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**Briefly**

Up for the challenge...it's your time to shine

Calling all residents. Yes, that means you! We at Etcetera Publications (*Chesterville Record*) are looking for you.

Did you know that 2021 is the year of the sunflower? The National Garden Bureau has declared 2021 as the "Year of the Sunflower"? I know, that little tidbit of information has just made your day. Sunflowers symbolize adoration, loyalty and longevity. The meaning of sunflowers stems from the sun itself. Sunflowers are known for being "happy" flowers and making them a perfect gift to bring joy to your day.

In sharing this sentiment, and being your weekly news publication hoping to bring some of the joy to you as you peruse through our pages, we want to celebrate this with a friendly competition.

Take a spot in your yard or a pot on your balcony and plant some sunflowers. There are so many different varieties available that anyone and everyone can participate in this challenge.

Check out next week's issue for full contest details. We are so excited and we are sure you will be too.

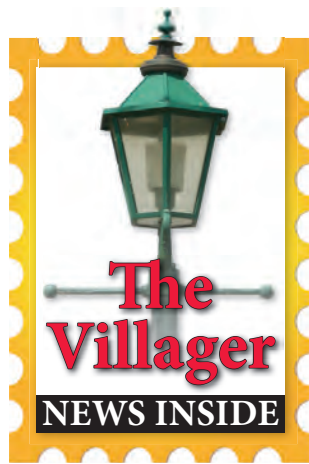
Just think about all those happy spots there will be throughout the region. Let's help bring sunshine to where you live.

**Williamsburg Country Market**

First market day is Sunday, June 6, from 10 am to 2 pm. The market's grand opening celebration is on June 13. The market, located in front of Jay's Tire & Automotive in Williamsburg, offers a variety of goods from local vendors. Local produce, handmade/homemade goods and more.



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**Welcome to the world**

As crazy and concerning as our world is right now, a new baby is always a welcomed event. Lou gave birth to this beautiful Palomino filly on Fri. May 21. BamBam has big hooves to fill as her mother is a very accomplished animal. Don't forget, no matter whether it is your child or not, the younger members of our community are watching how we react and what we do. Believe it or not, that little one looking at you may be wanting to be just like you. Keep that in mind, as we get closer to getting out of this pandemic. Vogel Photo

**South Dundas stands firm on water tower logo decision**

Sandy Casselman  
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – Despite a resident's threat to "call the minister," three of the five Municipality of South Dundas' politicians did not bend to pressure.

During a delegation at the May 10 council meeting, Iroquois resident Terry O'Reilly requested that council reconsider their previous decision to remove the "Chieftan emblem" from the village water tower. He said he was speaking on behalf of a "significant and growing" group of residents and business owners in the area, who feel the previous decision represents taking "political correctness to an excess."

"I do want to be clear that I sincerely sympathize, and I do so as deeply as anyone, with the wrongs that were suffered by Indigenous People[s] through the residential school saga. We believe however, that that issue really has no relationship or bearing on this issue; none whatsoever," O'Reilly said. "While we must try to rectify bad things, we

Continued on page 3

**Setting the stage for municipal pools this summer**

Joseph Morin  
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WINCHESTER – While spring brought summer, but no relief from pandemic restrictions, municipal staff have begun preparations for when the municipal swimming pools in Winchester and Chesterville can be brought back as a fun summer activity.

The two pools are slated to open with restrictions on June 14 when Stage one of the opening up process begins.

The North Dundas Director of Recreation and Culture, Meaghan Meerburg said at the municipality's May 27 council meeting, "Throughout the stay-at home order, our Recreation & Culture

Department team has worked hard to complete required repairs and maintenance to our 2 municipal pools, in preparation for these facilities to open mid-June."

The challenge now is to get the pools ready and that includes staff while the municipality waits to hear from the Eastern Health Unit when they can safely open the pools and under what kind of restrictions.

Nine fulltime lifeguards, two head lifeguards and a pool coordinator have been hired in anticipation of a busy swimming season.

This brings the total number of pool staff to 12, however while the municipality waits for confirmation of the swimming season they have lost three of their hired staff to other jobs.

Continued on page 5

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# SD water tower logo decision

**Continued from the front** must be careful not to dispose of things which are very good in the doing of that, things that are positive and respectful."

O'Reilly didn't say how the symbol was positive or respectful. He did talk about identity and heritage, not that of the Iroquoians who resided in the village originally, but rather of the descendants of those who displaced them.

"It is certainly a part of memory and heritage, to be sure, for many. It is a lasting respectful recognition, and it is indeed a longstanding part of the Iroquois community identity, and I think identity is the important word here," O'Reilly said. "That said, if this alone would not move you to reconsider the decision, we also believe that given the extent to which the

emblem has been, for many, deeply fastened to community identity, the decision also lacked adequate community consultation, and this will be our position going forward if we're required to appeal for ministerial intervention."

Councillor Don Lewis said he would vote for the "Chieftan emblem" again, while Coun. Lloyd Wells said he would vote in favour of it as well, since residents have shown they feel strongly about it. It was Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner, Mayor Steven Byvels, and Coun. Archie Mellan who spoke for those not in attendance.

Gardner said there is another group of residents equally adamant that the symbol be removed. She drew attention to the potential residents, doctors, and other professionals South Dundas is looking to draw to the area and she said having an Indigenous symbol on a water tower

for a non-Indigenous community could be a deterrent.

"Think about the way that it might be taken," she said. "You're putting a symbol on a water tower and it's well documented that we haven't solved the water crisis in some Indigenous populations."

Gardner said the water tower is a municipal infrastructure and should be labeled as such, in a way that is uniform with the rest of the township. She said she also disagrees with the Canadian Tire symbol on the Morrisburg water tower.

"I think if there's one person out there that would drive through South Dundas and take offense to the fact that that Indian emblem head is on the tower, that's one person too many," Mellan said. "It's easy for myself to sit here and say I don't find offense to it, but the fact is I'm not of Indigenous heritage or culture."

Gardner suggested to O'Reilly that there might be another way to work together to honour the history of the area, one that does not include returning the symbol to the water tower. O'Reilly insisted it was not just a symbol of the past, but "an association and an identity that people still feel here," he said, again, there is a "pretty strong position" with his group "to petition the minister on the lack of consultation."

Byvels said the symbol is cultural appropriation and made it clear that he would not change his decision. As for O'Reilly's threat, Byvels said council had been elected by residents to make these decisions, even when some of them are hard to make.

"Some may say we're here now and we run the show, but it was their land at one time. The Iroquois used the Point as a gathering spot," he said, pointing out that "we took

over [their] land" and now want to use an Indigenous symbol to represent the area where this Indigenous group no longer lives. "It just doesn't make any logical sense."

Both Byvels and Gardner reflected on the division this subject has caused in the community. Gardner said she was saddened the issue had been resurrected, as it could increase community division.

Byvels called for a motion to create a township standard for water towers, which includes the South Dundas logo plus the name of the village. The motion passed 3 - 1 with Byvels, Gardner, and Mellan supporting the motion, while Wells and Lewis opposed it.

"I wonder, did we even ask the Iroquois, 'Do you mind if we put that up there?'" Mellan said.



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Seniors' Month is a celebration of seniors and the ways you have contributed to your communities. We can all benefit from your wisdom and insight. While we acknowledge the many contributions and achievements, Seniors' Month also serves as an opportunity to generate increased awareness of the health issues that we might experience like arthritis, heart disease, etc. There are many lifestyle changes we can make to help us. Reach out and ask those questions, either yourself or your loved ones, if you have concerns and need answers. Our staff are here to assist you.

We look forward to many warm sunny days ahead! Sunshine is a great source of Vitamin D. We need to invest in simple things that make a huge difference in our mental state, including guarding against depression and anxiety and getting enough sleep. Those options include exercising, being outside, doing a creative hobby, connecting with family and friends via phone, laughing, praying, journaling, reading, and listening to music. The summer is just beginning!

Carefor/Nor-Dun staff is looking forward to having some outdoor activities moving forward, as we did last summer, for certain activities. Our plan again this year is to have them under our carport or on the lot beside the Centre. Some of the programs that we were able to offer were Chair Yoga, Matt Yoga, Coffee Group, and Caregiver Support Group. Our Walking Group will be back on track when the lockdown is over. If you have any ideas that we might be able to offer, please give the staff a call.

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# EDITORIAL & Opinion

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## Lions Clubs: Serving communities at home and around the world

CHESTERVILLE—With their motto being “We Serve”, Lions Clubs can be found in many communities throughout Eastern Ontario and around the world. For over 100 years, Lions Clubs have had a goal to bring hope and health to humanity. The Lions Clubs International Foundation have five global causes around which the organization’s global service is centered, these include vision, diabetes, hunger, childhood cancer and the environment.

Dundas County Lions Clubs are part of District A-4 with five clubs, including Chesterville & District Lions Club (CDLC); Winchester Lions Club (WLC); Mountain Township and District Lions Club (MTDLC); Iroquois-Matilda Lions Club (IMLC) and Morrisburg & District Lions Club (MDLC). Members of these clubs have volunteered their time and energy to hold fundraisers to provide assistance to community

organizations, that provide a helping hand to others; or hold events such as Canada Day celebrations and activities for all members of the family.

Lion Renee Devenny, who is the incoming District A-4 governor, explained that the Clubs support local food banks, residents, and eye clinics, collaborate in community projects such as park development and provide bursaries to students. Where there is a need in a community this service club is ready, willing, and able to lend a helping hand, responding quickly and often behind the scenes.

In 1987, the CDLC was formed with 39 charter members, including Lion John Edgerton. During a telephone interview Edgerton mentioned that the CDLC Lions Den is located in the basement of the Nelson Laprade Centre in the Chesterville Park, with the club having just under twenty members who are very

involved in community work. He explained one of the club projects involved assisting a local young person who was badly hurt in an accident and commented that Lions Clubs throughout the area and beyond provided assistance to the family. The CDLC helps organize food hampers, sort gifts and coordinate client pick up times in collaboration with the North Dundas Christmas Fund and support other community organizations holding local events. Edgerton described the strong commitment of the Club in assisting children and adults with vision care. Like many Lions Clubs around the world, the CDLC collects eyeglasses for use in developing countries. Edgerton suggested for those that want to help that they can contact a member of the Chesterville & District Lions Club if they have glasses to donate. He went on to mention that the CDLC in collaboration with the Winchester Lions Club, sponsor a Leo Club for youth.

The WLC was founded in March of 1968 according to information received from Lion Bob Porteous. Since that time, the club has contributed significantly to the community it serves in many ways including the building of the Lions Hall for Senior Citizens and the creation of a thrift store in the community. Porteous explained the LHSC was built after the formation of a “Golden Years Society” in Winchester during the early 1970s with “around 165 people” needing a place to

meet in the village. After being approached by village council for assistance, the Lions Club was able to purchase a building from Harold Lannin, receive a Local Improvement Program grant to renovate the building with LHSC which officially opened in 1974. Over the past 47 years it has served the community as a location for meetings, dinners and during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been a COVID-19 Assessment Centre.

The MTDLC received its charter in 1982 and currently has 29 members. Lion Karin Ceelen, in a recent email to *The Chesterville Record*, mentioned Club fundraising activities include a successful 50/50 draw held recently, renting out billboard signs and the Club is planning a July 1 take out chicken barbecue dinner with tickets available from club members. Club projects include the revitalization of South Mountain Park with the township of North Dundas, ongoing roadside cleanup and supporting organizations such as Community Food Share and Prostate Cancer Awareness. The Club has assisted with some medical needs for community members including “the cost of a specialized walker”, “vision therapy for a local youth” and has “contributed towards the cost of a wheelchair ramp for a local resident.”

In 1947 the IMLC was founded and 74 years later, it continues to serve the community. Past president Lion Evonne Delegarde explained in an email to *The*

*Chesterville Record* that the club has held activities such as Clean-Up days, Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party, St. Patty’s parties, Chicken Barbecues and assisting with community events such as the Iroquois Apple Festival. She continued there is currently a challenge by Lions Club International “to hold a hunger-related service project” before June 25, with ILC planning to “hold a Food Bank Drive at our local Iroquois Foodland, with the date still undetermined. Next year the club is celebrating their 75th Charter Anniversary and hope “to schedule and organize a celebration throughout the year.”

The MDLC received its charter on Nov. 16, 1949 and has demonstrated its commitment to the community it serves since that time. Lion Linda Robinson noted in a recent email to *The Chesterville Record* that the club provides “immediate cheques to any fire victims in the area to help them get back on their feet.” The MDLC, in collaboration with the Riverside Recreation Committee (RRC) funded the church mural located at the intersection of Church Road and County Road 2 and in 2020 working with the RRC and the Municipality of South Dundas refurbished this historic mural. The MDLC has sponsored events such as “Darts for Cancer” tournaments, fundraising bonspiels, assisted in food drives run by the Morrisburg & District Leo Club, Canada Day celebrations and have operated for many years The Docksyde at the waterfront in Morrisburg.

During the COVID-19 pandemic each of the Lions Clubs have had to suspend in-person meetings and most fundraising activities. Information has been shared between club members by Zoom, email or telephone. Despite these obstacles, Clubs have continued to serve their communities by making donations to local organizations such as the Community Food Share and as much as possible helped people navigate this stressful period.

Lion Evonne Delegarde, IMLC past president of the IMLC and Lion Linda Robinson from the MDLC told *The Chesterville Record* that volunteers from their respective clubs have delivered groceries and medications to local residents during the pandemic period. Robinson explained the MDLC collaborated with the Riverside Recreation Committee in October 2020, to safely provide Halloween treats to youngsters of all ages. Delegarde mentioned that the IMLC has delivered seasonal treats at Christmas and Valentine’s Day to people. Lion Bob Porteous from the Winchester Lions Club (WLC) noted “We have donated in excess of \$8,000 to various community organizations and personal needs since COVID-19 came on the scene in April 2020.”

It is reassuring in these changing times, to know there are community organizations such as Lions Clubs which seek to serve their communities, taking the time to ensure that all have access to the services they need.

Carolyn Thompson Goddard

### NDDHS Report

By Jamie Wilson  
Student Council Communications



### It’s a wrap

We are wrapping up the month of May with weather fit for the summer. We are lucky to have so many beautiful days. Many students have been connecting to their classes outside; you can even hear birds singing in the background when certain students speak in class. As the month comes to an end, students have received their midterm marks from their teachers. There is one month left to go; keep pushing through.

The student council staff advisors are currently in the process of electing the 2021/2022 Student Council. All Grade 11 students interested in running for one of the five positions will have already expressed their interest by Wed., May 26 and will receive their application forms by Fri, May 28. Being a part of the student council at North Dundas is a rewarding experience and an excellent opportunity. Best of luck to all the candidates!

This Fri, May 28, is the third virtual Spirit Day. Inspired by the warm weather and sunny days, we are having Fun in the Sun Day. Take a picture in your sunglasses and sandals, playing frisbee, drinking an iced tea, or other sunny day activities. How do you have fun in the sun, North Dundas? Send the photo to the school administration or the student council Instagram to participate.

## The race does not end at the finish line

Just as hearing a few more birds singing at 4:30 in the morning is a sign that spring has arrived soon to be followed by summer; the opening of the province, even though in different stages, is a sign that we are slowly but surely getting to and over the Covid-19 finish line.

The three lockdowns everyone has had to endure has indeed had an effect on all of the different sectors of the community.

Some groups have come out of the pandemic relatively unscathed. Other areas of the community have been decimated by the lack of revenue resulting from lockdowns, and it remains to be seen who among those affected will still be standing when this is over.

Local institutions like the Upper Canada Playhouse for example have

been exposed and are vulnerable to challenges because of a loss of revenue.

So many small businesses have been strangled and have had their revenue streams turned off as effectively as a jammed faucet.

Getting back to normal, whatever that may look like, also includes helping your local businesses whenever you can. Helping them make up for lost revenue is next to impossible but respecting the business people who are holding on, waiting for lockdowns to end is a must.

When all is said and done there are several finish lines that have to be crossed, not just one.

Vaccinations bring us all closer to the end of lockdowns and the medical finish line is in sight.

The entrepreneurial finish line is

still around the corner, somewhere in the distance and over the next hill.

While the rest of us will be getting back to good times, like being able to go to the library in person to browse all the books there, a small business will have to find ways to make up the lost revenue.

All of us will have a different finish line.

That, for a small business owner, does not sound like a fun spot to be in.

Only time, patience, a healthy economy and a positive attitude will help small businesses make it through to the end of their ordeal.

When they finally get to their finish line, we should all be there to celebrate with them.

A community without small businesses would be a very dismal place to live.

Joseph Morin

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# Pollinator patches in SDG

**Carolyn Thompson Goddard**  
Record Staff

INGLESIDE – Pollinators such as bats, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds as well as other species of insects and mammals serve an important role in ensuring the continued growth of flowers and plants vital to the health of earthly ecosystems. People are openly discussing the need to protect the pollinators as factors such as climate change, loss of habitats, roadside cutting, the use of pesticides and insecticides affect their numbers and ability to carry out their role in ensuring the continued growth of flora.

In 2017 the David Suzuki Foundation (DZF) established the Butterflyway Project designed to help people to establish pollinator patches in their communities. People are encouraged to apply to be Butterflyway Ambassadors (BA) in their home area to help create a Butterflyway in their home communities. In 2021, Carole Fiddler from Ingleside and Christina Enright of Williamsburg were selected as Butterflyway Ambassadors in Stormont, Dundas and Glengary (SDG) by the DZF, with Fiddler explaining the two women have decided to work together to promote the project.

During an interview with *The Chesterville Record*, Fiddler described how after moving from the small community of Ingleside to a rural property in South Stormont, she decided to create

a large garden on the property and began researching the role of pollinators. She learned about the plight of pollinators and discovered the Butterflyway Project run by the DZF and how the enthusiasm for the project has exploded across Canada.

Fiddler explained a community is recognized by the DZF as a Butterflyway after twelve people or organizations create a pollinator patch. She continued how a pollinator patch should have native plants, such as Black-Eyed Susan, Milkweed, Goldenrod, Cone Flowers for example, comprise 50 per cent of the flora noting how shrubs and trees are also pollinators.

After her application to become a BA in SDG, Fiddler learned that Enright had also been accepted to the program and the two decided to work together to promote the project locally. A project Facebook page is one of the initiatives they have created and together they are promoting the project to individuals, municipal governments, businesses, and organizations in SDG.

As the gardening season approached, the two contacted businesses like Harvest Garden, BMR I Winchester, Canadian Tire and Home Depot and Marlin Orchard & Garden Centre. Marlin's teamed up with the township of South Glengarry to developed pollinator plant kits which included native plants and a Butterflyway sign.

Fiddler mentioned the kits sold out quickly and a second set of kits were produced which have also proved popular. Other businesses have created sections in their garden centres for pollinator plants which will aid clients as they make purchases. She mentioned for those who are interested in finding out which plants are native to the area, there is a list available on their Facebook page.

Fiddler commented that the Roads' Department at the SDG Counties were very supportive of the project. She mentioned the department is looking at several ways to support pollinators such as the scheduling of roadside cutting and the development of creating pollinator patches in areas she described as "road triangles" where a green space exists in the intersection of roadways. She also mentioned how the



A portion of the roadside in front of Memorial Hill Cemetery near Lunenburg is prepared for planting by members of the SDG Butterflyway Project by a crew from the United Counties of SDG.

Courtesy Photo

Counties were supportive and assisted in the creation of a pollinator patch at Memorial Hill Cemetery near Lunenburg. Fiddler mentioned how county employees prepared the garden bed and provided salt resistant seeds for the Butterflyway Project team to plant.

One component of the project is providing education to the public. She mentioned South Nation Conservation is "covering the fees for Dr. Doug Tallamy's presentation

Nature's Best Hope" on Fri., May 28 at 7 p.m. Fiddler mentioned the "free Zoom webinar is limited to the first 500 people" registering through their Facebook page and extended a special thank you to SNC for this.

She wished to thank Shane Signs of Crysler who fabricated official project signs which are available for purchase at a cost of \$7.91 through the SDG Butterflyway project and suggests visiting

their Facebook page for more information or to order one.

When looking toward the future, Fiddler mentions there are plans to investigate the possibility of creating pollinator patches along the roadsides of the area as well as working with SNC in a project which will create bat houses. It certainly appears that the plight of pollinators is appreciated in our local area, with many people taking time to help ensure their survival.

## Municipal pools this summer

Continued from the front

Of the remaining nine full-time staff members, including the pool coordinator, only two are fully certified to lifeguard and teach swim lessons.

One of these two fully certified staff members is the pool coordinator, who is typically occupied with organizing pool staffing, registrations and activities, as opposed to being on deck to lifeguard and instruct.

Meerburg said, "Only two of the current seven spare lifeguards are fully certified. All of the other full-time and spare staff require either full certification or recertification, before the pools open for the season."

Due to the Stay-At-Home order, there are no (re)certification courses scheduled.

The City of Cornwall is planning to host a course once the order is lifted and will advise municipalities in SD&G once the course is scheduled.

"If and when the province allows public pools to reopen, the official opening date will be dependent upon whether we still have an adequate number of full-time pool staff in our employment and whether we can get them certified to lifeguard in an expedient manner," she said.

In order to offer pool services this summer, the municipality will be considering reducing pool operating hours and working with a smaller pool staff team to operate both pools. One idea would be to use maintenance and park labourers to help with pool opening and closing procedures, leaving the pool staff free to supervise the pools which will maximize the open hours.

A pool-operating plan was drafted for this summer, using the proposal that was presented to Council last year, but the municipality does not know how that particular plan will match up to the health units, as yet unannounced health restrictions. "Staff will await further updates from the province and Eastern Ontario Health Unit, regarding if, when, and how our municipal pools will be able to open," said Meerburg.



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# South Dundas politicians toss beach-fee idea

**Sandy Casselman**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
MORRISBURG – “I still don’t agree with fees of any kind, I think it’s another backward move,” Municipality of South Dundas Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner said

The comment was made during the township’s May 10 council meeting in response to a report from Austin Marcellus, manager of parks and recreation. At the previous council meeting, councillors Lloyd Wells, Don Lewis, and Archie Mellan voted in favour of introducing beach fees for non-residents. Marcellus was then directed to create a report outlining options for enforcing beach fees based on background information gathered from neighbouring municipalities.

“I think it’s a kneejerk reaction to the pandemic and I think in any other year we would be looking at capitalizing on these visitors. I don’t agree with any of this. It’s going to send the wrong message,” Gardner said, adding that this “absolutely” goes against everything the township’s economic and tourism committees are trying to accomplish.

Both Wells and Lewis said they had

agreed to beach fees based on the many phone calls they received from residents last summer complaining about crowding from tourists. Wells said that since the last council meeting, he’s had a lot of feedback from residents who are opposed to the idea of beach fees for non-residents. Lewis said he’s had the same feedback.

“I’m actually the one who started this in the last meeting because all I heard last year was ‘We can’t use our own beach,’” Wells said. “I got quite a few [who] were in disagreement to charging. I didn’t have one person email and tell me that’s good we want to charge people: not one. At the end of the day, I’m here to listen to the public and the public doesn’t want fees and that so I’m changing my mind.”

Mellan, who was initially undecided at the last council meeting before finally siding in favour of the fees, said he is still concerned about how the municipality will cope if there is a repeat of last year. He said if this summer repeats the last then, once again, council members’ phones will be ringing with residents complaining

about overcrowding.

“I don’t want another shit show like we had last year down at the waterfront,” Mellan said, adding that he thinks council and staff should “hope for the best, but plan for the worst.”

Chief building official Nicole Lowey assured Mellan and the remainder of council that all township departments are ready for whatever might arise this summer. She said there will also be a bylaw student this summer who will patrol the waterfronts during the off hours.

“We are prepared for whatever comes our way this year and we’ll make the best of it,” Lowey said.

Mayor Steven Byvelds agreed with Gardner and emphasized the importance of welcoming visitors and treating them fairly and with respect. As in the previous meeting, he said South Dundas is trying to attract visitors. In addition to needing tourism to support local business, he said being welcoming is important in attracting new residents and new business to the area.

Politicians voted to dismiss the idea of beach fees.



## Summer fun on the playground

The pandemic restrictions are starting to lessen. This past weekend children were finally allowed to play outside in a playground. Here Leonidas Blair and his mother Anastasia Servais have fun with the swings at the playground at the Winchester Arena on Sat., May 22.

Morin Photo

# South Dundas uses COVID-19 funding to supplement student pay

**Sandy Casselman**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – Municipality of South Dundas politicians agreed to use COVID-19 Safe Restart Funding to subsidize the cost of this year’s summer students.

At the May 10 regular meeting, council agreed with treasurer Sarah McMillan’s recommendation to use the Safe Restart Funding to cover the shortfall not being covered by the Canada Summer Jobs program. She said the municipality is only receiving 75 per cent of the expected funding for this year’s students through the program.

McMillan said staff expected to receive \$87,211 but are only receiving \$56,117. This leaves a shortfall of \$31,094, which McMillan said could be taken from the township’s allotted Safe Restart Funding. It was also noted there would be a roughly \$7,387 shortfall for each of the two water department students, but this could be covered through staffing vacancy surplus.

Councillor Lloyd Wells said he only pays his summer students the mandated minimum of \$13.40 per hour. He asked why South Dundas pays summer students more when it is not necessary. Staff noted that most receive the regular minimum wage of \$14.25 per hour, while lifeguards, due to the nature of the job, receive roughly \$17 per hour.

“I love summer students. I’ve got three right now,” Wells said. “I know I’m nickel and diming over 85 cents but we’re hiring 19 students.

I’m for students but I’m also a business. We’re shortfaling and we’re giving money away.”

Mayor Steven Byvelds inquired about the age of the students and made a comment about how much minimum wage needs to be for someone to survive in South Dundas. Staff noted that most summer students are between secondary and post-secondary school ages.

“I’m not going to disrespect what they’re doing,” Byvelds said. “I’m not sure where the minimum wage has to be

for anyone to survive in any municipality, let alone South Dundas.”

He and deputy treasurer Shawn Mason both did a quick online search to determine the legal guidelines. Mason said all summer student positions are in excess of 28 hours per week, which means they legally must be paid more than the \$13.40 student wage.

“I’m always looking to save money,” Wells said before agreeing with council colleagues and voting in favour of the recommendation.

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## SNC's Conservation areas and boat launches are open

*SNC reminds visitors to respect health guidelines in effect*

FINCH – South Nation Conservation, (SNC) has reopened public boat launches, river access points and select Conservation Areas, with certain COVID-19 precautions in place.

Eager anglers and boaters from across South Nation Conservation's (SNC) 4,441 square-kilometre jurisdiction in Eastern Ontario can (safely) get ready for the season.

Play structures are open, but washrooms will remain closed during the Stay-at-Home Order. Please only visit these areas with members of your own household. If using facilities, or when in close contact with others consider wearing a mask.

SNC reminds users that distancing directives must continue to be followed: please keep your pets on leash, do not litter, and do not congregate on trails, fishing areas, parking lots or docks. Please be respectful and courteous to other visitors.

It is also unsafe and illegal under the *Federal Fisheries Act* to fish within 23 metres of a dam: please do not fish near dams or use water control structures to access rivers. Fish congregate in these areas to pass over dams and access fish ladders and fishing prevents many fish species from spawning, which pose significant risks to fish populations. Please use safe and appropriate fishing locations.

The following Conservation Areas and municipal partner sites for river access and boat launching are all open as of May 21:

- High Falls and Doran Park Conservation Areas (Casselton)
- St. Albert Conservation Area (St. Albert)
- Crysler Park Boat Launch (Crysler)
- Embrun Boat Launch (Embrun)
- Cass Bridge Conservation Area (Winchester)
- Jessup's Falls Conservation Area (Plantagenet)
- McIntosh Park Conservation Area (Berwick)
- Findlay Creek Conservation Area (Ottawa)
- Alfred Bog Walk (Alfred)
- Chesterville Waterfront Docks and Boat Launch (Chesterville)
- Oak Valley Pioneer Park Conservation Area (Winchester Springs)
- Spencerville Mill Riverside Park and Boat Launch (Spencerville)

The following Conservation Areas continue to remain open and maintained:



Docks have been installed at the Chesterville Waterfront. Courtesy Photo

Two Creek Forest Conservation Area (Morrisburg)

Oschmann Forest Conservation Area (Ormond)

Robert Graham Conservation Area (Glen Stewart)

Warwick Forest Conservation Area (Berwick)

J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area (Russell)

W.E. Burton Conservation Area (Russell)

Reveler Conservation Area (Crysler)

Nokomis Park (Limoges)

The following Conservation Area will remain temporarily closed:

Camp Sheldrick Conservation Area (Winchester)

"We couldn't be more thrilled to open the remainder of our parks, boat launches and docks," said John Mesman, SNC's conservation lands and community outreach lead. "People are eager to explore natural spaces close to home and as long as our visitors continue to use our public spaces safely, we're happy to provide access to the local environment!"

SNC is monitoring the pandemic and response closely and will provide updates on changes to operations and business continuity as they become available at [www.nation.on.ca/coronavirus](http://www.nation.on.ca/coronavirus).

SNC manages 20,000 acres of Community Forest in Eastern Ontario and many of the public, day-use Conservation Areas have been donated to the Authority through SNC's Land Securement Program to help maintain natural legacies for donors and to provide people a place to step outdoors and into nature.

SNC is a not-for-profit, community-based environmental agency that relies on donations and self-generated revenue to protect and enhance the local environment across its 4,441 square-kilometre jurisdiction, on behalf of its 16 partner municipalities.

People can learn more or donate to SNC online at [www.nation.on.ca/donate](http://www.nation.on.ca/donate).



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## Rural Ottawa barn fire destroys dairy herd

Joseph Morin  
Records Staff

MANOTICK – More than 80 dairy cows have been killed in a devastating barn fire at Acredale Farms on Thurs., May 20.

Ottawa Fire Services, (OFS) arrived at the scene quickly, but the fire by then had completely engulfed the barn.

Firefighters arrived within a few minutes of receiving the 911 call around 7:20 in the evening.

The smoke from the fire could be seen from several kilometers away.

Neighbours rushed to help get as many cows and calves out of the barn and adjacent areas as possible, but 120 cows died, 8 calves were saved, and 55 heifers survived that were in a heifer barn separate from the main barn.

The fire caused an estimated \$2 million in damage to the dairy barn located on First Line Road



The Ottawa Fire Services was quick to respond to this barn fire at Acredale Farms outside of Manotick. When firefighters arrived the barn had been completely engulfed. Ottawa Fire Services Photo

near Century Road south of the village of Manotick.

The OFS fire investigators have not determined the cause of the blaze and are investigating.

The farming community has set up a GoFundMe page to help the farm owners and managers Janet Acres Smiley, daughter Jasmine, husband Bob and son Travis it is called Acredale Farms Relief Fund.

Acredale Farms was originally purchased by Janet's father's grandfather in 1920. Her grandfather

Gordon Acres, started farming there in the 1930s

Janet graduated from Kemptville College in 1987. She did the dairy program. After college she returned to the farm and has been working and managing it ever since.

The GoFundMe page organized by Kars resident Sarah Flicko has already surpassed its goal of \$30,000. By Sunday their campaign had raised \$42,559.

You can use this link to donate to the relief fund: <https://gofund.me/03a310bd>

## Bishop's House receives federal heritage funding

ST. RAPHAEL'S - Local federal Members of Parliament Eric Duncan (Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry) and Francis Drouin (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell) have announced that the Glengarry Fencibles Trust has recently received a federal contribution of \$98,572.02 in support of the conservation of the Bishop's Residence within the Ruin of St. Raphael's Roman Catholic Church, a National Historic Site of Canada.

The project focuses on the conservation of the three north-facing stone walls of the Bishop's residence, equating to about 2,000 square feet of wall area. The volunteers of The Glengarry Fencibles Trust are also investing substantially in the rehabilitation project through local fundraising and donations.

Brenda Baxter, president Glengarry Fencibles Trust said, "This Parks Canada grant helps ensure Glengarrians and far-flung guests will be proud of this



Bishop's House receives federal heritage funding Glengarry County MPs highlight investment and community efforts. Courtesy Photo

historic landmark for years to come. Many don't realize that with a cost-sharing grant, organizations receive professional guidance as well as matching funds. In our case, that meant conservation architect Mona Lamontagne advised us on heritage masonry styles, and then oversaw the stonemasons' materials and progress. We were conserving the building's most weathered walls — including the 1808 northern exposure, so such attention to technique and historical accuracy was critical. Supporters trust us to use their funds carefully. When they see the results of this grant, it will solidify that trust." The two Members of Parliament visited the site to

see the work in progress and recognized the economic impact this site has on their joint communities. Heritage sites, like those in St. Raphael's provide direct spending, visitor spending and spin-off economic activity.

The federal contribution will ensure that the effects of this program will be felt for years and generations to come. MP Duncan and MP Drouin are proud to support, in a bipartisan way, organizations across Eastern Ontario seeking to maintain heritage places. These celebrated landmarks are the source of great local and national pride. MP Duncan said, "We are very fortunate that Glengarry County takes such pride in preserving our

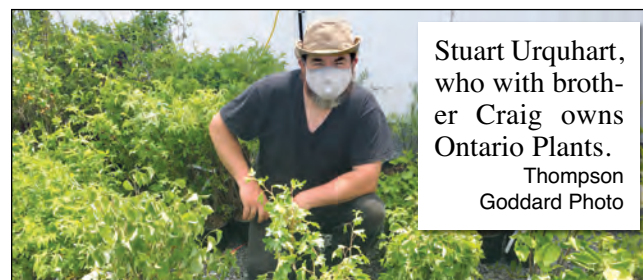
local history. The Bishop's House is another great example of volunteers stepping forward to save a historic site and turn it into both a cultural and economic opportunity. It is appreciated that the hard work and fundraising efforts of the Glengarry Fencibles Trust has been recognized nationally with this funding."

"The Bishop's Residence in St. Raphael's is not only a historic monument, it is a place where we, in Eastern Ontario, can learn about our history. A year ago, the federal government, through Parks Canada invested in this historical site, to ensure that generations to come will have access to this piece of our history," said MP Drouin.

## A victoria day weekend tradition


Carolyn Thompson Goddard  
Record Staff

LONG SAULT – The Victoria Day weekend is seen by many as the official start of summer and as good of a reason as any to purchase a plant or two or maybe more for the cottage or home garden. While many businesses were closed on the holiday Monday, garden centres were open to provide ample opportunity for people to peruse plants for their gardens and other staples such as soil, mulch, and gardening tools. Ontario Plants held a plant sale over the long weekend at 7 Moulinette Road in Long Sault. Stuart Urquhart, who with brother Craig own the business, explained while the company is primarily a landscaping consulting business, with information on the company's website, [www.ontarioplants.ca](http://www.ontarioplants.ca), stating "We grow, source



Stuart Urquhart, who with brother Craig owns Ontario Plants. Thompson Goddard Photo


and sell plants". When asked, Stuart replied the response to the plant sale has been "overwhelming" with a steady stream of gardeners searching for shrubs, fruit trees, perennials, and a selection of berry plants to add to their property. Stuart mentioned the sale is expected to continue until the weekend of May 30, with opening times and dates confirmed by contacting him at [eastern@ontarioplants.ca](mailto:eastern@ontarioplants.ca).



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**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Chesterville and Morewood Presbyterian Church will be closed for in-person services for the duration of the provincial lockdown. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Winchester remains closed until May.**

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*No Sunday School or Nursery during these current restrictions. Contact the church office if you have any questions regarding this or any other meetings.*

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# New website on horizon for South Dundas

**Sandy Casselman**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
MORRISBURG – COVID-19 Safe Restart Funding is set to help the Municipality of South Dundas update its communications' toolbox.

During the May 10 council meeting, politicians agreed with communications coordinator KayInn Sawyer Helmer when she recommended using the township's pandemic funding to purchase Bang the Table software. They also gave the greenlight on using the same funding to create a new website.

Helmer recommended using \$10,000 of the Safe Restart Funding to purchase the Bang the Table software, a communications tool previously discussed earlier this year. Helmer said it would take at least three years to see any real effect and there is an annual fee of \$7,500 that the municipality would need to account for beginning in 2022.

With some neighbouring municipalities using the software already, each council

member agreed that it was worth a try. Coun. Lloyd Wells asked for assurance that South Dundas could pull out at any time should they decide it is not right for them.

Helmer said after two years the municipality could cancel the service, but that would be premature, as it will probably take closer to three years minimum to see substantial results.

"I don't want to sign up for 10 years and throw money out the door," Wells said. "We preach about communication so hopefully this is just another tool in our toolbox."

Helmer reassured council there would be a big rollout of the new program to elicit interest and engagement from residents. Council unanimously voted in favour of the project, approving the recommendation.

Later in the meeting, the discussion of communications' tools resurfaced when Helmer outlined three options for council to consider. She suggested taking a monthly full-page colour advertisement in

the local newspaper, making a case-by-case decision for each municipal project in terms of what communications' tools should be used, and creating a new website.

Helmer said the newspaper advertisement would be more cost effective than mass mailouts, and this year's portion of \$1,580 could be covered by COVID-19 funding. She also said the website would take roughly six months to complete but would provide a long-term benefit to the community. The benefit of doing the website now, she noted, is the opportunity to use COVID-19 funding. Helmer estimated the cost of the website at between \$25,000 and \$60,000, but said she believes it will be somewhere in the middle around \$40,000.

"I think it's a fulsome approach and I think that's what was missing. It was kind of sporadic. I think you've covered everything," Deputy-Mayor Kirsten Gardner said. "There's no doubt our website is archaic. It doesn't function on the phone. The Economic Development Committee had wanted a website and we

had no funding, but with COVID-19 funding, it fits."

All council members agreed that with pandemic funding available, it makes sense to do the website now. They each commented on the current website, noting it falls far short of adequate, with some calling it "terrible."

"I fully support the communication plan. This plan offers the staff tools. There's no reason why our communication can't skyrocket and be absolutely robust," Gardner said, noting the website has been identified as an "absolute barrier" to selling South Dundas to any outside interest.

"[COVID-19] is funding that has very limited uses and this is one that works," Mayor Steven Byvelts said. "If our treasurer is comfortable spending money on this, I'm good with it too."



# SERVICE DIRECTORY

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*- In Memoriam -*

*Reuben George "Sonny" Barclay*

In loving memory of my brother, Sonny, who passed away on May 29, 2020.

I miss you so much,  
I miss our Sunday dinners together.

**Missed and loved by your sister Betty-Jean**

**THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD**

**WE'RE WITH YOU AT HOME**

As the consequences of COVID-19 affect our community and our world, the importance of our connection to reliable information, resources and one another is more evident than ever. As your local newspaper, we are committed to keeping you connected through local news, outbreak updates, stimulating features and community engagement as we make our way through these troubled times toward a brighter future together.

**In order to deal with the recent COVID-19 restrictions, The Chesterville Record's office will be closed to the public, but we are still working.**

The Chesterville Record will continue to be published every Thursday.

To contact us call 613-448-2321, or use the following emails:

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*Thank you for your patience and understanding during these unusual times.*

**Ontario Renovates 2021  
opens Monday June 7, 2021**

**Assistance available to low & modest income homeowners in Cornwall and SDG**

Ontario Renovates is a popular home improvement program that assists low and modest income families and seniors in Cornwall and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

Application forms for the program will be available as of Friday June 4th 2021 at 4:30 pm on our website and can be submitted as of June 7th 2021.

**Program launch** – applications should only be submitted as of Monday June 7th, 2021. Please note there is a dedicated amount of funding so interested homeowners are encouraged to apply early (**but not before Monday June 7th, 2021**)

Applications can be submitted by e-mail at [hac@cornwall.ca](mailto:hac@cornwall.ca), by fax at 613-938-9734, can be mailed to the Housing Access Centre 340 Pitt Street, Cornwall, On, K6H 5T9 or can be dropped off in the mailbox outside the main office at 340 Pitt Street (**but not before Monday June 7th, 2021**)

**2021 Application Priorities**

- 1) First time applicants
- 2) Accessibility requests (whether first time applicant or not)

**NOTE:** All other requests that are not one of the two priorities will be added to a call list and only contacted if there are available funds to assist with further requests.

Ontario Renovates has two components:

- A **Necessary Home Repair** component where eligible homeowners can receive a maximum forgivable loan of \$12,000, which is earned over a ten year period. Projects that may qualify under this component include upgrades to heating systems, doors, windows, roofs & electrical systems.
- An **Accessibility Modification** component where eligible homeowners can receive a maximum grant of \$5,000 (of the \$12,000). Projects that may qualify under this component include ramps and handrails, etc..

Participating homeowners must have an assessed house value below \$266,197 and be below the following income limits (per household):

Household of 1	\$44,575	Household of 2	\$53,050	Household of 3-4	\$60,500	Household of 5 or more	\$65,800
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For more information on this program, its requirements and an application form, please visit [www.Cornwall.ca/ontariorenovates](http://www.Cornwall.ca/ontariorenovates). Copies of the application form can also be obtained from the Social Housing Division at the City of Cornwall by calling 933-6282 ext. 3315.

# SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight

## Jay's Tires & Repairs focused on service

WILLIAMSBURG – While the COVID-19 pandemic has brought some challenges, Jay's Tires and Repair is busier than ever.

It has been roughly two years since Jason Bourgon moved his auto repair shop from Ingleside to its current location at 4358 County Road 31 in Williamsburg, and despite a third wave of COVID-19 and further lockdowns, Bourgon said the shop is getting busier all the time.

Born and raised in Ingleside, Bourgon, who lives with his family in Morrisburg, has more than 15 years experience in his field. He began working on motors when he was roughly 13 years old, which led to a lifelong passion for mechanics. He is currently licensed as an automotive service technician, a truck and coach technician, and a heavy equipment technician.

With seven bays, five mechanics, and three tire technicians, as well as three service trucks on the road for tires, farm and transport, Jay's does almost everything automotive-related, except body work. While one of his mechanics has the same three licences as Bourgon, the rest are each certified in one specialty. Jay's also employs an administrative assistant.

During his time in Ingleside, Bourgon had high school co-op students. Last year, he took on a student from North Dundas, but that ended after only three weeks due to the onset of the first lockdown. He said he hopes to return to offering co-op placements at some point in the future. With such a diverse list of services, Jay's is a great place for future mechanics to learn about the profession hands-on.

"We do just about everything except body work. Really, it's all your



With seven bays, five mechanics, and three tire technicians, as well as three service trucks on the road for tires, farm and transport, Jay's does almost everything automotive-related, except body work. Casselman photo

mechanical and tire needs," Bourgon said, adding that he's currently storing roughly 400 peoples' tires.

Everything is well organized in zones, so it's easy to locate a customer's tires when needed. In addition to storing tires seasonally, Jay's offers car cleaning and detailing, inside and out.

"You've got to be creative," Bourgon said. "I'm not going anywhere, so I have to make sure I can do it. It's all about service. If you don't have the service, you don't have the customers."

In addition to company contracts, like the one Jay's has with Stinson, the Williamsburg shop also provides service to area farmers. This, Bourgon said, was

an added benefit of purchasing the former Pinkus Tire and Battery Kingdom building, as it was known for servicing agriculture. Bourgon even hired former Pinkus employees.

In March 2020, when the pandemic first hit the area and the first lockdown was announced, Bourgon said he didn't do any layoffs, thinking he would be able to have the paycheques subsidized through the government grants promised to small businesses. Unfortunately, Jay's did not qualify, so Bourgon was left paying employees despite not having the revenue to cover the expense.

Despite losing "a pile of money," Bourgon still believes he made the right

choice in not laying off his employees. He said finding the right employees can be challenging, so once they are on staff, it is best to keep them.

Bourgon said he feels like mechanics are the forgotten essential workers. Although he follows the safety guidelines set out by the province, Bourgon said that with roughly 40 people going through the shop every day, he is surprised no one has contracted COVID-19.

"I figure we're lucky we haven't caught it," he said.

Although the parking lot is always full, Jay's has not recouped the lost money from 2020, as Bourgon said "lost money is hard to make back." He said all small businesses need support right now in riding out the pandemic. Governments need to support small businesses if they want them to survive, he said, adding that banks seem to do the opposite, making it harder for small businesses to survive.

Despite the challenge, Bourgon said the shop is very busy, and that is good. The financial challenge created by the pandemic will not stop him. He said in five years this will all be over and hopefully everything will be good. His focus is on growing his business and keeping everybody – customers and employees – happy.

"It's hard to put into words," he said. "We care about our customers. They're not just a dollar sign. Ninety per cent followed us from Ingleside. There's a personal relationship. When you find a mechanic you trust, you stay with him."

While a website will soon be coming, Jay's Tires and Repair can be found on Facebook and this "full-service garage with complete mechanical services, full line of tires, repair and sales, as well as undercoating" is ready to serve long-standing loyal customers, as well as new. Current contact options include phone (613-535-2759) or email (jaysrepairs@hotmail.com).

*If you would like to have a light shined on your business, please contact us at: editor@etceterapublications.ca or call us at 613-448-2321.*

## SNC donates free trees to frontline staff at three regional hospitals

FINCH – South Nation Conservation (SNC) donated 1,100 tree seedlings to hospital nurses for National Nurses Week as the Pandemic continues through its second year.

Frontline healthcare staff at the Cornwall Community Hospital, Glengarry Memorial Hospital, and Winchester District Memorial Hospital received special thank you gifts of free trees from SNC during the Authority's busy spring tree planting season.

Donated Norway Spruce seedlings were sourced locally from the Ferguson Forest Centre in Kemptville and were purchased by SNC through funds raised from 2020 fundraising campaigns and with support from the Cornwall Community Hospital Foundation.

"We want to show our appreciation and support for the frontline healthcare



Frontline healthcare staff at the Cornwall Community Hospital, Glengarry Memorial Hospital, and Winchester District Memorial Hospital received free trees from SNC during SNC's spring tree planting season. Courtesy Photo

workers in our communities who have been working tirelessly throughout this pandemic," said John Mesman, SNC's communications lead. "Trees are resilient, like us. And we hope that newly planted trees will inspire others and provide some hope for the future."

In 2021, SNC set an ambitious goal of helping to plant more than 200,000 trees within its watershed jurisdiction in Eastern Ontario. This year, the Authority is set to plant over 230,000 trees this spring, breaking a previous record set in 1993 and an increase over the average spring tree count of approximately 150,000 trees.

In the face of tragedy, trees can become a symbol of resilience, perseverance,

and hope.

Trees have lived on this planet for hundreds of millions of years and have always found ways to adapt and thrive in evolving environments.

"When trees come back from the brink of destruction, it inspires us and reminds us that life goes on and that we can find a way to heal and grow," added Mesman.

Trees donated to frontline healthcare workers serve as a simple gesture of kindness and a sign of hope for the future once planted.

SNC is a not-for-profit and community-based environmental agency that relies on donations and self-generated revenue to protect and enhance the local environment across its 4,441 square-kilometer

jurisdiction.

People can learn more or donate to SNC online at [www.nation.on.ca/donate](http://www.nation.on.ca/donate).

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# The Villager News

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## Russell's Heritage Conservation District gets another timeout

**Sandy Casselman**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

EMBRUN – Once again, a final decision on the township of Russell's Heritage Conservation District (HCD) has been put on hold.

During the May 17 council meeting, director of planning, building and economic development Dominique Tremblay recommended municipal politicians approve the implementation of the HCD plan following the appeal period.

In addition, she asked council to approve a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) program for the HCD to offset Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) costs for affected property owners.

"I'm super proud of what we're presenting tonight," Tremblay said, noting the lengths staff went to address resident concerns.

She said heritage permits would be covered under the cost of a regular building permit, while the CIP program, if approved by council, would address most HIA costs. She said small projects would go through staff and larger ones through council. If a property owner is unhappy with a decision, they have the right to appeal to council. If they are still unhappy, they can appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT).

"We feel, at the planning department, this is the best way of managing change in the township of Russell. We've tailored our HCD in a way that addresses concerns. It's not super strict," Tremblay said, noting

there's leeway within the plan.

Mayor Pierre Leroux thanked Tremblay and her team for their hard work and professionalism on this project. The project was first introduced roughly six years ago.

"When I talk to a lot of new residents and why they moved here, they always talk about the feel of the village and the history," Leroux said. "We'll have 200 homes changing ownership within this year if it continues down this road. I have heard of developers buying properties next to one another to build multi-unit buildings, which is okay, but in the HCD it is managed. So, it will contribute to the area instead of stick out like a sore thumb."

Noting the polarizing nature of the project, Coun. Jamie Laurin said he remained opposed to the project. However, should the HCD be approved, he seconded a motion by Leroux requiring the CIP program be implemented at the same time. This amendment was unanimously approved.

Councillor Mike Tarnowski said he remained uncomfortable with the plan in its current capacity, noting he might be open to it if it covered a much smaller area. He said his concern was with resident comments.

"There's a lot of uncertainty," he said. "By starting smaller, we would have found

### Municipalité de **RUSSELL** Township

out any kinks and dealt with them on a much smaller scale. So, I'm not sure if there's any issues or not. I think we're taking some control away from residents who live

in that community to benefit the majority of residents."

Tremblay said when the project began in 2015, the intent was to start small, but the council of the day felt it wouldn't be worth doing if it didn't cover a larger area. As more research was done, she said the area to be protected under the HCD increased. She said the plan, once passed, can be amended by council-led resolution or bylaw. The plan won't hinder minor changes, she said, but it will protect against large changes like demolition. Leroux said without the HCD, the municipality has no tools in its toolbox to prevent unwanted changes.

"Staff have put steps in place to give people options and a process to follow should they disagree," Leroux said, adding that most worries about the HCD are for things that will never happen. "Someone sells their house. It gets torn down. It was a heritage property, and we lose it. I think this is something worth protecting."

Councillor André Brisson, who previously voted in favour of the project alongside Leroux and Coun. Cindy Saucier,

said he was not sure he could support the project. In addition to agreeing with Tarnowski's comments, Brisson said newer builds can be much nicer than heritage homes.

"I find it ironic, Coun. Brisson. I respect what you're saying, and you have every right to say it," Laurin said. "We've spent over \$100,000 on this to try to convince you, but now you're not convinced by it. You're on the fence. At least with me, I've been consistent all this time."

CAO Jean Leduc suggested deferring the decision if council members felt they needed more time. Saucier said she attended all meetings, read all relevant data, and she was ready to vote in favour, but if her colleagues needed more time, she would rather move to defer the decision, than see it off the table. Tarnowski said he did not need more time unless there was an option to come back with an amended plan for a much smaller protected area.

Leroux said there is a vocal minority, but a silent majority. He suggested the potential for adding the question to the election ballot next year. Laurin agreed, noting that some residents had also suggested the ballot idea.

With a motion on the table to defer the decision until the August council meeting, Tarnowski, Laurin, Saucier, and Leroux voted in favour, while Brisson voted against. Tremblay was instructed to work on reducing the geographic area of the proposed HCD, while the clerk was asked to research the election ballot idea.



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