



Good day to all the Motorsports fans,

As we begin to celebrate the holiday season and enjoy time with family, friends and loved ones, we thought it was a perfect time to reflect on 2017 and take inventory of where we have been, where we are now and what we can look forward to in 2018.

2017 was certainly a year of change and forward motion for the SDMA. As many of you know the SDMA was formed as a not for profit organization in 2009. A small group with a vision and a desire to satisfy the appetite of motorsports fans and racers in the north with the development of a permanent multi-faceted motorsports park. The work in the early days of the association is what laid the foundation for the progress that we made in 2017.

We started 2017 with two objectives in mind firstly, we wanted to select a site for a permanent location. A location that would meet all or most of the criteria that we felt would be needed to develop a facility. Our second objective was to introduce the first annual SDMA automotive swap meet. We did both.

We announced in June of this year that we would be pursuing a parcel of land on the Kingsway that is identified as Treaty/Crown land. We see this as a perfect location that aligns with the proposed entertainment district. Work has begun on carrying out the required consultation process with the First Nations. We have met and shared our vision with some of the Community Leaders and will be making formal presentations to the Band Councils in January 2018. Again progress.

Also, as many of you know we announced the site selection in June at College Boreal. They have come on board as our first community partner and have shown us unwavering support. A big thank you to Boreal. As a demonstration of that support, it was at College Boreal that we hosted our First Annual SDMA Automotive Swap Meet on September 30th and October 1st. The first one is always the steepest learning curve, but the weather co-operated, vendors showed up and buyers came out and spent money. Effort equals results and hard work paid off. Plans have already started on event number two for 2018. Details will be announced early in 2018.

So, who do we thank? Well of course all of you, the racers, the fans, all the supporters and even a thank you to the naysayers, your comments and criticisms keep us motivated, make us think, and on occasion cause us to make a course correction.

More specifically there are a number of individuals that certainly are deserving of some personal thanks. A big thanks to Don Lamontagne. Don was a founding member of the SDMA in 2009 and recently retired from the board in October of this year. Don took the lead on our first Swap Meet and encouraged all to get involved. Dons voice and enthusiasm was heard at every meeting and although no longer a board member, we know we can count on Don to continue to spread the word and cheerlead from the side lines. Enjoy retirement Don!

Also, the swap meet would not have been a reality without the tireless effort of SDMA member Ken Goudreau. Ken's countless volunteer hours working on our behalf are what made the Swap Meet happen. He committed his entire weekend to being on site and keeping things running smoothly. First guy there and last to leave. Ken, thank you, you are a true team player.

To our many friends at College Boreal. There would have been no Swap Meet without Sonia Gonzales. Her assistance and guidance to help us coordinate with Boreal was invaluable. It is nice to work with nice people. Boreal is lucky to have you.

Thank you, Sonia! A big thanks to Derek Vezeau from the Motor Vehicle Technician program. Derek ran an interactive automotive display all weekend courtesy of the college. It was fun, challenging and informative. Thanks Derek.

And we cannot forget Councillor Montpellier. He paid a visit to the Swap Meet. Although not an SDMA member his encouragement and wisdom are always well appreciated.

A special thank you to our friends in the media. Without your coverage and support we couldn't get the message out there to the masses. Remember we meet the third Wednesday of every month, stop in pay us a visit and share your thoughts with us.

To anyone that we may have overlooked, Thank You.

The SDMA hopes that everyone enjoys their Christmas celebration and that family and friends are nearby.

Happy Holidays!!!!

2018 Awaits....

Sincerely,

Your Sudbury And District Motorsports Association
