

Good Evening, My Name is Nancy Cronkhite and I am the Mayor of Nackawic....and I am Nackawic Proud!!Nackawic is a small municipality of just over 1,000 people, however we are service centre for the surrounding communities of 7,000 people who shop at our grocery store, banks, pharmacy, Dollar Store, fuel station, food venues, Doctor, Health Centre and yes Robins is a favourite stop. According to the latest Stats Canada Report 48% of our population is in the 20 – 54 age group which is the years people are starting and raising their families. Nackawic is the ideal location to raise a family. First of all are the low housing costs with a number of houses on the market now. There are also building lots for sale if people wish to build. Secondly, property tax rates and water/sewer rates in Nackawic are among the lowest in the Province. The education System needs to recognize that Nackawic has the potential and plans to grow!

Our video highlighted all the sports venues in Town and also our three schools which are all a very important part of our community. Both the residents and students share and trade off using these facilities. For example, the gymnasiums in all three schools are used for community and sports events during the evenings and also during the summer the Town sponsors basketball and volleyball clinics in the school. The Town also uses the soccer fields at the Elementary and Middle Schools and they maintain these fields. Both fields are needed to keep the soccer programs

going. There are many other tradeoffs between the Town and the schools which are indeed a great advantage to both the community and the education system.

You people need to recognize that Nackawic is in a rebuilding mode. The Town has suffered several losses, the most devastating is the loss to our Financial Budget with the cuts by the Province to property assessments to several local business. We also lost our Fire Hall by a fire in 2013. The notorious Summer Storm "Arthur" left Nackawic without power for 3 days which in turn left the residents without water. The parks in Town also suffered a lot of damage with fallen trees.

The loss of any one of our schools would impact our town with an unmaintained building leading to vandalism, unsightly premises, a vacant lot, an unsafe play area and a loss of income to the town. Please don't make us suffer any more losses by taking away one of our schools. Don't allow the Provincial Government to put the blame on you people to make such a decision.

We are slowly recovering from these losses. We are working on rebuilding our fire hall bigger and better with construction to commence in early Spring. We have partnered with the mill and now have a propane generator at the Well House which ensures our water supply. We have several new business in town, with The Big Axe Brewery, North York Home Care and Topmar Building Supplies Opening in the

Spring. Also the Regional Health Authority is setting up a new Health Centre staffed with a Receptionist, a Nurse and a Nurse Practitioner. Hopefully very soon we will have a second full time physician in town. AV Nackawic the new owners of the mill is operating very well and is established in the world markets. These new businesses have the confidence in Nackawic because they know Nackawic has great potential. They know Nackawic is a great place to live, work and play.

You people should recognize the opportunity for the Town to grow as the Sisson Mine Project progresses. They have just received their EIA Approval. In their presentation to the Town their plan is to travel through Nackawic to the 4 lane Highway to carry materials to and from the mine. They also plan is to have a pick up location in town to bus workers to and from the mine. They estimated there would be 500 jobs in the construction phase and approximately 300 full time job opportunities and these would be good paying jobs. Therefore in the very near future, there is the huge possibility of an influx of families moving into our town and surrounding communities which would mean more children attending our schools. Nackawic has the infrastructure and our three schools are an important attraction for families with school age children who are looking for a place to relocate.

The Town of Nackawic has a vested interest in all three schools; at the Elementary School many sports programs are carried out and the Community Playground is used year round. The sports fields and gym at the Middle School are also used for several community events and at the present time, the Town Office is located on the bottom floor. At the High School there is the Public Library which the Town contributes financially to the Salary of the Librarian and the Library's operating costs. Many activities for all age groups are also held at the library.

On behalf of the residents of Nackawic, I say to you, we desperately need our three schools to remain Open.