



**Mayor Jerry Iwanus's Remarks on the occasion of the
Retirement Celebration for Principal Doug Bowie
of Bawlf School
June 12, 2009**

Ladies and gentlemen, it is an honour and a privilege for me to stand before you on behalf of Village of Bawlf Council and Administration, as we come together today to celebrate the career of Mr. Doug Bowie, a man who has touched so many lives during his time in this community.

I will be brief today, partly because I used up whatever speech quota I might have had at the Class Farewell in May, but also because I haven't known Mr. Bowie for as long as many of you have, nor have I worked with him as closely, so I'm sure that the stories and tributes of those who have, are of far more interest to you than are mine.

I will say this, though: we at the Village of Bawlf want to thank you from the bottom our hearts, Mr. Bowie, for being so open and so willing to work with Council to strengthen our relationship so that both the School and the community benefit today and in the years to come. There have been any number of projects on which we have collaborated, including the School participating in the Village clean-up, the Grade 6 "Mayor for a Day" contest, the beverage container pick-up, with the School using the money to augment its band program, and many more. All of these show so clearly your unwavering belief, sir, that the School and the community are one and that good citizenship begins, not in adulthood, but in our most formative years.

On a personal note, I want to say that all that is good about the small rural school is plain to see when you stand on that stage at the Class Farewell every year, Mr. Bowie, and talk about each and every one of the graduating students on a personal basis and I know the reason you can do this is because you have spent the time *getting to know* those students. I have but one regret as we bid you farewell and it is that my daughter, Jillian, won't have the opportunity to share the stage with you when she graduates in 2014.

God bless you, Mr. Bowie, as you tackle the next stage of your life, and know that your legacy in both this school and this community will be cherished and celebrated for many years to come. Thank you.