



# HCM News

THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD,  
CLARA & MARIA

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG?

Well we hope its on its way. We have had a couple busy months here at the community centre with a successful Trail Side Café, a well attended St. Patrick's Day celebration, a Gospel Sing hosted by the Lentz's and the Missing Link Snowmobile Club's Silent Auction and Bow Tie Classic.

With Euchre, the Library Board's Lego Contest, private events and public meetings the hall



has been in use nearly

every weekend over the past two months. Our excellent community volunteers have been extremely busy and we thank them for their dedication and continued support. Collectively they are beginning to feel the strain however and we encourage anyone willing to pitch in (no matter how much) to contact staff, members of Council and/or members of the Recreation Committee for additional information.

And speaking of volunteers, community events and our community centre? there is a full slate of activities being planned for the months ahead as well.

The Library Board's spring card party is planned

for April 23 with it's sale event (previously known as May Madness) lined up for Saturday, June 6.

A Mother's Day breakfast is being held on Sunday, May 10 with proceeds to the Canadian Cancer Society and a movie and game night planned for Friday, April 24th. Everyone is welcome; as there will be activities for all ages.

Summer brings ball tournaments and music festivals. Watch your bulletin boards for additional information.

The opportunities are endless for participation in your community. Come on out and see for yourself. (MR)

## A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR GIBSON

Hello all,

I want to share with you some of the aspects of my new job as your municipal leader. We here in Renfrew County are in what is called two tier Municipal government. One is called the upper tier and that is the Renfrew County Council and the others are called lower tier and they are the member Municipalities that send a representative to the upper tier.

In Renfrew County, the city of Pembroke does not belong to County Council and is considered a single tier Municipality. However, this year, the City Of Pembroke will consider joining the County so stay tuned for those developments.

Each of the member lower tier governments sends a representative to County Council. It is this person's job to be their Municipality's spokesperson at the County level. This job automatically falls to the lower tier Head of Council unless that lower tier Council chooses otherwise. In Head Clara and Maria, the Mayor does this job as does the Mayor, John Reinwald, in our neighboring Municipality,

### Role of Head of Council at the County Level

The head of a local or lower tier council while sitting at the county or upper tier level; is representative of his/her municipality but not it's council. This person is an individual and does not vote on behalf of the lower tier council or necessarily express their views.

**M Reith**

Laurentian Hills. Last year the Town of Deep River created a separate position to do this job and that position is called Reeve and Glenn Doncaster was acclaimed to that position in last year's Municipal election.

In Renfrew County, five member municipalities have a Reeve as their representative at County Council instead of the Head of Council. They are the Town of Arnprior, the Town of Renfrew, the Township of Laurentian Valley and the Township of Whitewater Region and the Town of Deep River.

The Townships of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan is the only municipality that still calls their Head of Council a Reeve. So at County Council we have 17 people there representing their respective municipalities. 12 of them are new faces and are called either Reeve or Mayor and in our Case, we changed the name from Reeve to Mayor. The County Warden, Peter Emon, who chairs the County Council meetings, used to address the members of County Council by their Municipal title. That system was changed for a couple of very good reasons. One was that with the many changes at County Council it was somewhat difficult to remember who was a Reeve and who was a Mayor and secondly, everyone there has the primary responsibility of being a member of the upper tier Municipal government. Hence, we are all called Councillors.

Now comes the tough part of my new job. When I am Mayor Jim Gibson, my total responsibility is to our Municipality. When I am Councillor Jim Gibson sitting at County Council, my focus now has to change and I have to act in a manner that is the best for the long term interests of Renfrew County even though those interests are different than our Municipalities.



I'll give you an example: As you all know, we no longer have an active railway running through our Municipality and the rest of Renfrew County, part of Lanark County and a part of Papineau Cameron Townships to our west.

The County has passed a resolution to direct County staff to negotiate the purchase of this abandoned railway right of way. Most of the people in this Municipality whose property abuts the rail line don't want a county trail system running through their back yard and would like the opportunity to purchase the part of the right of way that backs onto their property. I agree with them as Mayor Jim Gibson. As County Councillor Jim Gibson I agree that the purchase of this rail corridor is in the best long term interests of Renfrew County. Not a comfortable position to be in.

Hopefully I haven't bored you to death but have given you a small glimpse of what happens at the upper tier level of government.

Thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter and we'll talk with you the next edition.

Mayor Jim Gibson

#### **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

This is an opportunity for Head, Clara and Maria to honour one outstanding local senior. We are looking for nominations for the **2015 Ontario Senior of the Year Award** program. The recipients for this award are individuals who, after age 65, have enriched the social, cultural or civic life of the community without thought of personal or financial gain. If you have a nomination please forward your suggestion to Councillor Grills at [hcmdgrills@gmail.com](mailto:hcmdgrills@gmail.com) or leave a message at the office 613-586-2526 by April 10<sup>th</sup>. (D. Grills)

#### **Intergenerational Programming**

Do you have talents, stories, knowledge, experience or skills you might like to share with others? HCM staff has applied for funding under the provincial government's Senior Secretariat program and hopes to embark on a program which encourages intergenerational interaction.

Some of our residents have grandchildren who live too far away to see on a regular basis and might be missing out on the opportunity to share their wisdom with the next generation.

Some local children have grandparents who live too far away to share with them on a regular basis.

We would like to create an opportunity where our seniors, who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and talent share it with others.

We would also like to call on our students to help teach technology and computer skills to our seniors who might like to learn how to stay connected to their families who live far away.

If you feel you might have something to share and would like to participate, please call Gayle or Melinda at 613-586-2526 to share your ideas.

Should we be successful with our funding, you will soon see dedicated work towards this goal in the near future. Someone will likely be contacting you so think about how you might like to participate. (MR)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**MISSING LINK NEWS****Tuesday, April 7, 2015****7:00 p.m.****Annual General Meeting****Township Hall****Everyone Welcome**

The North Renfrew **FAMILY HEALTH TEAM** is no longer able to take new patients at this time. Anyone looking for a family doctor is encouraged to call Health Care Connect at 1-800-445-1822 for assistance.

**Looking For:** Odds and Ends - pieces of 1 – 3 foot pressure treated wood to create garden boxes to improve the appearance of the hall/office/library. If you have some left over from a yard project, let us know and we will pick it up. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CONVENTION IN PETAWAWA**

In September of 2016 Zone G7 of the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliaries will be hosting the Ontario Provincial Convention at Petawawa. The zone auxiliaries are Deep River, Petawawa, Pembroke Cobden, Renfrew, Eganville and Barry's Bay.

This will bring between 500 and 800 Ladies Auxiliary members to Petawawa. The smallest number that has been at any of these conventions is about 675.



This convention will not bring any benefit to Head, Clara & Maria this year but there is the possibility for future benefits.

At each convention each member receives a gift bag which contains a great variety of items. These can be promotional items from businesses which might entice attendees to return next year. We have a great deal to offer in this area.

There is also another way to promote your business. Each gift bag will have a souvenir booklet which will have advertisements from all Ontario Auxiliaries as

## COMMUNITY NEWS

well as for businesses. I won't know the cost of this until the end of July.

If you are interested in either of these or want more information you can email me at [bcondie94@gmail.com](mailto:bcondie94@gmail.com) or call me at 613-586-2677. (Betty Condie)

Wanted: Hobbyists/artists willing to participate in an afternoon of wood-working and painting on wood pallets. The plan is to reduce, reuse and recycle pallets to create permanent Canada Day flags to use to decorate our municipality for Canada Day.

Staff is procuring supplies, we just need some talent. Contact us at the office if you are interested.

### STILL LOOKING FOR A

#### CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR?

We at the municipal office are able to purchase bulk detectors at a reasonable price from the Official Distributor for the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council. If you would like to combine your purchase to benefit from this price please drop off your order and payment at the municipal office by Saturday, June 6, 2015. This product is a "Worry Free" Digital display, peak level memory with a sealed 10 yr. lithium battery. The cost is \$32.50 (all taxes included). When comparison shopping remember to determine whether batteries need to be changed. This one will save you that cost over 10 years. (B Labre)

### Community Dates to Remember

- ★ **Canada Day Celebrations**—Committee Members Required for meeting—April 8 at 10 a.m.— and plan to **celebrate Canada Day** at Old Mackey Park
- ★ **Euchre**, every second Sunday at 2:00—Stonecliffe Community Centre until April 26, 2015
- ★ Library Board **Spring Card Party and Luncheon**—Thursday, April 23, 2015
- ★ Recreation Committee **Movie and Games Night**—Friday, April 24, 2015—7 p.m.
- ★ **Mother's Day** Fundraising Community **Breakfast**—Sunday, May 10, 2015
- ★ Breaking news.... A first ever **Fish Fry** to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015. Thanks to Ken Giroux for taking the lead on this. Proceeds will support grounds improvements surrounding the Veteran's memorial. Details to follow.

### Help others...help yourself....Become a Volunteer!

Thank you to Cathy and David Balla-Boudreau who once again took the lead on the St. Patrick's Day event. Congrats on record attendance, great food and excellent entertainment.

Thank you to Marlene Gibson, Fran Chamberlain, John Reith, Pat Playford, Roseann Boudreau, Linda Chartrand and Paul Sarrazin who worked with Cathy and David on the St. Patrick's Day committee. Well done.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Canada Day in HCM

It's early days but the Canada Day committee is planning on meeting Wed. April 8 at 10.00 a.m. at the municipal office, so the group can discuss this year's agenda.

Currently we have; HCM Recreation Committee Reps: Melinda Reith & Gayle Watters, with John Reith, David and Cathy Balla-Boudreau, Linda Chartrand and Betty Condie. Councillor Debbi Grills has stepped up with an offer to assist as has Marlene Gibson the day of.

We could use a few more people so if you are interested in helping out either during the event or on the planning committee, come out to the committee meeting on April 8 or call Gayle Watters at 613-586-2526 or email [chambers@xplornet.com](mailto:chambers@xplornet.com).

This year we will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada's flag with activities geared to this theme. We have received two donations to date one from the Trans Canada Pipeline and one from OPG. So far it is sounding like a wonderful time is being planned.

Missing an "Irish music" CD from the Saint Patrick's Day event. If anyone happened to go home with an extra, please return to the hall and we will get it back to the owners. Thank you.

### HCM RECREATION COMMITTEE

Did you know that the recreation committee is self-sustainable? Funds raised have been used or are being planned to...

- ◆ Purchase equipment for kitchen, hall or parks;
- ◆ Purchase a slide for Old Mackey Park;
- ◆ Purchase a bench and landscaping for the Memorial in Stonecliffe;
  - ◆ Hold dances and parties;
  - ◆ New recreational programming.

**For Sale in Office  
or during Recreation Committee Events!**

## Fleece Sweaters

w HCM logo

**\$42**

**Lady's and  
men's styles  
and sizes available.**



**Red/black and Grey/black.**

# Your Public Library News

## Library News Spring 2015



It still might be snowy outside, but spring has sprung at the library. Come in and check out our springtime display and grab a gardening book to help plan out your garden or a movie to get you in the springtime mood.

You can also come out and see some of the wonderful Lego creations made during the Crazy, Creative Lego program that ran during the March Break. The Library would like to thank all who came out to have fun and help out. We had a great turn out and hope to run something similar in the summertime.



Remember when planning any visit to the Ottawa area that the Library has many different museum passes. Each pass can be taken out for one week and gives free admission for 2 adults and 3 kids. We hope to get some passes to Science North soon.

The Head, Clara and Maria Public Library is on social media. Check us out on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/hcmpubliclibrary>) to keep up to date with the latest news and happenings at the library. Find us on Pinterest (<https://www.pinterest.com/hcmlibrary/>). We have a board with all of our latest books and another board with our new DVDs. We also have boards full of craft ideas, educational fun and games, library fun and much more!

New books and DVDs are now arriving almost weekly. Come in and check out some new material.

**Remember to save  
your Value Mart  
Receipts!**



The Library is always looking for volunteers to help out. If you are interested or looking for more information email the library ([hcmlibra@xplornet.com](mailto:hcmlibra@xplornet.com)) or call (613 586-2526). The Librarian is in on Wednesdays if you would like to talk to her.

Mark your calendars! The Spring Card and Luncheon Party will be on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

(Candice Hersak)

# Tone and Fit Group

**Meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday**

**Township Hall - 9:00 am to 10:00 pm**

**Everyone is welcome - No Cost**

**Please come and join us.**



**Mild Aerobic exercise to suit your needs**

**Contact Cathy Sutherland – [mcsutherland1954@gmail.com](mailto:mcsutherland1954@gmail.com) or 613-586-2591 for information!**

## Fire Safety and Emergency Management

On June 6, 2015 the Library Board will be hosting their community yard/plant sale formerly known as “May Madness”. For HCM’s part, we will once again be holding a draw for **Emergency Management and Community Fire Safety Awareness**. To be eligible for the draw you must be a property owner or resident of HCM, attend the event and take a couple of minutes to speak with Bob Labre to hear his messages on fire safety and prevention.

He will ask three questions: 1. What is your main source of heat? 2. Where is your CO detector located? and 3. Where are your smoke alarms located? If there are any challenges, he will point them out for your attention. Either way will be given a ballot. Come out to support your Library Board and have a chance to win.

First prize for the draw is that fact that you will potentially learn something that may save your life or the life of someone you love. Other prizes include smoke alarms, CO detectors, first aid kits and fire extinguishers. **Be Fire Smart.** (M Reith)



# FROM YOUR TREASURER

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - PROPERTY TAX

**What are the Property Tax Installment dates?** There are 3 regular Installments each year – The end of March, July and October.

**When should I receive my tax bill and what should I do if I don't?** The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria mails property tax bills twice a year. For new dwellings and additions, tax bills may also be issued throughout the year.

**a) Interim Tax Bills:** The Interim tax bill is generally mailed out in early March. This bill is the interim levy which is based on 50% of the prior year's taxes and this one installment is due at the end of March.

**b) Final Tax Bills:** The Final tax bill is generally mailed out in early July, and has two installments listed with due dates for the end of July and October.

It is up to the homeowner to be familiar with these dates. If you have not received a tax bill by July 31st, please contact our office; it is your legal obligation to pay your property taxes. Please note it is also the homeowner's responsibility to notify our office of any address changes to ensure you receive your tax bills in a timely fashion.

### **How can I make a tax payment?**

**Scotiabank Tax Payments:** can be made by visiting any Scotiabank in Canada. If you have a Scotia account you can pay on-line or through telephone banking by adding Head, Clara Maria as a 'payee'. When using this process, you must omit the '**4798**' numbers and enter the rest of the roll number (0000010123450000).

For non-Scotia customers, you can still make your tax payment but you must go to a Scotia Bank. You present your tax bill to the teller and let him/her know you are a non-customer; when the teller processes your payment make sure to tell them to omit the **4798** and enter the rest of the roll # (0000010123450000).

Payments for invoices and tax payments can be made on our township website by **VISA, Master Card, Amex, Discover or PayPal**. Please see details below:

Go to [www.townshipofheadclaramaria.ca](http://www.townshipofheadclaramaria.ca) – below the picture on the website, Click on the link that states (make an epayment)- another page will open; click on Register and follow the instructions. Ensure you fill in all of the fields with the information required then click on continue.

Once registration is successful you will see a message indicating a verification message has been sent to your email address. When you receive the email, follow the instruction to verify your information and your account will be ready to use. If you haven't received the message within an hour then log in and you will be given the opportunity to have the system resend the verification message. Your verification message, and all other emails from this web site, will come from [EBill4352@jUSTInter.net](mailto:EBill4352@jUSTInter.net). (cont'd page 11)

## Your Staff at Work

HCM staff and Council work diligently to save tax dollars and make prudent purchasing decisions. We are all (save Bob Labre) HCM residents and pay taxes here too. Increasing your taxes would increase ours. Why would we want to do that?

Did you know that Bill regularly takes it upon himself to transfer materials from one disposal site to the other (while he is going there anyway) to avoid having our recycling contractor travel to pick the material up in Bissett? Or to extend the life of a cell so that both sites require compacting and cell creation at the same time, avoiding having our contractor come up here twice?

Did you know that the recreation committee is self-sustaining? That the recreation events which are being held, pay for themselves; money is not coming from your tax dollars to host them?

In 2013 staff agreed to accept and stockpile as much asphalt from the highway construction as they would give us. In 2014 Terry used this material to apply to Cotnam Road and Dunlop Crescent reducing the costs of grading, gravelling and calcium into the indefinite future. Plans for 2015 include spreading this same material on Mclsaac Drive and Trapper's Road further reducing annual maintenance costs.

Did you know that in 2015 nearly \$3,000 in donations and recreation raised funds are available for community improvements?

That Bob prints forms instead of purchasing blank forms to use for Building to save costs of office supplies.

Although the process has yet to be completed, staff have worked to obtain a permanent liquor license to increase community centre use. Proceeds of the bar will pay for the extra costs of utilities and subsidize rental costs that come with additional use.

Staff have worked to come up with ideas to increase revenues including selling sweaters in the municipal office, fundraising and applying for all available grants.

Do you have any suggestions that might help save us all tax dollars? If you've learned of creative cost savings tools from other municipalities; please share them. Working together we can strive to keep HCM taxes the lowest in the County. (M Reith)

**COUNCIL 2015**

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

Council meets at 2:00 pm. (14:00 h)  
 APRIL 10  
 MAY 8  
 JUNE 12  
 JULY—NONE  
 AUGUST—NONE  
 SEPTEMBER 11  
 OCTOBER 16  
 NOVEMBER 13  
 DECEMBER 11

**RECREATION**

**COMMITTEE**

MEETS THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7:00 P.M. MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Council held its Strategic Planning public meeting and had 7 community members attend. Watch for an upcoming piece in your mailbox requesting further community input. Only by participating can your voice be heard. Plan to make a difference by completing and returning your survey.

**Cont'd from Page 9...From Your Treasurer**

Please add this email address to your address book so that messages sent from it will not be blocked by any spam blocking software that you are using.

- ◆ Follow the directions in the email. (Click on the link provided in your email then you will be back to Townships of Head, Clara and Maria, on **eCommerce** – Account Verification.)
- ◆ You will then enter your Username, Password (this will be the username & password you entered when registering) & Verification Code (received in your email) and click on Verify.
- ◆ Another page will open. You will then have the option to choose *Pay My Invoice or Pay My Property Tax Bill*.
- ◆ **When paying a Tax Bill**, you will have to enter your complete roll number such as 47-98-000-010-12345-0000 in the box where Parcel # is. Then you will enter the amount you wish to pay. Please be aware there is a Convenience Fee that applies. The fee is charged by the company supplying our township with the software.
- ◆ **When paying an Invoice**, you must enter the invoice # and the amount you wish to pay. The convenience fee will also apply.
- ◆ **Payments can also be made via** cash, cheque or money order by visiting the township office. When visiting after-hours, payments can be dropped in our night depository slot located at the municipal office entrance. Another available option is mailing in your cheque or money order for payment. Please **do not** send cash by mail.

**Mail to:** The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
 15 Township Hall Road  
 Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

Please stay tuned to the next newsletters for more information on your property taxes.  
 Noella LeBreton, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

Wood work Day: We are looking for people interested in helping build simple wooden plant/flower boxes to beautify the hall/office grounds. Instructions, tools and materials will be provided; we are looking for some volunteer labour. Call the office if you are interested—613-586-2526. Date to be determined.

## BUDGET 2015

One of the exceptions in the county, the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria passed its budget in January of 2015. The reasoning is that it is going to cost Head, Clara & Maria the same to run our operations in 2015 no matter what the province sets the education tax rate at or what the County sets it's rate at. We already operate at such narrow margins and with few discretionary projects that our budget has little wiggle room.

Many municipalities hold off on setting their budget and/or tax rate until these other two rates are set. They then slash or add projects to make up the difference as required based on the provincial or county rates.

### **Costs Municipalities have no control over**

Sometimes circumstances arise which do not allow us to reduce taxes as we would like. For 2015, we worked hard to keep our budget level while considering costs outside of our control. This has resulted in Council passing a budget at \$11.78 / \$100,000 value or 4.49% less than 2014.

Annually each municipality has it's funding affected by the province through cuts or increases to the costs of provincial policing, transfer payments through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, assessment phase in and for 2015-2017 special funding of at least \$25,000.

Often while the government gives with one hand it takes away with another. For 2015, the following requirements were announced, with no warning. Since approving the budget in January, the following duties have been added to Council's obligations for 2015:

*"It will be required that all emergency management program coordinators, designated by their municipality, complete the following courses offered by the OFMEM in 2015.*

- *EM 200 – Basic Emergency Management*
- *EM 240 – Note Taking Course*
- *EM 300 – Community Emergency Management Coordinator Course*

- *IMS 100 – Introduction to Incident Management System (available online)*
- *IMS 200 – Basic Incident Management System*

*In addition, all members of the Municipal Emergency Control Group are required to complete a minimum of four hours of annual training in 2015. The required training shall include instruction on note taking, continuity of operations planning and a review of specific emergency scenarios or identified local hazards.”* The requirements are the same no matter the size or composition of the municipality.

### **Other issues which drive up the cost of municipal administration**

Annually there are other circumstances which drive up the cost of municipal administration well outside of the control of any staff member or member of Council. For example, the provincial government’s stance on Joint and Several Liability ensures that the cost of liability insurance for municipalities continues to skyrocket. (Please see article on page 15.)

With the provincial government not taking a stance to amend the binding arbitration process costs such as that for provincial policing continues to grow. There are many other issues which we will visit in an upcoming Newsletter.

Recently our municipal auditor completed our audit and confirms a surplus of \$178,640. For a small municipality that is a significant amount of money. Staff estimates were \$95,000 leaving a difference of \$83,640. Why?

Although a detailed question the short answer is that we realized increased revenues and didn’t have the expenses we forecast. Revenues were higher partly because of the last regular payment from the rail way; higher than estimated surplus from 2013; increased revenues from account interest and penalties on overdue taxes; a special grant and payments in lieu of taxes.

Expenses were reduced in the following areas, based mainly on work/purchases not completed, weather affecting winter operations, and the conscious efforts of staff to work effectively and efficiently. A complete breakdown may be located on line under the reports for the March 27, 2015 meeting or by asking at the office.

At an upcoming meeting, Council will allocate the surplus to reserve funds for already identified Council priorities. (Next Newsletter—Funding Reserves vs. Pay as You Go)

(M Reith)

Department of Development &  
Property



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9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE  
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA  
K8A 6W5  
613-735-3204  
FAX: 613-735-2492  
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

January 13, 2015

Melinda Reith, CAO/Clerk  
Township of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

RECEIVED  
JAN 23 2015

Dear Melinda:

**Re: CP Abandoned Rail Corridor Acquisition Update**

The Partner municipalities (Renfrew County, Lanark County and Township of Papineau-Cameron) met with CP Rail on November 27, 2014 to discuss the acquisition of the 302 km abandoned rail corridor from Smiths Falls to Mattawa.

During the meeting CP Rail advised that railway track materials (rails, tie plates, spikes, ties, gates, signals) are now totally cleared off from Mile 1.4 (Sturgess Road in Smiths Falls) to Mile 85.9 (Meath Hill). The rest of the corridor to Mattawa is still considered a construction site which will be cleared by the end of 2015.

The Partners asked CP Rail if the municipalities or the public can work (trim weeds, cut grass, etc.) on the corridor. CP Rail advised that this may encourage locals to trespass and leave CP open to lawsuits. The land remains private property and is posted as no trespass. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

**Canadian Head Office**

Canadian Pacific  
7550 Ogden Dale Road S.E.  
Calgary, AB T2C 4X9  
Canada

The parties discussed terms of the potential purchase through a DRAFT Agreement in Principle and negotiations will continue into 2015.

The Partner municipalities are researching various issues that are contained in the Agreement in Principle and will meet again in early 2015.

Sincerely,

Robert Sweet  
Chair  
bsweet@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

## **Pettapiece continues push for municipal liability insurance reform**

(Queen's Park) – Perth-Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece today renewed his call to protect municipalities facing mounting insurance premiums.

During the first week of the legislative session, Pettapiece introduced a new motion calling on the government to reform the joint and several liability model.

“Municipalities’ insurance premiums are still too high,” said Pettapiece. “No longer can this government ignore calls from our municipal partners. They need to work with them to reform this expensive system.”

Currently, if two or more parties are found at fault or negligent in a lawsuit, damages can be recovered from any defendant—even if the party is deemed only one percent responsible. This is putting municipalities on the hook when other defendants lack the ability to pay.

Last February, Pettapiece introduced a private member’s motion calling on the government to reform the joint and several liability model. His motion won statements of support from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Insurance Bureau of Canada, insurance brokers, and over 210 municipalities across Ontario.

The motion passed with strong support from all parties in the legislature.

However, at the August 2014 AMO conference, Premier Wynne announced that her government would not be introducing any joint and several liability reform measures.

“It’s very strange that the government supported my motion, but then six months later, refused to take action,” Pettapiece commented. “The Liberals had been promising action since 2011, but then they reneged.

“Municipalities deserve better,” Pettapiece added.

Pettapiece did not give up. He filed a Freedom of Information request to gather documents related to the Ministry of the Attorney General’s consultations on joint and several liability.

“Municipalities are facing a liability chill,” said Pettapiece. “Across the province, this has led to tobogganing bans and restrictions on public activities. No child should be banned from tobogganing because of the threat of a lawsuit.”

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**Randy Pettapiece, MPP | 416-325-3400 | [www.pettapiece.ca](http://www.pettapiece.ca)**

## REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

### THE THREE R'S HAVE CHANGED SINCE MOST OF US WERE KIDS

Head, Clara and Maria is a recycling community and the staff at the Township office work to find little ways to divert items from our landfill sites daily. Sometime we take the “garbage” and set it aside for a craft thinking we could use that to make a decoration or kids craft, or we save it to send to someone we know uses them to make a new product.

Well that is how it works for pop can tabs, stamps, Campbell’s labels and milk bags. We collect these and pass them on to different organizations or school groups that collect larger amounts with the end goal of providing funds or a product to make someone’s life easier. The following outlines what happens with some of these items and how you can help.

#### Saving Stamps

Recently I received a thank you from “ Effect Hope” The Leprosy Mission in Canada. Our community of HCM, had being bringing in stamps to our collection for about a year and I had finally took them home and trimmed them to the desire size and mailed them off.

The letter thanked us for this gift as they then take the used stamps and sell them to stamp collectors and Effect Hope receives money for their cause, eliminate Leprosy.



They need a pound of stamps to earn \$9.00 and raised \$14,500 in 2013 and are trying to raise \$12000 this year 2014. Next (2015) year’s goal is unknown.

So I would like to thank everyone for bringing their old stamps in for this collection and encourage others to do the same. The side benefit of this collection is another item that does not end up in our landfill...does not seem like a lot but every little bit adds up.

If you wish to bring the envelopes in whole I will trim to the correct size or you can just tear them in half and leave for me to trim. If you wish to trim stamps yourself they need to be



trimmed to a border of NO less than a ¼ inch all around. Personally I like to try and get closer to the ½” border. If you are in the process of going through old files etc., they would love stamps from letters dated prior to 1950 intact. Do not trim at all, but drop off the entire envelope to be sent to “Effect Hope”, no trimming needed. Thank you all for your help.

(Gayle Watters)

### FROM OUR WASTE DISPOSAL SITE ATTENDANT



“Happy Spring Everyone, Just a few reminders regarding recycling and waste disposal.

- ◆ Old clothes and furnace filters are not recyclable.
- ◆ Recyclables must be placed out in **clear plastic bags**.
- ◆ **Plastic and glass bottles** should have the **caps removed** as they are a different grade of plastic from the bottles and need to be separated during sorting.
- ◆ The **recycling container in Stonecliffe** at the Municipal garage

is not meant for electronics or furniture. These items must be brought to the landfill sites. Electronics are separated there and we receive a credit for them. Some furniture may be placed in the re-use area. Thanks for your cooperation, Bill Donnelly

And from the Clerk... as noted above, Bill has advised that some people are slipping and that it is evident that we are not all recycling as much as we could and should be. Sometime in the near future spot audits of both garbage and recycling will be returning. For those who are found to not be compliant Council has outlined in their Waste Management By-Law that fines may be levied and collection might be refused. If you are uncertain of rules, please just ask Bill or anyone at the office. We can provide you with a copy of the by-law. It is also posted on-line for those of you who have internet access.

And please remember our re-use area. Both sites have an area set aside for materials which may be re-used. It is often said that one man’s trash is another’s treasure... some gently used furniture may be the perfect fit for your deck, cottage or camp. Please consider this area when disposing of your used material and when looking for items. Every bit helps. (M. Reith)

The **Next Newsletter** will go out **May 26, 2015**. If you have any content for inclusion, please submit to [twpshcm@xplornet.com](mailto:twpshcm@xplornet.com) or drop hard copy off at the municipal office before then. Thank you for your interest in your community. (MR)



VISIT OUR UPDATED SITE

[www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca](http://www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca)

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**EMAIL LIST:** If you would like to be on our community email list please contact the Municipal Office. It is the intent of staff to keep email addresses secure by using Blind Carbon Copy however; we can not guarantee confidentiality.

**YOUR INPUT:** Council and staff are interested in what you have to say. If you have ideas for service changes, comments, concerns, complaints? Please forward to the Municipal Office or any of your members of Council at the contacts provided. Your input is valued and important to shape your future.

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**The more volunteers, the less any one  
person has to do.**

**Volunteer Today!**