



February 22, 2008

As a member of the UNSM/AMA Municipal Website Venture, I would like to share a few of the benefits the Municipality of Argyle has received through this joint initiative. The municipality was in full support of the initiative, but was not in need of a primary web designer because we had the resources internally. That being said, we have still received more than our share of benefits from this venture.

Les Coleman has been an invaluable asset to me throughout the development of this site and his knowledge of web based design and the Joomla system have helped me solve many problems. The Joomla system was completely new to me and situations came up where I needed a "go to" person to be able to contact as soon as issues arose. Les is not only knowledgeable but also extremely prompt in the resolutions of these problems. It is not out of the ordinary for Les to have a problem solved within an hour where I would have struggled with it for days.

Les is also instrumental in giving me direction for our web layouts and functionality to ensure that our site is constantly evolving into a pleasant web experience for the viewer. His past experiences are extremely evident in his suggestions for our site.

From an IT administration point of view, having the website hosted externally has taken away much of the workload that would come with internal hosting. Major software updates are managed by Les on the server side and this comes without any interruption to our users.

I also have to pass on one of the major benefits that we have experienced with going to the Joomla based system. In the past, all changes/updates to the site were the sole responsibility of the web designer. This was due to the high technical knowledge required to make even the simplest of changes. The Joomla system has made it easy for any authorized person to make changes to the site simply by typing in a "word processor" type entry box. This has not only taken a huge workload off of me, but has made the information on our website more relevant and up-to-date.

In November of 2007, the Municipality of Argyle went live with a new website that we are very proud of. Through every step of the process Les was in close contact with me, giving direction and suggestions that made our site not just a good website, but a great one.

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