

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Sept. 7.

- **Tay River Pathway Project Completed:** Thanks to the hard work and generosity of many volunteers and donors, a remarkable project to see the Tay River Pathway extended to the river has come to fruition. As of Sept. 1, the pathway opened to the public. At the economic development committee of the whole meeting on Aug. 31 council learned the aggressive plan launched in May to raise \$67,000 needed for the extension had met its target. The 1.5-kilometre (return) trail is located behind the Lanark County Administration Building at 99 Christie Lake Road and is a wheelchair accessible loop that begins behind Lanark Lodge and the Perth Community Care Centre and meanders past the Round Garden, shady areas and benches. The extension takes it to a viewing deck on the edge of the Tay River through a natural, undeveloped area. A group of family members from the Lanark Lodge Family Council, led by Dianne Czerwinski and Nicola Oddy, spearheaded the project in coordination with the Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation with a goal of completing the extension by Aug. 31. The construction project was coordinated by Kevin James. "It's a beautiful spot," said LCMTTC Chair Reid Kilburn at the Aug. 31 meeting. "Everything is complete as expected and the structures are approved. Five benches are being installed at the lookout and on the trail." Signage will be designed and installed and an official opening held in the spring. At the meeting Wednesday night, Customer Operations Manager Jamie McMurtry of Hydro One Networks Inc. presented a cheque for \$10,000 for the project. Learn more about the Tay River Pathway and the long list of supporters at <http://www.tayriverpathway.ca/>. For more information, contact Erica Patterson, Council and Clerk Services Assistant, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1505.

Presentation photo available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/hwrnjaloryae6ka/Hydro%20One%20Cheque%20Presentation.jpg?dl=0>

Photo caption: From left, Nicola Oddy of the Lanark Lodge Family Council, Warden Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley Deputy Reeve), Customer Operations Manager Jamie McMurtry of Hydro One Networks Inc., Dianne Czerwinski of the Lanark Lodge Family Council, Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation Chair Reid Kilburn.

- **Savings Enable Additional Capital Project:** Council passed a motion authorizing Terry McCann, public works director, to proceed with using \$250,000 remaining from the capital budget on an additional project for 2016. Mr. McCann told the public works committee last month that good tender prices and favourable asphalt and fuel index prices contributed to a \$320,000 surplus. He presented four projects that could be completed in 2016 with a portion of the funds, noting the first option, which includes pavement preservation work on County Road 43 between Perth and Port Elmsley, is considered a priority. The funds will also cover four culvert replacements on various county roads. Projects completed this year included the George Street bridge in Lanark Village; a box culvert on County Road 511; culvert relining on County Road 10; Andrewsville Bridge repairs; rehabilitations on County Roads 1, 6, 19, 24 and 36; surface treatment overlay on County Roads 8 and 16; and micro-surfacing on County Roads 8, 9, 19 and 24. For more information, contact Terry McCann, Director of Public Works, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3190.
- **CP Rail Corridor Project Proceeding:** Council passed a motion including several actions related to the CP Rail corridor. The county signed lease and donation agreements in June to acquire ownership of a portion of the abandoned Canadian Pacific Rail corridor from Sturgess Road in Montague Township to the Renfrew/Ottawa border. Lanark County's portion of the corridor is 61.2

km in length and 27.5 metres wide, with about 37 road crossings and nine bridges that average 120 feet in length. The latest motion recommends the county endorse "Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail" as the name for the new trail. It also authorizes the warden and CAO to sign a co-owners' agreement, which sets up a committee of representatives from each municipality to meet semi-annually and provide recommendations to their respective councils about such items as construction, management, operation, trail use, marketing, signage and programming. The other two municipalities (Renfrew County and the Township of Papineau-Cameron) have adopted the agreement, which is to be open for renegotiation every 10 years. Council also received an environmental report related to soil and groundwater prepared by McIntosh Perry, which benchmarks current levels of contamination that are CP Rail's responsibility. The warden and CAO have also been authorized to sign user agreements with the West Carleton and Beautiful Eastern Alliance of Snowmobile Trails clubs for non-urban portions of the trail. As well, up to \$67,000 from the forestry/trails reserve will be used this year to pay for signage (e.g. "no trespassing" signs at bridges), engineering, tender preparation and preliminary repair work. In future, work will be required on some of the bridges in 2017. Council also received a draft financial plan for the corridor, including a draft budget for 2017. For more information, contact Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.

- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Sept. 21, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, Sept. 21 (following County Council); Public Works, Sept. 21 (following Economic Development). **County Council, Wednesday, Oct. 12, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Oct. 12 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Oct. 12 (following Community Services). For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!