



# ***Town of Southey***

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## Message from the Mayor

### **A few thank you's...**

I would like to thank those who participated in our democratic process. Competition in electing those to public office creates an awareness that transparency and accountability is extremely important to ensure the whole community is well served. I am humbled to be the successful candidate in the position of Mayor and do not take this responsibility lightly.

To our new Town Councillors; thank you for giving your time, experience, ideas, and expertise. I am looking forward to working with all of you. To the outgoing Mayor and Councillors, on behalf of myself and new Council, I extend our well wishes. Being an elected official at the Municipal level is a privilege and at the grass roots level of our democratic process. Thank you for your service.

### **What do I believe?**

There are ***five core principals*** I believe in as Mayor: Leadership, Communication, Collaboration Transparency and Fairness. Adoption of these five core principals are key to our commitment to all the residents of Southey. As ***leaders*** and representatives, we will strive as a team to help our town succeed and to inspire and unite our citizens. ***Communication*** is important for exploring differing viewpoints and to achieve our goals as a town. We have a common purpose which requires ***collaboration*** of mayor and council, staff, citizens, and businesses to create opportunities for success. ***Transparency*** and accountability will help enable us to meet the expectations of community members by listening to concerns and ideas. The fifth core principal is fairness. ***Fairness*** must be incorporated in all facets of how Mayor and Council deal with our staff, the community and with all our stakeholders and neighbouring communities. Words are meaningless without visible change. We are willing to accept the challenge, and to work with the community to continue to build a healthy vibrant community leading to great achievements.

### **As a Team We will do Great Things**

As a Council we all have unique talents and abilities and through respectful and diverse opinions and viewpoints, we have the makings of a great team. Approximately half of council has experience being a previous member of Southey Town Council. It is through this experience we can mentor the next generation, so they feel empowered and enabled to take on more leadership roles in the future. The other half of council consists of professionals with fresh new ideas and perspectives. We will make decisions that are best for the town as a whole, while keeping in mind individual needs.

Extremely important to the delivery of service is our excellent, dedicated staff, unselfishly delivering services to the community. We will work together as a united leadership unit to offer support and guidance when needed, and to accept ideas and assistance when offered. This also includes all the volunteers whose commitment and sacrifice are so vital to the foundation of the community.

On behalf of myself, council and staff we look forward to networking with our Primary Health Group, Fire Department, First Responders, local RCMP Detachment members, service clubs, businesses and all community members to create a community all residents are proud of.

### **A Brief Word About the World**

Over the past several months Covid-19 has interfered with all aspects of our lives. It is lurking in the shadows and we must never let our guard down. We are currently facing an upswing in cases within the Province. We commit to working with our Primary Health Communities Partnership (PHCP), Southey Branch in minimizing the risk in this community. PHCP Southey branch is essential to ensuring our community provides a healthy platform which is integrated into our delivery of services to the residents of Southey and area.

In closing, myself, Council and our town staff look forward to delivering a high level of service over the next 4 years. Take Care and Be safe.

**Leigh Bishop**

***Mayor of the Town of Southey***

November 16, 2020