

Sinclair Resident's Advisory Committee

****Season's Greetings****

Just a quick shout out to everyone from Susan and myself, to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season....Christmas can be such a joyous time of year for some, but remember those who perhaps have lost loved ones, cannot be with their families for one reason or another and so we need to be respectful of their thoughts and prayers, especially at this time of year.

Some Ongoing Issues/ Concerns;

Roads: Rick reminds everyone that staff cannot be on every road, every day and that resident's voices can and need to be heard and appreciated when it involves the safety of our neighbours, so consider making your concerns known, either by contacting the Township office directly (705) 635-2272 or by computer <https://forms.lakeofbays.on.ca/Report-It>.

Council has received the **2019 Road Needs Study**, consider checking it out the following two links on the Township's website as part of the December 17 Agenda.

<https://lakeofbays.civicweb.net/FileStorage/3F00EB975A584716B42F0BFFD3012488-19%2012%2017%20-%20D.M.%20Wills%20Associates%20Ltd.%202019%20Roads%20N.pdf>

<https://lakeofbays.civicweb.net/FileStorage/93682B624257496C8F3293E5A81FA792-19%2012%2017%202019%20RNS%20Report.pdf>

Fire safety:

As Rick has stated before, we as residents of **Sinclair/Finlayson** wards have been served well from **Station 30 (Hillside)** and will continue to be. Our five local recruits brought into training this fall have been doing extremely well and it bodes well for us going forward. Having said that, Rick shared that our Fire Service needs to remain vigilant about recruitment to ensure we not only maintain what we have but potentially exceed what is considered a full compliment on staff. April will be the next recruitment campaign.

Make Fire Safety a Holiday Tradition "While enjoying this festive time with friends, families and loved ones, keep fire safety in mind," said Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General. "By following a few seasonal safety tips, we can help ensure our homes are fire free, and safely enjoy the holiday season." **Ontario's Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management offers simple tips to enjoy a fire- safe holiday season:**

- Stay in the kitchen when cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- Blow out candles before leaving the room.
- If you're putting up a fresh Christmas tree, keep the base of the trunk in water at all times.
- Inspect and throw away old and damaged lights before decorating.
- Keep space heaters away from anything that can burn, including curtains and furniture.
- Install and test smoke alarms on every floor and outside all sleeping areas of your home.

- Don't forget about carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. In Ontario, you must have a working CO alarm adjacent to each sleeping area of the home if you have a fuel-burning appliance, a fireplace or an attached garage.
- Make sure everyone knows two ways to get out of your home. Plan and practice a [home fire escape plan](#) with family members and holiday guests.
- Designate a street light or mailbox outside as the meeting place where everyone can be accounted for. Never re-enter a burning building.

"**Make fire safety a holiday tradition,**" said Jon Pegg, Ontario's Fire Marshal. "Telling guests about your family's home fire escape plan, testing your home's smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and keeping doors and other exits clear of items like boots and shoes, are all key to enjoying the holiday season."

Muskoka Ash Project:

Rick continues to encourage our resident's to support this program, the 'Save your Ash' project and its significant impact on the calcium deficiencies now being experienced in our lakes and especially affecting our sugar maple trees.

2020 Drop-Off dates for spring are as follows;

Rosewarne Transfer Station (Bracebridge - east off HWY.11 & Taylor Road) ...**all dates 9AM – 4PM.**

January 18th · February 15th, March 21st, April 18th

IF you aren't registered yet....and to order an ash container please call 705-640-0948, or check out their website: www.ashmuskoka.ca .

Safe Quiet Lakes:

Diana Piquette of 'Safe Quiet Lakes' recently made a presentation to Council and I considered it quite informative and one that should catch the interest of our engaged lake associations. She has indicated that she would be more than happy to have their staff come and do a presentation at any of our lake associations spring meetings and/or AGM meetings to promote the premise of safe and quiet boating. I encourage you to check out their website: <http://safequiet.ca/>

Community Planning Permit System:

As required, under Section 26(9) of the Planning Act, the Township of Lake of Bays is reviewing and consolidating its two existing zoning by-laws (Development Permit By-law 2004-180 and Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2004-181) and creating a new **Community Planning Permit System (CPPS)** to implement the policies of the Township's Official Plan. This system will clearly identify development rules and requirements applicable throughout the entire Township. The new Community Planning Permit System applies to all lands within the Township. It continues to be a work in progress, stay tuned. **Click on this link to check it out:** [Draft Community Planning Permit System By-law](#)

Final Thoughts...

Members of Council and staff continue to be working on several other areas of great concern to our residents, both seasonal and permanent, such as Housing, Internet and areas under the jurisdiction of the District of Muskoka. We will continue to do so in the coming months and when there is information we can share, you will read it here.

Dwight Library Mac & Cheese Fundraiser:

Join me on **Friday, January 3rd** at the **Dwight Community Centre** for mac & cheese made in so many different recipes, all for a good cause in support of our Dwight Library.



Next Meeting:

As stated at our last meeting in October, we tentatively scheduled our next Resident's Committee Meeting as Friday, February 14th at 1PM, @ 'Muskoka on the Rocks'. Thank You for your participation, my first year as your Councillor has been a learning experience, and one that I have thoroughly enjoyed. Keep the lines of communication open, we only get better when we continue to talk, listen and learn.

All the best,

Rick

Rick Brooks,

Councillor, Sinclair / Finlayson Ward

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