



Sinclair / Finlayson Ward Township of Lake of Bays Councillor Rick Brooks

Fall Report : October 2021

I don't think it's a stretch to say winter is around the corner, so get your snow tires on!

For almost two years now, we have been saying "Covid – 19 still has us in its grip", so whether you are one of the many now who have received both of your 'jabs' or not, please do not let your guards down, stay vigilant out in public, continue to wear your masks and keep your social circles small.

Please continue to support our relatives and friends working as frontline staff in the healthcare systems, elder care and essential service industries throughout Muskoka....they don't wear capes, but they truly are our heroes.

Here's some of those things that keep us busy these days....

Lake of Bays Township has a new CAO....

Bryan Brown will take over the reins as of November 1st and brings with him over 17 years of experience in Municipal government. We all look forward to working with Bryan almost as much as Bryan is excited to be here in Lake of Bays, he loves fishing, boating and golf so we have those all well covered.

Chief Financial Officer is next....

We said 'good bye' to Tom Gefucia as he begins his well deserved retirement and now that Bryan is on board, we will be working together to fill Tom's big shoes. The position is being posted now and those interested should check our website.

Some important information culled from our October 12 Council meeting...

Engineering and Public Works Committee (Vice-Chair Bob Lacroix) (September 22, 2021)

- Received an update on the Blue Box Regulations, which will make the producers of products and packaging fully responsible for managing their products. The proposed new date for this transition to occur is November 19, 2024.
- District will be hiring a consultant for a Safety Analysis report on Various Trail Crossing of District Roads. Report is scheduled to be completed by October 29, 2021, at a cost of \$29,000.



MUSKOKA ALGONQUIN
HEALTHCARE



An Important Message to Our Community About Huntsville Hospital

Attention Patients/Family Members/Visitors

We are installing a new back-up power generator at Huntsville District Memorial Hospital.

In order to do this, we are shutting down the emergency back-up power system for **6 hours** on

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 9 a.m.

During this outage, the hospital will have very **LIMITED CAPACITY** to see and treat new patients. We encourage you to see your family doctor or another community health care provider instead of coming to the hospital.

During the outage:

- Our Emergency Dept. will provide emergent care only;
- Ambulances will bypass HDMH where safe to do so;
- Emergent patients will be stabilized and transported out;
- No scheduled surgeries, planned obstetrical deliveries;
- No scheduled outpatient tests, clinics or treatments;
- No visitors will be permitted on October 20;
- Lighting, heating/cooling, and elevators will not operate.

Our teams will be focused on providing safe, high-quality care to our current patients during the outage.

We also anticipate increased traffic and volumes at South Muskoka Memorial Hospital (SMMH) in Bracebridge.

Thank you for your support and understanding



**LAKE
OF BAYS**
• MUSKOKA •

LAKE + DAN LAKE + DICKIE LAKE + DOTTY LAKE + ECHO LAKE +
ERIN LAKE + ERMINE LAKE + FITZELL LAKE + FLOSSIE LAKE +
FOOTE LAKE + GROUSE LAKE +
GRANDVIEW LAKE + HORSE LAKE +
HILL LAKE + LITTLE PELL LAKE + LONGLINE LAKE + LOON LAKE +
CLEAR/SEV LAKE + MARGARET LAKE +
LOWER RAFT LAKE + LOWER SCHUFELT LAKE + MANSELL LAKE +

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

October 13, 2021

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ONTARIO TOURISM RECOVERY PROGRAM (OTRP) - NOW OPEN!

OTRP will support eligible tourism businesses that have been hardest hit by COVID-19. Applicants must have experienced a qualifying revenue decline of at least 50% in the reported 2020-2021 year (a period that reflects COVID-related losses) compared to fiscal year-end 2019 (a pre-COVID, baseline year).

Click below for full program details, eligibility and application requirements.

Deadline: November 10, 2021



Ontario Tourism
Recovery Program

[Apply Here](#)

LAKE OF BAYS COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM (NEW!)

The Lake of Bays Community Grant Program supports activities that promote Arts, Culture & Heritage, Community Growth & Development, Environment/Sustainability, Health & Well-being, and Recreation.



**Lake of Bays
COMMUNITY
GRANTS**

Streams:

- Sponsorship: For community events or regional special events (up to \$500)
- Fast-track: For small projects or new ideas with short timelines (up to \$1,000)
- Start-up/Growth: For new or larger projects (up to \$5,000)

Deadline:

- Start-up/Growth: November 15, 2021, for events taking place in 2022
- Sponsorship and Fast-track: Requests for support will be accepted throughout the year (beginning in 2022) subject to availability of funds

[Apply Here](#)

MUSKOKA COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Pay It Forward is available to Grassroots Muskoka Community Groups and offers grants of up to \$2,500.

Community Enhancement Fund is available to Non-Profit Community Organizations and offers grants up to \$10,000.

Deadline: October 27, 2021, at 4:00pm



[Apply Here](#)

WORKFORCE RESOURCES

REGIONAL TOURISM JOB BANK

RTO12 (Explorers' Edge) created a job bank to help regional tourism businesses attract employees and to fill immediate gaps in the labour market. The job bank is being promoted through social media content marketing to hyper local, domestic and scholastic target markets.

If you are a tourism business with job vacancies, please click on the link below to post your positions.



[Post a Job](#)

TRAINING RESOURCES

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Explorers' Edge hosts tourism sustainability expert Angela Nagy, President & CEO of GreenStep Sustainable Tourism, to share insights on how sustainability makes good business sense for tourism properties.

When: October 20, 2021, 1-2:30pm via Zoom



[Register for FREE event](#)

LAKE OF BAYS BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The Township continues to update **COVID-19 Resources for Business** and various other business support programs and resources on the municipal website. Need help navigating the various programs and resources available?

Contact:

Jennifer Clancy, Economic Development Coordinator
TOWNSHIP OF LAKE OF BAYS
Tel: 705-635-2272 ext.1235 | [Email Jennifer](mailto:Jennifer@lakeofbays.on.ca)
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Community Planning Permit By-Law:

This is the latest of innovative by-law “firsts” brought forward by Lake of Bays Township. We were the first municipality in Ontario to implement a Development Permit System to differentiate waterfront from the typical Comprehensive Zoning By-Law and here we are again providing more tools to implement the by-laws while allowing discretionary uses and affording more authority to staff.

This is an item on the planning agenda of October 26th and all interested parties should be aware of this.

Sinclair Residents Committee Update: It would be nice if we could resume those gatherings but I feel it's still a conversation for another time. Until then, both **DC Peppard** and I are here and working for you. I will continue to provide e blasts when there are issues to share and welcome all to consider sitting in on our Council meetings and/or Planning Matter meetings as we continue to do those via ZOOM. All LOB meetings are posted well in advance and live streaming information is provided along with the agenda. ***I must encourage all association executives or secretaries to continue sharing our reports to their memberships as well as our fellow ward associations.***

All the best,

Rick Brooks, Councillor

Sinclair / Finlayson Ward

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