# **TOWNSHIP OF ESSA CONSENT AGENDA** WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

## A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- 1. Resolutions from the Township of Archipelago:
- a) May 21, 2021 Bill 228 Banning Unencapsulated Polystyrene Foam.
- b) May 21, 2021 Bill 279 Environmental Protection Amendment Act (Microplastics p. 3 Filters for Washing Machines), 2021.
  - 2. Correspondence from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU):
  - a) May 27, 2021 West Nile Virus Program Planning 2021.
- b) May 31, 2021 Thank You Letter to Municipalities. p.7
- p.8 3. Resolution from the Town of Fort Erie dated June 1, 2021, re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence.
  - 4. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
- a) May 28, 2021 County Highlights. p.10

p. 1

p.5

- b) June 2, 2021 County Increasing LINX Transit Service on Route 3 (Barrie to Orillia). p.16
- c) June 3, 2021 Volatus Aerospace Accelerates Investment in Simcoe County. p.17
  - Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO):
- a) June 3, 2021 AMO Watchfile. p.19
- b) June 3, 2021 AMO Policy Update Blue Box Regulation Released and Province p.23 Easing Restrictions on Long-Term Care.
- c) June 8, 2021 AMO 2021 Training Human Rights and Equity The Role and p.25 **Obligations of Municipal Leaders.**
- 6. Resolution No. 68-2021 from the Township of Rideau Lakes dated June 7, 2021. p.28 re: Abandoned Cemeteries.
  - 7. Correspondence from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA):
- a) June 9, 2021 NVCA Needs Your Help to Continue to Provide Vital Services. p.29 p.36
  - b) NVCA Board Meeting Highlights May 2021.
    - 8. Correspondence from the Essa Public Library Board:
- p.38 a) Annual Report - 2020.
- p.45 b) Essa Public Library Report – April 2021

## B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

# C – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR REVIEW AND **REPORT TO COUNCIL**

None.





# Township of The Archipelago

9 James Street, Parry Sound ON P2A 1T4 Tel: 705-746-4243/Fax: 705-746-7301 <u>www.thearchipelago.on.ca</u>

May 21, 2021

#### 21-092

#### Moved by Councillor Emery Seconded by Councillor Sheard

## RE: Bill 228 - Banning unencapsulated Polystyrene Foam

**WHEREAS** unencapsulated expanded and extruded polystyrene foam (PS foam) is a common and economical product used for dock flotation; and

WHEREAS unencapsulated PS foam, when used as floatation, deteriorates and breaks down through exposure to water, sunlight and chemicals (gasoline, oil & other contaminants), as well as from animals and physical impacts from boats and other debris; and

WHEREAS the environmental impacts associated with the breakdown of unencapsulated PS foam are significant. PS foam is one of the top items of debris found on shorelines, beaches, and surface water around the world. Widespread and global contamination has resulted in PS foam being found in the gut contents of wildlife, including in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Basin. PS foam causes adverse effects to wildlife when ingested. Laboratory experiments show negative impacts of PS foam on feeding behaviour, growth, hepatosomatic index (HSI), and reproduction. Under certain conditions, PS foam leaches known toxics styrene and benzene. Floating particles of PS foam also has aesthetic impacts on shorelines and waterways; and

**AND WHEREAS** there is no Federal legislation in Canada regulating the use of unencapsulated expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) for docks to date. However, on May 13, 2021, the Province of Ontario passed *Bill 228: Keeping Polystyrene Out of Ontario's Lakes and Rivers Act*, to regulate and control its use for floats; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) recognizes the need for PS foam to be encapsulated when used for flotation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Cities Initiative and its members call on the Federal Government of Canada (Ministries of Fisheries and the Environment) the Province of Ontario (Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks), the Province of Quebec, The United States (U.S.) Federal Government, and the U.S. States of New York, Pennsylvania,

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Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota to work in collaboration with each other to enact laws which:

- ban unencapsulated polystyrene (PS) products in all new and replacement public and private floating facilities across the Great Lakes Region and the coasts of Canada and the United Sates;
- 2. find common standards of defining encapsulation with the goal of zero emissions of PS foam;
- require the timely transition to approved encapsulated PS products, for all public and private floating facilities currently using unencapsulated PS foam; and
- 4. require the proper disposal of all unencapsulated expanded polystyrene (EPS) products currently being used for dock flotation.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that Council for the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago directs its staff to submit this resolution to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative; and forward this resolution to all municipalities in the Great Lakes watershed and to Federal and Provincial Representatives.

Carried.





# Township of The Archipelago

9 James Street, Parry Sound ON P2A 1T4 Tel: 705-746-4243/Fax: 705-746-7301 <u>www.thearchipelago.on.ca</u>

May 21, 2021

21-091

Moved by Councillor Andrews Seconded by Councillor Manners

## RE: <u>Bill 279 — Environmental Protection Amendment Act (Microplastics Filters</u> for Washing Machines), 2021

WHEREAS microfibers are human-made strands less than 5mm composed of either synthetic or natural materials. Microfibers are shed through the wear and tear of textiles through the laundering process;

WHEREAS billions of microfibers are released into the Great Lakes daily from machine laundering of clothes. Studies have found a single load of laundry can release up to millions of microfibers into washing machine effluent, which flows to the wastewater treatment plant. Wastewater treatment can capture up to 99% of microfibers in sewage sludge, but microfibers are still released into aquatic ecosystems through treated effluent. Billions of microfibers are released into the aquatic ecosystem daily in the Great Lakes basin, either directly via treated final effluent, or indirectly as runoff from land-application of treated sewage sludge; and

WHEREAS microfiber contamination is widespread: Worldwide and local studies have shown microfibers present in commercial fish, Great Lakes fish (including Lake Trout, Rainbow Smelt, Brown bullhead, etc.), honey, salt, Great Lakes beer, tap water, bottled water and much more; and

WHEREAS microfibers are the most prevalent type of microplastics in the environment and have been found in surface water, soil, biota, and atmospheric samples; and

WHEREAS a 2014 surface water study in Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and their tributaries measured micoplastics at abundances between 90,000 and 6.7 million particles per square kilometer. These levels of microplastics are similar to or exceed concentrations found in ocean gyres like the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch; and

WHEREAS microplastics do not biodegrade; and

WHEREAS chemicals such dyes and flame retardants are added to textiles during manufacturing. Textiles can also absorb chemicals from their environment after manufacturing. Some of these chemicals are toxic, and harmful chemical compounds can be released into the environment via leaching from microfibers; and

WHEREAS a growing body of research shows that the effects of microplastics on animal life are far-reaching. Researchers have investigated the impacts of microplastics on gene expression, individual cells, survival, and reproduction. Mounting evidence shows that negative impacts can include decreased feeding and growth, endocrine disruption,



decreased fertility, and other lethal and sub-lethal effects. Some of these effects are due to ingestion stress (physical blockage), but many of the risks to ecosystems are associated with the chemicals in the plastic. Studies have shown that chemicals transfer to fish when they consume microplastics. When these fish end up on our dinner plates, we potentially increase the burden of hazardous chemicals in our bodies; and

WHEREAS a recent set of laundering experiments in the laboratory; have shown that an external filter can capture an average of 87% of fibres by count and 80% by weight before they go down the drain (McIlwraith et al. 2019). On a wider scale and in real-life context, Georgian Bay Forever, the University of Toronto and the Town of Parry Sound are completing a study that is measuring the effect that about 100 filters in households has on reducing microfibre pollution in the effluent of a wastewater treatment plant. The results of this study are to be released in August; and

WHEREAS add-on filters cost approximately \$180-220 CDN to purchase and install, which is prohibitive for the average household. Accordingly, voluntary adoption rates are low; and

WHEREAS France has passed legislation (France 2020-105, Article 79) that requires future washing machines sold to have filters. California has introduced a bill (California AB 622), and Ontario has tabled Private Member's Bill 279 to prohibit sales of washing machines without a filter of mesh size 100 microns or smaller. Companies such as Arclik have manufactured washing machines with filters built directly into them;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) recognizes that to date the largest documented source of environmental microfibers is washing machines, and that findings indicate washing machine filters mitigate the majority of fibres shed during machine washing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Cities Initiative recognizes the need to require future sales of washing machines to include filters with a maximum mesh size of 100 microns; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Cities Initiative and its members call on the Ontario government to pass Bill 279, and to call on the Canadian and U.S. government to create appropriate regulatory measures to the same effect; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that until households can only buy new laundry machines outfitted with <100 micron filters, the Cities Initiative and its members call on provincial, state and federal governments to provide funding and education to help constituents reduce microfiber waste.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that Council for the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago directs its staff to submit this resolution to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative; and forward this resolution to all municipalities in the Great Lakes watershed and to Federal and Provincial Representatives.

Carried.



May 27, 2021

Colleen Healey-Dowdall, CAO Township of Essa 5786 County Road 21 Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

Dear Ms. Healey-Dowdall:

#### Re: West Nile Virus Program Planning - 2021

Planning is well underway for the 2021 West Nile Virus (WNV) season. The health unit's WNV Program, as in previous years, will include public education, surveillance, and mosquito control coordination.

The decision to require the application of larvicide within a municipality in the upcoming season is based on the results of the health unit's local risk assessment and decision-making framework, developed in 2006 and updated in 2015. The framework includes consideration of the characteristics of the WNV, risk of exposure to WNV (presence and abundance of WNV mosquito vectors *Culex pipiens* and *Culex restuans*), and historical presence of the WNV in the mosquito and human populations.

As a result of this yearly risk assessment and evaluation, all municipalities within Simcoe Muskoka are assigned to one of three tiers for mosquito control actions. The three tiers are:

- Larviciding Action: This tier consists of those municipalities which have received direction to larvicide from the Medical Officer of Health in previous seasons and have evidence of sustained *Culex pipiens/restuans* populations throughout the season and multiple positive WNV indicators in previous seasons. Notice to larvicide catch basins is issued by the Medical Officer of Health to these municipalities.
- 2. Heightened Surveillance Larviciding Standby: This tier consists of those municipalities which have received direction to larvicide from the Medical Officer of Health in previous seasons, but do not have sustained *Culex pipiens/restuans* populations throughout the season and/or do not have multiple positive WNV indicators in previous seasons. Notices to larvicide will not be issued by the Medical Officer of Health at this time. Heightened surveillance activities will be implemented in these municipalities to monitor the presence and abundance of mosquito populations of concern, primarily *Culex pipiens/restuans*. As a component of WNV contingency planning, these municipalities shall complete the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) permit application process and be on standby to larvicide catch basins on short notice, should the current season surveillance data indicate the need for control measures.

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Derrie: 15 Sperling Drive Barrie, ON L4M 6K9 705-721-7520 FAX: 705-721-1495 Collingwood: 280 Pretty River Pkwy. Collingwood, ON L9Y 4J5 705-445-0804 FAX: 705-445-6498

Cookstown: 2-25 King Street S. Cookstown, ON LOL 1L0 705-458-1103 FAX: 705-458-0105 □ Gravenhurst: 2-5 Pineridge Gate Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1Z3 705-684-9090 FAX: 705-684-9887

Your Health Connection

 Huntsville: 34 Chaffey St. Huntsville, ON P1H 1K1 705-789-8813 FAX: 705-789-7245 C Midland: A-925 Hugel Ave. Midland, ON L4R 1X8 705-526-9324 FAX; 705-526-1513 Drillia: 120-169 Front St. S. Orillia, ON L3V 4S8 705-325-9565 FAX: 705-325-2091 3. **Ongoing Monitoring:** This tier consists of those municipalities which have not received direction from the Medical Officer of Health to larvicide in previous seasons; do not, based on past or current surveillance data, have evidence of sustained *Culex pipiens/restuans* population throughout the season and may or may not have had positive WNV indicators in previous seasons. Surveillance strategies will continue in these areas. It is recommended that these municipalities, as a component of their WNV contingency planning, review the MECP permit application guide and gather the necessary information to complete the permit application process on short notice.

#### In 2021, the settlement area of the Township of Essa has been assigned to Tier 3: Ongoing Monitoring as the municipality possesses the following criteria:

- a) Have <u>not</u> received direction from the Medical Officer of Health to larvicide in previous seasons;
- b) Do <u>not</u>, based on past or current surveillance data, have evidence of sustained *Culex pipiens/restuans* population;
- c) Are at low risk for potential increased Culex pipiens/restuans activity;
- d) May or may not have had positive WNV indicators in previous season(s).

Based on this assessment and as a component of the WNV contingency planning, it is recommended that the municipality review the MECP permit application guide. Furthermore, it is recommended that the municipality gather the necessary information to complete the permit application on short notice, should the current surveillance data indicate the need for mosquito control measures.

A submission of WNV expenditures will be requested in October and a template will be forwarded for your use to track your WNV related expenditures at that time.

We appreciate your continued participation and support of the WNV Program. For further information please contact Ramien Sereshk, Program Coordinator, 705-721-7520 ext. 7015 ramien.sereshk@smdhu.org.

Sincerely,

#### **ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Charles Gardner, MD, CCFP, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health

c. Michael Mikael, Manager of Public Works



May 31, 2021

To the municipal councils of Simcoe Muskoka:

The response to the COVID-19 pandemic has required a whole of community approach with many agencies and individuals sharing in the response. This has very much included our municipalities on a variety of fronts including the enforcement of public health control measures in work places and public places, and public education and communication.

One of the key elements of our response has been the vaccination of the majority of the eligible population of Sim coe Muskoka. Our municipalities have contributed to our vaccination campaign with the provision of municipal facilities, equipment, and personnel. A number of our municipalities have also supported us by taking a large volume of our phone calls in order to assist with the booking of vaccinations and with the response to some of the questions that come to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.

These contributions of our municipalities are making a substantial difference. Recently Simcoe Muskoka reached an important milestone, with 60% of our adult population having received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. We are seeing the direct effect of vaccination, as well as the effect of the other public health measures supported by our municipalities with declining weekly COVID-19 case counts since mid-April. The actions of our municipalities are helping to curb infections and hospitalizations locally and across the province.

We would like to take this moment to thank our municipalities for these critically important contributions to the response of this pandemic and to help protect our communities and residents from the impacts of the pandemic. There is still much to be done, and time and caution will be needed to achieve a lasting control of the pandemic in our communities; however it is through our collective efforts that we will proceed to a safer and healthier state in Simcoe Muskoka.

Sincerely,

#### ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau Chair, Board of Health

CG:AD:cm

#### **ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Dr. Charles Gardner Medical Officer of Health & CEO

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Gravenhurst: 2-5 Pineridge Gate Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1Z3 705-684-9090 FAX: 705-684-9887 D Huntsville: 34 Chaffey St. Huntsville, ON P1H 1K1 705-789-8813 FAX: 705-789-7245 **D Midland:** A-925 Hugel Ave. Midland, ON L4R 1X8 705-526-9324 FAX: 705-526-1513

**Orillia:** 120-169 Front St. S. Orilia, ON L3V 4S8 705-325-9565 FAX: 705-325-2091

Your Health Connection



# **Community Services**

Legislative Services

June 1, 2021 File #120203

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

## Re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of May 31, 2021 passed the following resolution:

Whereas primary residences are currently exempt from a capital gains tax, and

Whereas currently secondary and additional non-primary properties are subject to capital gains, and

**Whereas** the Federal Government is currently looking into a primary residence capital gains tax as they have recognized that affordable housing has become a serious issue in Canada, and

**Whereas** smaller communities including the Town of Fort Erie are seeing unprecedented higher selling prices that are outpacing prices in larger cities, and

Whereas many hard-working Canadians who have only a primary residence with no additional non-primary homes count on their home equity as financial aid to apply to upsizing or downsizing their home depending on their personal situation, and

Whereas a change in taxation to primary residences would be a significant financial blow to Canadians and would create an unfair, two-tiered taxation which could lead to depleted savings, inter-generational disparities, disparities among diverse groups such as seniors who may have a significant portion of their savings vested in their primary residence, as well as, reducing the ability of home ownership thereby a further, higher need for rentals, and

Whereas the Federal government could look at other means to slow down the rapidly escalating housing costs to improve housing affordability;

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#### Now therefore be it resolved,

**That:** The Federal Government cease further consideration of eliminating capital gains tax exemptions on primary residences, and further

That: A copy of this resolution be circulated to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, All Members of Parliament, All Members of Provincial Parliament, The Regional Municipality of Niagara, and all Municipalities, for their support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

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Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A. Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk cschofield@forterie.ca CS:dlk

C.C.

All Members of Parliament All Members of Provincial Parliament The Regional Municipality of Niagara Ontario Municipalities



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports went before **Committee of the Whole** on **May 11**, **2021** and were approved by **Council** on **May 25, 2021**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate Council or Committee report and can be accessed by clicking on the title.

- Service Simcoe

2020 Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) Local Municipal Champion Award



The Local Municipal Champion Award recognizes efforts and accomplishments in advancing excellence in human services integration and service system management by teams from Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) across Ontario.

On March 18, 2021, the County of Simcoe was informed by OMSSA that the County will be recognized as a recipient of the 2020 OMSSA Local Municipal Champion Award for the work on the Collingwood Social and Community Services HUB.

The HUB comprises two separate community housing buildings, which are home to a total of 147 units. The HUB includes single, family and seniors' units, EarlyON Child and Family Centre programming, and community agency space. The HUB is also home to Ontario Works, Children's Services, the Simcoe County District School Board adult learning programs, Empower Simcoe, along with dropin/satellite office space for various community agencies and partners, including Canadian Mental Health Association, and Ontario Disability Support Program.

On May 11, Council received the report regarding the 2020 OMSSA Local Municipal Champion Award, which was accepted by the County at the 2021 Virtual OMSSA Exchange Conference earlier this month.

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# Service Simcoe Update

In the fall of 2018, County Council received a report regarding the restructuring of a number of the County's public facing departments into Service Simcoe. This model was structured after reviewing several North American service delivery models including Service Ontario. The Service Simcoe Department is comprised of the following branches: Public Engagement (Contact Centre); Communications and Events; Marketing and Creative Services; Simcoe County Museum; Experience Simcoe County (Tourism), and the Simcoe County Library Co-operative. These service branches provide public, staff, council and partner-related services and programs.

On May 11, Council received a report highlighting the efficiencies and enhancements, especially during COVID-19, that have been experienced as a result of this operational model, including greater synergies, innovation and modernization, improved resident outreach and engagement, enhanced support to the Office of the Warden and CAO, and improved staff engagement and contributions to corporate culture.

Paramedic Services Week – Paramedic as Educator – Citizen Ready



Every day, paramedics are committed to providing prompt, professional medical assistance to those in need. This diverse profession ranges from paramedics working in industrial settings, to flight operations or working on the streets of our towns and cities. Community Paramedics also serve Canadians through innovative roles within health care facilities, on inter-professional teams, referring patients to community supports and by delivering palliative care, supporting specialized testing, risk management and chronic disease management programs to our most vulnerable populations. Most recently, paramedics have been on the front lines of COVID-19 testing and immunization efforts.

National Paramedic Services Week celebrates the caring professional paramedics in Canada. County of Simcoe Warden George Cornell, on behalf of County Council, has proclaimed May 22 to 29 as Paramedic Services Week in Simcoe County, to facilitate efforts to inform and educate the public about the paramedic profession as well as relevant public safety and health information.

Metrolinx TPI - Governance Agreement for Joint Transit Procurements The transit joint procurement program was initiated in 2006 in response to requests from several transit systems that felt the purchasing of buses by individual municipalities was overly complex, time consuming and generally inefficient. The County of Simcoe first joined the program in 2017. The benefits of the program for the County of Simcoe transit system include economies of scale and purchasing power, a reduced time and costs with public procurements, independent procurement oversight by a Fairness Commissioner, the latest technologies and warranty advantages, networking and synergies among transit partners, and inplant inspection services and increased vehicle quality control from factory.

On May 25, Council approved the staff recommendation to authorize the Warden and County Clerk to execute a 2019-2024 multi-year governance agreement with Metrolinx TPI for joint transit procurement, including vehicles, to take further advantage of purchases through the Metrolinx Transit Procurement Initiative Program.



# 2021 #ITSTARTS Campaign Outcomes

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In 2017, the Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) launched the initial #ITSTARTS campaign as a response to recommendations in the Community Settlement Strategy, 2012. The Community Settlement Strategy includes a plan based on four themes of community action, to support the development of welcoming communities in Simcoe County. Under the theme of *Readiness (to strengthen public services)* is a recommendation that a public education strategy be developed, to reduce discrimination and racism, and encourage cultural competency.

On May 11, Council received a report on the 2021 Campaign Highlights, including an activity to honour and recognize the International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination, the launch of the Simcoe County Diversity Hub, and a social media reach of over five million.





County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO III0 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X IN6 simcoe.ca

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **County increasing LINX transit service on Route 3 (Barrie to Orillia)**

**Midhurst/ June 2, 2021** – Starting June 7, 2021, the County is increasing service on LINX Transit Route 3 (Barrie to Orillia) to support riders and better serve our partners. Throughout the pandemic, the County has been assessing ridership and adapting transit service levels accordingly. This frequency increase will move transit closer to pre-pandemic service levels on Route 3.

Route 3 currently operates five trips per day, including morning and afternoon services. Starting June 7, 2021, the County is adding three additional trips to provide consistent service throughout the day. Route 3 moved to a reduced schedule as a result of lower ridership as Lakehead University and Georgian College transitioned to online classes. The County is working with our partners to enhance services and assist students returning to in-class learning. Scheduling information is available on our website, nextlinx.simcoe.ca, or through our free Transit app, available on the AppStore or via GooglePlay.

#### Additional trips:

- Northbound: 5:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:25 p.m., 14:05 p.m.
- Southbound: 10:05 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 13:25 p.m.

#### About LINX Transit Safety Measures

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, LINX Transit has prioritized the health and well-being of transit users and staff. Transit staff have worked hard to continue to deliver this essential service and implement additional safety measures, including:

- A minimum of six feet between the driver and the first seat on the bus
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting practices on our vehicles
- Masking requirements and hand sanitizer on our vehicles
- Modified seating capacity to promote physical distancing
- Daily active screening of all employees for COVID-19 symptoms

Remember to stay home when sick, wear a mask in public places, wash and sanitize your hands frequently and observe physical distancing.

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

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Chris Hedley Public Relations Consultant County of Simcoe, Services Simcoe Department 705-715-7654 (mobile) Chris.Hedley@simcoe.ca Collin Matanowitsch Manager, Public Relations County of Simcoe, Service Simcoe Department 705-734-8386 (mobile) <u>Collin.Matanowitsch@simcoe.ca</u>





County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO III0 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X IN6 simcoe.ca

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Volatus Aerospace accelerates investment in Simcoe County

**Midhurst/June 3, 2021** – One of the County's newest employers is already taking flight, announcing new manufacturing contracts that reinforce its planned growth and job creation in Simcoe County. Volatus Aerospace, Inc., which in March 2021 announced it would be moving some of its operations to the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA) employment lands, has formed an agreement to build up to 1,200 FIXAR VTOL drones at the LSRA manufacturing facility. This new agreement will reinforce the company's investment in manufacturing space at the airport and lead to high-quality aerospace jobs in Simcoe County. Volatus will also be developing their other proprietary aircraft systems including the Velos and Vedette.

"We are thrilled that Volatus will be manufacturing these innovative drones right here in Simcoe County," said Warden George Cornell. "When Council approved the proposal from Volatus Aerospace to move to the LSRA and create local jobs, we were excited about the possibilities. With this development, it brings many of those possibilities to fruition and advances our plans to make the LSRA a key driver of our regional economy."

The Volatus Aerospace Centre of Excellence was brought to the LSRA earlier this year with support through the County's LSRA Aerospace Development Fund approved by County Council. The initial investment by Volatus Aerospace was anticipated to generate 17-20 high paying jobs in the aerospace sector, helping to transform the LSRA into an economic and innovation hub, creating strong synergies and encouraging further sector/industry development while enhancing talent attraction to Simcoe County.

Volatus Aerospace has accelerated their plans to grow their company's labour force in the County of Simcoe, bringing approximately 20-25 high paying jobs in the community.

"I am delighted to be joining Volatus Aerospace during such an exciting time," stated Andy Buck, Vice President for Volatus Flight Systems. "I look forward to introducing our proprietary systems to the market and helping grow our reach internationally. It's rewarding to see so much investment in my hometown."

#### About Volatus Aerospace Operations at the LSRA

Volatus Aerospace has coast-to-coast Canadian operations, as well as offices in Colombia, South America, and Albany, New York. Known as the 'Volatus Aerospace Centre of Excellence', the company is leasing a 32,000 sq.ft. hangar at the LSRA for assembly/integration of drone components and systems integration, along with research and development. Additionally, their crewed aircraft business will operate as a charter service out of the LSRA. Expected employment for the assembly/integration of drone components will continue to double for the next 2-3 years, based on projected growth.

#### About FIXAR

FIXAR is a developer and manufacturer of integrated Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) aerial solutions for industrial uses. The company was founded in 2018 by aviation engineer and European

champion of drone combat games, Vasily Lukashov. FIXAR designs and builds innovative, solutionoriented commercial drones and proprietary embedded Autopilot and xGroundControl Station software.

#### About the County's investment in the LSRA

In January 2020, the County became the majority shareholder of the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA), with a 90 per cent ownership stake, and is leading investment initiatives to help propel the airport forward. In addition to the Volatus Aerospace project, the ongoing investment in the LSRA strategic plan has supported the progression of the MediCA Park development and the Oro Station Automotive Innovation Park development, both adjacent developments to the LSRA that utilize airport services.

The County has completed the first phase of an investment of more than \$3.5 million towards widening the LSRA runway from 100 ft to 150 ft, and other upgrades including LED high intensity runway lighting. The widening is expected to be completed in summer 2021. Future phases of the airport's expansion include a proposal to lengthen the runway from 6,001 ft. to 7,000 ft., which will allow for larger aircrafts to utilize the airport. The County continues to make other strategic investments to enhance airport operations and support the needs of key industries in the area.

#### About County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at **simcoe.ca**.

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From: AMO Communications <<u>Communicate@amo.on.ca</u>> Sent: June 3, 2021 10:01 AM To: Lisa Lehr <<u>llehr@essatownship.on.ca</u>> Subject: AMO WatchFile - June 3, 2021





June 3, 2021

#### In This Issue

- Apply for an AMO Federal Gas Tax Award!
- Province launches consultation on Land Use Compatibility Guidelines.
- Housing Supply Challenge Round 2.
- Second date added for Human Rights and Equity.
- Delegation request deadline is tomorrow June 4.
- Second training date added for Leading Through Crisis.
- Space still available for AMO's Land Use Planning workshop on June 3.
- Joint Health and Safety Committee eLearning bundle training.
- Save the date Municipal Cyber Security Forum.
- Introducing the Canoe Procurement Group!
- One month until Energy Reporting deadline.
- Careers.

## **AMO Matters**

Has your community financed an innovative, exciting, or impactful infrastructure project with the federal Gas Tax Fund? <u>Apply for an AMO Federal Gas Tax Award</u> to celebrate your municipality's efforts!

#### **Provincial Matters**

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted a proposed Land Use Compatibility Guideline for consultation (<u>ERO 019-2785</u>) until July 3; municipal webinars are also being organized (June 9: <u>registration</u>; and June 16: <u>registration</u>).

## **Federal Matters**

Local governments, and other eligible organizations may apply to <u>Round 2 of the</u> <u>Housing Supply Challenge</u> for up to \$75,000 to prototype their solutions. Applicant support consultations are now open.

# Eye on Events

2020 was an historical moment for laying bare the necessity to honestly and transparently face the issues of human rights, diversity, equity and inclusion. AMO has developed training to help members better understand these important and complex issues along with their roles and obligations. AMO has added a second date for this in demand training. Join us June 24 for this important session.

Delegation meetings are a key feature of the AMO Conference. To request meetings as part of your AMO 2021 Conference experience, visit the Conference <u>website</u> and click on the "Delegations" tab before **June 4**. Don't forget, you must be a registered delegate to participate.

AMO and the Loomex Group are offering training that provides tools for elected officials to build resilience and strength in providing leadership through and beyond COVID-19. *Leading Through Crisis: Strengthening Personal Resilience* training is now also being offered on June 17, 2021. This important training has limited capacity, register today.

Join this 3 hour workshop to learn the fundamentals of planning and your important role as an elected official in decision making. <u>Register here</u>.

4S Consulting Services, AMO's occupational health and safety service partner, is offering <u>JHSC online training</u> at member <u>preferred pricing</u>. Use the code **AMO2021** at checkout.

Join AMO and the Municipal Information Systems Association of Ontario (MISA-ON) this fall as we co-host our 2nd annual Municipal Cyber Security Forum. Learn from leading experts and peers about the shared responsibility of cyber security and how you can build cyber security resiliency across your municipality and organization. Save the date: October 14, 2021. Fee: \$50.

# LAS

Have you heard? LAS is proud to introduce the <u>Canoe Procurement Group</u>! As a founding partner, we are happy to announce the new logo and name which now represents our **united** group buying organization!

Annual energy reports under <u>O. Reg. 507/18</u> are due to the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines on July 1, 2021. Now is a good time to <u>log in to</u> <u>their portal</u> and <u>submit your 2019</u> consumption values. Ministry information <u>webinars</u> will be on June **9** and 23. Questions, email <u>BPSsupport@ontario.ca</u>.

# Careers

<u>Director, Housing Programs Branch - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</u>. As the Director of the Housing Programs Branch, you will have the opportunity to affect change and have a lasting impact on the lives of Ontarians. You will act as a strategic partner across a vast array of stakeholders. Please <u>apply online</u>, only, by Thursday, June 10, 2021. Faxes are not being accepted at this time.

<u>RFP - Community Recreational Needs Assessment - Town of Goderich</u>. The Town is soliciting proposals from professional qualified consultants for the development of a comprehensive Community Recreational Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment will be used to guide Council and staff on the long-term and future needs of recreation. Proposals must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon, Local Time, Friday, June 11, 2021 to: Town of Goderich, 57 West St., Goderich ON, N7A 2K5, Attention: Andrea Fisher, Clerk.

<u>Treasurer / Trésorier - Township of Alfred and Plantagenet / Canton d'Alfred et</u> <u>Plantagenet</u>. Reports to: CAO. Language: Orally/Written in French and English (Bilingual). Interested candidates are required to submit a letter describing their interests for the position and marked "Employment offer – Treasurer", with their résumé before 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 16, 2021 by email to: <u>clortie@alfredplantagenet.com</u>, or by mail to: Carole Lortie, Township of Alfred and Plantagenet, 205 Old Highway 17, P.O. Box 350, Plantagenet, Ontario K0B 1L0.

<u>Project Manager, Rapid Transit Office (RTO) - Region of Durham</u>. Reporting to the Manger of the Rapid Transit Office, the successful applicant will be responsible to coordinate and lead the delivery of rapid transit/Regional road projects. To learn more about this opportunity, please visit <u>Durham Region Job Postings</u> and apply online directly to Job ID# 14333 no later than June 22, 2021.

<u>ADM, Community Services Division - Ministry of the Solicitor General</u>. Location: Toronto. Duration: 1 Permanent. As part of Correctional Services, this division has jurisdiction over approximately 40,000 adult offenders under community supervision, and provides programs, services and support designed to assist in offender rehabilitation and community safety. Please apply online by Tuesday, June 22, 2021 by visiting <u>Ontario Public Service Careers</u> and following the instructions to submit your application.

<u>Director, Economic Development - County of Haliburton</u>. The Haliburton Highlands is a vibrant region located in Central Ontario. There are over 600 clear lakes, stunning scenery and it is only a 2 ½ hour drive from the Greater Toronto Area. For more information about this position, please visit <u>Haliburton County Careers</u>. Please submit a detailed resume indicating your skills and experience no later than Monday, June 28, 2021 to: Andrea Bull, Human Resources Manager; <u>abull@county.haliburton.on.ca</u>.

<u>Director, Arts Across Canada and Arts Abroad Programs and Director, Explore and</u> <u>Create Program - Canada Council for the Arts</u>. The Council invites applications from all qualified candidates. Canada Council is partnering with BIPOC Executive Search to ensure an applicant list that includes Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour, thereby reflecting Canada's diverse population. Interested candidates should submit their Resume and Application Form to: <u>ukhan@bipocsearch.com</u>. Closing date: July

## 5, 2021.

<u>Town of Georgina - Senior Project Manager</u>. This position is responsible for providing project management, technical expertise and engineering input from planning and inception through the design, construction and warranty period of multi-disciplinary capital works projects involving roads, bridges and water/wastewater and storm water infrastructure projects. Qualified applicants are invited to submit a resume and cover letter, identifying the Job Title and Job ID#. Please apply by visiting www.georgina.ca/careers.

#### About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow @AMOPolicy on Twitter!

#### **AMO Contacts**

AMO Watch File Tel: 416.971.9856 <u>Conferences/Events</u> <u>Policy and Funding Programs</u> <u>LAS Local Authority Services</u> <u>MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario</u> <u>ONE Investment</u> <u>Media Inquiries</u> Tel: 416.729.5425 Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

From: AMO Communications <<u>Communicate@amo.on.ca</u>> Sent: June 3, 2021 1:56 PM To: Lisa Lehr <<u>llehr@essatownship.on.ca</u>> Subject: AMO Policy Update - Blue Box Regulation Released, Province Easing Restrictions on Long-Term Care



June 3, 2021

# AMO Policy Update – Blue Box Regulation Released and Province Easing Restrictions on Long-Term Care

# Blue Box Regulation for Full Producer Responsibility Transition

The Province today released the regulation to transition the Blue Box to <u>full producer</u> <u>responsibility</u>. This transition will occur between July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and the end of 2025. It will move Ontario forward with better environmental and economic outcomes.

This is an important milestone for municipalities and for Ontario's environment. Municipal governments are ready to implement this transition to full producer responsibility smoothly and seamlessly.

"These changes to the Blue Box program reflect the most important advances in waste diversion since the program was created two decades ago," said AMO President Graydon Smith. "It will save property taxpayers \$150 million a year and lead to better, more innovative, and sustainable packaging practices."

The final regulation includes the following provisions:

- establishment of a province-wide common collection system that transitions all current municipal programs and expands servicing to:
  - all communities regardless of size (except Far North)
  - all residential dwelling types
  - all schools
  - all publicly run retirement homes and long-term care facilities, and
  - more public spaces.
- an enhanced and standardized list of materials that will need to be collected and recycled
- high, progressive, and enforceable targets

• certainty for planning to ensure a seamless transition.

We expect that the regulation will be posted on the Ontario e-laws site soon.

AMO has scheduled a webinar for municipal staff on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon to 2 pm to provide more details on the regulation and how municipalities can ensure they are prepared for the transition. Municipal staff can <u>register to attend</u> this webinar now.

# **Province Easing Restrictions on Long-Term Care**

Effective Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Ontario government <u>announced</u> it is easing some restrictions in long-term care homes. The purpose is to allow residents to have more social connections with family, friends, and other residents. The decision is due to high levels of vaccination in long-term care homes and improvements in key public health care indicators. Changes include:

- Residents who have been fully immunized can leave their long-term care homes for day and overnight social outings and trips.
- Residents with mobility limitations or health conditions (essentially, factors unrelated to weather) that make participating in outdoor visits highly unlikely or impossible may have one general visitor at a time inside the long-term care home, in addition to an essential caregiver.
- Regardless of resident and visitor vaccination status, brief hugs can now take place. Where both the resident and visitors are fully immunized, close physical contact, including handholding, can now safely take place. Residents and visitors are to adhere to public health measures in the home, including good hand hygiene and appropriate masking.

Further specific information is found in an updated Directive #3, as well as the Ministry of Long-Term Care's <u>visitor policy</u> and <u>guidance document</u>. The government will monitor the ongoing situation in the vulnerable sector to protect health and safety and promote mental health and well-being.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned. From: AMO Events < Events@amo.on.ca>

Sent: June 8, 2021 10:01 AM

To: Lisa Lehr < <a href="https://lisa.com">lisa.com</a>

Subject: Second Date Added for AMO Human Rights and Equity Training: The Role and Obligations of Municipal Leaders

> AMO Update not displaying correctly? <u>View the online version</u> Add <u>Communicate@amo.on.ca</u> to your safe list



# **ONLINE TRAINING**

June 8, 2021

# AMO 2021 Training Human Rights and Equity The Role and Obligations of Municipal Leaders

# Thursday, June 24, 2021

The death of George Floyd, growing inequality exposed by the pandemic, and the Black Lives Matter movement are a few of the things that made 2020 an historical moment for laying bare the necessity to honestly and transparently face the issues of human rights, diversity, equity and inclusion. This pivotal moment clarified both the positive obligation of municipalities and the consequences of missteps in addressing these fundamental issues in your community. Helping members better understand these important and complex issues is part of AMO's strategic objectives for 2021.

In partnership, **Hicks Morley**, the **Kojo Institute** and **AMO**, have developed training to support members in understanding your obligations under law specific to human rights and how to work towards creating equitable outcomes for your constituents.

This training will take a deep dive into:

# The Ontario Human Rights Code:

- Understanding your obligations and duties in eliminating discrimination and harassment.
- What are grounds for discrimination?
- The important intersection of human rights and equity.
- Your role and opportunities in working towards equity.





- What is equity?
- The impact of your decision-making frameworks and data: how these reinforce bias, racism, discrimination and inequity.
- Creating change and equity in your municipality by confronting your biases.
- · Working towards making new choices.

Join **Njeri Damali Sojourner-Campbell**, Associate with Hicks Morley and **Kike Ojo-Thompson**, Principal Consultant, Kojo Institute, for an important and innovative discussion and workshop on matters that are important to your council and your community. Registration is limited. <u>Register Today</u>.

## Facilitators:

## Njeri Damali Sojourner-Campbell, Associate, Hicks Morley

Njeri Damali Sojourner-Campbell is an employment, labour and human rights lawyer in Hicks Morley's Toronto office. Njeri provides strategic advice and representation before administrative tribunals and courts. She provides legal advice to clients to supplement their work with workplace consultants and/or workplace investigators on complex equity and human rights-related matters.

Prior to her legal career, Njeri was employed as a Human Rights and Diversity Advisor at Humber College. There, she supported workplace investigations, compliance initiatives and delivered human rights and AODA training. She possesses a Masters in Education from York University, where she focused on Critical Race Theory and other equity-related disciplines.

## Kike Ojo-Thompson, Principal Consultant, Kojo Institute:

Kike Ojo-Thompson is the founder and principal consultant of Kojo Institute. An award-winning expert on equity, inclusion and diversity, Kike specializes in developing, facilitating and implementing innovative solutions for creating equity at an institutional level. A dynamic speaker and educator who artfully balances tact and honesty, Kike has over 20 years of experience leading engaging and effective workshops, lectures, mediations, and trainings for a broad range of organizations eager to create equitable outcomes for their staff and clients.

In addition to her equity work with Kojo Institute, Kike is a member of the Ontario Human Rights Community Advisory Committee, was formerly the senior facilitator for the province of Ontario's carding review team, and formerly the project lead for One Vision One Voice, a first-of-its-kind initiative tasked with addressing anti-Black racism in the child welfare system. Ojo-Thompson has lent her voice to provincial and national media platforms, including The Social, TVO, the Globe & Mail, CBC, and the Toronto Star. Her meaningful contributions to equity in Canada have been recognized by Women's Health in Women's Hands (2019); 100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women (2018); and Robert Small's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Legacy (Black History) Poster (2020) to name a few.

Dates: June 24, 2021 Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm Registration Fee\*: \$400 \*A cancellation fee of \$50 applies.

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



## 1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON KOE 1G0 T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097 rideaulakes.ca

At the Regular E-Meeting of the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Rideau Lakes held Monday, June 7, 2021, the following Resolution was passed:

**RESOLUTION #68-2021** 

Moved By: Councillor Livingston Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Maxwell

To pass a Resolution that;

WHEREAS at the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting held May 20, 2021, Resolution #12-2021 was passed regarding cemetery funding;

AND WHEREAS Municipalities in Ontario have been made responsible for abandoned cemeteries within their boundaries, and are required by the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002* "to ensure that the cemetery grounds, including all lots, structures, and markers, are maintained to ensure the safety of the public and to preserve the dignity of the cemetery;

AND WHEREAS cemeteries are not only symbols of respect, preserving the memory of families, prominent citizens, and local history; some cemeteries are landmarks in themselves and hold great historical value worldwide;

AND WHEREAS preservation repairs to older cemeteries are very costly, requiring the specialized services of stonemasons and archeologists;

AND WHEREAS the care and maintenance funds of abandoned cemeteries are generally non-existent or so small as to produce insufficient annual interest to cover even the cost of lawn care at the site;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Rideau Lakes hereby Urges the Government of Ontario to immediately provide funding sources for Municipalities for the ongoing maintenance and preservation repair of abandoned cemeteries in their care;

AND FURTHER that this Resolution be forwarded to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario, the Minister of Government and Consumer Affairs, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and MPP Steve Clark.

Certified to be a true copy of the original
Date: June 8, 2021
Signature: MELevelor
Title: Clerk. The Corporation of the

Township of Rideau Lakes

Carried: Signed: Arie Hoogenboom, Mayor





# MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# NVCA needs your help to continue to provide vital services

UTOPIA, Ontario (June 9, 2021) – Residents in the Nottawasaga Valley watershed are encouraged to <u>comment on the proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* to help ensure there is adequate funding for important services that the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) provides.</u>

The Ontario government released the changes on the Environmental Registry of Ontario. As part of the public consultation process, members of the public can comment on these changes on the before June 27, 2021.

The proposed changes lists the services that are core and non-core. Municipalities would be mandated to provide funds for core services, such as flood management, permitting and planning services. However, municipalities can opt-out of non-core services, including maintaining hiking trails, environmental restoration on private land, providing education programs, planting forests and most components for stream, groundwater and wetland monitoring.

"Our natural resources provide numerous ecosystem services to those who live, work and play in the watershed", commented Doug Hevenor, CAO of NVCA. "Maintaining and enhancing these natural resources requires an integrated approach. By dividing our services into core and non-core, we may have to make the difficult choice to eliminate or reduce programs from the integrated process. This makes it much more difficult to ensure nature's ecosystem services are in place and are resilient to climate change and the impacts of urban growth."

Residents are encouraged to submit comments about their experiences with NVCA's noncore programs and to ask the Minister to reconsider dividing programs into core and noncore. Examples include experiences in NVCA's conservation areas, working with the stewardship team to restore stream and river banks as well as children's experiences at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation.

"Currently, NVCA receives 50% of our funding from our municipal partners," continued Hevenor. "Under the new legislation, funding for non-core work could be drastically reduced from current levels. This funding is vital for maintaining our conservation areas



and allows our education staff to develop programs. Our talented stewardship staff raises four times as much funds to restore our streams and rivers to improve water quality, maintain tourism and provide habitat in all of our partner municipalities."

Residents can visit the <u>Environmental Registry of Ontario</u> to provide comments and to learn more about the proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

For more information about the implications of removing municipal levy, please refer to the attached Backgrounder.

- 30 -

**About NVCA:** The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

**Media contact:** Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator 705-424-1479 ext.254, <u>mleung@nvca.on.ca</u>



**Nottawasaga Valley** Conservation Authority

# Backgrounder

For over 60 years, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) has provided watershed residents with services such as flood management, development planning in flood plains and ecologically sensitive areas, providing recreational opportunities as well as educating our youth and communities about nature.

In the proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (*CA Act*), municipalities can opt-out of non-core services. Watershed residents are encouraged to <u>comment on the proposed changes</u> to help ensure there is adequate funding for important services that NVCA provides.

Below is a summary of some of these non-core services and how removing funding for them will directly impact our watershed residents and municipalities.

# Hiking trails and recreation

NVCA has the responsibility to conserve land in order to protect natural areas and their ecosystem functions. For example, wetlands help improve water quality and control flooding. Clean rivers and streams help provide fish habitat for popular sports fishery such as rainbow trout and Chinook salmon.

Currently, municipalities are required to provide levy to help maintain conservation areas so residents and visitors are able to enjoy recreational opportunities in these natural areas. Through experiencing nature first hand, and with the help of interpretive signage, visitors develop appreciation of the ecological integrity of nature and the importance of preserving this precious resource.

Some NVCA conservation areas include the Tiffin Conservation Area, Nottawasaga Bluffs Conservation Areas and the Minesing Wetlands.

# How municipal levy helps

A combination of municipal levy and user fees help NVCA maintain our conservation areas, including removing hazardous trees, keeping emergency routes open for first responders, allowing Provincial Offence Officers to protect NVCA properties, enhancing or restoring wildlife habitat and installing interpretive signage.

Without municipal levy, visitors may have to pay higher fees when visiting conservation areas to help with maintenance and upkeep. NVCA may also have to



make the difficult decision to shut down or reduce service in some conservation areas.

# **Education**

Over the last 30 years, NVCA's Education Program has delivered high quality, hands on, environmentally based outdoor education. Thanks to a long-term partnership with the Simcoe County District School Board, NVCA's educators work with students at their schools or at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation to help them connect with local natural environments. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our education team developed online programming to continue this work.

NVCA also offers secondary school programming including several Specialist High Skills Major certificate programs for high school students focused on their next steps at post-secondary school.

Other programs delivered through our Education Program includes Camp Tiffin, programming for homeschooling families, cultural festivals and evening/weekend workshops for our communities.

## How municipal levy helps

Municipal levy helps fund the development of NVCA's education programs. Each year, the Manager of Education assesses the needs of our schools and communities and develops programs to meet those needs. Without municipal funding, schools, communities and residents would have to pay additional fees to access these programs and services.

# **Environmental Restoration**

Healthy streams and rivers provide clean water for drinking and cooking, agricultural irrigation, waste water dilution, and recreational enjoyment.

When spending time outdoors, residents prefer clean rivers, lush forests and areas with abundant wildlife. Exercise, recreation, fishing, boating, hiking and bird watching are best enjoyed in healthy environments. A healthy Nottawasaga Valley watershed also provides habitat for a variety of fish, including prized sports fish such as rainbow trout, Chinook salmon, walleye, pike and bass.

There are a variety of land uses throughout the watershed that can impact our water resources. NVCA's Watershed Monitoring Program has identified areas with degraded rivers and streams throughout the watershed through data collection and analysis. This information helps our Stewardship and Forestry Programs work together in large and small restoration projects to improve both rural and urban environments.



Environmental restoration projects can take years to plan and complete. Our Watershed Science Program monitors the completed projects for effectiveness and sustainability. These programs a required component to ensure the watershed remains healthy, especially in this rapidly growing watershed.

## How municipal levy helps

NVCA's 18 municipalities contribute seed funding for environmental restoration projects. The stewardship team uses these funds to help leverage additional funding from external grants like foundations, private donors and the provincial and federal governments. Every dollar contributed by municipalities result in six dollars of external funding!

Each year, the return **on** investment to our municipalities is many times more than the amount contributed. Our 18 municipalities are connected by streams, rivers and groundwater systems. Repairing degraded upstream streams and rivers also greatly improve the water quality downstream.

Under the proposed changes to the *CA Act*, municipalities are only mandated to fund environmental restoration projects on NVCA owned land. Municipalities will need to enter into agreements with NVCA to provide seed funding for environmental restoration on private land. However, in the Nottawasaga Valley Watershed, most river and streams pass through private land.

Without the seed funding, NVCA will no longer be able to access grants, meaning the years of planning for many projects may become fruitless.

# **Tree Planting**

NVCA has been offering subsidized tree planting services to NVCA residents since 1964. Every spring, NVCA's Forestry Program plants over 100,000 trees throughout the watershed.

As the trees mature, they will help with flood management. As the snow melts in the winter, the snow under the trees will take longer to melt, and their roots also help water go into aquifers, helping to refill groundwater. Trees also help stop soil erosion, put nutrients back into the ground and create habitat for wildlife.

## How municipal levy helps

Like NVCA's stewardship program, our Forestry Program uses municipal levy as seed funding to apply for grants in order to offer tree planting services at a discount to residents in the Nottawasaga Valley Watershed.

Without this funding, it is estimated that NVCA can only plan 50,000 trees each year, half of what is currently being planted each year.



# Watershed Monitoring

The Nottawasaga Valley Watershed is one of the fastest growing watersheds in Ontario. A healthy watershed not only helps protect and enhance our natural areas, but also ensures our health, economy and society can thrive.

For example, agriculture is the economic engine of the Nottawasaga Valley watershed and relies on clean water for irrigation, and healthy soils and pollinators to grow crops. Urban development also relies on healthy environments as it provides healthy neighbourhoods with access to greenspaces. Clean rivers also have better capability of diluting and carrying away the water from wastewater treatment plants. Our strong tourism industry also relies on a healthy environment.

NVCA's watershed monitoring team collects information about the health of our rivers, streams, groundwater and wetlands to determine the impacts of climate change, urban growth, land use change and other stressors on these areas. This information is also used to measure effectiveness of environmental restoration projects.

NVCA participates in MECP's provincial stream and groundwater monitoring programs, where water samples are collected for chemistry analysis. This provides an excellent snapshot of stream health conditions and allows NVCA us to identify potential causes of poor stream health.

Watershed science staff also collect data on fish, water temperature, stream flow and benthic macroinvertebrates (small animals that live on the bottom of water courses). These methods are more cost efficient and helps NVCA gain a more comprehensive understanding of stream health.

## How municipal levy helps

In the proposed legislation, municipalities would be required to provide funding for provincial stream and groundwater monitoring programs. However, municipalities will have to enter into agreements with NVCA to provide funding for the other components of monitoring.

Without municipal levy, the opportunities to collect information from multiple sources is impacted. For example, as our land use changes, the biological, chemical, and physical characteristics of our rivers and streams also change. NVCA's Watershed Science Program uses cost effective methods to detect these changes and summarizes this information in Watershed Health Checks. When tracked over long periods of time, this data is extremely valuable for NVCA and municipalities to make decisions regarding changes to land use.

# **Commenting on the proposed changes**

Residents in the Nottawasaga Valley Watershed are encouraged to submit comments to <u>Environmental Registry of Ontario</u> to ask the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks to reconsider dividing conservation authority's services into core and noncore.

Members of the public are welcome to submit comments until June 27, 2021.


## **NVCA May 2021 Board Meeting Highlights**

#### Next Meeting: June 25, 2021, held virtually

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit NVCA's website.

#### Springwater Township Swaley Drain Presentation

Kenn Smart, P. Eng from K. Smart Associates provided an update to NVCA's Board of Directors regarding the Swaley Drain in Springwater Township.

NVCA will continue to work with town staff to extend the Swaley Drain while mitigating environmental impacts in the Minesing Wetlands.

## **Board Hearing Training**

Under the *Conservation Authorities Act* Section 28 (12), permit applicants who are denied a permit have the rights to a hearing in front of the NVCA Board.

NVCA's Board of Directors received a presentation from Colin A. Brown, Partner, HHL Law Firm LLP, regarding the hearings process under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

#### Presentation on NVCA Permitting Process

Meagan Kieferle, Regulations Technician at NVCA gave a presentation on the NVCA Permitting Process.

NVCA is responsible for the administration of Provincial Regulations under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. These regulations are in place to prevent injuries and loss of life, minimize property damage and restoration costs as well as protect the natural benefits of wetlands, watercourses and shorelines.

Areas that are regulated by NVCA include

 Flooding and erosion hazards associated with watercourses and shorelines;

- Steep slopes when associated with river and streams, hazardous lands and unstable soils;
- Wetlands and wetland buffers;
- Dynamic beaches.

Any development in these areas require a permit from NVCA. These activities include:

- Construction of a dwelling or addition;
- Reconstruction of a dwelling;
- Construction of any other structure such as shorewall, inground pool or driveway;
- Placing or constructing a detached accessory structure such as a barn, shed or pool house;
- Changes to a building or structure that alters the use, increases the size or increases the occupancy such as, enclosing a carport to create a garage, or an "in-law" suite;
- Site grading
- Temporary or permanent, removal or importation of material such as fill, gravel, soils, even if the material originated on the site.

The following activities do not require a permit or prior approvals:

- Ground level decks (provided they are not enclosed or cover a walk out from below);
- Seasonal docks;
- Fences;
- Above ground swimming pools or hot tubs;
- Landscaping activities such as planting trees or garden beds;

 Removal of singular or small group of trees where stumps remain in place may not require permission from the NVCA, if such works are demonstrated to not interfere with wetlands, alter watercourses and shorelines, or impact land conservation.

#### NVCA's permit handling process.

In general, a permit application will go through policy and technical reviews before a permit is issued.

<u>Please refer to NVCA's Permit Application flow</u> <u>chart for more information.</u>

#### Applying for a permit

**Step 1:** Pre-consultations with NVCA's regulations staff is highly recommended prior to applying for a permit. NVCA's regulations staff will review your proposal with our technical staff before you apply.

Pre-consultations can save time and money by giving a clear direction on the policy and technical guidelines before plans are completed. By speaking with our regulations officers, iterations to plans and back and forth with consultants or hired contractors can be reduced.

Here are several ways to consult with NVCA's regulations staff

- Complete an <u>Online Inquiry</u> on NVCA's Website
- Send an email to <u>permits@nvca.on.ca</u>
- Contact the NVCA regulations team by calling 705-424-1479
- In person "walk-in" services (currently suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic), however Regulations staff are happy to set up a telephone appointment.
- Review our <u>Planning and Regulation</u> <u>Guidelines</u>

**Step 2:** If NVCA regulations staff have determined a permit is required, submit <u>a</u> complete application with required documents.

Applicants will be informed within 21 businesses days what additional information is required.

#### Timelines

Initial Policy Review: 21 business days

#### Technical Review for Minor Works Applications: 30 business days.

Applicable projects include:

- Utilities
- Pools
- Septic
- Minor additions (not within the hazard
- lands)
- Detached accessory structures (under 500 sq.ft. and/or not within the hazard lands)

#### Technical Review for Major Works Applications: 90 business days.

Applicable projects include:

- New dwelling or reconstruction
- Shorewalls/shoreline alteration
- Minor additions (within the hazard lands)
- Watercourse alteration/Drainage Act
- Detached accessory structures (over 500 sq.ft. and/or within the hazard lands)

#### Timelines can be delayed and sometimes are not avoidable. Some of the common reasons include:

- Incomplete application submitted for "review"
- Delays from applicants completing payments or providing zoning approvals
- Volume of permits at the time of application
- Applicant did not consult with the NVCA prior to submitting their application and their proposal does not comply with Policy. In these circumstances the applicant is provided comments to address in order to comply with policy. Once the revised information is received then the technical review can commence and timelines start.





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# Annual Report 2020

Imagine Discover

Connect

## Mission: Connect people, grow ideas & inspire discovery.

## **Essa Public Library Board Members**

Derek McKeever, Chair Judith Hunter, Vice-Chair and Chair of Personnel Committee Carol Cryer, Chair of Policy & Planning Committee and SOLS Representative Jennett Bushey, Personnel Committee Susanna Malick, Chair of Finance Committee Andrew Morrison, Policy & Planning Committee Henry Sander, Council Representative Keith White, Council Representative Laura Wark, CEO/Board Secretary/Treasurer Glenda Newbatt, Manager of Library Services

## **Essa Township Council**

Sandie Macdonald, Mayor Michael Smith, Deputy Mayor Keith White, Ward 1 Councillor Henry Sander, Ward 2 Councillor Ron Henderson, Ward 3 Councillor

## **Essa Public Library Staff**

Laura Wark, CEO

Glenda Newbatt, Manager of Library Services Angie Wishart, Coordinator of Facility and Support Services Holly Elliott, Coordinator of Children & Family Experiences Karly Bruce, Coordinator of Children & Family Experiences - Bilingual Paula Hughes, Library Technician Public Service Representatives: Ann-Marie Crackle, Roberta Miller, Victoria Murgante, Emily Nakeff, Lewis Sabo, Dawn Travers

Many thanks to our Library Volunteers for lending a hand.

#### Library Year in Review

2020 has been a most challenging year and I feel that we have met those challenges successfully. I always look for the positives in any given situation and the Essa Public Library has met them.

It is with extreme gratitude that I thank the Library staff for the fantastic job they have done this year. I would also like to thank the Library Board and the Essa Council for their continuing support.

Some of the positive outcomes are:

A transition to Virtual Services such as the Library Zest Blog, Essa Public Library YouTube Channel and virtual French Conversation Circle. All of these programs will now be kept and added to our core services.

The curbside model of service offering Book Bundles allowed us to really stay tuned in to patron needs via Reader's Advisory and reference services. Staff really did an AMAZING job working with Safety Protocols.

Seniors Connect announced a new program for Seniors. The goal is to provide opportunities, both virtually and in the Library, to connect with each other, and with others in our Community.

The primary goal of the Essa Public Library is to eliminate barriers – be they physical, social or socio-economic, thus enriching the lives of individuals who live within the Township of Essa.

Our 2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan is to Explore New Services, Destination to Imagine, Discover and Connect, Successful Citizens and Meaningful Resources.

"There comes a time in your life, when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. Surround yourself with people who make you Laugh. Forget the Bad and focus on the Good. Love the people who treat you right, pray for the ones who don't.

Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is part of life, getting back up is living." (Jose N. Harris)

Thank You for all you do to make this such a Great Library and I look forward to a Successful 2021.

Derek J. L. McKeever Board Chair

Circulation	92,664
Downloadable Ebooks	7,394
Downloadable Audio Books	2,983
Downloadable Magazines	85
Items Borrowed via ILLO	268
Items Lent via ILLO	265
Program Attendance	17,139
Service visits provided to residence-bound residents and people at risk	3

### Events

ABa

Circulation



Board Chair, Derek McKeever's 20 years of service was honoured by the Mayor & Council; and by the Library Board on another occasion.



Unleash Your Future celebration via Zoom



Board Chair, Derek McKeever accepts Tim Hortons Smile Cookie donation.

## General Info

Total Population Served (resident and contracting)	23,456
Number of Active Cardholders	5,178
Number of Service Points	2
Total Weekly Hours of Operation	90
Number of Public Access Computer Workstations	32
Number of Public Computer Workstations with Internet Access	32
Number of Circulating Wireless Hot Spots	16

## Funding

	Т	ownship of Es	sa	
	Summary of Budget Variances by Department			
TOWNSHIP AF TCCA	For the Perio	d Ending Dece	mber 31, 2020	
			Varia	nce
	Actuals to Date	2020 Budget	Actuals to Annual Budget (\$)	Actuals to Annual Budget (%)
Library			ามหลางขณะ - หมาย การการการสนับการการการสนับการการการการการการการการการการการการการก	the large ensure the set operation of the set
Admin Wages and Salaries	\$601,241	\$604,267	(\$3,027)	99,50%
Subsidized Program & Board Wages	\$12,853	\$16,645	(\$3,792)	77.22%
Admin Operating Expenses	\$98,719	\$120,940	(\$22,221)	81.63%
Angus Branch Operating Expenses	\$17,174	\$52,363	(\$35,189)	32.80%
Thornton Branch Operating Expenses	\$8,521	\$15,650	(\$7,129)	54.45%
Operations Expenses	\$70,208	\$91,562	(\$21,354)	76.68%
Subsidized Program & Board Operating Expense	\$1,538	\$1,775	(\$237)	86,65%
Total Expenses:	\$810,255	\$903,202	(\$92,947)	89.71%
Revenues	(\$110,027)	(\$117,065)	\$7,038	93.99%
Taxation required:	\$700,228	\$786,138	(\$85,909)	89.07%

The Township of Essa is responsible for the majority of Library funding.

## **Additional Contributors**

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County of Simcoe Province of Ontario Government of Canada

RBC Volunteer Grant Program RBC Unleash Your Future Program Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign, Thornton







EPL is a recipient of the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie campaign. Pictured with Board Chair, Derek McKeever & CEO, Laura Wark is Thornton Tim Hortons' owner, David Blackmore.



Library Chair, Derek McKeever presents gift card donations from the Library Board to My Sister's Place.

- Library Board determined to waive overdue fees during the pandemic.
- Library Board supports Curbside Services and Virtual Library Services in an effort to extend resources and programs to our citizens.
- Library Board concludes the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan, Striving for Excellence: Community-focused service.
- Library Board developed the next Strategic Plan: Deepening Connections through people-centred service for 2021-2025.

#### Outcomes

"There are so many opportunities at the library. I don't think that people know the extent of what libraries do." *"I just love the warm comfortable feeling I have every time I walk into the door of my library."* 



*"I can't believe how much we have relied on the Library these past five years."* 

"I have been enjoying your Seniors Connect Craft Workshops. All the instructors have been kind and patient and have ensured the crafts weren't too difficult but lovely to take home. Thank you for all your efforts."



"This is my favourite library. I've used many - and the service here is exceptional." AS

*"I just want to say a big THANK YOU to the staff under these trying times.* 

"I'm so grateful for meaningful, personal interactions."

*"I love seeing how passionate everyone is, on the Essa Public Library team, about what they do. Thanks for being such an amazing resource in our community."* 





## Essa Public Library Report: April 2021

## **IMAGINE DISCOVER CONNECT**

## Outcomes



Karly hosts Virtual French Conversation Circle/Cercel de Conversation Virtuel on *Zoom*.



One of our seniors enjoying painting her Tulip Craft Kit offered through the Seniors' Connect program.

## Pen Pal Program comments from Seniors & Teens:

*"I have 2 grandsons the same age as my Pen Pal, so this helps me feel connected to them by writing to my young Pen Pal."* 

"This is a great program for me to earn community service hours and make a new friend."

*"I have a very close relationship with my own grandparents which has inspired me to participate in the Pen Pal program."* 

### Geocaching at EPL

"It was at this geocache, we realized we had lost our pen. We thought our caching day may be over. Thankfully, the library was still open and they were very kind to gift us a pen!" "Just wanted to send a quick thank you for the book bundle and maker kit we picked up yesterday. It honestly brings me so much joy to see how excited my girls get to bring new books home from the library and just sit and read. The first thing they asked to do this morning again is read the new library books."

"I really did enjoy the Living Out Loud seminar by connecting & learning from the other participants. I would like to thank the library for offering that seminar and many other projects to grow, learn, and be happy during this dreary pandemic. As a result, I have started journaling every day."

## Making a difference.

Young adult patron picking up 16 books said "I love reading. It's my favourite thing to do."

"Thank you for finding the audio books for me. They will make Spring cleaning much more enjoyable."

"I am loving the movies that were provided! I had asked for '10 surprise me dvds' and I definitely would not have picked these ones! They're awesome! :) Essa Librarians are the best!"

## **Programming Events & Attendance**

# Adults

*Zoom* Trivia Night: 129 *Zoom* Cookbook Club: 7 *Zoom* Cercel de Conversation Virtuel: 26 Zoom Bookclubs/both branches: 6 Zoom Burnout & Balance: 12

Tech Learning - Angus (phone/email/in library): 14

Tech Learning - Thornton (phone/email/in library): 5

Tech Assistance 30-min Appointments: on hiatus

Outreach - Angus Geocache location accesses: 8 Outreach - Thornton Geocache location accesses: 8

Artists' Display: no new display

Beanstack's "Read Woke" Active Readers: 0 Books read: 0 Badges earned: 6

## Seniors Connect

Seniors Connect Grab 'n Go Craft kits (Ceramic bunnies, Wood tulips & Spring Painting) handed out - both branches: 64

Pen Pal Program letters: 15

## Young Adults - Unleash Your Future: Grant

Stand up to Bullying with Ian Tyson: 173

One person can change the world with Dillon Mendes: 80

Pen Pal Program letters: see statistics in Seniors Connect

## **Digital Programs**

*YouTube* Channel

Storytime/Preschoolers: 1 Misc. Videos: 4

#### Zoom Online

Library Storytimes: 5 Wiggles & Giggles: on hiatus Bookclubs:2 Cookbook Club: 1 Adult Trivia: 2

Cercle de Conversation Virtuel: 4 Burn out and Balance: 1 Welcome to Library Virtual Tour: 1 Bird Watching with NVCA: 1 Simcoe Author Talk Series: 2

### **Social Media**

Facebook: 29 posts Reactions: 208 Followers: 1,186

Twitter: 20 tweets Reactions: 91 Followers: 1,012

Instagram: 11 posts Reactions: 258 Followers: 357

Youtube Views: 7,653 Reactions: 4 Subscribers: 263

Beanstack Beanstack Challenges offered: 71

# Kids

## **Zoom Online**

Zoom Library Storytime: 175

*Zoom* Wiggles & Giggles: on hiatus

#### Outreach

Book bundle requests - All ages:122

Virtual Library Tour: 1

Storytime with Pine River P.S.: 24

Spring Storytime kits:28

Grab 'n Grow kits: 9

#### Beanstack

1,000 Books before Kindergarten Active readers: 4 Books read: 189 Badges earned: 3

Beanstack's 2021 Reading Challenge Active readers: 15 Books read: 340 Earned badges: 142

Makerspace: 3

## More

*Library Zest* blog posts/videos/email campaigns: 5 *Library Zest* blog traffic: 62

Library Zest unique visitors: 30

### **Community Partners**

NVCA Birdwatching in Ontario: 31 Simcoe Author Talk Series April 23, Catherine Gildiner & April 29, Cathy Marie Buchanan: offered

## **Circulation Totals & Analysis**

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CIRCULATION	Apr. 2020 Renewals + e-circulations	Apr. 2021	YTD 2021
Angus Branch	5,668	3,478	14,108
Thornton Branch	875	1,236	5,262
Angus Branch Computer Use	0	0	35
Thornton Branch Computer Use	0	0	0
Angus Branch Wireless Use	162	369	1,769
Thornton Branch Wireless Use	124	150	686
eAudio & eBooks	1,608	1,024	4,303
TOTALS:	8,437	6,257	26,163

Circulation Analysis	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2021	YTD 2021
Print	3,200	2,550	11,991
Non-Print	3,263	2,077	7,068
Computer Use/Internet/Wireless	286	519	2,490
eAudio Books	484	243	894
eBooks	1,124	781	3,409
Interlibrary Loan: Borrowed	43	62	203
Interlibrary Loan: Lent	37	25	108

Materials Used In-Library	Apr. 2021	YTD 2021
Angus Branch	0	0
Thornton Branch	0	0
	41	

## **Online Resources & New Members**

Library website visits 3,728	<b>YTD 2021</b> 14,776	BlueCloud Mobile 140	visits	<b>YTD 2021</b> 532
E	-resources visits	YTD 2021		
	3,049	10,824		

New Members		YTD 2021
Angus Branch	14	62
Thornton Branch	3	7

## **Library Highlights**



We welcomed our Virtual Speaker, Dillon Mendes. He shared his environmental views on how one action, one person or one movement can change the World. After the presentation, we received this text, "Oh my goodness. tonight was amazing. I needed that so much. I'm so glad I came across it the other day on Facebook. Thank you for doing this."





Another Virtual Speaker, Ian Tyson entertained and inspired with his anti-bullying talk. His unique brand of "comedy with a message" was on display with relatable stories of overcoming obstacles and making a difference in the lives of others. The Explorer Backpacks provide great resources for those who want to trek the area trails. The Ontario Park Passes are a big hit with patrons also.

> Library Report by Angie Wishart 2021