

August 16

Brock Mulligan of Alberta Forest Products (AFPA)

- AFPA is a non-profit association that represents the forest industry because TOLKO officially joined the association
- Brock discussed our relationship with TOLKO and if there was anything in particular that the association could help us with.

August 16

Airport Task Force

- The task force voted to put the items from the Airport Kitchen into the Fall "Silent Auction."
- Ninety percent of the painting is complete with a 10% holdback to fix deficiencies after the flooring is completed.
- The committee elected "Blue Topaz" as the flooring colour.
- The quote to strip the old floor and replace the new floor was \$88,180 and was accepted by the committee.
- This procedure will take about two weeks and should begin....?

August 22

Minister Shandro (Minister of Justice and Solicitor General)

- Met to discuss the Alberta Police Service Model
- One of their ideas is to boost the number of police officers in rural detachments up to at least 10 and decentralized special units out of big cities. When I stated, when at full capacity HL had 14, officers, 3 Cpls., 1 Sgt. and 1 Staff Sgt. Would that change...he said we could have up to thirty officers.
- I asked how they would attract that many officers to rural areas like ours, because members like the amenities of cities like running tracks and gyms...he said they would go where they were posted...even when I asked how much it would cost us...he said that it would be no more than under the RCMP model. He asked how he could convince municipalities that it was not going to be a higher cost...I suggested an MOU signed in blood.

- I said our council felt we need more mental health RCMP because a lot of our calls are mental health and addictions issues. How would this force work with the behemoth that is AHS because we are still waiting for one RPACT team. He said they would not have to work with AHS, that they could work with many different private therapists.
- He suggested, but did not commit, that High Level could be a service hub...because they are not that far in deciding which communities will be service hubs.
- I asked about “Regional Hubs” of which there will be three. Was Edmonton still going to be considered North? He stated that it could be Peace River, because Edmonton has city police and other larger centres are doing business cases to be their own city police.
- The final question I asked was if the Federal Government is actually trying to get out of contract policing as the current contract ends in 2032. He seems to feel that we will be paying 100% of policing because they want out of the liability.
- I told him we mostly like what the RCMP do here in HL, just not the fact that we are often left without a Staff Sargent, Sargent, or corporals. He seemed really surprised at that and thanked me for informing him. He also said it was absolutely nothing against the RCMP, because all communities feel they do a good job. It is a federal government issue as to why the GOA wants Provincial Policing.
- I asked Clark to get Micheal to run this down the rabbit hole and see if there is any documentation that this is the direction the Feds are trying to go and if it is...maybe it is time.

August 23

MFTA

- Business as usual

August 27

Dene Assembly

- Members of council and administration attended the signing of the “Friendship Agreement” which was held the second day of the Assembly days.

- The TOHL and the Dene Tha' members worked on this monumental agreement which brought the waterline to the Bushie Community, a Joint Emergency Plan, and the Evacuation Multipurpose Centre.
- It was a fantastic day as I watched the young members that are just learning how to drum; drum a prayer and then drum a hand-game song. I watched the hand-games which were so exciting, with all the drumming and the tricks of the players and of course I visited with the community members that I had not seen for a long time. I was invited to stay for the Tea Dance, but had prior commitments that I could not get out of. All-in-All it was a fantastic day and thanks to those of you that were able to attend on short notice.