

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO. 23
F.C.S.S. PUBLIC MEETING
HIGH LEVEL**

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

PRESENT:

Deputy Reeve, Bateman, Chair
Councillor Scarfe
Councillor E. Derksen
Councillor Rosenberger

ALSO PRESENT:

Dennis Litke, Chief Administrative Officer
Joanne Mitchell, Assistant Manager, Recording Secretary
Pat Kulscar, Director, Regional F.C.S.S.
Elaine Dextrase
Katrina Wilson, High Level Echo (local press)
Wanda Phillips

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting of the Council for the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23, held on Wednesday, November 29, 1995 in the High Level Community Centre.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Deputy Reeve Bateman called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Councillor Bateman gave a brief review of F.C.S.S. goals and purposes, noting that different communities may want different programs. Programs that are needed in High Level may be inappropriate for Zama and some of the programs could fall under the responsibility of the Recreation Boards or church groups. The purpose of the public meeting was to find out what each community wanted for F.C.S.S. services.

F.C.S.S. STAFF PRESENTATION

Pat Kulscar briefly reviewed the programs offered in High Level stating they were very flexible and changed continually. One of the main functions is to provide support to individuals who fall through the cracks; those who don't go to Social Services or the Doctor where most people who need help go. F.C.S.S. is involved with Inter-Agency support, helping fire victims, working with the Women's Well Being Conference, emergency clothing for Action North and the hospital, youth programs, working with AADAC and Action North, young offenders, etc. Some of the more formal programs are the After School Club, High Level Community Centre (drop in & referrals), parenting programs, etc. and none of the programs have any recreation component to them.

The High Level F.C.S.S project is staffed by one full time resource worker, one part time youth worker and a part time Community Centre worker. Minister, Tom Thurber has recently announced that F.C.S.S. funding was guaranteed until 1999.

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Both the F.C.S.S. office and the M.D. office reported receiving telephone calls in support of F.C.S.S. from people who were unable to attend the meeting.

Elaine Dextrase made a verbal presentation to the Councillors saying she supported everything F.C.S.S. did for the High Level rural residents and added that F.C.S.S. did a lot in the past to bring people together in Zama. Many of the High Level rural residents would be very upset if F.C.S.S was to be eliminated. The programs are well established and M.D. residents are involved in the Community Centre Board. No new Boards are needed to continue with the High Level programs.

QUESTION PERIOD

What does F.C.S.S offer to High Level Rural residents?
Community work such as Safe Halloween, inter-agency work, after school club, Christmas hampers, information referrals, home support for seniors, etc.

F.C.S.S. does not duplicate home care; they only get involved if and when a service is not provided by some other agency.

Many people from other communities come in to High Level to have forms filled in or to get other assistance because they are not comfortable going to someone in their own

community. Some don't trust the confidentiality in their home town. The second hand clothing is an important service to outlying communities.

Statistics show that over 4,000 people come into the High Level Community Centre last year. This count is only those individuals who drop in; not the phone calls or group users.

CONCLUSION

F.C.S.S. should do more work in advertising what they do as many people don't know what F.C.S.S. is all about.

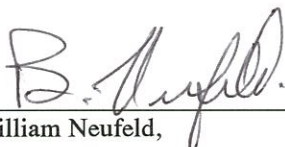
The F.C.S.S. mandate is very broad and it is based on prevention and volunteers. Many of the users are referred by other agencies who are not able to help.

Councillor Bateman thanked everyone for attending and said the Council will take their comments into consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Bateman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

These minutes were adopted the 9TH day of JANUARY, 1996.



William Neufeld,
Reeve



Dennis Litke,
Chief Administrative Officer