is a principle of public life that ministers must so order their affairs that no conflict arises, or appears to arise, between their private interests and their public duties."

The Calgary Herald quoted the following editorial, in part, from the Edmonton Journal:

"It is an ancient rule of sound government that no person holding public office should ever put himself in a position where his private interests conflict with his duty, or where he is under a temptation to abuse his official powers for his personal advantage."

Referring to the case of Dr. McCann and a couple of other government officials with private business interests, The Toronto Star said:

"It has never been suggested that any of these gentlemen has used his governmental position to advance his private business interests. But they ought not to put themselves in a position where a conflict between their private interests and their public duties might arise. That is a rule which has been pretty generally adhered to in British countries."

WELL?

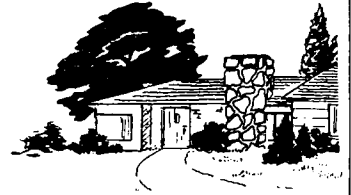
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SUNDAY SCHOOL . . . . . 10.45 A.M.

AT COURTLAND PARK SCHOOL,

FOR INFORMATION: PHONE MRS, W.C. WARE,  
BEAUREPAIRE, 3015

" WE HAVE NO CREED TO OFFER ONLY A FAITH IN  
MAN TO ENCOURAGE "