

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT

Smoky Lake County Public Works completed 22 road projects in 2016 including 3 oil treatment, 4 Fiberbat/Micro-surfacing, 13 MG-30 stabilization/ dust control, and 1 major road construction Project. The gravelling program went well, completing all divisions, along with maintaining areas in need of extra material. Once again, in 2016 Public Works has a full slate of oiling, rehabilitation, MG-30 and construction projects .

Our culvert crew stayed on top of any arising problems by following their maintenance program:

- Spring clearing of snow from culvert inverts at high flow areas
- Steaming icy or plugged culverts
- Insuring culverts are repaired and free of debris
- Installation of new culverts

The patching crew was out continuously repairing holes and broken up cold mix on dust controls and oil base roads. As part of our maintenance procedures, we will continue in 2017, as soon as conditions are stable and dry enough to hold the cold mix material.

The hydro-axe will once again be operating full time, beginning when conditions are dry enough this spring, and continuing until snow fall amounts prohibit any further progress.

The dewatering program of pitrun for the purpose of crushing to gravel, continued until frost hindered our progress in January. We will continue the stripping and rock excavation in March.

Brushing and chipping of deadfall and large trees within the county road right of way will continue throughout the upcoming season.

Bridge replacement and the repair program will continue in 2017 as government funds become available. The primary objective for 2017 is to have Bridge File # 79279; located On RR 133A, north of TWP 620, replaced .

Smoky Lake County will continue with inspections followed by scheduled repairs or replacement on a priority basis .

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Snow removal through the winter of 2016 – 2017 took place as required. In addition, snow removal took place on some 325 private residential driveways; County offered flag purchase plan. We would kindly ask the residents to be patient with the timing of snow removal as tractors assist on village roads and alleys prior to beginning driveways. The 4 tractors designated to snow removal have their specified work boundaries and will alternate routes after each winter event to allow for equal early completion.

Our fall season brought us an early snow fall creating unfavourable driving conditions for a period of time. Public Works department appreciates the residents co-operation and patience until measures could be taken to improve the road surface conditions. Unfortunately, the roads could not be cleared because along with the snow being bladed would have come our road top gravel as the surface was not yet frozen. The roads that were affected have been documented and will receive priority grader maintenance and gravelling this spring.

County staff continue to inspect roads for proper signage and appreciate your co-operation on notification of missing or damaged road signs.

Calls from local residents concerning adverse road conditions during winter or summer seasons will be dealt with in a timely fashion and we will continue to welcome and deal with all concerns.

Public Works Department continues to improve and become more efficient, and with your co-operation and patience, this year's maintenance and projects will be completed in a safe, timely fashion.

Doug Ponich
Public Works Manager

