Highlights from the September 9, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

- City Council supported a proclamation request from the CN Rail for September 23-29, 2019 as Rail Safety Week in the City of Yorkton. 2019 sees CN celebrating their 100th anniversary. As safety is paramount to both the City and CN Rail, collaborative efforts to erect a fence along the train track at the Skate Park in Yorkton are in the works.

- City Council also supported a proclamation request from Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Yorkton and Area that September 2019 be Big Brother Big Sisters Month in Yorkton. BBBS offers a variety of mentoring programs that respond to community needs for children and youth who need significant, caring adult in their lives. To celebrate the month, BBBS is hosting fun activities such as a BBQ and paint night on September 22, a ‘Discovering the Arts Event’ with tie dying, juggling and earth art, with the Bara Academy of Art, and the finale of the 4th Annual Soap Box Derby on Roslyn Avenue. The BBBS of Yorkton and area serve over 250 children through mentoring relationships. For more information please contact the BBBS office at 306-782-3471 or website: www.yorkton.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca.

- The Director of Finance presented an update on the Federal Gas Tax funding “top-up” distributed to the City of Yorkton for 2019. This Federal program provides funding to municipalities yearly based on a per capita basis, based on the most recent Census. The City of Yorkton recently received formal notice that they would be receiving an additional $996,548 on top of what they regularly receive per this agreement. The funds must be used on Capital projects, and therefore Council resolved to apply these funds to ongoing unfunded road infrastructure projects in the City. These projects have been approved through budget, and would require the City to incur debt (internally or externally), so the application of the additional gas tax funds is a welcome reprieve. For more information on this program please refer to this website: https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/municipal-administration/funding-finances-and-asset-management/funding/federal-gas-tax-program/about-the-federal-gas-tax-fund-program.