



Town of St. Agatha

Municipalité de Ste. Agathe

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January 23, 2009

To: Residents of St. Agatha
From: Kelly Thibodeau, Town Clerk and Tax Collector

Looking back in 2008, I can say there was a great responsibility for me in replacing long time clerk Joan Ouellette. With overseeing the day to day operations of the clerk's office for various counter transactions and month end reports, I also became the Tax Collector in July. With many trainings I have attended to learn the ins and outs of the job, I have come across a benefit that several towns in the State of Maine had offered to their tax payers. I had requested the opportunity for our town to offer this great benefit to our tax payers and in March 2008, the Town of St. Agatha implemented their first Tax Club. With this, the tax payer is able to pay their taxes beginning September 15 on a monthly basis for 8 months. The tax payer avoids paying interest, their name in our Annual Town Report, and prevents them from having their property go to lien. I did receive a good response from tax payers that were interested and in total received 60 applications. Since this is a fairly new option, I can only foresee that in the coming years, more tax payers will be taking advantage of the towns' tax club.

In April, I was approached by Linda Cyr, formerly the Tax Collector for the Town of Madawaska, asking if I would be interested in representing the northern part of Maine for the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors and Treasurer's Association. I thought this would give me a great opportunity to meet with various Tax Collectors throughout the state and to give me a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Tax Collector. In May, at the Annual Conference, I was nominated to be on the board of directors for a 3 year term. We meet on a monthly basis discussing various issues that may affect the towns, offer training classes for new Tax Collectors and Treasurers' and also have a website for municipalities to use as a resource for questions or forms that are needed. Thus far, it has been a great experience for me and I will continue to work with them to make our association a success and a guide for Tax Collectors and Treasurers across the state.

In October, I had attended the annual Maine Municipal Association convention and I was greatly surprised at my Town Clerks Annual meeting. I was presented with the Clerks Rookie of the Year award. It was a great honor for me to receive this award and I would like to thank our town manager, Ryan Pelletier, for his continued support for the crazy ideas that I might have come up with and allowing me to demonstrate to him my goals in providing great service to the residents of St. Agatha.

With this, I would like to thank you, the residents of St. Agatha for your continued support and patience with my ongoing trainings related to my job so I can better accommodate your needs and provide better services to you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Thibodeau
Town Clerk, Tax Collector

***“Prettiest Town South of the Border” ~ “Le Plus Beau Village au Sud de la Frontière”
The Town of St. Agatha is an equal opportunity employer and provider.***

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