

Springfield News and Views

Submitted by Reeve Peter Skrupski

Highway #15 Traffic Counts

The annual average daily traffic (number of vehicles passing a point on an average day of the year) on Highway #15 at the Hwy. #207 point is approximately 9,000. This is a considerable amount of vehicular traffic for a two lane highway. In comparison with four lane Highways such as Highway #59 at Hwy. #44 is 9,000 vehicles per day, Highway #7 at Stoney Mountain is 8,000 vehicles per day, Highway #44 at Hwy #59 is 5,500 vehicles per day, and Highway #75 at Hwy #246 is 6,000 vehicles a day. The average number of vehicles passing through Dugald a day is 6,000 and on a hot summer Friday the number could reach as high 10,000 vehicles.

Highway Safety

For some reason the upgrading of Highway #15 in the municipality of Springfield has been neglected by the provincial and federal government infrastructure programs. The highest traffic counts are the 5 mile stretch of Highway between Dugald and the Perimeter. The recent Manitoba Highway Renewal Plan 2007 – 2011 does not mention any improvements to Highway #15. The additional population growth of our municipality will result in more vehicles on the congested Highway #15. Council will voice these concerns at a meeting with Highway Minister Ron Lemieux. Provincial Highway Safety affects everyone and is a provincial jurisdiction. The Honourable Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation can be reached at minifra@leg.gov.mb.ca or 945-7610.

Defenseman of the Year

Congratulations to Springfield's Drew Bagnall who was awarded USA College Hockey Defenseman of the Year. The Senior Student from Oakbank, Manitoba was the most important player on the most successful team in the league. He plays for the St. Lawrence Saints in Canton, New York and attends the St. Lawrence University.