

Newsletter North Kawartha Council 2014

At the January 21st meeting, North Kawartha Council approved a plan to commence septic re-inspections in all of North Kawartha starting in the summer of 2014.

When septic systems are initially installed they must meet strict guidelines through a permit application, but there has been no policy in place to follow up and make sure that these systems have been maintained and still in working order.

All of North Kawartha is serviced by private wells and septic systems therefore in an attempt to protect and enhance our environment Council has committed to the commencement of a septic re-inspection program in 2014 and with the intention that it will be ongoing for years to come.

A similar program was delivered in the geographical wards of Burleigh and Anstruther in 1995/6 so the first area to be addressed will be within the Chandos ward. Stating this, we will be publicly advising residents annually on the areas that are slated to be re-inspected. The Township will be providing notice on the roll out of this new program.

Commencing May 18, 2014 the Township of North Kawartha will become the approval authority for the issuance of onsite sewage waste disposal system construction permits. This program is currently under the supervision of the Peterborough County – City Health Unit. A Public Hearing regarding the Sewage Disposal System By-Law will be held on April 1, 2014 at the regular meeting of Council and an information session for the public will be held on April 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 280 Burleigh Street, Apsley.

OPP Costs

The Ontario Gov't has announced that they are implementing a new billing model for the delivery of service by the OPP. Deputy Mayor Barry Rand has studied the impact and the model put forward would cost North Kawartha an additional ½ a million dollars a year and this of course is paid by property taxes. Peterborough County Warden J. Murray Jones, Barry and I have met with the Minister in Toronto to express our concerns and the Ass'n of Municipalities of Ontario has now picked this up and formed a committee to address the concerns to the Provincial Gov't. I have forwarded a copy of their latest report to NORKLA for information and the other Cottage Ass'ns have written their concerns as well. North Kawartha Council thanks them for their input.

Ontario Hydro

Warden J. Murray Jones, Deputy Mayor Rand and I along with other members of County of Peterborough Council met with the Minister of Energy in Toronto to highlight the burden this is causing our residents and to get answers to the soaring rates. We are pleased to see that the Ombudsman has launched an investigation into Hydro One. Will keep you informed but it is hard to lower rates when they are paying \$.80 cents for power and selling it for \$.10 cents.

2014 Budget

Although individual assessments may be higher Council has once again lowered the tax rate for another year, but with the increases coming forward it may be very difficult to maintain services and keep lowering the tax rate.

High Speed Internet

On March 15th I had Bell DSL installed at my cottage and it works like a charm. Call 310-bell and give them the details of your phone number etc. and they will be able to tell you if you are in the service area. This is part of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network that I have told you about (\$180 Million) to bring BB to all of Eastern Ontario. They are still expanding the service areas. Good luck

North Kawartha Land Use Zoning By-Laws

The new by-laws were passed last fall but were appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) but through negotiation the new by-laws should be in force and affect very soon.

Please visit our new web site for all Township and Council activities

www.northkawartha.on.ca

Looking forward to a hot summer after this cold and very snowy winter

Mayor Jim Whelan