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The Batawa Bulletin

#013

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM SONJA BATA, CHAIR



On behalf of the Batawa Development Corporation and Batawa Ski Hill, our staff and volunteers, I would like extend a warm holiday greeting to Batawa residents and friends around the world. 2008 was a remarkable year.

The ski hill kicked off the New Year with a spectacular torch light parade celebration on New Year's Eve and enjoyed a very successful year with over 15,000 skier visits. Mother nature was kind to us and brought a beautiful blanket of snow week after week, right through to April. The annual Batawa Easter Egg Hunt was held at the ski hill this year where the Easter Bunny donned his skis and delighted the children with a trip down the slopes.

The Development Corporation was kept busy in the early months of the year preparing a detailed sustainable town plan. A skilled planning, architectural and engineering team came together to produce an outstanding plan for the town, which will continue to come to life in the years ahead. In June, more than 1,000 people came to Batawa to celebrate Homecoming. My husband Tom and I were delighted to see so many familiar faces and to be able to share fond memories and our plans for the future.

As many of you know, the year brought some sadness with it. In September, Tom passed away. We enjoyed a long and happy life together, and Batawa played such an important role in our lives. I am so grateful Tom had the opportunity to see his Batawa family once again at Homecoming, and want to thank our friends world-wide for their support.

As Autumn unfolded, we began working on implementing several phases of the town plan. Numerous improvements have been made to the community. We provided investments in roads and now sewers that will begin early in the New Year. We are hopeful new water services will soon follow. Four new lots are soon to become available on King George Crescent at the base of the ski hill, marking the first new building in Batawa. Soon thereafter, we will begin building a model home for our new Fraser Drive subdivision. These homes will showcase the best of both sustainability and excellence in design.



And our year in Batawa is now set to close with one of the most exciting new projects of the year. On December 22nd the Ski Hill's new "Northstar" Chairlift will open and the hill will kick off it's 50th anniversary year. To date, our hill has already sold more passes and booked more school visits than previous years. We hope the new lift, and new snowmaking, will bring the hill success for the next 50 years and beyond.

Sonja Bata, Chair

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Did You Know.....

In the winter of 1959, a small group of ski enthusiasts created the Batawa Ski Club. 50 years later the Batawa Ski Hill is installing a chair lift, and is the only alpine ski area located in South Eastern Ontario.



KING GEORGE BUILDING LOTS

We are pleased to be placing the 4 ravine lots at the end of King George Crescent on the market in the New Year. These 4 lots will mark the beginning of property sales and home construction in the village. The BDC have worked with architect David Sisam of Montgomery Sisam to design sustainable home plans for these lots. The lots will be sold with these home design specifications in place. The BDC will be working with new homeowners to identify sustainable choices that can be made in the design, build and occupancy stages, to make these new homes energy efficient and environmentally-sustainable. For more information contact Heather Candler at 613-398-6111 or gm@batawa.ca.



BATAWA SKI HILL



The Grand Opening of the Batawa Ski Hill in it's 50th year was held on December 22nd, where Mayor John Williams cut the ribbon and launched the first chair up the hill with ski hill pioneers aboard. As the chair launched, pipers from Pipes and Drums began to play. The moment all had been waiting for for 5 years had arrived.

Ring in the New Year at the Batawa Ski Hill's Torch Light Parade. With music, night skiing available until 10PM, and a beautiful torch light parade, the Ski Hill will be the place to be. Tickets are \$20 for dancing and a midnight champagne toast. For dancing and night skiing, tickets are \$30. Be at the ski hill throughout the Christmas break for daily family activities. For more information, please visit the Batawa Ski Hill website at www.batawaskihill.com or call 613-398-6568.

WATER AND SEWER UPGRADES - A NOTE FROM THE CITY OF QUINTE WEST

The City of Quinte West partnered with the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario (COMRIF) to address and improve infrastructure in Batawa. This funding, combined with the Federal Gas Tax funds, has allowed the City to upgrade the water and wastewater systems which are well over 40 years old. This has been a top priority for City Council for the past several years. In addition, these funds combined with funding from the Batawa Development Corporation, are being utilized to upgrade and expand the Batawa Wastewater Treatment plant, not only to replace and upgrade outdated equipment, but to eliminate the bypassing events and expand the plant to accommodate development in the community. Recently the City and its consulting engineering firm have completed the environmental assessment process and the design work. The project has been advertised for tender the week of November 24 with a closing date of December 12, 2008. Work should be starting shortly in the New Year and is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2009. All of this work will strengthen the community's infrastructure, improve the quality of life for the families in Batawa and allow for the community to grow. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this update and I wish you all a very safe and Merry Christmas.

Chris Angelo, Director of Public Works

BATAWA, beautiful by nature and design