



June, 2010

To each one of Arundel's Firemen,

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the years of training and dedicated service, involving personal sacrifices and risks, that each one of you has given to the Citizens of Arundel . Under the expert leadership of Neil Swail, you have become a source of great pride to your community, and it is my heartfelt wish that this will continue for years to come.

The Entente with Huberdeau, Montcalm and Barkmere has provided us the way to extend our First Responders services into the neighbouring communities, while at the same time, given the non-conformity status of our firehall, to allow you the privilege of continuing to serve the greater community with the same high standards.

Some of you have been hurt and /or angered by the idea of the "merge" , and I'm sorry about this .Words such as "lost" , "discounted" and "divided" have been circulated. In fact the reverse is true. The " merge" has saved you, our firemen, by joining and expanding your services, and by promising to refurbish the CORPS with renewed and extended purpose .To those of you who have felt " left out of the discussion "I ask that you keep in mind the fact that, from its' beginning, the "merge" had one and only one prime objective:- to be of benefit to the entire community as a whole. All our questions and research were conducted with this in mind and it is with the assurance this is indeed the case that we have committed to it!

There will be adjustments to be made in the weeks and months ahead and no doubt some of you will be tempted by negative thoughts. At these times I would remind you that we are in a WIN/WIN situation: 1) You have been welcomed into a situation that will allow you to give even greater service with ever increasing standards, and 2)This is an opportunity for you firemen to breathe new life and a renewed sense of purpose into your Firefighting Corps . I encourage you to "Take it" and "Go for it!" "Continue to make Arundel proud!!"

With love and gratitude,

Julia