

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – February 20, 2018

Town water quality once again proves to be excellent

The 2017 annual report shows continued high performance of BWG's drinking water system, which is subject to strict regulation by the MOECC. In addition to the mandated testing, the Town's Water Division voluntarily samples for a wide variety of chemicals including herbicides, pesticides and insecticides, above and beyond what is required.

The complete report is available on the Town's website at www.townofbwg.com/water

Positive momentum for job seekers and employers in 2017

The annual report from the Town's Office of Economic Development showed numerous favourable statistics for business and job growth in BWG last year:

- the Town participated in 33 grand opening events and one sod-turning;
- the County of Simcoe reports an increase of 192 jobs in BWG, from 11,751 jobs in 2016 to 11,943 in 2017;
- the non-profit support agency Bradford WORKS reported that 291 individuals gained long-term sustainable employment, 32 youth were supported with job placements and 23 individuals were approved for second career training;
- the non-profit second-career training agency EPIC (Enterprise Promotion & Innovation Centre) delivered hands-on training sessions benefiting 101 people;
- \$34,439,539 in private sector investment in local business was stimulated by public Community Improvement grants;
- more than \$42 million in real estate sales took place in BWG for office, industrial, commercial, retail and institutional properties.

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from February 6, 2018.

Committee of the Whole

Please note that decisions made in Committee of the Whole are not final until approved at a subsequent Regular Council meeting.

New street name will recognize long-time local physician

The Committee of the Whole approved street names for a new Braidwood Homes subdivision on lands located at 70 Melbourne Drive. The development is to include 20 semi-detached homes and 71 townhouses. The name “Blackwell Crescent” will recognize Dr. Gilbert Blackwell, who served the community as a physician for 55 years and held various positions including coroner, Chief of Staff at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Lion’s Club member and past master of the Simcoe Masonic Lodge.

Development at Professor Day and Blue Dasher takes next step

The Committee of the Whole voted to execute a Subdivision Agreement with Deland Developments and grant the allocation of eight units of servicing from the Town's reserve capacity to enable eight detached homes to be built at the northwest corner of Professor Day Dr. and Blue Dasher Blvd.

Town to help bring wheelchair accessible taxi service to BWG

The Town's Accessibility Advisory Committee surveyed residents and determined that there is sufficient demand to warrant investment in accessible taxicab service in BWG. In the 2018 budget, Council approved \$18,000 for this purpose.

The Committee of the Whole approved a plan to use these funds to make a one-time grant, which is to be used by the successful applicant towards the purchase or conversion of a wheelchair accessible taxicab that will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at the same rate as all other taxicabs. The grant recipient will be required to enter into an agreement to operate the wheelchair accessible taxicab for a minimum of 5 years exclusively in Bradford West Gwillimbury.

If this decision is confirmed by Council at a subsequent meeting, further details on applying for the funds will be made available via the Town’s website and social media pages.

Announcements:

- **Black History Month**
 - *BWG Library & Cultural Centre (425 Holland St. W)*
 - **Wednesday, February 21, 6:30pm:** Reception and presentation with author, archaeologist and historian Karolyn Smardz Frost.
 - **Saturday, February 24, 11:00am-1:00pm:** Join Babarinde Williams for an interactive morning with a focus on the cultural history of percussion instruments and the traditions of West African storytelling.
 - **On now until March 16:** A photo documentary by Carlos Ferguson is on display in both the upstairs and downstairs gallery areas of the library, capturing the spirit of a vibrant black culture in Ontario as it has evolved musically, socially and politically.
- **Saturday, February 24, 7:45-11:45am: Megathon**
 - *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
 - Help support Southlake’s Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation program. For a \$10 registration fee participants can choose one class, or for \$30 choose five classes from the following: Aquafit, Kelani Spirit, Kettlebell, Bootcamp, Yoga, Cycle, Barre and Spin N' Skip. First 50 people registered will be entered in a draw to win a Polar M200 GPS/Running Watch and a BWG Wellness Package. Details: www.bwgleisurecentre.ca/megathon
- **Saturday, February 24, 6:30pm: Raise the Roof Spaghetti Dinner and Comedy Night**
 - *Bradford Legion (115 Back St.)*
 - Fundraiser to help cover the cost of replacing the Legion’s roof. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. \$20 per person. Tickets available at the Legion: 905-775-5025.
- **Sunday, March 4, 1:00pm: BBBSY “Rock ‘n’ Bowl for Kids’ Sake”**
 - *Bradford Underground Bowl (54 Holland St. W)*
 - Register a team or join as an individual and get your fundraising to the “top of the charts”, then rock down on the bowling lanes. To bowl or donate visit: york.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/event/bowl-kids-sake/
- **Deadline: Friday, March 9: Call for Artists**
 - The Town of BWG has issued its second Call for Artists to encourage and showcase the work of local artists by displaying selected art in Town-owned buildings. For details visit www.townofbwg.com/call4artists
- **Saturday, March 10, 6:30pm: International Women’s Day Event**
 - *Portuguese Cultural Centre (767 Simcoe Rd.)*
 - Enjoy an evening celebrating women with cocktails, dinner, music and a fashion show. Call 905-775-3742 for tickets (\$30 women, \$15 girls age 7-12).

For the complete Town of BWG Community Events Calendar, go to:

www.townofbwg.com/events