



# The Corporation of the Township of North Huron

## Monthly Council Highlights

*September 2021*

### **Tuesday, September 13th Regular Council Meeting**

#### *New Physician in Wingham*

- North Huron Council is proud to welcome Dr. Mahrous Mousa to North Huron! Dr. Mousa will be practicing Family Medicine at the Royal Oaks Health and Wellness Centre and Wingham & District Hospital beginning September 13, 2021.

#### *Customer Service Standards Policy & Complaint Handling Policy*

- At the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council approved a Customer Service Standards Policy and a Complaint Handling Policy. These policies establish standards for the efficient resolution of complaints made towards the Township in order to assist North Huron in continuing to provide excellent customer service to members of the public and continuing to improve our operations and services.

#### *New Human Resources Policies and Procedures*

- After a comprehensive review, Council adopted new Human Resources Policies and Procedures for North Huron staff. The new policies and procedures will take effect on October 1, 2021.

#### *Request to Review Road and Infrastructure Names*

- At the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council received a delegation and comments from the public regarding a request from the Blyth BIA Board to review the road and infrastructure names of the Township. Council determined that no further action is to be taken at this time.

#### *Representative for North Perth-North Huron Family Health Team*

- Council recommended that Councillor van Hittersum be appointed as the municipal representative to the North Perth-North Huron Family Health Team Board. If selected, van Hittersum would represent the municipalities of Huron-Kinloss, Morris-Turnberry, South Bruce, Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh and North Huron on the Board.

#### *Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day*

- Council proclaimed October 21, 2021 as Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. Council recognizes the continuous contributions that North Huron's Child Care workers make to the community, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### *Request for Motion of Support for Optometry Funding Reforms*

- At the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council supported the request for Optometry Funding Reforms submitted by Wheildon Mackenzie Optometry in Listowel. Council is hopeful that this support will allow for meaningful conversations to occur to ensure access to primary eye care services for patients in need.

## Monday, September 13th Regular Council Meeting (Continued)

### *Expression of Interest to Donate to Cruickshank Park Improvements*

- Council received an expression of interest from Ellen Smith for a donation for Cruickshank Park for improvements to the park. Council directed staff to bring back a report regarding the possible uses for the donation.

## Monday, September 20th Regular Council Meeting

### *Employee Business Expense Policy and Corporate Credit Card Policy*

- At the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council approved an updated Employee Business Expense Policy and an updated Corporate Credit Card Policy. The Employee Business Expense Policy defines reimbursable travel expenses while traveling on authorized Township of North Huron business, while the Corporate Credit Card Policy provides a uniform and consistent process to establish rules that apply to employees when using Corporate Credit Cards on behalf of the Township of North Huron.

### *Property Tax Billing and Collection Policy*

- Council approved a Property Tax Billing and Collection Policy. The policy covers all aspects of billing, including the collection of overdue property taxes and the initiation of municipal tax sale proceedings. Council is hopeful that this policy will ensure prompt, effective and efficient collection of taxes due to the Township of North Huron and will ensure that all ratepayers are treated in a fair and equitable manner.

### *Staffing Levels at Recreational Facilities*

- To address staffing level and recruitment issues being experienced at North Huron's recreation facilities, Council authorized for the creation of a new full-time Recreation Facilities Operator II position for the North Huron Westcast Community Complex and for the part-time Recreation Facilities Operator II position at the Blyth and District Community Centre to transition to a full-time position. Council is hopeful that this approach will allow for both facilities to operate during the upcoming ice season.

### *Howson Bridge and Dam RFP Outcome*

- Council directed staff to proceed with awarding the engineering work to decommission to Howson Bridge and Dam to GSS Engineering Solutions in the amount of \$95,325. As part of this discussion, Council determined that the engineering work should be awarded to remove the entire structure and naturalize the waterway.

### *Sewage Dumping Station Options*

- At the September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council received numerous options to address security concerns at the Wingham and Blyth Dumping Stations. Council directed staff to investigate the costs to secure the sewage dumping stations and also charge for usage to allow for a user-pay system.

**Additional North Huron Council information, meeting minutes and agendas can be found on the [Township of North Huron website](#).**

Next Regular Council Meetings to be held in October:

Monday, October 4th at 6:00PM in the North Huron Town Hall Theatre

Monday, October 18th at 6:00PM in the North Huron Town Hall Theatre