TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

701 Highway 124, McKellar, ON, P0G 1C0
www.township.mckellar.on.ca
Phone: 705-389-2842 Fax: 705-389-1244

Council

Reeve
Peter Hopkins
705-389-2228
pdhopkins@lycos.com

Councillors
Marco Ancinelli
416-856-4615
ancinelli@gmail.com

Don Carmichael
705-996-0424
don@carmichael-co.ca

Morley Haskim
705-389-1035
mhaskim@hotmail.com

Mike Kekkonen
705-389-1346
MikeonMcKellarCouncil@outlook.com

2019 COUNCIL MEETINGS
6:30 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JANUARY 7th, 21st
FEBRUARY 4th, 19th
MARCH 4th, 18th
APRIL 1st, 15th
MAY 6th, 21st
JUNE 3rd, 17th
JULY 15th
AUGUST 12th
SEPTEMBER 3rd, 16th
OCTOBER 7th, 21st
NOVEMBER 4th, 18th
DECEMBER 2nd, 16th

Agendas and Correspondence can be found on Township of McKellar website:
www.township.mckellar.on.ca

STAFF DIRECTORY

Clerk Administrator: Tammy Wylie 705-389-2842 ext 4
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer: Joe Whyte 705-389-2842 ext 3
Chief Building Official: Chris Bordeleau 705-389-2842 ext 2
Admin/Treasury Assistant: Ina Watkinson 705-389-2842 ext 1
Fire Chief: Ed Bier 705-389-9597
Public Works Superintendent: Greg Gostick 705-389-2891
Roads Crew: Ward Stoneman, Kirk Reid
Parks & Recreation: Scott Reekie
Waste Site Attendant: Andy Ward 705-389-1379

2019 SPRING NEWSLETTER
Message from the Reeve
“The year to get involved in your community”

Happy New Year! 2019 is the year of community involvement; a chance for you to get directly involved in your Council and community. We have a new Council, a relatively new staff, a new approach and a new opportunity to enhance the quality of life in McKellar. Please take time to share your expertise and make a difference in McKellar.

Ways to get involved:

**Action Plan:** We have already approved the development of a community based four year “Action Plan” which will outline where we are going over the next four years. Our first public gathering was held on January 12th, involving 60-70 citizens in a brainstorming session that generated over 500 ideas. If you still want to add to this list you can simply go to our website: www.township.mckellar.on.ca and find Action Plan. Make your ideas known and send them to our clerk@township.mckellar.on.ca under the heading Action Plan. Our second public meeting to review all ideas to date and start prioritizing them is being held on Saturday March 9th at 10:00 am in the Community Centre. A third meeting will be held on May 4th to review the first draft of the Action Plan.

**Standing Committees:** All need members. Simply go to one of their meetings and if interested, complete an application form, which can be downloaded from the township website or picked up at the township office, the Recreation Committee meets the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers. The Historical Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, and the Library Board meets the last Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m., in the Library.

**New Ad-Hoc Committees:** Council has approved three short term Ad-Hoc committees to review certain issues and make recommendations to council within a year. Each committee require 5-11 members. Applications are being accepted in the office until March 15th and we will begin meeting when members are approved.

- Stewardship and Environmental Committee will review ways of preserving the quality of our lakes.
- Road Services Review Committee will be reviewing ways to service un-assumed roads.
- Business, Economic Development and Tourism Committee will determine ways to retain and improve local businesses.

**Volunteer Fire Fighters** are needed. Contact Fire Chief, Ed Bier for more information at 705-389-9597 or email at fire@township.mckellar.on.ca

**Community Organizations:** We have many excellent organizations and groups in McKellar that certainly add to our quality of life. If you knit, play cards, snowmobile, enjoy the fair, simply check our website or publication for more contact information and get involved.

Everyone has an idea. Everyone could give an hour or two. Everyone has some expertise that can be shared. Seriously consider giving back to your community to ensure that McKellar is your warm and welcoming community.

Please refer to the Reeve’s Annual Report as of December 17, 2018, on the township website for more information. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at 705-389-2228 or email at pdhopkins@lycos.com

Have a great 2019.

Reeve Peter Hopkins
McKellar Public Library

McKellar Township Public Library is much more than books! We are your local resource centre, a gathering place; we have events, clubs and offer administrative services, such as copying, faxing & much more.

Perhaps this winter you would like to finally source out your family genealogy. The library offers an online genealogy search ---free!

If you are a knitter or just learning to knit, join the knitting group that meets around the table every other Wednesday.

On the last Tuesday of every month the Book Club meets. A great way to meet people, check out new authors and enjoy a lively conversation.

Take the “Rubbish & Reading Tour” ….when taking your trash to the Transfer Station on Wednesdays or Saturdays, combine the trip with a stop at the library to check out all we have to offer!

MARCH 14TH, 2019 – ALL ABOUT BEARS MARCH BREAK EVENT

The managers of the “Bear With Us Sanctuary & Rehabilitation Centre” will be presenting two short videos followed by a Q&A period. All ages will appreciate this event. Refreshments will be served as well.

Children are needed at this event to help find Librarian Joan’s lost bear collection! No fee for this event. Registration is required.

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesdays 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesdays 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursdays 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information or to register for an event, call the library at 705-389-2611 or visit our website at www.mckellarpubliclibrary.ca

Check us out on Facebook!

In the Community

Looking for something to do:

McKellar Township hosts a variety of venues and events throughout the year.

The Balsam Trail is a rugged 3.1 km hiking trail open from spring to fall.

The Township Rink is open year round for ice sports in the winter, tennis and other sports in the summer.

Four area public beaches; Community Centre Beach, Government Dock Beach, Maplewood Beach and Stewart Park Beach are the perfect spots to enjoy the water or have a picnic.

Minerva Park offers a large green area to relax, picnic, or play.

Visit the Evelyn Watkins Heritage Museum for a unique look into the history of the area.

The Community Centre is a great venue to host weddings, parties or events.

Please check the community calendar at www.township.mckellar.on.ca for current events.
McKellar Market Looking Forward to 2019 Season!

Beginning June 29th through to August 31st the McKellar Market will be open for business from 10am to 1pm each Saturday at Minerva Park, 677 Hwy 124, McKellar. Watch for our signs.

Our Market offers handmade crafts, homemade baked goods, produce, VQA wine, live music in the pavilion, food, honey and so much more! Fun for the whole family! Watch for our Special Event days, posted on the Township community website calendar.

2019 Special Markets

Again this year there will be two Special Markets held in the McKellar Community Centre on Saturday, October 12, 2019 from 10 am to 3 pm and a Christmas Market on Saturday, November 16th, 2019 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Interested in becoming a vendor? Market Guidelines and Vendor Agreements can be found on the Township’s website.

Check out the McKellar Market Facebook page for upcoming events, weekly photos, announcements and lots more!

Jan Gibson, Market Manager, 705-773-9578 – email at rjgibson@netspectrum.ca

New Vendor’s and Buskers always welcome! See you in McKellar this summer!
Notes from the Public Works Department

The Public Works Department continues to keep our municipal roads, parks and beaches safe and clean. The public works crew work diligently to keep the roads cleared of snow before the start of the work day, with keeping the bus routes a priority. Your patience is greatly appreciated during the snow clearing process and thanks is extended for obeying the parking and plowing by-laws. Pursuant to By-law No. 2017-34, it is prohibited to deposit snow on Township roadways.

The past year saw the completion of the Burnett’s Road project. Other improvements and upgrades include gravel and hardtop on Hardies Road, gravel for Blackwater Road, installation of twin culverts on Reins Way and the installation of guide rails on Broadbent Road. Improvements are currently underway at the intersection of Lees and Centre Roads.

Throughout the Township work continues in order to maintain our roadways and keep our properties accessible and enjoyable for all area ratepayers and visitors. Thanks to the great work of the Public Works Department.

Public Works questions can be directed to Greg Gostick, Public Works Superintendent at 705-389-2891.

Notes from Tax Department

Interim tax bills are due April 1, 2019. Final Tax bills are scheduled to be mailed the last week of July and are due on September 3, 2019.

Tax payments can be made at the office with cash, cheque or debit, paid online at the following banks: Scotiabank, TDCT, Bank of Montreal, Kawartha Credit Union, CIBC, National Bank and Tangerine, or a cheque/money order can be sent by mail. Post-dated cheques are also acceptable. E-transfers from RBC are also accepted. Please contact Joe Whyte, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk for more information at 705-389-2842 Ext. 3 or email deputy@township.mckellar.on.ca.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve a taxpayer of the responsibility for payment or the liability of penalty charges for late payment. Penalty at a rate of 1.25% is applied at the beginning of each month.

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is responsible for assessing and classifying properties in Ontario. If you have questions regarding your assessment visit mpac.ca or aboutmyproperty.ca or call 1-866-296-6722.

Please notify the Township office of address changes at 705-389-2842 ext. 1 or admin@township.mckellar.on.ca. Questions regarding your tax bill or tax account, please call 705-389-2842 ext. 3 or email deputy@township.mckellar.on.ca.

In the Community

Looking for a unique way to honour a friend or memorialize a loved one?

Want to support improvements to the Community Centre?

The Township of McKellar still has spaces available on the “Bricks” wall located in the entrance to the Community Centre.

The “Bricks” wall features both names in support of the Community Centre and also a memorial section.

Bricks can be purchased at the Township Office at a cost of $25.00 per brick.
Notes from the Building Department

BUILDING PERMITS must be obtained prior to the beginning of any construction. Permits are required for new structures, additions, sleeping and guest cabins, chimneys, wood stoves, fireplaces, accessory buildings, structural foundations, docks, storage buildings, decks, and porches. Building permit applications are available at the Township Office or on the website at: http://township.mckellar.on.ca/download/applications-forms/BUILDING-PERMIT-APPLICATION-2016.pdf

Approval from other agencies may be required before a building permit can be issued. Other agencies may include North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Hydro One, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS – For approval, permits and information contact North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority at 705-746-7566. Septic permits may be required prior to a building permit being issued.

DOCKS – Planning on replacing your dock or installing a new one? You require a building permit from the Township. Applications are available at the Township Office or on the website at: http://township.mckellar.on.ca/download/applications-forms/BUILDING-PERMIT-APPLICATION-2016.pdf

OPEN PERMITS – If you have an open permit please contact the Building Department to review the necessary steps to close off your project.

INSPECTIONS – Remember, it is the property owner or their agent’s responsibility to notify the building department at the various stages which require inspection, as outlined in the building permit.

SHIPPING CONTAINERS - Shipping containers are considered a building under the Building Code Act and therefore require a building permit to install.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING BUILDING AND PERMITS CONTACT CHRIS BORDELEAU, CBO at 705-389-2842 ext. 2

In the Community

YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED!

Interested in volunteering in the community but not sure where to begin?

Whether you have one day per week or one hour a year, we want your help!

We welcome any and all individuals with a diverse range of skills, talents and interests to help make McKellar an even better place to live, work and play.

The McKellar Recreation and Historical Committees and the McKellar Library Board are in need of members and/or volunteers.

For more information contact the Township Office or a Committee/Board member. Volunteer applications can be found on the township website at: http://township.mckellar.on.ca/docs/CommitteeAppWaiver.pdf

“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new”

Socrates
Notes from the By-Law Department

Enforcement of noise, parking, fireworks, waste management, zoning and other By-laws will continue in 2019. 

PARKING - No person shall park a motor vehicle or any portion thereof in any of the following places: on any part of a highway at any time from January 1st to April 15th and December 1st to December 31st in any year; on any bridge or within 20 metres of such bridge; on any highway in such a manner as to obstruct an entranceway for motor vehicles to pass between the highway and land contiguous to the highway; on any highway in a position or place that prevents, interferes with or is likely to prevent or interfere with the removal of snow from a highway, road maintenance by the Township of McKellar or the movement of motor vehicular traffic; on any highway or other property owned by the Township of McKellar; within 20 metres of any public boat launching ramp; in the areas designated “No Parking”. 

NOISE - Noise complaints will be investigated at any time of the day. Minimum fines of $200.00 for each offender are applicable. Property owners can be held liable for visitors/users actions on their property. 

OPEN AIR BURNING – Please check the website for “Fire Rating”. A “high” rating allows only small contained fires for cooking and “Extreme” rating means “NO OPEN BURNING OF ANY KIND”.

FIREWORKS – Consumer fireworks are permitted 3 days preceding and 3 days following most holidays. All other fireworks requires a valid “Fireworks Permit” issued by the Chief Fire. Fireworks are prohibited during a high or extreme fire rating. 

RENTING – Short term renting of a dwelling (31 days or less) is not a permitted use in the Township of McKellar. The By-law Department will act on all complaints with regards to this matter.

In the Community

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY 

The Township of McKellar offers a $500.00 Scholarship to a full time student attending the Parry Sound Campus of Canadore College. 

To qualify the student must be a family member of a McKellar Township property owner and be accepted into a program for the first time at the Parry Sound Campus. 

Final selection of recipient is to be confirmed by representatives of the Awards Office of the College. 

For more information or application process please contact Canadore College at 705-746-9222.
DID YOU KNOW………

Modified snowmobile mufflers are a concern for the police.

Much of Ontario’s trail system encompasses private property. The private land owners allow the use of their land for snowmobile use via Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) trails. BUT, landowners and municipalities are being disturbed by the increase in snowmobile exhaust noise, which is resulting in trail closures.

Under the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act, section 18.2, there are applicable charges for modifying, altering or changing the exhaust or muffler on your snowmobile.

AERODROMES and DRONES

Aerodromes include airports, heliports, seaplane/ski-plane bases, or anywhere that an aircraft can take off and land. It is a Federal Offence to fly a recreational drone within three nautical miles of an aerodrome.

Most of the Township of McKellar and a portion of the Municipality of McDougall are federally designated as an Aerodrome and are therefore considered a “No Fly Zone” for Drones. You could face serious penalties and/or jail time, if you break the rules, including:

- Up to $1,000 for flying without a drone pilot certificate.
- Up to $1,000 for flying unregistered or unmarked drones.
- Up to $1,000 for flying where you are not allowed.
- Up to $3,000 for putting aircraft and people at risk.

Transport Canada say anyone who sees someone flying a drone illegally should call 911.

For more information on flying a drone safely and legally please go to: www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/where-fly-drone-current-rules

OPP ONLINE REPORTING PROGRAM - This program allows you to submit a report to the OPP from computer or mobile device. All submissions will be sent directly to OPP and reviewed by officer. Use this system to report lost/missing property under $5000.00, stolen license plates or validation stickers, theft from a vehicle under $5000.00, mischief to a vehicle under $5000.00, damage to property under $5000.00, thefts under $5000.00 and driving complaints. Visit www.opp.ca/reporting for information and reporting forms.
NOTES FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT - Do you have a desire to help others? To help your community? We are currently recruiting to complete our roster of volunteer firefighters. As a volunteer firefighter you will play an essential role in keeping our township and our citizens safe. All of our firefighters are expertly trained and properly equipped. If interested in joining this important community team please contact Fire Chief, Ed Bier at 705-389-9597 or email fire@township.mckellar.on.ca.

SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS – IT’S THE LAW – Installation of smoke alarms on each level of your home, cottage and sleeping cabin and a minimum of one carbon monoxide detector are requirements of the law. Remember to regularly test and replace batteries in all alarms. Always react to a triggered carbon monoxide alarm – Call 911!

OPEN AIR BURNING and FIREWORKS BY-LAWS - The Open Air Burning By-law and the Fireworks By-law were both updated in 2018. These by-laws can be found on the township website home page, www.township.mckellar.on.ca immediately under the Fire Danger Rating.

NEW EQUIPMENT - 2019 will see improvements to the Fire Department with the purchase of Ice Rescue Equipment, and the recent accepted tender for the purchase of a new pumper truck. Expected delivery is November/December 2019. The new truck will replace Pumper #1 at Station #1. Old Pumper # 1 will be moved to Station # 2 to replace the Mini Pumper.

WATER SHUTTLE TANKER ACCREDITATION – These forms are available on the website at http://township.mckellar.on.ca/download/fire-department/2015%20McKellar%20Tanker 20Shuttle%20Certificate.pdf. You may be eligible for a reduction in insurance upon presentation of this form.

QUESTIONS: CALL FIRE CHIEF ED BIER AT 705-389-9597 OR fire@township.mckellar.on.ca
Notes from the Waste Management Department

Transfer Station Hours

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<th>Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 15th to Sept. 15th</td>
<td>Sat. 10 am to 4 pm</td>
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<td>Sun. 12 pm to 8 pm</td>
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<td>Wed. 12 pm to 8 pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 16th to April 14th</td>
<td>Sat. 10 am to 4 pm</td>
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<td>Sun. 10 am to 4 pm</td>
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<td>Wed. 10 am to 4 pm</td>
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Transfer Station Permits are available at the Township Office, 701 Highway 124, McKellar, 705-389-2842

Fines of $200.00 are strictly enforced for anyone leaving garbage outside the transfer station gates.

The Township of McKellar offers many recycling opportunities. Taking a few extra minutes to sort your trash can make a big difference. Think of it as an investment in the health of our environment.

Blue Box Recycling:
1. Rinse containers, plastic bottle, jugs and lids, aluminum, foam, plastic bags, glass bottles, food and beverage cans, jars
2. Mixed fibres, flattened cardboard, newspapers, magazines, catalogues, books, household papers, milk/juice cartons, boxboard.

Scrap Metal Recycling: Ferrous and non-ferrous, white goods, tire rims, BBQs. Fridges, freezers, air conditioners etc. must be tagged CFC free.

Tires: Intact tires, no rims

Electronics: All electronics, remember to clear your drives

Batteries: All types and sizes

Yard waste: Free days to dump yard waste: April 15 to June 15 and Sept. 15 to Nov. 15.

Re-Use Centre: Useable items, subject to approval of transfer site attendant, can be left to be redistributed free of charge to others who may have a use for them.

Belvedere Heights Fundraiser: Returnable bottles and cans can be donated to assist in programs.

If you have any suggestions to improve the operation of the Transfer Station please contact Councilor Mike Kekkonen at MikeonMcKellarCouncil@outlook.com

BLUE BOXES, $5.00 AND RECYCLING BAGS $1.00 AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT: ANDY WARD, 705-389-1379
Notes from Committees

McKellar Recreation Committee

The McKellar Recreation Committee offers a wide variety of seasonal activities for adults and youth in an attempt to make the Community Centre the centre of the community. Walking and Healthy Exercise for seniors, Badminton, Tai Chi, Swimming Lessons, and T-ball are ongoing programs. The committee also offers a number of special events throughout the year i.e. Dances, Snowmobile Ride, Snowshoe Hike, Nature Hikes, Earth Day Clean-up, Family Movie Nights, Hallowe’en Handouts, Bike McKellar, Easter Carnival, Kids’ Ice & Summer Fish Derbies, Open Mic Night, Kayak/SUP/Canoe Trip and Pioneer School). The Recreation Committee is open to suggestions for new programs. Six new programs were added to 2019 thanks to community volunteers who brought their ideas to the Recreation Committee.

Keep posted to the Township website and Recreation Committee Facebook page and the McKellar News Column in the North Star for information and particulars of events. You can help by volunteering for a specific event or by joining the Committee as a member.

The committee meets the last Thursday of each month at 6:30 in Council Chambers. Visitors, volunteers and new members are welcome.

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<tr>
<th>Special Events for 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1: Movie Night</td>
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<td>March 14: Library March Break Program - All About Bears</td>
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<td>March 16: 4th Annual Kids Ice Fish Derby</td>
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<td>March 16: St. Patrick’s Day Dance with “Sunny Slope Bootleggers”</td>
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<td>March 22: Movie Night</td>
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<td>April 13: Easter Carnival</td>
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<td>April 27: Earth Day Clean-Up</td>
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<td>May 8: Rabies Clinic</td>
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<td>May 18: Victoria Day Fireworks – Broadbent</td>
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<td>June 8: Spaghetti Dinner</td>
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<td>June 22: Guided Nature Walk on Balsam Trail</td>
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<td>July 6: 5th Annual Kid’s Fish &amp; Fun Day</td>
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<td>July 13: 3rd Annual Canoe/Kayak/Boarding Fun Trip &amp; BBQ</td>
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<td>July 20: Pick Up SloPitch &amp; BBQ</td>
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<td>Aug. 18: Bike McKellar (10, 20, 38 and 93km)</td>
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<td>Sept. 7: Agricultural Fair, Parade &amp; Dance</td>
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<td>Oct. 6: Guided Nature Walk on Balsam Trail</td>
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<td>Oct. 31: Halloween Handouts</td>
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<td>Nov. 10: Remembrance Day Service</td>
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<td>Nov. 8: Movie Night</td>
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<td>Nov. 22: Movie Night</td>
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<td>Dec. 13: Christmas Party and Movie</td>
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<td>Dec. 14: Christmas Past</td>
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McKellar Historical Committee
Preserving the Past in the Present for the Future.

Some of the many artifacts in the Evelyn Watkins Moore Heritage Museum

The primary responsibility of the Historical Committee is to preserve the history of the Township of McKellar. A major focus is the collection of artifacts, stories and photographs for the Evelyn Watkins Moore Heritage Museum. The committee members are constantly updating, re-arranging and improving the unique and interesting displays. Located at the Community Centre, 701 Hwy 124, McKellar, hours of operation change seasonally. Please visit the Township of McKellar website or phone the township office to arrange a visit. If you have any photo, information or artifacts you are willing to donate on loan to the Heritage Museum, please contact Vivian Moore viv_moore@hotmail.com or Joyce Hopkins joyphopkins@gmail.com.

The committee is also working on a number of ongoing projects like the Barn Project, Historical Plaques, Driving Tour Booklet, documenting elder’s stories and fundraising events for the renovation of two historic churches (St. Stephens Anglican in Broadbent and Hemlock Church). Please help the Historical Committee’s efforts in preserving the Township’s rich history by volunteering to assist with one of their ongoing projects or special events, i.e. bake sales, spaghetti dinner & silent auction and Christmas Past. Cash or product donations are also gratefully welcomed. Individuals with an interest in or knowledge of the history of the Township of McKellar are needed/encouraged to become a committee members.

The Historical Committee meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.