



# Township of McKellar

701 Hwy #124, P.O. Box 69, McKellar, Ontario POG 1C0

Phone: (705) 389-2842

Fax: (705) 389-1244

## Mayor's Report: Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

A very special McKellar welcome to our new CAO/Clerk, Lance Sherk. We would like to formerly "induct" Lance into our McKellar family with a presentation of an official McKellar sweat shirt. Welcome aboard

### Community Happenings:

A special thank you to our Recreation committee for coming up with unique activities on a remote basis. The results of the Fish Derby are: overall winner-Angela Orr for landing a 30 ½" northern pike; Glen Crossman landed a 28 ½ "northern and eight year old Emery Livingston caught a 24 ½" northern as well.

Our Historical Committee has created a McKellar special historical cross word puzzle to be completed on line. Refer to our Web and Facebook pages and the Historical committee's webpage.

Please check out our Recreation Committee's take a March break by organizing with your family household a "McKellar Winterfest" using the ten activities and contests offered on their Recreation Facebook page or email [joyphopkins@gmail.com](mailto:joyphopkins@gmail.com)

Just to remind McKellar community groups that Council has set up a Community Grant Fund to financially assist our organizations for a project that will enhance our community. Applications forms are on our website. Application deadline is April 15, 21.

Council has created two bursaries: One is for those graduating high school students who are attending a post-secondary institution next fall and the other one for a McKellar student attending our local Canadore College. Please apply through the Parry Sound High School and Canadore College awards offices  
All new and existing committees are in need of new volunteers. Simply talk to a current member, come and experience a meeting and then apply.

### Reports:

-i- **EMC:** We met this am – almost a year ago we declared a state of emergency - and are pleased to confirm that we are now in the red zone but remain in a state of emergency until further notice. Please see our press release as to what is open. In all cases, strict protocols- social distancing, mandatory masks and frequent washing and sanitizing while not travelling unless necessary - are to be followed. Please refer to: [www.narcity.com/en-ca/news/covid19-red-zones-in-ontario](http://www.narcity.com/en-ca/news/covid19-red-zones-in-ontario)

-ii- **Budget:** We have held our first budget meeting to review 2020 actuals, look at impacts on 2021, develop a budget philosophy and plan for 2021. Listened to Public Works projects and asks. All committees should be submitting their budget requests by the end of March to the Treasurer. New this fall, we will be starting a new 2022 budget process with our new Treasurer.

-iii- The WPS Mayors have raised some concerns with our NBDHU regarding a lack of consultation and communication, along with their lack of a vaccination plan. If we are in the lock down zone why is there no vaccination plan? More meetings are to be held.

-iv- We continue to meet with Whitestone on Connectivity issues to find a way to implement faster coverage and wider delivery in our area

-v-Our Lake Stewardship Committee has sent a letter to the MNRF inquiring into the history, background and status of "Reef Tires" being placed in Lake Manitowabing in the 1980's. As well, we have sent a letter to the Ridge at Manitou requesting they re-activate their Environmental committee to monitor phosphate levels and

other chemicals and report back to Council. As well, the Committee has been working towards completing their report to the community and Council this summer with both an educational and policy component. They are finalizing their budget request on Mar 21.

-vi- The Library Board has been very active in preparing their annual report, 2021 budget, some creative programs and completing their legal requirements while developing their Covid 19 protocols for when they are permitted to open.

-vii- We have received a few concerns over the placement of the new Boat Launch for Councils consideration which will be reviewed by staff.

-viii- The deadline for applications for our two new Committees: one on reviewing Rental Properties and one on planning McKellar's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2023 is April 1, 21

-ix- All committees need volunteers. Simply attend a meeting and then apply. Forms are on line.

-x- We have had good comments regarding our electronic newsletter. We may want to consider a second one in Aug with our fall tax bills.

-xi- Our staff is working hard on creating our new website

### **Upcoming Events:**

-a- Recreation Committee March Break activities for all – see flyer and web page – new members welcome

-b-Lake Stewardship meeting: Saturday March 20, 9:00 am C

-c-Library Board: Monday 10 am, March 22, CC – new members welcome

-d-Recreation Committee: Thursday March 25, 3:30

-d-2<sup>nd</sup> Budget meeting: Tuesday March 30, 21 6:30 pm C

-e-Future meetings tbd: Connectivity meeting, meeting with our MP and MPP; public meeting regarding the Pool Committee's proposal

-f-Council: Tues April 13, 21 6:30 pm