

TOWNSHIP SPRING NEWSLETTER

Townships of Head, Clara & Maria



Tuesday, May 8, 2007

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Townships On-line

Visit us online at www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca to find information about:

- our community;
- the services we offer;
- updated fee schedules;
- updated disposal site hours; recycling and
- much more.

RECYCLING—WELL DONE!

As most of you are aware our recycling program has not only begun but appears to be well received. You should be proud—we have been congratulated on the cleanliness and organization of our recycling materials and the volume by our contractors.

As for volume—we have **diverted a total of 470 bags or 5704 pounds** of material from our waste disposal sites. From the recyclables collected, only 10 bags of garbage have been separated and returned to our landfill. For a municipality our size this is truly commendable—keep up the great

work.

As promised, we will be having a special spring recyclables collection on **Tuesday, May 22 and Monday, June 4**. Collection will take place in **all** communities—Mackey, Stonecliffe, Bissett and Deux Rivieres on those days. Put your material out before 10:00 a.m. Please set aside large recyclable materials such as: chairs, couches, tables, washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves, bags of clothes etc. — any large appliance or furniture or other bulky material.

The items must be recyclable and not merely garbage.

Tree limbs, brush and other

yard waste will have to be brought to the disposal sites which are open for 1 hour each day for your convenience. **Please note:** It will soon be May 16 and the disposal site hours will change for the summer.

Bissett—daily from 6—7 pm

Stonecliffe— from 7:30—8:30 pm.

See signs at the sites!

For those of you who still haven't — **please recycle** — help extend the life of our landfills. For all the rest—congratulations and keep recycling.

Council to Contribute— Bags that is!

Recycling has taken off in the Townships and some comments have come back to Council in the form of “if they want us to use clear bags, why don't they get us some?”

Well “they” did. On Saturday, May 12 at the Library sponsored May Mad-

ness, the Township will have a table and will have, for each household, one free box of clear plastic bags suitable for recycling purposes. Should you not be able to make this date and time, bags will be available at the Township office during normal business hours. We have

done some research and bags are readily available at area stores. A box of 20 large sized bags is available from Canadian Tire, Giant Tiger, Wal-Mart and Zellers from anywhere from \$3.89 up. Stop by May Madness and let us start you off.



Watch for the owl—he'll show you where to find financial \$\$\$\$ information. \$\$\$\$



MPACs Property Inspection Program

MPAC is expanding its property inspection program for 2007. To fulfill one of the recommendations of the Ombudsman's report of last year, MPAC will increase the number of visits in order to verify the accuracy of assessed values of homes. During each inspection, all file data will be verified and any changes since the last inspection will be recorded and assessments updated. They may be scheduled to visit you.

All staff will carry MPAC identification and will properly introduce themselves to the property owners. If you are not available, information will be left saying that MPAC has inspected your property. It will state that they have verified their information and nothing further is required, or it will outline the information needed to complete the inspection and ask the property owner to call them.

2007 Budget—your money!

On Friday, April 13 2006 the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria formally adopted its budget for the 2007 calendar year. This budget chart shows all sources of revenue (your taxes are in the "Taxation" section) and expenses for this year. 2006 figures are included for reference.

REVENUE	BUDGET 2006	Budget 2007
Community Reinvestment Fund (Provincial Subsidy)	\$219,000.00	\$219,000.00
Payments in Lieu	\$99,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
provincial roads upgrade grant (One Time)	\$9,600.00	
gasoline tax (Federal Gov. funding)	\$2,226.00	\$ 2,964.00
other Provincial Revenue	\$10,627.00	\$ 9,437.00
COMRIF grant (Prov and Fed)		\$ 6,842.00
Rural Infrastructure Grant (Prov)		\$ 65,205.00
Taxation	\$152,000.00	\$173,627.00
other Revenue	\$32,728.00	\$ 38,640.00
Administration	\$2,900.00	\$ 8,300.00
Surplus	\$71,553.00	\$ 14,007.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$5,355.00	\$ 2,700.00
IT Reserve	\$5,000.00	
Gas Tax Reserve	\$2,226.00	\$ 4,452.00
Emergency Vehicle Reserve	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
DS Reserve	\$10,000.00	
Bear Fund Reserve		\$ 20,976.00
Garage Reserve		\$ 34,000.00
Donation Reserve		\$ 4,000.00
Working Capital Reserve	\$45,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$672,215.00	\$769,150.00
EXPENSES		
General Government	\$195,687.00	\$185,143.00
Information Technology	\$6,800.00	\$2,400.00
Protection to Property & Persons	\$52,575.00	\$ 51,919.00
Emergency Management Committee	\$13,050.00	\$ 1,325.00
Fire	\$24,540.00	\$ 17,770.00
Transportation Services	\$184,533.00	\$175,300.00
Recreation	\$24,000.00	\$ 25,450.00
Environmental Services	\$108,976.00	\$191,295.00
Building	\$12,500.00	\$ 9,500.00
Other Expenses	\$49,554.00	\$ 29,450.00
Reserves		\$ 79,598.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$672,215.00	\$769,150.00

Are You Looking for Something to Do?

Do you have a few extra hours a week? A month? Do you sit at home wondering what you might do for recreation this week? Do you wish you could find a way to get more exercise? Do you have a skill or craft that you can teach? Do you see a community need that you might be able and willing to fill?

There has been some comment made to staff and Council about the need for a formal recreation committee for our municipality. We have heard comments that “there should be something more”, “someone should organize a rec committee and get some activity going”.

We have heard that the answer might be an informal committee that simply works to provide equipment that might be used on a lending basis. We have heard that the

hall kitchen and bathrooms need to be refurbished and actually used on a continuous basis. We have heard that we don't want it like it was before... It doesn't need to be. Do you have some time and some ideas to share?

Although Council agrees that there is some opportunity to provide organized recreational activity, they are not in the position to do so on their own. Council members currently volunteer their time towards a large number of committees and activities for which they are not compensated. Perhaps its time for someone else to step up.

Here is a formal request for interested volunteers to step forward. Council will assist in re-establishing a community recreation committee if there is enough community interest. If there is no interest, there will be no committee.

Do you think we need a committee? Do you have some new ideas? What about a regular schedule of informal games, crafts, pot lucks, cards, exercise? The euchre group meets regularly. Why not other groups? Want to get together and throw horse shoes and have a pot luck BBQ? What about one afternoon a month for singles or seniors to come out and create a shared meal—just to get out of the house. The municipality has the facilities that belong to you the ratepayer. We require volunteers to organize and run events. The types and frequency are up to your imagination. Please contact the Township Office by June 30 if you are interested in volunteering, now or in the fall.

If we don't hear from you—it won't happen!

Fire Season & Fire Bans!

Spring is here and with it – **Fire Season**. From April 1 until October 31 you will be required to obtain a burn permit from the municipal office or from our Chief Fire Warden—Wilfred Lamure, **before** you burn.

Fire Bans

The public will be notified of the application/removal of Municipal Fire Bans by signs and

posters at all mail boxes, Mackey & Stonecliffe Boat Launches, Old Mackey Park, the Community Centre and Municipal Office, Yates General Store, Deux Rivieres Post Office and Lacroix Park.

Radio public service announcements may also be used.

A “Municipal Fire ban” means a period of time during which open fires including camp fires, are not allowed on land within the geographic area of Head,

Clara & Maria Townships with the exclusion of Driftwood Park and municipally designated campgrounds.

2007 has been predicted to be a dry year—please use caution with fire and obey all laws and bans.

The wildfire service is always in need of new members so we would encourage people to volunteer.

If you are interested in volunteering please call the office at 613-586-2526 or Jim Gibson at 613-586-2761

2007 Ontario Family Fishing Weekend

Each year, the Province of Ontario, in partnership with many non-governmental organizations like the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters team up to declare one summer weekend a licence-free fishing weekend.

This year Friday, July 6 through Sunday, July 8, 2007 has been declared. Enjoy the natural beauty of our many lakes & rivers.

For more information contact:

Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (705) 748-6324 or

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (705) 755-1902

Take your Family fishing!

Take a neighbour!

Teach a kid!





TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD CLARA &
MARIA

*Should you require information?
Have a question? Concern?
Complaint? Contact us ...*

Melinda Reith—Clerk
Ruth Morin—Treasurer
Wilfred Lamure—Road Superintendent
Carol Larocque—Disposal Site Attendant
Robert Labre—CBO—613-586-1950

15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, Ontario
K0J 2K0

Phone: 613-586-2526
Fax: 613-586-2596
Email: New Address

twpshcm@xplornet.com

www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca



Library News

*Saturday, May 12, 2007
has been set aside for May
Madness from 9:30—
3:00. Plan to come out
and support your library:
flea market tables, silent
auction, book sale, plant
sale, bake sale and much
more—light lunch will be
available. Rain or Shine!
Hope to see you there.*

Veteran's Memorial

The unveiling of the Veteran's Memorial Plaque is set to take place on Saturday, July 7, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. in Stonecliffe. Please plan to attend to show your respect for those who have served our Country in times of peace and in times of war.

Further, the Committee has worked diligently to complete this project and their efforts should be commended.

If you have not yet done so, and wish to, there is still time to contribute to this worthy project. The Township is accepting donations in the name of the veteran's memorial to assist with the initial costs of creation as well as for future maintenance. Thank you to all those who have donated time and money towards this valuable cause.

Bits and Pieces!

It has been brought to Council's attention that building activity has been occurring within the municipality without the homeowner obtaining proper building permits. A Spring Building Newsletter will be produced and circulated in the near future. It will outline when you do or do not require a building permit and the new schedule of fees, amongst other things. Please call our CBO, Robert Labre at 613-586-1950 if you are unsure.

Further, please be advised that all municipal staff will be required to report any building or demolition activity that they observe while undertaking their duties for the municipality. Play fair, purchase your permit.

We have recently updated our hall rental contract. When renting the Township Hall you will be required to read and sign a rental agreement. With hall rental the municipality will provide bottled drinking water and large beverage cups. The lessee will be required to provide all other consumables as well as obtain any special occasion permits and/or liability insurance, if required. Should your organization require entrance to the hall prior to your event, it will have to be pre-arranged with staff. It's your hall, enjoy it.

We have received a generous donation of portable shuffle board equipment from a

ratepayer in the memory of Mr. Pete (Francis) Tait. The equipment is to be made available to any who wish to borrow it and has already been used at the monthly senior's luncheon.

The equipment is available in the office for use at your event within or outside the hall. The equipment may be used off premises.

To our Benefactor — Thank you for the thoughtful donation and your interest in the well-being of our residents.

Visitors to the community hall will notice a new door in the main entrance and other small changes. In order to meet the requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)* we have made some minor changes. Funding for these changes was provided by the Federal Government through the Gas Tax sharing agreement signed with all municipalities. Do you have other issues or items that need to be addressed to make your community more accessible to you — please let us know?

With funding provided by the Provincial government, the Library has been able to install a satellite for high-speed internet service. Come out to the library and experience the difference high-speed really makes. The computers in the library are there for your use.