To the residents of Southshore Drive and Pioneer Avenue

In response to a number of questions and concerns regarding the sale of land located at Southshore Drive and Pioneer Avenue, the councillors of Baie Verte would like to directly address a number of these concerns.

As a starting point we would like to reassure residents that this is an optional purchase that the town would like to extend to the residents of this area. The council has invested time into making this possible due to a number of requests from people who want the opportunity to be given clear title to all property they use and maintain. This opportunity is something we hope to offer to other areas of Baie Verte in the near future. To reinforce that this was indeed the original intent of council, the motion made by council is as follows ‘Feb 23, 2017: 13. Moved by Clr. Howell, seconded by Clr. Furey that Town write residents of Southshore Drive and Pioneer Avenue of its intention to sell 50 ft of backland’.

Secondly, there have been several concerns as to why this has only been offered to the residents of Southshore Drive and Pioneer Avenue. This is largely due to the fact that council has to apply for permission to sell public land to adjacent property owners for individual areas. To further explain, any land that is deemed as ‘public land’ has to be made available to all members of the public as stated in the Municipalities Act. This was something council was not willing to entertain due to the lands in question being located directly behind private properties. To avoid this, council wrote for ministerial approval for an exemption allowing the council to sell the property directly to adjacent landowners.

On a final note, the town council will be holding a public session to address any questions that residents may have surrounding this process. The public session will be held on March 26th at the College of the North Atlantic. Residents will be notified by mail if any changes occur to this date and time.

The councillors of the Town of Baie Verte would like to thank everyone involved for your patience while we work through this process.

Yours Sincerely,

Brandon Philpott, Mayor
Town of Baie Verte