



HCM Newsletter

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria **JANUARY 2013**

Nominations and By-Election 2013

Nominations in the UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD, CLARA & MARIA for the offices of: **Councillor (1)** may be made by completing and filing in the office of the Clerk nomination papers on the prescribed form accompanied by the prescribed nomination fee of \$100. The fee is payable by cash, **certified** cheque or money order. Personal cheques **can not** be accepted.

A nomination must be signed by the candidate and may be filed in person or by an agent during regular business hours **(8:30 – 4:00) between Monday, January 14, 2013 and Thursday, February 7, 2013, and between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 8, 2013 (Nomination Day).**

In the event of an insufficient number of certified candidates, additional nominations may be filed on **Wednesday, February 13, 2013, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.** and such additional nominations, if required, may be filed in the office of the Clerk.

Electors are hereby given notice that if a greater number of candidates are certified than are required to fill the offices, voting places will be opened on the dates stated below for the purpose of voting.

VOTING DAY - Monday, March 25, 2013 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Township Community Centre in Stonecliffe ONLY;

ADVANCE VOTE – Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Algonquin Park Office on Brent Road in Deux Rivieres and at the Township Community Centre in Stonecliffe;

Additional information may be located on the municipal website at <http://townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca/Elections.html> or by contacting the municipal office. As usual, this information is provided for reference only. It is up to each candidate to ensure for themselves that they are eligible to run for election and that they have accurately followed all legislated requirements.

Melinda Reith, Municipal Clerk

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Council has adopted a meeting calendar for 2013. (see page 6 and the municipal website).

“Efficiency is doing things right.

Effectiveness is doing the right things.”

Peter Drucker

MMAH Councillor Guide

Council Representative Role

How is Policy Made? Continued...

“ In many cases council refers a policy issue to a committee of council to take advantage of the committee’s expertise in a particular area or to reduce council’s work load. A committee of council may follow the same steps outlined above in making policy or making recommendations back to council.

In practice, however, policy-making is often less orderly because of:

- a rapidly changing environment, the complexity of issues facing local government, and the difficulty in singling out problems that require more immediate attention
- the lack of time to identify all possible alternatives and to conduct detailed research and analysis
- the legal and financial limits on what council may do
- the complexity of implementing policies and developing mechanisms to monitor and evaluate them.

Council is the primary policy-making body of the municipality. The administration is responsible for carrying out council’s policy decisions. The two roles would appear to be distinct, but there can be much overlap. Although staff are responsible for implementing a policy, your council should develop appropriate reporting mechanisms to help ensure that the policies are being carried out as intended, and as effectively as possible.

Accountability and Transparency

Accountability and transparency are paramount in maintaining public trust in council and in the management of your municipality. Section 224 of the act explicitly includes accountability and transparency as part of the role of council.

Councillors are, of course, accountable to the public every four years through municipal elections,

but it is important that procedures and policies be clearly set out and accessible, and that the day-to-day operations of the municipality be transparent. The importance of documenting municipal policies is becoming more and more apparent. Many municipalities have developed policy manuals to provide a basis for sound decision-making and to help ensure that policies are implemented and applied in a consistent way. The policy manual is a reference and information source for council, the administration and the public. Because the policies and procedures it contains cover most of your municipality’s functions and responsibilities, it can also be a valuable training and orientation tool for new councillors and staff.

Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001 requires municipalities to have policies on:

- sale and disposition of land
- hiring of employees
- procurement of goods and services
- when and how notice is provided to the public
- how they try to ensure accountability and transparency to the public
- delegation of powers and duties

Section 270 also requires local boards to have policies with respect to sale and deposition of land, hiring of employees, and procurement of goods and services.

To help ensure integrity and accountability in public office, Part V.1 of the act (sections 223.1 to 223.24) provides that municipalities may pass by-laws to establish: a code of conduct for council and local board members; an Integrity Commissioner; a municipal Ombudsman; an Auditor General; and a lobbyist registry and registrar. ... ” Roles and duties to follow...(MMAH) From <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4965>.

PUBLIC MEETING CORRECTIONS



THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF HEAD, CLARA & MARIA

Date: Friday, January 11, 2013

Resolution No.: 11/01/13/017A

Moved by: [Signature] Seconded by: [Signature]

WHEREAS Council has decided that it is imperative that opinion presented is separated from fact and has authorized corrections to be circulated in a Newsletter;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby approve the document edited by Councillor Grills to be circulated in the next newsletter.

Carried Defeated Reeve [Signature]

Council Corrections

The Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria wishes to take this opportunity to correct some misinformation that has been circulating recently. This misinformation may be as a result of comments made at our November 3rd public meeting.

We expect and welcome ratepayers to voice their opinions. However, Council should have been more diligent at the public meeting to separate opinion from fact. In order to correct some serious misconceptions, we offer the following facts:

Staff Salary Review:

During our deliberation we did in fact compare current employee salaries with similar sized municipalities from the north and west in 2010. This comparison was completed by an independent contractor hired from Corbeil. The recent review was based on recommendations made at that time.

Auto Extrication:

During an OPP presentation at our November

2, 2012 Council meeting, it was clearly stated by an OPP representative that auto extrication services are not a mandated responsibility under any legislation in this province. It was further stated that it was up to the local Councils to decide if they wanted to provide this service or not. We currently have a joint use auto extrication agreement with Laurentian Hills and Deep River Fire Departments at a cost of \$800 per year.

Deputation Request:

At the Friday, November 2nd Council meeting and the Public meeting of Saturday, November 3rd 2012, a ratepayer stated that she had requested and was denied an opportunity to make a deputation to Council. This statement left the impression that our staff and in particular our Treasurer had been negligent in her duties. In fact, the ratepayer's email simply requested that her letter be forwarded to Council which it was. We have since received an apology from this ratepayer. Continued next page.

Financial Integrity of the Municipality:

During public discussion the management of finances in our township were brought into question a number of times. The provincial and federal governments are operating at deficits; Head, Clara and Maria is not.

The facts are:

- HCM has the lowest taxes in the County;
- HCM has zero debt;
- HCM has reserves of approximately \$925,000;
- HCM has salaries lower than comparative municipalities to the west and north and some of the lowest in Renfrew County;
- HCM has a balanced budget with a decrease in tax rates for 2013.

Staff Working Conditions:

The workload in a municipality does not directly correlate to the number of residents. In fact, larger municipalities have more employees to share the workload and provincial demands are quite similar whether you have 100, 1,000 or 10,000 residents.

Corrections of Statements read to the public:

Contrary to an email received from a rate-payer dated October 28, 2012 and read to the public at the November 2nd Council meeting and the November 3rd public meeting:

- at no time did any Council member “sue” another;
- at no time did the Clerk “charge” a council member;
- at no time did any council member or the Clerk “assault” anyone;
- at no time was any member of Council “assaulted”;
- at no time was there a “court challenge” between members of council paid for by the municipality.

YOGA for all ages and abilities...

Thursdays: 10 - 11:15 am. with certified instructor.

Cost: \$60 for 6 sessions;

\$15 for drop-in session.

Bring mat and comfortable clothes. Extra mats available.

Play area for kids.



Call Cathy: 586-2634, or email: ballaboudreaudc@hotmail.com.

EXERCISE MORNINGS

A group of women in the community continue to meet regularly now Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30 until 10:30 (for the winter months) to participate in a low impact exercise session led by a qualified instructor via DVD and projector. An additional session may be held Saturdays, if access is available.

All you need to begin is comfortable clothes and shoes, a bottle of water and a towel. Everyone is welcome.

CWL—Spring Bingo

The CWL's annual fundraiser Bingo is to be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Centre in Stonecliffe. Cash and other prizes. Come out, support your community and maybe support yourself. Everyone welcome. Please invite your friends.



As usual donations for prizes are gratefully accepted and eligible for a tax receipt.

Contact Linda Chartrand @ 613-586-2366 for more information.

THE MISSING LINK SNOWMOBILE CLUB COMING EVENTS

February 17th – Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Bring your family and friends to **Menet Lake** for a fun afternoon provided by the Missing Link Snowmobile Club. Activities include ice fishing, games, hot dogs, hot chocolate and snowmobile rides.

“Taxi” transportation from parking lot - corner of Pine Valley Rd. and Hwy 17.

Note: Family Day Weekend is a “Test drive our trails weekend”. Go to www.ofsc.on.ca to find out how you can ride with a FREE PERMIT that weekend.

March 2nd - The 16th Annual “Bow-Tie Classic” Poker Run and Silent Auction is planned for Saturday March 2nd this year. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. at the Missing Link Trailer at Yates General Store in downtown Stonecliffe. The Silent Auction will follow at City Hall (a.k.a. Stonecliffe Township Hall).

Council Meeting Schedule

FEBRUARY

- Friday—8—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—22—2:00 p.m.

MARCH

- Friday—8—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—22—2:00 p.m.

APRIL

- Friday—12—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—26—2:00 p.m.

MAY

- Friday—10—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—31—2:00 p.m.

JUNE

- Thursday—13—7:00 p.m.

JULY

- Thursday—18—7:00 p.m.

AUGUST

- Thursday—15—7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- Thursday—12—7:00 p.m.
- Friday—27—2:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

- Thursday—10—7:00 p.m.
- Friday—25—2:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- Friday—8—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—22—2:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

- Friday—13—2:00 p.m.

Meetings of Council are open under the *Municipal Act* unless they fall under specific exemptions. This means that members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend regular meetings of Council in order to understand the information that Council receives and processes prior to making decisions.

Unless a meeting is called as a “Public Meeting” to specifically allow input from the public, meeting attendees are not normally permitted to address Council. Exemptions may be made via unanimous consent of Council.

If you would like to address Council, please send a request for a deputation on the appropriate form to the attention of the Clerk at least 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

If giving a presentation, please provide 5 copies of presentation materials to be forwarded to Council for their review. Questions—call your member of Council or the Clerk.

HMC LIBRARY



As cold as it has been of late perhaps some of the upcoming activities planned for your enjoyment will entice you out to join the library or to just take part.

February 8th will bring Cecilia Buelow to our Library Coffee Morning for a presentation on MPAC, which is the organization that sends you your Assessment forms. Cecilia is an excellent presenter and is very knowledgeable about her subject. This presentation will be at the Municipal Hall in Stonecliffe starting at 10 a.m.

A selection of Library Board members and the library CEO have gotten together and planned events to cover the year. We do need a few more coffee morning ideas to arrange, but have activities planned throughout 2013, including, Egg painting,

In the Community—Public Library

Coffee Table Picture Book, Aging Well Theatre, Travel Log, Hospice Renfrew presentation, of course our Card Parties and our ever popular May Madness.

Another new venture to watch for is the Book Bingo that is being planned for the bulk of the year. This event will result in 3 prizes being given out some time this fall. The prizes could be gift cards to the Coles/Chapters book store. I think this idea is very exciting for anyone who enjoys reading and wants to add a twist to the type of items they read.

January 21st will have seen a group of approximately 10 ladies gather for a “No Sew” blanket craft. This blanket made of fleece makes a wonderful gift or warm lap blanket for snuggling up with.

The library recently embarked on a new fundraising venture this past fall, that of selling the Crime Stoppers Calendars. To those purchasing a cal-

endar they have the opportunity to win \$25.00 dollars daily with special days throughout the year presenting an opportunity to win hundreds of dollars. The calendars were well received with 73 calendars sold. This will be a good venture to continue in this new year.

I continuously remind people

**REMEMBER TO BRING
YOUR VALU MART
SLIPS TO US FOR OUR
FUNDRAISER—
SUPPORT YOUR
LIBRARY!**

to bring in their Valu-Mart slips or give them to a Library Board Member but thought I should perhaps introduce you to our Board.

Currently we have Marlene Gibson- Board Chair, Dave Foote - Council Rep, Betty Condie, Cathy Balla-Boudreau, Cathy Sutherland and Fran Kelly-Chamberlain. Any of these individuals would be glad to deliver the slips to the library.

Even throughout our wintery

weather I have noticed some of our area residents taking advantage of the WIFI opportunity offered by the library and thank them for their patronage; as well I continue to hope our members continue to come in and use one of the 3 CAP sites still available.

For other programs please visit our website at <http://www.hcmpubliclibrary.ca/> to check out what we have available or visit us at your Municipal Hall in Stonecliffe.

As ever, I continue to remind everyone it is still free to join the library and thanks to our volunteers we are still open Tuesday evenings from 6 - 8:30 and Saturdays from 12:30 to 3. Of course we remain open throughout the work week from 8:30 to 4.

See you at the library!

Want to receive library program/event/fundraiser notices? Send your email address to me at

**hcmlibra@xplornet.com
and I will include your address on our list. (GW)**

RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES FOR 2013—

Mackey and Stonecliffe

FEBRUARY 4, 19—Tuesday

MARCH 4, 18

APRIL 1, 15, 29

MAY 13, 27

JUNE 10, 24

JULY 8, 22

AUG. 6—Tue., 19

SEPT. 3—Tue., 16, 30

OCT. 15—Tue., 28

NOV. 11, 25

DECEMBER 9, 23

Bissett Creek and Deux Rivieres—each Tuesday with garbage collection.

GARBAGE COLLECTION DATES FOR 2013

Deux Rivieres

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bissett Creek

Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Stonecliffe

Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 noon

Mackey

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

*Times are approximate, please be sure you have your material out on time. If you have any challenges with your collection service, speak to our attendant or call the office.

DISPOSAL SITE HOURS

January, February and March ONLY

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm (1.5 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site - Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 2:30 pm (2.75 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hrs.)

April—December

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm (3 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site - Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 4:15 pm (3.5 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hrs.)

CONTACT Council or Staff

15 Township Hall Road

Stonecliffe, Ontario

K0J 2K0

Phone: 613- 586-2526

Fax: 613- 586-2596

Email: twpshcm@xplornet.com

CBO/Fire Safety Officer : 613-586-

1950 or 613-401-6955

www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca

EMAIL LIST If you would like to be on our community email list please contact the Municipal Office. It is the intent of staff to keep email addresses secure by using BCC however; we can not guarantee confidentiality.

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Tammy Stewart

cell—613-401-0937

email - TLStewart1@live.com

Jim Gibson

home - 613-586-2761

Debbi Grills

home - 613-586-1904

email -

deborah.grills@gmail.com

Robert Reid

home—613-586-9384