

## ***Code acclaimed as 2016 Lanark County Warden***

Lanark County's 2016 warden – Councillor Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve) – was acclaimed at the inaugural meeting on Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Code was nominated by Councillor Aubrey Churchill (Drummond/North Elmsley Reeve), who highlighted her many activities in the community. “She has a common sense approach along with a commitment to family, community, environment and the rural way of life. She would represent the county very well.”

Her seconder, Councillor Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith Deputy Reeve), described Mrs. Code as “one of those people who supports community and family in every way possible. She does it quietly with no fanfare; she just does it because it is the right thing to do.”

Mrs. Code was first elected to Drummond/North Elmsley Council eight years ago. She was born in Perth and has lived in Drummond for 43 years, where she farms with her husband, Harold. She ran a successful restaurant in Perth with her daughter for several years before selling it to devote more time to family and council activities.

She has been involved with 4-H, agricultural committees, was a founding member of the family council at Drummond Central School and serves on several committees, include Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, Drummond/North Elmsley-Tay Valley Fire Rescue, the Mississippi Lake Plan and the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee.

Mrs. Code thanked council for the acclamation and said she is delighted and honoured to serve as warden. She complimented the dedicated staff who “strive to provide high-calibre services with a strategic vision for our residents,” and acknowledged the support of her family, and township staff and council.

“I respect the diverse experience and knowledge brought to the table by this council, and I appreciate that you are all receptive to alternative solutions...to make this the number one place to live, work and play.”

Mrs. Code noted there are tough decisions ahead. “We need to be accountable to the taxpayers while recognizing our social responsibility....By continuing to work as a team we can and will accomplish great things for Lanark County.”

She added she is delighted to serve as warden in the year that is the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Perth Military Settlement, which includes Drummond/North Elmsley Township.

Outgoing Warden Keith Kerr (Tay Valley Reeve) thanked council for the honour and privilege of serving as warden, adding he saw many new places and met many new people as part of the role. “Lanark County is an exceptional place,” he said, noting many long-serving employees.

A number of special guests attended the meeting, including several past wardens, municipal politicians and staff, friends and family members.

Committee chairpersons were selected at the meeting as well, including Keith Kerr (Tay Valley Reeve) for corporate services, John Fenik (Perth Mayor) for community services, Jane Torrance (Mississippi Mills Councillor) for economic development, and Klaas Van Der Meer (Montague Deputy Reeve) for public works. Mrs. Code also named a striking committee, which appoints members to various committees and boards. Council reconvenes Wednesday at 5 p.m. for its regular meeting.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:  
Leslie Drynan, Deputy Clerk  
Lanark County  
1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502

***Photos of this event are available at***

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w0299ylm5snob7x/AACrzZ2wvhPn14SyDGbAIUdma?dl=0>

**Captions:**

1. 2016 Warden Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve) is escorted by her nominator and seconder (D/NE Reeve Aubrey Churchill and Beckwith Deputy Reeve Sharon Mousseau) to the chair.
2. Outgoing Warden Keith Kerr (Tay Valley Reeve) gives the chains of office to 2016 Warden Gail Code (D/NE Deputy Reeve).
3. From left: Outgoing Warden Keith Kerr (Tay Valley Reeve), seconder Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith Deputy Reeve), 2016 Warden Gail Code (D/NE Deputy Reeve) and nominator Aubrey Churchill (D/NE Reeve).
4. Warden Gail Code (D/NE Deputy Reeve) presents the past warden's pin to outgoing Warden Keith Kerr (Tay Valley Reeve).
5. 2016 Warden Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve) takes the oath of office from Deputy Clerk Leslie Drynan.
6. 2016 Warden Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve) signs the oath of office from Deputy Clerk Leslie Drynan.