Lesson 1 – Compliments and criticism

YOU CAN'T PLEASE EVERYONE.
YOU ARE NOT A BOTTLE OF WINE.

MOXIE'S
GRILL BAR

THIS IS ALL YR FAULT ST
When the burdens of the presidency seem unusually heavy, I always remind myself it could be worse. I could be a Mayor.

Lyndon B. Johnson  36th President of the United States

• Beware of the vocal minority….. “Squeaky wheels”
• And the terminally unhappy….. “C.A.V.E. people”
• If people had expected me to be infallible they would have made me the Pope. They only elected me Mayor.
• Mistakes are not as important as corrections and apologies.
• My city (town, village) staff is a community... sometimes I will have to support the community that works for me not the one that elected me (and vice versa)
Principle of Parliamentary Law

The right of the majority to ultimately rule, the right of the minority to be heard, and the right of the individual to participate in the decision making process.

If in the end of this, these rights have been respected, we can hold our heads high.
Lesson 2 - What the Mayor COUNCIL decided about the Ugly old white building!!!!!!
City Council

Itchy, Bitchy, Sweaty, Sleepy, Bloated, Forgetful, & Psycho
Lesson 3: Full Time Mayor or Councillor? $$$

- **You are all full time!**
- ....even if you are not paid as one!
- ... at the rink, at the grocery store, on the street, at the coffee shop
- ....at 5 in the morning when there is a water break...
- .....when disaster strikes – You are the Councillor, the Mayor, the leader...

- **You’re always on council**
- Expect a loss of privacy. Expect your family to be affected... they did not run for election but they got elected too..... set some boundaries...
Lesson 4: It’s always about the money

The truth about a community’s aspirations for the future is not found in the vision or strategic plans, it is found in the financial plans that support the community’s vision and plans.
Lesson 5: You need some advice, help, info, support, criticism.....

“I won’t if common sense will ever make a comeback…”

“It’s time we heard from the silent majority.”
Community advisors

Former Mayors or councillors
Students
Business owners
Seniors / Elders
Volunteers
Sports and Rec folks
Young families
Community leaders

Personal Advisors
Seven trusted supporters....

“A Different Perspective”

“Never cared what anyone thought – until the very end.”
Lesson 6: Who is like us? Who can we learn from? Who has a better idea?
Lesson 7: I need to learn more about

.....???????
Lesson 8: Rural - Urban cooperation

Saskatchewan --- 779 municipalities
- Urban - 459 (16 cities, 147 towns, 256 villages, 40 Resort villages)
- Rural 296   Northern 24

Canada -- 3700 total   Alberta -- 352

Regional Cooperation – Why ?
What ? How? When?
Lesson 9 : Colleagues and friends....
The City Manager, city staff and councillors......

“Aren’t you glad we had this meeting to resolve our conflict?”
Working with the CM and council

- Communication is the key – roles are important
  - Learn, teach, coach, explain and listen and listen and listen
    - do not assume your council knows how to be a council
  - Council members need to trust each other– no surprises
- The Mayor and CAO have a special relationship  ****
- The CAO and staff can run the city/town/village without us?
- Council : “Nose in – fingers out”

- Ask questions  What questions should I be asking?
- Do you have a strategic plan? Are you following it?
- Do a Performance Review on your CAO
- Have difficult conversations
Lesson 10: The best job ever....

UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, NOTHING is going to get better. It's NOT.

SOME MORNINGS YOU WAKE UP KNOWING THAT TODAY YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING REALLY DUMB.
The Iceberg Illusion

Success is an iceberg

SUCCESS!

What people see:

What people don't see:

Persistence
Failure
Sacrifice
Disappointment

THINGS I HAVE TO GIVE UP
1.
2.
3.

Dedication
Hard work
Good habits

FAIL

@silviaduckworth
“Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn’t make a decision.”
~Unknown~
I ❤️ NAHEED, BECAUSE HE GET SH*T DONE 😊
Thanks to all those mayors and councillors, past and present, friends and colleagues, around the province who provided insights and wisdom along my ten year journey.

“It was an honour to serve”

Malcolm Eaton
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING