



I have been asked by friends and family why I chose to put my name forward again for the role of Mayor after 15 years in office and 25 total years. In the last few years Bow Island has experienced some exciting growth in construction, population and community spirit and I think there is more to come. It has been rewarding to see this growth and see the effort being put into our community by so many dedicated to our success: volunteers, other councillors and staff. The current team of Town employees are doing so much for all of us, from all aspects of public works to administration and it is truly a pleasure to work with them and see the devotion and care they have for Bow Island. Look at the care they are taking with our public spaces such as the parks, cemetery and recreation facilities. Road and infrastructure repairs are timely and well done. We are truly fortunate to have these people on our team. I do appreciate being acclaimed but do not take this for granted. I understand that I am one voice on a Council of 7 and I am looking forward to working with the group that will be elected on October 20th. I think it is great that we have had 8 people nominated to run for the 6 Council seats. There will be a candidates' forum on October 7th at the Multiplex where you can hear their reasons for running, and their ideas to make our community even better. The **advanced election poll** will be held October 15th from 9:30am to 11:30am at Pleasant View Lodge. Regular polling will be Oct 20th from 10am to 8pm at the Legion. Get out and VOTE!

The Town has finalized the establishment of the Clinic corporation as a legal entity and hopes to have the board of directors appointed by the end of the month. There is a link on the Town website for those interested in applying under Services/Latest News: [MCC Directors](#). Interested individuals should read the Terms of Reference on that page and submit a cover letter that outlines why you want to participate on the Board, qualifications, and relevant experience. Deadline for applying is October 22.

Prospective physician candidates continue to be interviewed, and, in the meantime, we are very appreciative of Dr. Edwards stepping up to support Dr. Tawfeeq and the community. Emergency is open again from 8 am to 8 pm Monday through Thursday and then regular hours Friday to Monday morning as long as there is a locum available.

The Harry Strom Provincial Building was opened in 1984 to house Alberta Agriculture, the Health Unit, Home Care and the Provincial Court. Court operations officially ceased in 2014 but had actually stopped before that, with all proceedings moving to Medicine Hat. Alberta Agriculture phased their offices out until finally closing in 2019. Since then, Community Health and Home Care have continued to be based there, and some offices are being rented to a local company. Much of the building has been empty since and the government indicated several years ago that they wished to dispose of the building and would offer it to the Town. That process has taken some time, but an agreement has finally been reached for the Town to purchase the property, with the closing date of December 1st. The Town will be negotiating lease agreements with the existing tenants and have begun discussions with another agency who may be interested in space there. Town administration offices will relocate this winter and FCSS will be given more space in the existing offices. Various options are being considered for other parts of the existing building. The purchase of this 25,000 square foot building is less than \$1 million and will be funded with a combination of grants and reserves with 30% from a debenture. These government buildings were very well built and meant to last and with so much of it not being used for so long it is in good condition and should serve the Town well for years to come.

With much of the Parkview subdivision being sold and Northview Acres pretty much sold out, Council is looking at designs for the next housing development, this time focusing on single family properties. Construction continues on houses and other units in Parkview with some being occupied already.

One of the strengths of our community are the number of volunteers and volunteer organizations we have. In 1959 a group of volunteers created the **Hospital Auxiliary** to support and comfort the patients and staff. They were officially incorporated in 1975 and are one of the few auxiliaries left in the province today. It was a great pleasure to attend their 50th Anniversary celebrations at the Golden Age Centre, on September 19th. One of the original members, Velma Kienzle, was in attendance along with several past and present members as well as past and present hospital staff. We are also fortunate to have another dedicated volunteer group supporting the Health Centre, in the **Bow Island Health Foundation**. Congratulations to the Auxiliary on their milestone and thank you to both groups for their service.

The Town recently launched a new website: movetobowisland.ca. The site includes some great pictures, videos and testimonials from local people about living, working, learning and playing in Bow Island. This promotional site will be used to help attract potential new residents, businesses and healthcare providers to our community. Please check it out.

Watch for the **Bean Town Barbecue** on Thanksgiving weekend!

Mayor Gordon Reynolds