

CANADA150 Celebration (July 2, 2017)

Ladies and gentlemen, family and friends, welcome to the Village of Andrew Canada 150 celebration!

As Mayor of your community it's a sincere honour to join you and to participate in the Canada 150 milestone. On behalf of Andrew council I send out a big warm welcome to everyone – Thank you for making this day a true celebration of our nation's great history!

Today, we, as Canadians reflect upon how fortunate we are. We live in a time of unprecedented global wealth and opportunity, there is simply no better place to live.

Our gratitude should include those who came before us, those that built so much of what we have. We should certainly acknowledge the leadership and wisdom of Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George Cartier and colleagues. They constructed a system steeped in multi-culturalism, while preserving unique institutions, languages, cultures and faiths.

That achievement is, despite the youthfulness of our country one of the most enduring models of democratic governance in the world today.

Generations of men and women have since added to Canada's unique history and through wise decisions, hard work and sacrifice, they built our economy, developed our society and enhanced our liberty.

Sanctifying our triumphs are the tens of thousands of Canadians who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country in distant lands to ensure our freedom to grow, thrive and become accustomed to our enriched lives.

Also may we have reflection and gratitude for the dedication of our seniors, both past and present, who built Andrew, this province and this country. We must also recognize the next generation who is stepping forward and offering to carry on to keep our community, province and country strong.

Remember Canada 150 isn't just about the day, it's about our complex history, our country, multi-culturalism, inclusiveness and for being a peacemaker on the world stage.

There is no other place I'd rather be today than to be celebrating our great community, province and nation ... than right here with you.

ALSO ----

A big warm thank you and appreciation to:

- Servus Credit Union who helped to sponsored our fireworks this evening

- Our Public Works for all their hard work and for volunteering their time and energy
- Our Municipal Library for the *duck cut-out board* (don't forget to get your photo taken) and kids crafts by the Mini-golf
- Lamont County FCSS for Kids activities starting at 8:30pm Also the outdoor movie "Trolls" (Behind the Andrew Village Administration Building – at 10 pm)
- (Lamont County – Division 1) Andrew Fire Department, who will be setting off the Fireworks tonight at 11:30pm – Couldn't do it without you!
- CFCW for joining us today and highlighting our awesome community celebration
- Porkey's Fine Foods for volunteering their time and BBQ assistance
- And last but not least the Grant from the Government of Canada who made the Andrew Canada150 celebration possible and as part of our grant agreement now for the French version: **Merci de gouvernement du Canada d'avoir financé pour notre 150 fête du Canada.....avec vous ce jour est possible.**

Before we start with the official Canada 150 kick off, please give a hand to all our volunteers who are wearing red T-Shirts. Without them we couldn't have pulled today's event together, they truly are the backbone of our community. Thank you!!

Welcome Tony – we look forward to your wide range of music – Thanks for joining us!

You have all been so patient - Enjoy the celebration! Thank you so much!