

Your Opinion Matters

We are working on our Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) and want your input. The ICSP will help Parkland County go for gold environmentally, economically, culturally and in governance. We value your opinion and want your feedback as we work toward our goal.

Still curious? Visit our interactive display when it visits your region as it tours through the County. Be informed. Talk back.

We will be in your area on the following dates/times:

East: Parkland County Centre – Wednesday, June 1st to Tuesday, June 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Central: Carvel Community Hall - Wednesday, June 15th from 6:30-10:00 p.m.

West: Entwistle Community Hall – Thursday, June 16th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Visit www.parklandcounty.com for more information

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Association introduces future goals to council

By Jordan Wilkins
Staff Writer

A Parkland County association made a presentation to county council this past Tuesday, introducing their organization and revealing their goals of preservation to a Parkland County lake.

The Mayatan Lake Management Association, represented by association president Walt Neilson, spoke at this past week's council meeting, explaining the importance they feel there is in keeping Mayatan Lake in its unique state.

"Mayatan Lake is a gem in Parkland County," Neilson said. "Its clear water and secluded location make it an environmentally significant area in the county."

Neilson outlined the goals of the association with the main initiatives being to undertake actions in protection and preservation regarding the lake, to provide a unified voice, to educate on the lake area and to help guide the evolution of the area into the future.

The Mayatan Lake Management Association, which formed in December of 2010, also conveyed its active role in eventually eliminating the use of gas-powered engines on the lake, and its intervention in the Alberta Utility Committee's hearing on the Altalink power line.

Neilson also reiterated the importance in Mayatan Lake's keeping its unique image.

"We are not a smaller version of Jackfish Lake," Neilson said. "We have an intact ecosystem; let's keep it that way."

Parkland County Mayor Rod Shaigec was pleased with the presentation and encour-

ages parkland residents to take this kind of assertive action regarding demographics in the county.

"I think it's important for all communities to form associations like this," Shaigec said. "The benefits that come from these associations can help enhance the quality of life and work as watchdogs for Parkland County."

Coun. Phyllis Kobasiuk agrees with the importance of these associations.

"This presentation has really captured such a pristine area," Kobasiuk said. "I really appreciate the associations efforts in preservation." Coun. Denise Locher recognizes the future importance that associations like this will hold.

"It's nice to see that group are forming to keep an eye on things as Parkland County grows," Locher said.

The Mayatan Lake Management Association feels that Mayatan Lake is special for a number of reasons, and that these reasons must be preserved in the future in order to maintain the current quality of the lake.

"Part of what makes our lake so unique is that we have very little agricultural activity around the lake and our shores are almost completely forests," Neilson said. "This has made our lake home to a number of species of birds and animals, but we fear that with a transportation increase and the possibility of potential farms, our lake's ecosystem could be greatly effected."

Mayatan Lake is located near Jackfish Lake in Parkland County and is part of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance.

For more information you can visit www.mayatanlake.ca.