

# DOKURA NEWS

FALL 2011

## PROVINCIAL ELECTION

Congratulations to DOKURA's representative for the OXDRIFT area in her election as the new representative for the Kenora District in the provincial government. Sarah Campbell replaces retiring MPP, Howard Hampton at Queen's Park.

Unfortunately for DOKURA, Sarah's success at the provincial level creates a vacancy in the Oxdrift riding on the Kenora District Services Board.

## ATTENTION OXDRIFT AREA RESIDENTS

As noted in the previous article, Sarah Campbell's success in the recent Ontario Provincial Election dictates that she **MUST** resign her position on the Kenora District Services Board.

That leaves DOKURA without anyone to represent the vast unincorporated area known locally as the Oxdrift Area.

It's a BIG area!

The eastern boundary is the boundary of the Kenora District with the Thunder Bay District – approximately a north south line thru English River.

The southern boundary is the boundary of the Kenora District with that of the Rainy River District.

The western boundary is formally the western boundary of Bridges Township – approximately thru George Lake on the Trans Canada Highway.

And finally, the northern boundary is defined as an east west line following the northern border of Grand Trunk Block 10. In simpler terms, this is an east west line just north of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout.

The area excludes the areas of municipal government within the zone, namely the City of Dryden; Municipality of Machin; Town of Ignace and the Town of Sioux Lookout.

DOKURA has a contract with the Services Board to "Select" a replacement to fill the vacated position for the balance of Sarah's term. That's thru until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

Unfortunately, while the Province of Ontario provided some funding to cover the cost of the election in the fall of 2010, there is NO funding available from Queen's Park to cover an election to fill the vacancy.

That having been said, DOKURA will do its best to make sure anyone interested in filling the position for the balance of the term, is duly considered.

Interested individuals are asked to submit a letter detailing their background and desire to fill the position, to;

DOKURA  
Oxdrift Selection Committee  
Box 1245 Keewatin Post Office  
KENORA, ON P0X 1C0

The closing date for applications has been set at Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

Following receipt of the applications, the Directors of DOKURA will meet and review them. They – the Directors – will make the selection and KDSB, in turn, will make the formal appointment to its Board at its next meeting.

Yes, there is some “Pay” for the position. The successful individual will receive \$1,000.00 per year! The job calls for attending approximately nine meetings of the Services Board – usually held mid week in Dryden - as well as committee meetings. A per diem of \$110.00 per day, plus expenses (travel and meals) is provided.

And finally, with respect to the duties of the office, the appointed individual will further serve as a Director on the DOKURA Board.

So, if you are interested in applying for the position, and are a permanent resident of the Oxdrift District, please take the time to put your name forward.

Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact DOKURA at [DOKURAORG@hotmail.com](mailto:DOKURAORG@hotmail.com) or by phoning President Bill Blower at 807-728-2128

## ANNUAL MEETING

This year’s annual meeting was held in the PUFF Firehall at Lac Lu on the Saturday evening of August 27<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting covered the usual business associated with annual meetings, reports from Directors, approval of the financial statement and the election of new Directors.

Ian Clark’s term of office expired and he chose not to seek another term.

Ron Cooke was elected as the alternate to the KDSB for Lac Seul and Josh Johnson as the alternate on the KDSB for the Oxdrift zone. All other positions remain unchanged.

The meeting was addressed by the new CAO of the Kenora District Services Board, Dan McNeill, who used the opportunity to present those present with an overview of the operation of the Services Board. This is a presentation that he and the board’s publicity committee, have been working on for some time. Their hope is to move around the District and speak – the presentation includes a number of slides – to local service clubs, municipal councils, and community groups, explaining just who the Services Board is and what they do for the local communities.

If you are involved in a local event and are looking for a speaker with something to say of interest to the local community, please give Dan a call. He can be reached at his office in Dryden, weekdays, at 807-223-2100, extension 2222.

# LOCAL AMBULANCE SERVICE

Yes, construction of the new ambulance garage to serve the western portion of the Kenora District, on Barsky Hill in Kenora, is officially underway.

This facility, to replace the land ambulance garage located adjacent to the Kenora Hospital, has been a long time coming, but finally we can report that construction is underway.

Hopefully if all proceeds according to plan, the new facility should be ready for use next spring.

This facility is fully funded and operated by the Services Board, serving the needs of residents of Ontario in and around the City of Kenora, thru to the Manitoba border.

All of the municipalities within the Kenora District have at least one land ambulance base, the exception being Vermillion Bay. Local ambulance service to Vermillion Bay and the Municipality of Machin must travel from Dryden, Kenora or Ear Falls.

That's entirely inadequate in so far as DOKURA is concerned.

And yes, the Unincorporated Areas in and around that area is faced with the same wait time when faced with emergency calls.

IT'S TIME THE KENORA DISTRICT SERVICES BOARD provided funding for the establishment of a regular land ambulance facility in "The Bay".

The need to service not only Vermillion Bay, but also the highways and small communities along the highways of the area, led DOKURA to the passage of a Resolution at its annual meeting

requesting the Kenora District Services Board include funding it in its next (2012) budget to establish a land ambulance in Vermillion Bay.

Hopefully the Services Board will follow up on this important expansion in local service.

# UNINCORPORATED AREA ENUMERATION

We are still waiting!

Yes, DOKURA has been in touch with the provincial corporation charged with the responsibility of providing a proper enumeration of all the Unincorporated Area within the Kenora District. This, we hope, will lead to a meaningful voters list, something they were unable to provide for last fall's election.

The authorities in southern Ontario have replied offering to have their local (Thunder Bay) staff meet with DOKURA to discuss the matter. Unfortunately, DOKURA's request for a local meeting is still outstanding.

DOKURA will keep on the matter and hopefully, come spring 2012, a meeting can be held that will lead to a joint effort between MPAC and DOKURA to complete the process.

# ROAD ASSOCIATIONS PROPOSED MEETING

Yes, DOKURA has heard from a number of representatives of area roads who do not receive any government funding for their roads. The intention is to arrange a meeting with senior MTO staff, from

Thunder Bay, locally in the Kenora area, to explore what can be done to expand funding to such groups.

The hope was to have had all our “ducks in line” in time for a meeting this fall, however time and other commitments just have not allowed for everyone involved to get together.

To those of you who have replied to DOKURA by “E” Mail, indicating your interest, please note that we are still working on details and hope to have things to the point where everyone can sit down together early next spring – i.e. May 2012.

If you are involved with a Local Road Association and do not presently receive any government funding for your road, and would like to be included in the meeting, PLEASE take a moment and let Secretary/Treasurer, Irene Kember know by “E” Mail to [DOKURAORG@hotmail.com](mailto:DOKURAORG@hotmail.com). Please remember to include a telephone number so we can contact you by more than the Internet.

## CONTACT US

The Directors of DOKURA – that's the incorporated, non-profit association representing the interests of the residents of the Unincorporated Areas of the District of Kenora – formally known as the DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED AREAS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION – are always interested in hearing from area residents on matters of local concern. They don't promise a quick and easy solution to everything, but will try and help out where possible.

So, readers may contact DOKURA at;

DOKURA

Box 1245 Keewatin Post Office  
Kenora, On P0X 1C0

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The By-Laws of DOKURA call for the publication of the Association's annual financial report.

Treasurer Irene Kember presented the following report at the annual meeting. The highlights of which, are as follows;

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 thru March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011

### ASSETS

Credit Union Share	\$25.00
Cash on hand	
General account	\$9,455.13
Special Action act.	520.00
<b>TOTAL - - -</b>	<b>-\$10,000.13</b>

### LIABILITIES

Nil

### REVENUE and EXPENSES for the year

#### INCOME

Credit Union Interest	\$66.15
Donations	\$520.00
<b>TOTAL - - -</b>	<b>-\$586.15</b>

#### EXPENSES

Printing, Postage, Office	\$504.59
Newsletter	280.43
Meetings of Directors	377.92
Annual Meeting	150.00
Director's Travel	497.11

**TOTAL - - - - \$1,810.05**

