

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Feb. 11.

- **Tenders Issued for New Facility:** Council heard that tenders related to the construction of the new public works office and garage adjacent to the existing Lanark County Administration Building have been issued with a closing date of Feb. 26. One tender is for the facility construction and the other pertains to site work, such as earth excavation, granular materials, concrete curb and gutter, catch basins and maintenance holes, sanitary and storm sewer, and culverts. Public Works Director Terry McCann said the required permit has been approved and received from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and the building permit was anticipated imminently from Tay Valley Township. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **New Business Incubator Coming to Area:** Council accepted information from the Economic Development Committee report about a new business incubator and co-work centre called The Excelerator being established in the east wing of the Gallipeau Centre in Smiths Falls. It is a project of Valley Heartland Community Futures Development Corporation, which provides economic development services to the county. The committee heard from Excelerator manager Richard Quigley, who explained it offers space ideal for work-at-home professionals, independent contractors, sole proprietors, owners who travel frequently and home-based businesses, new start-ups and emerging businesses. The centre offers coaches, mentors, trainers, software and equipment; co-location with other entrepreneurs; short- or longer-term rental space for offices and meetings; networking opportunities; training sessions and member discounts for printing and advertising. There are a range of membership categories. Mr. Quigley indicated members can access the space Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., where they will have on-site Wi-Fi, full use of a lounge and kitchen area, a business mailing address, assistance from a professional Excelerator team, and many other benefits. Work stations and private offices are available, along with access to training and meeting rooms, a copy centre, storage and more. Details are available at <http://valleycfdc.com/the-excelerator/>. For more information, contact Susan Fournier, Valley Heartland CFDC Executive Director, at 613-283-7002 ext. 106; Richard Quigley, Manager, at Richard.Quigley@Xcelerator.ca at 613-283-7002 ext. 100 or Ryan Rigby, Coordinator, at Ryan.Rigby@Xcelerator.ca at 613-283-7002 ext. 113.
- **Update on Mississippi River Bridge:** Public Works Director Terry McCann updated councillors on the Mississippi River Bridge rehabilitation project on County Road 511 north of Balderson. The bridge opened to one lane of traffic in late January, and the detour bridge can now be dismantled. The bridge will remain a single lane with the traffic lights until May, when paving can begin. A tender for installing an accessory structure for snowmobiles is expected to be issued in late April. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **Assessing Resources for Perth Kilt Run Festival:** Council has asked for a staff report regarding the availability of resources to support a proposed expansion of the Perth Kilt Run as part of the 200th anniversary celebrations for Perth, Tay Valley, Drummond/North Elmsley and Beckwith in 2016. One of the organizers, Glenn Tunnock, told the economic development committee last month that the Perth Kilt Run Festival is proposed for June 25 to 26, 2016 and would include highland games, a music festival and world-record run. The group is proposing the addition of a half marathon on the Saturday and a full marathon on the Sunday, which would start from the Rideau Ferry Bridge and follow the "200th Anniversary Settlers Trail," incorporating various county and

township roads. Staff will report on the various road closure requests associated with the marathon and report back to the committee in March. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.

- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Feb. 18, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, Feb. 18 (following County Council); Public Works, Feb. 18 (following Economic Development). **County Council, Wednesday, March 11, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, March 11 (following County Council); Corporate Services, March 11 (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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