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## **COUNCIL NEWS**

### **FROM THE MAY 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **WEST LINCOLN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL UPDATE**

Mr. Rob MacIsaac, President and CEO, Hamilton Health Sciences along with a number of other staff provided an update with regard to West Lincoln Memorial Hospital. Mr. MacIsaac presented a PowerPoint and responded to questions regarding, but not limited to, their 20 year plan, timelines, location of the new hospital, LHINs (Local Health Integration Networks) and Sub-LHINs, physicians, anesthetist, newborn program, and diagnostic equipment.

#### **PROPOSED GROWTH TARGET**

Township Planning staff recommended that the Region be informed that a population target of between 32,000 to 36,000 for West Lincoln by 2041 and an employment target of around 9,000 is appropriate. By achieving a targeted total population of between 32,000 and 36,000 by 2041, West Lincoln is better able to provide jobs, commercial services required by our residents, and create a more walkable community which will be enhanced by the potential for inter-municipal transit and affordable housing.

#### **RESERVE AND RESERVE FUND POLICY**

The Township of West Lincoln currently has 5 reserve funds and 23 reserves. The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent principles, standards and guidelines for the maintenance, management and accounting of reserves and reserve funds. The creation of the Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy establishes Council's commitment to long term financial planning and financial stability. Adherence to this policy will ensure that funds are available for future Township needs and will assist in achieving tax stability and contribute to the orderly provision of services.

#### **HARVEST ROUTE EVENT UPDATE**

In 2015, the expanded Harvest Routes event gained a lot of momentum in the community. By increasing to two additional sites, the event offered many opportunities for residents and visitors to become involved in arts and culture. In total, approximately 545 people attended Harvest Routes. Staff applied to the Region of Niagara for funding through their Niagara in Culture program for the 2016 Harvest Routes event. On April 28, 2016, Regional Council approved \$14,000 to fund Harvest Routes 2016, falling short of the funding request by \$10,000. Although some reductions in expenses will be made, a re-distribution of funds has been prepared so that the goals set for 2016 can still be accomplished.

#### **2016 WEST NIAGARA FAIR**

Council designated the 2016 West Niagara Fair as a "Community Festival" which is to be held from September 8<sup>th</sup> to and including September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the new West Niagara Agricultural Centre, 7402 Mud Street, Grassie.

**WEST LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD – NEW MEMBERS NEEDED**

Due to the resignation of two members of the West Lincoln Public Library Board, an advertisement will be placed in the local newspaper requesting applications for two new board members with preference given to those interested parties residing in Ward 2 (Gainsborough).

**CANADA 150 – GRANT APPLICATION PROJECT**

The Niagara Region Culture Committee is putting together an application to the Federal government to access some of the Canada 150 grant funds. Connecting Niagara Creatively will offer an opportunity for artists to work with participants in each of the twelve local municipalities in Niagara to tell the individual story of that community through many voices and develop a product. The definition of the cultural product is not limited; it can take the form of a song, mural, sculpture, or poem as examples. To connect all of these pieces, there will be an exhibit of the twelve pieces that together shows Niagara as a whole and who we are, have been and hope to be. The Region has requested support/endorsement for this application. The Mayor was authorized to provide a letter of support.

**CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Citizen appointments were confirmed to the Public Advisory Committee (Industrial Wind Turbine Projects (4 citizens) & the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (1 citizen). A second advertisement will be published in September, 2016, soliciting for additional submissions to the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee in order to provide the required representation from the various schools/organizations as per the Terms of Reference.

**BY-ELECTION – ONE (1) WARD 3 COUNCILLOR**

A By-election will be held on August 29, 2016 for the vacant office of one Councillor position for Ward 3 for the remainder of the 2014-2018 Term of Council. Advance votes will be held on Saturday, August 20 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Legion Villa 1 and on Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at the Township Administration Office. Voting machines will be used as in past elections.