

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – March 19, 2019

Study into Bond Head Heritage District proceeds to next phase

The Town is investigating ways to preserve the heritage value of Bond Head, including whether or not designating a Heritage Conservation District within Bond Head is a viable option. Heritage planning consultants Archaeological Research Associates (ARA) have been working with Town staff and the Heritage Committee on this project.

Phase 1 kicked off last summer with research including a public open house, survey and interviews with stakeholders. ARA concluded that there is potential for a Heritage Conservation District (HCD) in Bond Head, and further study is warranted.

Council approved moving on to Phase 2, which will include more specific study into things like the historic development of the village and refining the potential boundaries of an HCD. There will also be more public consultation.

More information on the project is available online at www.townofbwg.com/BondHeadHCD and anyone interested is encouraged to sign up via the website to receive email notifications of future activities.

Key reports show high level of water quality, system safety in BWG

Each year, the Town is required to report on the performance of the Water Pollution Control Plant (which treats wastewater), the Drinking Water System and the quality of drinking water in BWG.

Once again, the Town's Drinking Water System achieved a 100% compliance inspection score from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). Council commended staff on continuously ensuring residents have the highest possible quality of drinking water.

The report on the Water Pollution Control Plant showed that the facility continues to operate in good standing. All required sampling was conducted and met or surpassed legislative requirements. The Town is working on continual improvement and helping to educate the public to protect both the facility and the natural environment through the "I Don't Flush" campaign and other educational initiatives.

Both reports are available in the agenda of the meeting and on the Town's website.

Town asks province to hit pause on autism funding changes

In support of local people with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families, as well as other residents who have expressed concerns about planned changes to the Ontario autism program, Council passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS according to the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Canadian Medical Association Journal, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is one of the most common developmental disabilities in Canada with 1 in 66 children diagnosed and approximately 1% of the Canadian population affected by ASD, which means there are approximately 100,000 Ontarians on the autism spectrum;

AND WHEREAS ASD is a life-long neurological disorder that affects the way a person communicates and relates to the people and world around them;

AND WHEREAS while ASD affects every child differently, their symptoms, abilities and experiences can improve over time with the help of therapies and supportive practices, with evidence demonstrating that when children start behavioural intervention between ages 2 and 5, they gain improvements in cognitive and language development, are better prepared for school and have better long-term outcomes in adulthood;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government has recently introduced new funding programs and service delivery approaches intended to address waitlists for treatment and other challenges within the existing ASD support system;

AND WHEREAS considerable concerns have been expressed about these funding and program changes by a broad variety of stakeholders including Autism Ontario, physicians, educators, therapists, clinicians, and parents;

AND WHEREAS these concerns speak to such matters as the inadequacy of funding, inflexibility of treatment programs and lack of appropriate training and resources within classrooms that will be expected to support ASD students – any of which can detrimentally affect families across Ontario including those in Bradford West Gwillimbury;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury formally requests that the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services suspend implementation of its planned changes to the Ontario autism program pending meaningful consultation with a broad range of relevant stakeholders and inclusion of any necessary revisions to the program to ensure that autistic children receive the support they need to thrive within their communities, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Minister Mulroney and the Association of Municipalities Ontario.

Statutory Public Meeting

A Public Meeting was held regarding an application for a Temporary Use Zoning By-law Amendment submitted for the property at 4136 Line 8. The applicant proposes to construct a second dwelling on the property for her elderly mother, while preserving the Agricultural use permissions.

If any member of the public would like to share a comment on this application or receive notice of future council meetings where the application will be considered, please send an email to: planninginfo@townofbwg.com

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from March 5, 2019.

Committee of the Whole

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

Funding for Canal Road repair gets preliminary approval

The section of Canal Road between Day Street and Wist Road was resurfaced in 2018, but is showing premature wear. This is likely the result of a combination of factors including an increase in heavy axle loads on the road, unsuitable road base material, lack of adequate road base drainage and the frequent freeze-thaw cycles seen this past winter.

To correct this, the Committee of the Whole voted in favour of resurfacing with 50mm hot-mix overlay at a cost of \$165,600, which includes any necessary base repairs, driveway tie-ins, shouldering and line markings. This option is estimated to cost less than a quarter of the price of completely reconstructing the road, and takes into consideration the fact that after the province closes the ramps from Highway 400 onto Canal Road, use of the road may change.

Bond Head North subdivision grows by six additional lots

The Committee voted to support an application by DG Group to revise their previously approved Draft Plan of Subdivision for Bond Head North.

Since the previous approvals, the owner has acquired an abutting parcel of land. The plan has been modified to incorporate this property, creating six additional lots.

The Committee also supported the applicant's request to re-zone this new parcel of land to allow future residential development.

Announcements:

- **Love Canada Wedding Show** – *Club at Bond Head (4805 Line 7, Bond Head)*
Sunday, March 24, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.: The annual event features swag bags, live music, prizes, local wedding professionals, inspiration and more. Tickets are \$10 - purchase at the door (cash, exact change only) or go online to www.loveweddings.ca
- **Spring Program Registration** – *BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)*
Wednesday, March 27, 9:30 a.m.: Registration for the Library's spring programs opens Wednesday, March 27 at 9:30 a.m. in person and online. To plan your activities, visit the Library website at bradford.library.on.ca
- **Artistic Youth Showcase** – *Bradford Arts Centre (66 Barrie St.)*
Saturday, March 30, 7:30 p.m.: Enjoy music and dramatic performances by local youth. Admission is \$20 for adults, free for students. For information, visit www.bradfordartscentre.org
- **Jigs Dinner and Dance** – *Bradford Legion (115 Back St.)*
Saturday, March 30, 8:00 p.m.: Join your friends and neighbours for an East Coast Meal for \$20/plate. Music provided by Caribou Country. For more information, call 905-775-5025.
- **April Pools Day** – *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Saturday, April 6, 12:00-3:00 p.m.: Kick off the summer swim season with FREE swimming, lifejacket skills, drowning prevention education, community displays and more. www.bwgleisurecentre.ca/AprilPoolsDay
- **Flag Raisings**
 - **Flag Raising – Special Olympics Day** – *Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Monday, March 25, 5:00 p.m.
 - **Flag Raising – Autism Awareness Day** – *BWG Courthouse (57 Holland St. E)*
Sunday, March 31, 1:00 p.m.

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

www.townofbwg.com/events