

Here are the highlights from the regular Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, Feb. 21.

- **Council Approves Lodge's Quality Improvement Plan:** Council has approved the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) 2018/19 for Lanark Lodge, which is part of the requirement of the service accountability agreement between the home and the South East Local Health Integration Network. At the community services committee meeting earlier this month, Lanark Lodge Director Deborah Pidgeon presented a status report on the home's QIP performance. She explained the plans "are essential to driving health-care quality in an organization" and are a way to communicate to residents, families, staff, the community and the public on the leadership's commitment to quality. The plan is required under the Excellence for Care Act and helps to identify priority improvements. The Lodge had a high rate of success in 2017/18 in areas such as residents recommending the home to others, a reduction in the number of residents receiving unneeded anti-psychotic drugs, staff listening to residents, and improvements regarding pressure ulcers. The Lodge performed consistently in areas such as fall prevention and reducing emergency department visits for certain conditions. "It is anticipated with the addition of our funded nurse practitioner and greater on-site physician time with scheduled weekly blocks of time by our new physicians, we will continue to improve in this area," Ms. Pidgeon said. She added the 2018/19 plan highlights how revised team structures will support goal attainment. "We have met with residents, families and staff to identify performance targets for our indicators, including strategies for change." Councillors commended Ms. Pidgeon and the Lanark Lodge staff for the excellent results. The QIP will be submitted to Health Quality Ontario for review and approval. For more information, contact Deborah Pidgeon, Director of Lanark Lodge, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 7101.
- **Upcoming Meetings: County Council, Wednesday, April 11, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, April 11 (following County Council); Corporate Services, April 11 (following Community Services). **County Council, Wednesday, April 25, 5 p.m.;** Public Works, April 25 (following County Council); Economic Development, April 25 (following Public Works). 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!