

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Dec. 14.

- **Development Charges By-Law Approved:** Council has approved an amended development charges by-law that confirms the approval of a forecast of anticipated development, the underlying capital forecast and calculations. Development charges are a tool municipalities can use to help cover increased capital costs required as a result of development in areas where the by-law applies. A required background study was prepared by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. and released for review in October, with a public meeting held Nov. 16. The by-law applies to designated municipal services, including transportation, administration (studies), social housing, ambulance and outdoor recreation and cover a period from Jan. 1, 2017 to Dec. 31, 2021. For more information, Kurt Greaves, CAO, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1101.
- **Tender Approved for Lanark Lodge Renovations:** Council has accepted a recommendation to award a contract to Graebeck Construction Ltd. for \$541,400. The contract is for five renovation projects, including the ground-floor and servery, second floor dining room and servery, shower spaces, the tuck shop and chapel, and ground floor resident home area (lounge). In a report to council, Lanark Lodge Director Deborah Pidgeon said the initiatives are required to promote improved work and home environments for both staff and residents in the aging building. When the tender was called, a total of eight vendors attended the mandatory site visit on Nov. 22. Four submitted bids by Nov. 30. "The tender provided an excellent selection of qualified bidders," Ms. Pidgeon said. "The evolving needs of the residents living in long-term care require operators to consider continued updates to aged infrastructures, spaces and staff workflow. The proposed renovations will promote improved safety and efficiency for residents and staff." For more information, contact Deborah Pidgeon, Director of Lanark Lodge, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 7101.
- **Excellent Inspection and Survey Results Received:** Council accepted two reports pertaining to good news at Lanark Lodge, including an excellent annual inspection and the results of a recent satisfaction survey. Compliance inspectors with MOHLTC visit long-term care homes at least once per year for an annual review, to follow-up on compliance plans for any previously issued unmet criterion and to follow-up on any specific critical incident reports. The inspection at the Lodge was unannounced and began Oct. 24 with two inspectors each day over five days. It included structured interviews with residents, family members and staff; direct observation of care delivery and specifically targeted record reviews. The Lodge was issued no written notifications or compliance orders, and all previous notifications were in compliance. "The home was able to demonstrate a high level of compliance with the Long-Term Care Homes Act and its supporting regulations," said Deborah Pidgeon, Lanark Lodge director. "Each Lanark Lodge staff member contributed to the overall success of our on-site review and is to be congratulated on a highly successful annual inspection." The Lodge also released the results of its resident and family satisfaction survey for 2016, which indicated all respondents were satisfied overall with the quality of care and services in the home. Highest scores were received in cleanliness, personal grooming, dietary services, medical services, caring and compassionate nursing staff, staff courtesy to residents, and family made to feel welcome in the home. "The feedback from residents and families assists us in moving forward with quality improvement initiatives and promotes recognition for staff achievement to date," Ms. Pidgeon said. "Lanark Lodge staff are to be recognized for their diligent efforts and their ongoing commitment to fulfil our mission of 'People Caring for People' and their continued work to live out our values of 'Together We're Better, Leading the Way and Caring from the Heart.'" For

more information, contact Deborah Pidgeon, Director of Lanark Lodge, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 7101.

- **Council Approves Truth and Reconciliation Resolution:** Following several delegations making presentations and a great deal of discussion, Lanark County Council passed a resolution on the issue of truth and reconciliation. Councillors considered various suggestions and ultimately adopted a version researched and adopted by the Town of Smiths Falls. It acknowledges that Indigenous peoples have been subject to the residential school system and that reconciliation must be based on principles of mutual recognition, respect and responsibility. It further recognizes that the Calls to Action from the federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission include municipalities. The resolution also calls upon all residents to contribute to the reconciliation process “as we build a community in which everyone can live with dignity and respect.” Staff have been asked to provide a report to council with suggestions about next steps and ideas for truth and reconciliation actions. For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
  
- **Appointments Approved:** Council approved the striking committee’s councillor appointments for committees, boards, commissions and working groups for 2017 or ending as specified in the respective terms of reference, as follows:
  - Algonquin Land Claim Negotiating Committee: Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley) as chair of Corporate Services
  - Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation Board: Richard Kidd (Beckwith), Brian Stewart (Lanark Highlands)
  - Lanark Transportation Association: John Gemmell (Perth)
  - Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance: Brian Campbell (Tay Valley)
  - Lanark County Housing Corporation: Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith), Brian Stewart (Lanark Highlands) as chair of Community Services
  - Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit: Aubrey Churchill (Drummond/North Elmsley)
  - Valley Heartland Board of Directors: Jane Torrance (Mississippi Mills)
  - Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Management Citizens Committee: Gail Code (Drummond/North Elmsley) as chair of Corporate Services
  - Accessibility Advisory Sub-Committee: Klaas Van Der Meer (Montague)
  - Lanark County Awards of Excellence Sub-Committee: One councillor from each local municipality
  - Community Forest Working Group: Richard Kidd (Beckwith), John Hall (Lanark Highlands)
  - Agricultural Advisory Working Group: Richard Kidd (Beckwith), Klaas Van Der Meer (Montague)
  - Agricultural Advisory Sub-Committee: Gordon Patterson, Andrea McCoy Naperstkov
  - Lanark County Situation Table Community Plan for Safety and Well-being Steering Committee: John Fenik (Perth)For more information, contact Leslie Drynan, Clerk, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502.
  
- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, Jan. 11, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Jan. 11 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Jan. 11 (following Community Services). **County Council, Wednesday, Jan. 25, 5 p.m.;** Economic Development, Jan. 25. 14 (following County Council); Public Works, Jan. 25 (following Economic Development). All meetings are in Council

Chambers unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!

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***Please note: Separate media releases have been issued for the 2017 Lanark County Budget and the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sponsor Recognition.***