



Greenstone Road Work

Road construction for the 2018 season in Greenstone is set to begin on July 23. Crews will begin the work in the community of Beardmore and continue on to Geraldton, Nakina and Longlac. Both full surface rehabilitation and patching will be occurring as part of the construction project that is expected to last for six to eight weeks. This latest undertaking by the Municipality will see over 5km of roads rehabilitated in Greenstone in 2018 and is just one more step in the multi-year roads program.

When asked about the project, Greenstone Mayor Renald Beaulieu, stated “Residents made it overwhelmingly clear during public consultations that roads are an issue to them. Council used this feedback when developing the 2016-2020 Corporate Strategic Plan and roads were identified as a top priority. During the 2017 budget process Council committed \$1 million to the roads program and construction work targeted chip-and-seal roads at their critical stage of surface maintenance, with 17km of roads being resurfaced. In 2018 we dedicated an additional \$1.1 million to roads and it will be used for asphalt resurfacing & repairs.”

The Municipality engaged a third-party company to assess the 102km of roads it maintains in Greenstone and a road condition rating was applied to each one. This information is inputted into optimization software which takes many variables into consideration including condition, usage and importance. In its decision-making, the Municipality considers the optimization software’s data outputs, the Corporate Asset Management Plan, and the Corporate Strategic Plan. Consideration is also given to the condition of buried infrastructure so that newly paved roads will not then be dug up for subsurface repairs. Some roads demonstrate that surface rehabilitation can significantly extend their useful life (if conducted within the short-term to prevent further deterioration) while other roads may require more intensive reconstruction/replacement at greater financial cost. The Director of Public Services Brian Aaltonen said, “This approach has been taken to ensure the longevity of the roads that are at a critical stage and where sub-surface damage can be prevented. If we catch a road in time, it will cost far less to repair whereas we will have to let some other roads already near the end of their useful life go a few more years before rebuilding them.” This holistic approach is used to ensure better management, evidence-based decisions and greater value for money and has demonstrated success in other municipalities. Mayor Beaulieu added, “This process makes sure the committed funds are being maximized to the full potential.”

Residents and motorists are asked to exercise caution while driving through construction zones.

A list of the roads slated for full surface rehabilitation this year, as well as the Municipal Corporate Strategic Plan & the Asset Management Plan, can be found on the Municipal Website at www.greenstone.ca.