



HCM Winter Newsletter

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria **March 2012**

Welcome to Your Community Newsletter

We're definitely in blessed country – one of the few places in Ontario swept with snow and outdoor magic. Although many fly south, most of us delight in that glorious panorama of white, incubating within us a sense of peace, simplicity and reflection. Winter hibernation takes many forms, and as the cycle of our own lives can become quite frenetic, storms force us inside to cozy up, count blessings and warm to a fresh cup of friendship and time.

The B-B cross-country ski trail is evolving slowly through deep sticky snow as our snowshoes are becoming transportation of choice. We're still clearing trail from the ice storm last November, trees bending into arches which welcome us through to the next open passage. Our pond is now beyond redemption for skating for a while. Lakes and rivers are tentatively gaining our confidence for ice fishing.

Snowmobiling on the Missing Link Trails is always a uniquely beautiful ride. How has your winter season unfolded? Largest fish caught?...

The season will soon be over and the black flies and frenzy of busyness again upon us. Inhale that fresh air, and be glad! Get out there! Seize the day!

BY-ELECTION 2012

Congratulations to both Debbi Grills and Doug Antler for conducting a respectful and dignified campaign. The close outcome reflects the confidence both of you received from the community. Best wishes, Debbi, in your new role as councillor. We know that you are very approachable and will be discerning in your decision-making. Good luck to the whole Council on its new journey.

BEST WISHES to the Morin family in Mackey. We are glad to see you well entrenched in your new home,

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Thank you to Cathy Balla-Boudreau for the generous contribution of her time and talent to compile a great deal of the material for this newsletter. Feel you have something to share too—please pass it along to the office for inclusion in future editions. twpshcm@xplornet.com

Frankie, Sasha and Alyssa. We are relieved that you are safe and sound!

CONGRATULATIONS on the birth of Alexander James Hector Morin on February 23, 2012 at 8:42a.m. weighing in at 7 pounds 15 ounces. Grandma Morin has informed us that everyone is doing fine.

And speaking of Grandma Morin, congratulations Ruth on your retirement. We will certainly miss your sense of humour, knowledge and expertise around this office.

SNOWMOBILING

The Missing Link held another successful **Poker Run** in January to raise money for our snowmobile trails. Many thanks to all those who donated and came out for a fun day. **Sunday Family Day** was a great success! The kids caught the greatest number of fish, and both the sun and the woodstoves kept us warm on such a pristine day. Check our photos!



LIBRARY

Our active library continues to hold **Coffee Mornings** with speakers on issues affecting each of us. Stay tuned to our local resident, Nina Shah, who will be presenting *Pills, Pills, Pills!* on March 15th at the community centre in Stonecliffe.

A **Luncheon Card Party fundraiser** is coming up this spring. Don't forget to collect your items for the **May Madness** flea-market. A great opportunity to purge! Contact Marlene Gibson if you have items you'd like to donate. Want to find a book that will hold your interest? Check out the Library column to find out more about our **Online Resources**. You'll be blown away!!!

CHILDRENS' PROGRAM

A new **Children's Program** will be starting up on Thursdays at 10:30 am. at the Stonecliffe Town Hall. Stories, songs and simple crafts will enable kids and caregivers to get together to share in fun activities. Contact Cathy Balla-Boudreau for more information.

MUSIC

Interested in music? You don't have to be talented to join us monthly to share music and to develop a **community songbook** for our gatherings. Bring an instrument or just yourself and enthusiasm, and meet at the Balla-Boudreau house at 7:30 on Friday, March 16th.

TOWNSHIPS BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club continues to meet every six weeks or so. Our next gathering will be March 7th, and discussion will center on Elizabeth Hay's *Alone in the Classroom*, much of which takes place in the familiar setting of the Ottawa Valley. The discussion in April will focus on biographies of choice. Expand your reading repertoire and join our gatherings. We'd love to have you! Contact Cathy at 586-2634.

Submissions should be provided to Cathy or Melinda by April 23, 2012 for inclusion in the next newsletter.

NEIGHBOUR TO NEIGHBOUR

Joyce Aiston has sent an email of support congratulating Council on their decision to include a “neighbour to neighbour” column which will provide an opportunity for residents to make positive comments about the actions of others. Thanks Joyce. If you have anything to share, please let us know at the office and we will be sure to include your message in an upcoming newsletter. Many good deeds go unnoticed and unrecognized, here is your opportunity to say Thank You.



Thank You

:to the CWL for hosting a lovely Christmas gathering for our seniors.

: to the Missing Link volunteers who contribute so much to community activities.

:to all residents who turned out for the Meet the Candidates afternoon and showed that they care about their community.

:Frankie, Sasha, Alyssa and Alex say thank you. To everyone who gave from the time of the fire to the birth of Alexander we are grateful for your generosity. It was a lesson in the meaning of kindness we will not forget. Thank you all.

:from Debbi Grills “I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of the United Townships for their outstanding response to our local election on Monday February 13th. There were 161 votes cast. With current population figures showing that there are 235 permanent residents in HCM, that is a 68.5% turn out at the polls! This is a figure that we can be proud of...it shows we believe in our small but vibrant community. Mr. Antler was a worthy opponent and has

contributed much to the townships. I hope that he will consider adding his name to the next municipal ballot in the fall of 2014.

It was wonderful to meet so many of my neighbours in Head, Clara & Maria and I hope to speak with those I haven't met yet.

I would again like to assure this community that I will do my utmost to represent all ratepayers equally, from our western boundary in Deux Rivieres to Mackey in the east and all residents in between. I respect the trust that you have put in my abilities to represent you. I will do my best to make a positive contribution to council of your behalf. Debbi Grills

: from Jim Gibson “To all my very generous friends, relatives, and neighbours: I am so humbled by the magnitude of your individual generosity!

*This is a very special thank you from the bottom of my heart for your most kind contribution on behalf of the Missing Link Snowmobile Club to this year's second annual **Snowmobile Ride for Dad fundraiser** for the fight against prostate cancer.*

***You helped me raise \$2540 this year.** Last year there were 125 snowmachines in the ride and the total raised was \$25,000. This year there were 189 machines partaking, and the total raised was an astounding \$60,100.*

Last year my goal was \$1000 and I managed to raise \$1840. This year my goal was \$2000, and I topped out at \$2540. In both years I was the second highest individual contributor, thanks to your kind contributions. My goal next year will be \$3000, so stay tuned.

There are only five Gibson boys on my side of the family, and this ride was the very first time all five of us did something together. There was myself, my son Bill, my brother Chris, and his boys, Eric and Scott. It felt good!

Again, thank you so much for your support. I feel truly rich to have so many of you help in this worthy cause.

Jim Gibson”

KIDS CORNER

Hi Kids! This is your area. We'd love to get your ideas, art, poems, writing, riddles and games to print in our newsletter. If you've got something your proud of—send it in.

Have you got your library card yet?

Come on a Tuesday evening or Saturday from 12:30 - 3 pm, and we'll show you the fantastic resources we have for you to access from the internet.

Check out KIDSTUFF!



DO YOU KNOW how the tiger moth protects itself? Look it up, and let us know. You'll find the answer in the next newsletter. A small prize is awaiting each submission.

CANADA DAY AT OLD MACKEY PARK

Council has approved an application for funding to hold our now annual, Canada Day Celebration at Old Mackey Park once again. Our committee from 2011 has again agreed to organize the event but I'm sure they will welcome any assistance. Please contact Marion Chapat, Linda Chartrand, Cathy Balla-Boudreau or Melanie Theil and watch for more information.

Canada Day Fundraiser

Interested in assisting with raising funds for Canada Day and improvements to Old Mackey Park? Cathy has arranged a fundraising event through Veseys Bulbs from PEI. Full colour brochures are enclosed. Orders to be returned to Cathy or Melinda by April 13, 2012. Complete the **customer** section of the form to place your order. **Cheques should be made payable to the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria.** Call for more information. (MR)

VESEY'S FUNDRAISING

Our spring campaign is out, and the catalogue is enclosed with the newsletter. Please order your plants and bulbs by April 13th.

Note that we are Zone 3, but the Stargazer lilies do well here. Many of the bulbs from the higher number zones can be dug up in the fall and replanted in the spring. For more information, call Cathy (586-2634).

Orders can be placed at the Townships Hall, Yates General Store, Priscilla Beauchamps in Deux Rivieres, or with Cathy Balla-Boudreau in Mackey. Thank you for supporting our community programs.

Our funds have supported children's activities at our Canada Day celebration and the Children's Program at the Town Hall.

Many of the children have requested a slide at Old Mackey Park! Can we do it? Let's see how much we can raise, as at the same time we benefit from our enhanced gardens.

HEAD, CLARA & MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Website: www.hcmpubliclibrary.ca

As 2012 whizzes along we would like to remind our residents that the library is open daily from 8:30 to 4:00, Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:30 pm, and Saturdays from 12:30 – 3 pm. in Stonecliffe. If you haven't joined as of yet, you should; it's free, and we have an amazing current selection. A library card gets you access to a wide range of Online Resources – from chil-

The latest DVD pool rotation arrives this week, and this collection, added to our great selection, offer lots of viewing fun for those cold snowy weekends. As well, the Playaway cassettes are a big success as people enjoy the audio stories while travelling throughout their day. We still offer two laptops to our patrons so they can stay current while touring about the country.

dren's games and resources, to Canadian issues with support for essay writing for our teens and adults, to car maintenance resources to gardening advice.

Overdrive, from our Online eResources, is another popular item used by many while they putter and work throughout their day. Get in your favourite reads in and still get those household projects completed. As we have pre-paid for our usage of Overdrive, please make use of this invaluable resource. **This resource provides direct transfer to computers and portable devices (such as iPod, MP3 players and Smartphones) of over 7,000 audiobooks and almost 18,000 eBooks, as well as movies and music.** The selection ranges from juvenile and young adult fiction to thrillers, westerns, romance and literature. 75% of the books are non-fiction. This is truly ACCESS to resources – the mandate of our public libraries.

The library is still collecting ValuMart slips, an excellent fundraiser, so remember to drop off your slips to the library collection box.

Our resident pharmacist, Nina Shah, will be our guest speaker on Thursday, March 15, at 10 am. In the Township Hall. She will be talking about the general use of medication, including getting rid of meds, effects of combining with different foods, and the effect of mixing different medications. This should be a very informative gathering, at the same time as you enjoy a hot "cuppa" while visiting with friends and neighbours.



MONTHLY HEALTH CHECK & WELLNESS CLINICS

The second Wednesday of each month the North Renfrew Long Term Care visits our community centre and provides companionship, entertainment and lunch for our seniors (cost of lunch is \$5.50).

In conjunction, the North Renfrew Emergency Services has started a program where they will provide a health assessment for you. They will check vitals: blood pressure, blood sugar levels, heart rate etc. and help you to keep a record so that you (and they) can spot trends or changes that might warrant further consideration by your regular health practitioner. Please come out between 10:00 am and noon, the second Wednesday of each month for your free consultation. For privacy purposes paramedics are normally set up in Council Chambers.

At the suggestion of Cathy Balla-Boudreau, Council is looking for interested individuals to form an ad hoc committee to investigate and create signage. It has been suggested that two signs, with slogans and artwork which encompass the spirit of the municipality and residents should be erected at each end of the municipality. Council is looking for your ideas. Gayle has suggested a contest for best slogan and/or artwork. Any other ideas? Contact Melinda at the Municipal Office or your member of Council if you are interested in participating in this worthwhile project.

WELLNESS

Stay tuned for a weekly exercise program coming soon!

Yoga will recommence in April at the Municipal Hall if we get 6 interested people to commit to a 6 week program. Please let the Township office know if you'd like to be contacted. We're opening a children's corner for those who would like to bring their children.

2012 Budget

Thank you to those who attended the 2012 public meeting for budget purposes. The meeting was well attended with 14 members of the public coming out to ask questions and receive answers concerning the future of the railway within the county and to discuss the draft budget. Thanks for caring. To make a difference, you need to come out and speak up. Watch for the next opportunity.

BUILDING

If you are planning **any** building activity, please call Robert Labre at 613-586-1950. Bob works for us one day a week. If you leave a message he will get back to you to arrange a time for consultation

Call Bob first!

613-586-1950

and inspection.

For a complete list of zoning, planning and building requirements as well as Homeowners guides, please see the "Building, Zoning & Planning" page on our web site, the 2007 Building Newsletter on our web site or drop by the Office.

As a quick guide, the following activities may require a permit—please call **before you begin**.

- New building;
- Garage, porch, deck, addition;
- Rooms in basement or attic;
- Enclosing a porch or deck;
- Raising or excavating to add a basement;
- Structure larger than 100 ft²;
- Fireplace or central air;
- Siding, roofing, re-shingling;
- Drywall, vapour barrier, insulation;
- Replacement of doors or windows;
- Demolition; Septic systems.



Otherwise you may have to redo or undo work already completed—and at your own expense.

In the Community

Carefor Volunteers will help with Income Tax Returns

Volunteers trained by Canada Revenue Agency will be available from March 5 to April 6 to assist individuals on limited incomes with their income tax returns again this year. This includes, but is not limited to, students, new immigrants, pensioners, recipients of social assistance and individuals on disability pensions.

For the purposes of this program, limited income is defined as \$25,000 for an individual, and \$35,000 for a couple, with an additional \$2,000 allowed for each dependent.

This assistance is only available till April 6. Please note that this service closes one week earlier than last year. There will be no extensions so be sure to get your information in early.

Tax forms may be dropped off at the Municipal Office in Point Alexander, at the Municipal Office in Stonecliffe or at the Long Term Care Facility in Deep River between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, from Monday to Friday. They may also be dropped off at 49 Joseph Street in Chalk River.

This is a free service sponsored by the Carefor Health and Community Services. Anyone wishing more information should call Jim at 613-589-2788.

I'VE GOT COMPLAINTS, WHAT DO I DO?

I have been requested by staff to explain the complaint process within the municipality. If you have a challenge with our roads or the condition of the disposal sites or actions of our staff or anything else; please feel free to contact the office. Staff will take your complaint and provided you are willing to sup-

Each piece of correspondence is different and is treated in a specific manner depending on its content and decision of staff and/or Council.

port your complaint with your name will process it. If it is a situation which can be dealt with satisfactorily by staff it will be. If warranted the complaint will be forwarded to Council for their attention. All complaints will be recorded in a dedicated book and used to provide statistics when completing our annual reports to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Anonymous complaints will be recorded but not given any further consideration. If your complaint is about the actions or behaviours of staff or Council members which you feel have violated the Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy or Code of Conduct; please complete a formal complaint form for further investigation. Copies of poli-

cies and complaints forms may be located on-line or available from staff in the office at your request.

I'VE WRITTEN A LETTER TO COUNCIL—WHY DID I NOT GET A RESPONSE?

All letters or emails to Council are first vetted by staff. As you may imagine, office staff receive a large volume of correspondence addressed to Council, some of which is quite obviously “junk mail”. This material is disposed of. If the contents suggest a topic that may be of interest to any member of Council it is provided to Council in the correspondence package for the next meeting. Council will then review the mail and decide what actions should be taken. Occasionally, council will request that a response is provided; quite often, the correspondence is received as information. It is not true that every piece of correspondence received in the office will receive a response. Each piece of correspondence is different and is treated in a specific manner depending on its content. If the correspondence is from a ratepayer, it is normally forwarded to Council for direction. There may be exceptions. Please note, all information forwarded to the Municipal Office in any form may become part of the public record. This includes your name and the nature of your correspondence, in fact; perhaps the document itself.

MEET & GREET

Meet Laurel and Carl Lentz, long time residents of HCM, who moved away for a few years and rejoined their friends and neighbours a few years ago. They feel very blessed to be here, as are we to have them back.

Laurel and Carl were born at different ends of the province, Laurel from McGregor near Windsor, and Carl from Cross Lake in the Madawaska area. They met in Plevna, Laurel singing in the choir and Carl eyeing this young girl from the back of the church. He felt drawn to her and so began their long spiritual and loving relationship together.

Laurel's parents moved their family across the province when they inherited a family home in Plevna in 1963. Carl's dad changed careers to become a minister. Plevna was his first charge, and the family moved to the manse. Carl was away working in the Peterborough area but would come home for visits, which became more frequent after meeting his new found love. His dedication was not deterred even after she drove him into a ditch! They remember baseball games, bible study, and church gatherings. One evening together Laurel looked up and saw a star light up and burst. She immediately knew this to be a message: that she had to play a role in making the world a better place, and that she was to do it with Carl. They waited 2 ½ years until Laurel was old enough, and married in May of 1967.

Their first home was the fire tower at White Lake where Carl worked for the Department of Lands and Forests. They then moved to Bissett Creek, and then to the old school house in Deux Rivieres, where Carl worked seasonally for the Forestry, as well as driving school bus. Stanley McIsaac, whom old-timers will remember from the Forestry days, wanted to rent out his old log house in Bissett's with the option to buy, so the Lentz's took advantage of this unique opportunity and created a home.

They grew their own food, raised 4 kids, built a log barn and a stackwall workshed, and experimented in everything from making soap to raising goats. They cut their hay with a scythe and forked it onto their truck and into the barn. Meanwhile Carl continued to work for the Forestry until it closed, worked independently for various companies as a log scaler and grader, worked for the Department of Highways, and in home renovation and building. Carl is truly a jack-of-all-trades. As well as raising her 4 children and homesteading, Laurel worked in Home Care with the Red Cross, as a cook for Clouthiers' and in housecleaning. Part of their strength at that busy time of their lives came from the House Church, a group of people who met for song, prayer, bible study and fellowship around a few homes in the Townships. The group met at their home last fall for a reunion after 30 years!

For 4 years, the couple lived with his parents in Cross Lake to take care of Carl's parents. Carl's dad died in 2006, and his mum retired to a nursing home in 2009. They moved back to Bissett's - where Laurel's sister and hus-

band became next door neighbours!

Carl and Laurel have 4 children, 3 of whom live on the West Coast. They've been out to the coast several times to visit with Michael, Jody, and Chris and are amazed at its landscape. Karen lives near Eganville, much closer for family gatherings. The Lentz's are gifted with 5 grandchildren, ages 14 - 21.

Carl loves fishing and everything outdoors. Laurel loves to quilt and would love to share this pastime with anyone interested in learning. She has made many baby quilts which she's donated to people in need. She supports Carl in his passion for creating a world based on peace, love and understanding. Carl's personal ministry comes from a deep rooted Christian perspective, respecting the shared roots of all religions which teach empathy, unity and equality.

As do each of us, Carl and Laurel have had their demons and difficult issues they've had to confront. Strength from their faith, their family and friends, and their deep love and respect for nature has helped them to face and to heal from these challenges. They want to bring that grace and compassion to every person they meet. They believe in the importance of community, and would like to see our Townships gather together more frequently to socialize and build relationships. "Bissett Creek is a great place to live", says Laurel. "We are so blessed in our Townships to be surrounded by such natural beauty and peace". They would like to see that peace extended to each of our lives. Together we can help to make that happen. Thanks, Carl and Laurel, for translating that vision into action.

Family Day 2012 in the Ottawa Valley

Where else can you be in one place and witness 8 outdoor sports taking place (9, if you count flying a personal air-plane).



The sun was high in a perfect blue-bird sky, and there we were, basking in the beauty of it; but not alone that, from our vantage point on the frozen Ottawa River, we had the pleasure of witnessing many outdoor enthusiasts, of all ages, taking advantage of

winter activities on a beautiful Canadian winter day:

- ◆ Downhill skiing
- ◆ Snowboarding
- ◆ Para skiing
- ◆ Cross country skiing
- ◆ Snowshoeing
- ◆ A game of hockey (skating)
- ◆ Para skating
- ◆ Ice-fishing

Would we rather be anywhere else on a day like today? Not a chance.

Do we think this place here in the Ottawa Valley is 'heaven on earth'? Absolutely!

We hope everyone was able to enjoy the wonderful day, which just happened to fall on Family Day, as much as we did!

Mike and Mel

March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Missing Link Bowtie Classic & Silent Auction
4	5	6 HCM Library Board Mtg 1:00 pm Library	7	8	9 March Break begins HCM Regular Council Mtg 2:00pm Municipal Hall	10
11	12	13	14 Wellness Clinic Township Office 9:00 am – noon Seniors Lunch - Hall	15 Coffee Morning 10:00 am Speaker: Nina Shah- Pharmacist Municipal Hall	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19 March Break over	20	21	22	23 HCM Regular Council Mtg 2:00pm Municipal Hall	24
25	26 HCM Library Board Budget Mtg 1:00 pm Library	27	28	29	30	31

RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES FOR 2012

January	9, 23
February	6, 21-Tuesday
March	5, 19
April	2, 16, 30
May	14, 28
June	11, 25
July	9, 23
August	7-Tuesday, 20
September	4-Tuesday, 17
October	1, 15, 29
November	12, 26
December	10, 24

GARBAGE COLLECTION DATES FOR 2012

Deux Rivieres

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bissett Creek

Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Stonecliffe

Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 noon

Mackey

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

***Times are approximate, please be sure you have your material out on time. If you have any challenges with your collection service, speak to our attendant or call the office.**

DISPOSAL SITE HOURS

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm (3 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site – Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 4:15 pm (3.5 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hours)

SAME HOURS YEAR ROUND

WASTE MANAGEMENT BY-LAW

Although the decisions have already been made after extensive public consultation and with the input of an ad hoc committee; Council feels that it is important to conduct a number of Public meetings for education purposes prior to the new by-law coming into force. Please watch on-line and on community bulletin boards for upcoming sessions held to provide you with the basics and offer you the opportunity to ask questions so that you know exactly what changes are taking place. We hope to hold at least one meeting mid March and another in April or May. Council and staff understand that the new processes and fees will require some adjustment and ask for your understanding during this transition phase. If you have any questions, please ask staff or Council.

MUNICIPAL HAZARDOUS WASTE

Due to the costs of amending our Certificate of Approval for storage at the Stonecliffe Disposal Site,

Council has withdrawn its application. What this means is that each individual is responsible for storing their own hazardous material until the next scheduled collection day. The date is set for **Saturday, June 2, 2012**. Please mark this date and bring all of your hazardous materials to dispose at this time. Specific times and location will be advertised closer to the date.

Upon withdrawing our application, we were reminded by the Ministry of the Environment that we have an obligation to perform spot checks to ensure that no hazardous materials are being deposited into our site. This means that at any time, Bill may mark a bag collected at your drive and/or dropped at the site by you to determine whether recyclables or hazardous materials are contained inside. Please separate your batteries, fluorescents, meds and chemicals and don't contaminate our sites. Please ask if you would like more info.

Coming Soon

Waste Management By-Law Public Meetings

1/2 Load Notices—Beginning March 15

May Madness

CONTACT Council or Staff

15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, Ontario
K0J 2K0

Phone: 613- 586-2526

Fax: 613- 586-2596

Email: twpshcm@xplornet.com
CBO/Fire Safety Officer : 613-586-1950 or 613-401-6955
www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca

EMAIL LIST If you would like to be on our community email list for quick access to notices of events happening in the Townships, please contact the Municipal Office. Please note that this form of notice is used in addition to and not instead of the mandated methods including posting on the municipal bulletin boards and the website. What normally occurs is that when a poster is created and posted on line, it is also sent via email. It is the intent of staff to keep email addresses secure by using BCC however; errors may occur.

Send Newsletter contributions, suggestions, completed surveys or bulb orders to Cathy Balla-Boudreau at balla-boudreaudc@hotmail.com, or drop them by #36892 Hwy. 17, Mackey.

You may also drop information off at the Township Hall in Stonecliffe, care of Melinda, or email twpshcm@xplornet.com.

For a County level on-line newsletter you can subscribe to Ottawa Valley Business news at admin@ovbusiness.com.



Tax Notices

Tax Notices will be mailed early March. Due date for this interim bill is March 31, 2012. Options for payment are in person at the Township Office by cash or cheque or via regular mail.

We would like to remind you that you now have the opportunity to pay your taxes through an Electronic Funds Transfer at any Ontario branch of **Scotiabank**. You may need to remind them to check their "**Arrangements Manual**" for instructions. You do need to ensure that you have **your tax bill** with you. Although we do not have the volume to warrant the cost of accepting credit cards or interac at the office, we are attempting to find alternate cost-effective ways for you to pay your bills.

How Your Interim Bill is calculated?

The interim bill (usually due the last day of March) is based on an estimate. It is 50% of your previous year's tax bill. The tax rates and instalment due dates for 2012 have not yet been set. Past dates have been the end of July and October and will likely be retained if possible.