



Council News & Notes

From Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting
September 12

9 am

Regular
Council Meeting

Budget Meeting
September 19

1 pm

[View Calendar >>](#)

Mayors' Message

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we say goodbye to our Evan Morton who passed away on his birthday at the age of 82. Evan was truly a renaissance man having touched our lives in so many wonderful ways. He was a teacher, a librarian, a Municipal Councillor, a curator, a world traveller, a story teller, a writer, a visionary and a kind considerate, gentle soul. He believed in documenting, protecting, celebrating and sharing our heritage to residents and visitors alike. He will be greatly missed. Please join me now in a moment of silence.

July 15th I attended the Tweed Hungerford Agricultural Fair. I enjoyed the cattle judging competition where Mary Cassidy gave me a crash course on what makes for a winner. I hadn't realized that the winners from our competition make their way to the Toronto Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. I also watched the horse pulling competition and visited with onsite vendors. Congratulations to the Fair Board for a very successful event. That afternoon I had the privilege of welcoming guests to our Farm to Table event. The rain did not keep away the 1000 who attended. Congratulations to Rachelle Hardesty, Lori Crellin, Kate Lessard and to all the volunteers who helped with set-up and take down and to the many cooks who dished out a mouth-watering barbecue, salads, corn on the cob and dessert. It was an awesome event...thank you so much.

On a happier note, this Council extends a huge congratulations to Jean & Murielle Leroux and the Duffers Chip Wagon team on the celebration of their 45th Anniversary in the chip wagon business.

On July 12th I attended the Ministry of Natural Resources open house. It was a great opportunity to learn a little about our local geology. On July 14th I attended the St. Mary of Egypt Refuge open house. It was an opportunity to learn about the social support services that they provide to those in need in our community and from away. I had an opportunity to talk about the various programs offered in the Municipality. They are truly a gem in our midst.

On the 16th I was joined by Deputy Mayor DeMarsh and Councillors Flieler and Valiquette as we feasted on a community barbecue in Actinolite. Great music and conversations provided for a very festive occasion. On Monday July 17th, Rachele and I met with a potential new business owner.

On July 24th I had the distinct honour of representing this Council when I presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Evan Morton. It was a truly moving experience which Evan graciously accepted. Shortly after our presentation Evan was taken to the Heart of Hastings Hospice.

Later that afternoon I was interviewed by Connor Dorey & Emily Frauts on what I thought were issues and priorities facing the County as they draft a new Strategic Plan.

On July 26th I attended the Chamber's 'Christmas in July' Event with a visit to the Christmas sale at Lynda Akey's home. I also visited a number of local shops. Congratulations to the Chamber for thinking of creative ways to get us shopping locally.

On July 27th, as the Chair of the County Small Business Program, I attended the grand opening of the Marmora Retreat. That evening I attended the wonderful production of "Into the Woods" by the Tweed & Company Summer Youth Theatre Program. Well done young actors and what a thrill it must have been to get that rousing standing ovation.

On Saturday July 29th I attended the Tweed Foundations Youth Centre Ice Cream Social Event. As I walked in I witnessed Deputy Mayor DeMarsh with his head buried in a tub of ice cream. Again another lovely event. This Council is grateful for all that Joel Palmateer and the Youth Centre do for our community. His army of youth volunteers are always looking to help out wherever they can.

On August 1st, Councillors Valiquette & Flieler and Deputy Mayor DeMarsh joined me for the ground breaking announcement of the Marble Arts Centre extension and major renovation. Congratulations to Tim Porter, Emily Mewett, Trica Black and the Tweed & Company Board for this incredible vision. The arts are alive and well in the Municipality of Tweed!

On August 3rd we had an Emergency Management Committee meeting. The next day we had our second food security meeting with new members at that table. I was joined by Rachele Hardesty. That committee will now be named "Food for All". On Saturday August 5th I helped out with the Lions Club Pulled Pork lunch at the Pavilion. Outside 45 artists assembled as part of the Tweed & Area Arts Council's annual Art in the Park. It was their largest art vendor sale ever. Congratulations for another super event!

And I conclude with a big thank you to Council because I know you also attended many of these events. Thank you for your commitment to this great Municipality.

Poisonous Parsnip

Council authorized staff to draft and send a letter to all Hastings County member municipalities for support and to the County of Hastings requesting a County-wide spraying program to eliminate poisonous parsnip in this region.

Dangerous Intersections in Village Report

Council proceeded with a request to the OPP to obtain a report for proper placement of high intensity reflectors and authorized staff to install high intensity reflectors at the Jamieson and Colborne St. intersection in advance of the OPP report.

Coalition for improved Rural Mental Health Services

Council passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Tweed agrees that there is a significant need for more mental health services in our area;
AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Tweed agrees that rural eastern Ontario has been left behind by the Ontario Government in its priorities for resources related to mental health services in rural areas such as Hastings County;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Tweed supports the efforts of the Coalition for Improved Rural Mental Health Services as they lobby to bring to the Ontario Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction's attention the serious lack of mental health services for the rural population of Hastings County.

Tweed & Area Chamber of Commerce

Council approved the request from the Tweed & Area Chamber of Commerce to use the municipal/fairgrounds parking lot for the 2024 Classic Car Show to be held Saturday June 15, 2024.

Tweed Agricultural Society

Council approved the requests from the Tweed Agricultural Society for the Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 24, 2023 for use of the arena parking lot for the care show, and the fire department smoke house.

Tweed Stampede RCAF Flyby

Council was supportive of an RCAF flyby as low as 500 feet at the Tweed Stampede being held September 1 to 3, 2023.
