



HCM News

Fall 2020 Edition



Mayor's Message

The past few days of cool weather and the return to school is a reminder that the beautiful days of autumn are just a few weeks away.

Throughout the summer I have continued to attend monthly electronic meetings with our neighbouring Mayors and the Deep River and District Hospital. As you know, during this time the province has moved to Stage 3 of the provincial recovery plan. CEO Richard Bedard has reported that the hospital is back to 70% in the Emergency Department and patients often present with more serious conditions than usual. There has been a full inpatient load in the medical unit. Diagnostic imaging is also resuming non-urgent outpatient services. Along with our obvious COVID-19 concerns as school resumes, we also need to prepare for flu season, from August to January with usual spikes at Thanksgiving. COVID-19 testing continues to be done by RC VTAC. A schedule of testing sites and times can be found at www.rcvtac.ca

or the Renfrew County Health Unit at www.rcdhu.com.

On Saturday August 22nd, we held an afternoon, in person and socially distanced Council meeting at the municipal hall. We are fortunate to have the space to provide for a such meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Charlotte Toope reported that the office IT network upgrades have been completed. The connectivity issues were caused mainly by outdated and overloaded equipment. To date, the internet connection has been stable and consistent. Also reported, HCM continues to follow all ministry guidelines surrounding the cautious reopening in Stage 3. The municipal office is open and the library continues to provide curbside pick-up. The hall has not reopened for rentals yet. HCM has received a \$21,400 payment through the Safe Restart Agreement from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) to support our COVID-19 operating pressures. The Council decided that there

would be no broad waiving of interest for late property tax payments. Residents facing hardships due to COVID-19 are encouraged to contact the Clerk-Treasurer to discuss individualized payment plans if necessary.

Service Delivery Review

Our township, guided by Maclaren Municipal Consulting Inc. (Ottawa) is in the midst of an overall review of the municipality's current services to identify areas needing improvement. This review will identify opportunities available to better align our rural township with similar municipalities, and provide an overview of administrative processes to reduce costs and improve efficiencies. In the consultation process, Staff and Council have been interviewed, site visit and tour of facilities have been completed. Now it is time for public consultation. Please be part of the process, our citizens are our most valuable resource!
Mayor Debbi Grills

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HCM Service Delivery Review Survey

HCM is undergoing a Service Delivery Review. Feedback from our citizens is crucial. Please complete the survey found on pages 5 & 6 of this newsletter. This survey can be emailed or dropped off at the municipal office by Sept 18.

You may also complete the survey by visiting:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/5MN7CY9

Questions can be directed to the office by calling 613-586-2526 or emailing clerk@headclaramaria.ca.



HCM Public Library continues to provide curbside pick up.

- Check out the library website to make a list of titles and DVD's you would like to borrow.
- Call Marlene at 613-586-2761 or email jimmarlene.gibson@gmail.com to place your order or ask for suggestions.
- Non-contact pick up will be arranged once your order has been place.
- Upon return, all items are quarantined, according to Public Health guidelines.

Did you know the library
has it's own website...
check it out at
www.hcmpubliclibrary.ca

*"That's the
thing about
books.*

*They let you
travel without
moving your
feet."*

-Jhumpa Lahiri

Daffodil bulbs for Sale



\$10.00 PER BAG

**A BAG CONTAINS 10 BIG BULBS AND A
MINIMUM OF 5 SMALL BULBS**

Contact Cathy Sutherland
613-633-3794
or
mcsutherland1954@gmail.com
to purchase

Head Clara and Maria Public Library Fundraiser

Thanks to the green thumb of Betty Condie



You can complete the HCM Service Delivery Review Survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/5MN7CY9 or fill out the paper copy in this newsletter by September 18, 2020.

Keep portable propane cylinders out of your recycling

FOR SAFE DISPOSAL LOCATIONS:
visit MakeTheDrop.ca or contact
your local municipality.



Municipal Disposal Site Hours

Bissett Creek Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Saturday 12:45 - 3:45 pm

Located on Bissett Creek Road

Stonecliffe Site

Thursday 12:45 pm - 4:15 pm

Saturday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Located on Kenny Road

Collection Days and Times

Deux Rivieres (garbage and recycling)

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

Bissett Creek (garbage and recycling)

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.

Recycling Dates (Stonecliffe and Mackey)

September 8 & 21 November 2, 16 & 30

October 5 & 19 December 14 & 29

Residents are reminded that the following weekly limits apply for curbside pick up:

- Residences - 1 bag
- Businesses - 4 bags

Any additional bags must be tagged and taken to the land-fill during business hours. Additional bag tags can be purchased at the municipal office at a cost of \$1 each.

News from the Office

FINAL TAX BILL—SECOND INSTALLMENT DUE OCTOBER 31, 2020

Final tax bills have been issued and the final installment is due to be paid by October 31st. Thank you to those residents who have paid their taxes on time. Properties that are in tax arrears of two or more years as of December 31st, 2019, have become eligible for tax sale registration. Final notice has been sent regarding these properties and they will enter the tax sale process on September 11th, 2020. Please contact the municipal office at 613-586-2526 with any questions or concerns.

LENDING HUB—LAST WEEKEND FOR USE IS SEPTEMBER 11–14

The Lending Hub program saw another successful year, with many residents and visitors making use of the variety of items available through the Lending Hub. The last weekend for borrowing of the summer items is September 11-14. Residents are reminded that we also have snow shoes available to borrow in the winter months.

The items we currently have available in our Lending Hub program were purchased through a grant opportunity. Unfortunately, these items are now beginning to show signs of wear and often require repairs or replacement. Through our Service Delivery Review process, we are looking for the best way to continue to be able to provide these items for residents and visitors to use. Please complete the survey found on page 5 & 6 to provide feedback or visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/5MN7CY9 to complete the survey online.

HALL RENTALS & USE

Although the municipal office is open, a decision has been made to not resume renting the municipal hall for events at this time. At this point, we do not have a timeline for when hall rentals will resume.

SURVEY: Please complete our HCM Service Delivery Review Survey on page 5 & 6.

Your input is valuable to us!



Subscribe to Ontario's emergency alerts

Get life-saving information by email or text message so you can be prepared, take action and stay safe.

Head Clara & Maria Resident Survey

Head Clara & Maria is reviewing the services it delivers to the community and would appreciate your input to this process. You may complete this form and email it to us at clerk@headclaramaria.ca, drop it off at the Township Hall, or complete it on-line at www.surveymonkey.com/r/5MN7CY9. Survey's must be dropped off or completed online by September 18th, 2020.

Recognizing that lower service levels will generally reduce costs and taxes, and higher services levels will increase costs/taxes, please let us know what you would like to see Head Clara & Maria do:



1) Are there services you think the Township should do better?	
2) Are there additional services you think the Township should carry out?	
3) Are there services or activities you think the Township should stop providing?	
4) For solid waste disposal services, which approach would you prefer/support. Select one of the options below: a. Eliminate weekly garbage collection, requiring residents to drop off their garbage and recycling at the landfill? (\$20,000 or 3% of taxes saving) b. Continue weekly garbage collection, but close one of the landfills (\$17,000 or 2.5% of taxes saving) c. Eliminate weekly garbage collection and close one landfill (35,000 or 5% of taxes saving) d. Don't make any changes	Please select: a)___ b)___ c)___ d)___

<p>1) Some residents want the Township to clear their driveways. Given the various length of driveways and the need to enter private property, that seems inappropriate. Should the Township remove the windrows across laneways that result from road plowing? It would increase taxes about \$30,000 or 4.5%.</p> <p>Should the Township clear windrows only for senior citizens? (perhaps \$15,000 or 2% tax increase)</p>	<p>Yes ___ No ___</p> <p>Yes ___ No ___</p>
<p>2) The Lending Hub used a grant to buy sports equipment that it lent free of charge to residents and campers. Some equipment needs replacement. Should borrowers be charged a fee to cover replacement and administration costs?</p>	<p>yes ___ no ___</p>
<p>3) The Township has an agreement with the province to cover combatting forest fires, but does not have a fire department to respond to house or structure fires. Creating a fire department with one station and one full-time staff 24/7 (to be supplemented by volunteers) would require at least a doubling of property taxes. Would you favour creating a fire department?</p>	<p>yes ___ no ___</p>
<p>4) Did you know the Library offers access to the internet from the parking lot 24 hours a day?</p> <p>Could this service be of use to you?</p>	<p>yes ___ no ___</p> <p>yes ___ no ___</p>
<p>5) Help us understand who you are. Are you:</p> <p>a. a year-round resident of HCM? b. A seasonal resident c. Not a resident</p>	<p>___ ___ ___</p>
<p>6) Do you work</p> <p>a. At home b. In Head Clara & Maria c. Outside Head Clara & Maria d. Mostly retired</p>	<p>___ ___ ___ ___</p>
<p>7) How many people live in your home?</p> <p>a. Children under 18 years old b. Adults (18 to 39 years old) c. Adults (40 to 65 years old) d. Adults (66 and older)</p>	<p>___ ___ ___ ___</p>

Thank you for your feedback!

**United Townships of
Head, Clara & Maria**

Phone: 613-586-2526
Fax: 613-586-2596

15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe ON K0J 2K0

admin@headclaramaria.ca (Stephany)
clerk@headclaramaria.ca (Charlotte)
info@headclaramaria.ca (April)

HCM Mission: At your service; working effectively to bring together people, partnerships and potential for a strong, connected community.

HCM Vision: Providing a healthy, connected and sustainable community teeming with possibilities for our citizens now and into the future.

We're on the web!
townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca



A Natural Playground

Council Contacts

Mayor Debbi Grills

613-586-1904
d.grills@headclaramaria.ca

Brent Allen

613-586-2621
b.allen@headclaramaria.ca

Chris Dowser

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c.dowser@headclaramaria.ca

Fran Kelly-Chamberlain

613-586-1942
f.kelly-chamberlain@headclaramaria.ca

Ernie Villeneuve

613-559-2814
e.villeneuve@headclaramaria.ca

Want to stay up to date on what's happening in HCM?
Send an email to clerk@headclaramaria.ca and ask to be added to our email distribution list. We make all attempts to keep your email address confidential by using the "bcc" option when sending emails to residents.

HCM Word Search

B B Y Z C H V J X F U S B M O
I D E U X R I V I E R E S A N
S L Q B K Z S C C H Z K Y R T
S A D U Z R K O S Y H M N I A
E S T O N E C L I F F E N A R
T A L G O N Q U I N P A R K I
T P B Z M A C K E Y R F R L O
C X A Z E R E K L U Z C H S X
R J X M U N I C I P A L I T Y
E U N R Y L E N D I N G H U B
E P U B L I C L I B R A R Y C
K K T S L H G C M M T Q T H L
S F M M J T A B Y Q W O Y E A
V R E N F R E W D F W G L A R
N Z O T T A W A R I V E R D A

- Head Ottawa River
- Clara Ontario
- Maria Municipality
- Stonecliffe Lending Hub
- Mackey Public Library
- Deux Rivieres Algonquin Park
- Bissett Creek