

Here are the highlights from the special Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Sept. 17.

- **County Hosts Truck Rodeo:** Lanark County Public Works hosted the annual Truck Rodeo at the Carleton Place Arena on Sept. 9, followed by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors Provincial Safety Truck Rodeo at the same location the next day. The events give public works staff (DZ-qualified equipment operators) and opportunity to demonstrate their prowess in three scored elements: a written test, an operator's pre-test (circle check) and a practical tandem truck driving course. Officials included Lanark County Public Works staff, local municipal staff, suppliers and other members of the Lanark County Road Supervisors Association. First place in the county event went to John Gleeson, Town of Mississippi Mills, who qualified for the provincial Truck Rodeo. Second place went to Brian Richmond, Township of Drummond/North Elmsley, who also qualified. Third place went to Steve Herns, Lanark County. The provincial Rodeo began in 1994 and each year the top three drivers are awarded trophies, plaques and cash prizes, and the Minister of Transportation presents the winner with the Rodeo Trophy at the Ontario Good Roads Association/Rural Ontario Municipalities Association Convention in Toronto. John Gleeson won the provincial Rodeo in 2011. This year the top three provincial spots were won by drivers from other parts of Ontario. Congratulations to all participants over the two days! For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **Public Works Tenders Awarded:** Council has awarded tenders related to winter maintenance. A contract for a combination tandem plow truck and operator for winter maintenance for 2014 to 2017 was awarded to the lowest compliant bidder, Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited, for \$176,160 plus HST. A contract for the supply and delivery of one cab and chassis with tandem snow plow and harness fully detachable, tandem 30-ton IBS system and IBS tandem V hopper dump spreader body was awarded to the lowest compliant bidder, ELP Inc., for \$224,837 plus HST. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **Meeting Structure Reorganized:** In a continued effort to improve government efficiencies, two county council meetings will be held each month, immediately preceding the two committee of the whole evenings. A new meeting schedule was implemented in January in an effort to increase efficiency and effectiveness of staff and council's time by reducing the number of meeting nights from three to two per month. On the second Wednesday of each month there is a county council meeting at 5 p.m., followed by community services and corporate services. On the fourth Wednesday, a council meeting will now precede economic development and public works, which is expected to further improve governance efficiency and provide a faster turn-around time for recommendations from committees. Having two council meetings may also reduce the need for special council meetings being called as frequently. The amended schedule has already cut staff overtime hours in half from January to July. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.
- **Council Supports Two Rivers Food Hub:** Council has voted to support the Two Rivers Food Hub project with a one-time financial investment of \$10,000 to be used to apply for matching investment. The food hub aims to link food producers in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville with greater marketing opportunities at fair market value for goods produced, and to provide buyers with a steady year-round source of healthy local foods at a one-stop location. The decision follows a presentation by the food hub in June, at which point the economic development committee requested a business plan be provided and that the proposal be referred to the Lanark County Agricultural Advisory Working Group for comment. The working group recommended support for the food hub as it provides a socio-economic driver for agriculture and food services throughout the county. It also recommended Lanark Lodge and other county-related food procurement consider purchases from the hub. In a report to council, the economic development committee noted the project meets 21 objectives in Lanark County's Official Plan, as well as four out seven goals in Lanark County's Vision 2025. The organization consists of a group of farmers, small processors and local buyers such as stores, restaurants and institutions. For more information, contact Marie White, Tourism Manager, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1530.

- **Awards of Excellence Deadline Approaching:** Do you know someone who has made a significant and/or extraordinary contribution to the county? It's not too late for nominations for the Lanark County Awards of Excellence! The award recognizes citizens, organizations, businesses or industries in one or more of the following categories: volunteerism, community service, youth; business, agriculture, industry, tourism; heritage and ecology; arts, culture, recreation, sports; philanthropy or other. Nomination forms can be obtained from the clerk's office at 99 Christie Lake Rd. or online at <http://www.lanarkcounty.ca/Page2162.aspx>. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 1. For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Deputy Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, Sept. 24 (following County Council); Public Works, Sept. 24 (following Economic Development). **County Council, Wednesday, Oct. 8, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Oct. 8 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Oct. 8 (following Community Services). For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!

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