



N COUNTY News

SUMMER ISSUE

AUGUST 2003

~ Essex County Goes Smoke Free ~

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2003 the smoking of tobacco will be prohibited in all public places and workplaces in Essex County. County of Essex By-law 26-2003, being a by-law to regulate smoking in all public places in the County of Essex and By-law 27-2003, being a by-law to regulate smoking in all workplaces in the County of Essex were adopted by Essex County Council on June 18th, 2003. In order for the by-laws to become effective, a majority of the local municipalities in Essex County, representing a majority of the electors were required to adopt resolutions consenting to the by-laws. Consenting resolutions by any four of the seven local municipalities was adequate to meet the criteria. Six of the seven local municipalities adopted resolutions consenting to By-law 26-2003 and all seven consented to By-law 27-2003 by way of resolution.

A public place includes but is not limited to: public buildings, common areas of buildings (including common areas of residential condominiums or multiple dwelling unit apartment buildings), public restrooms, arcades, restaurants, bars, bingo halls, billiard halls, bowling alleys, arenas, shopping malls, retail shops, private clubs, school buses, taxicabs and public transportation vehicles.

A workplace refers to any enclosed area of a building or structure in which an employee works. This includes but is not limited to: washrooms, corridors, lounges, eating rooms, reception areas, elevators, foyers, hallways, stairways, amenity areas, laundry rooms, private clubs, public transportations vehicles,

taxicabs and employer-owned or operated vehicles.

There is no provision in either by-law for designated smoking rooms, exemptions or appeals.

The Windsor Essex County Health Unit will primarily be responsible for the enforcement of the by-laws.

Information packages intended to assist employers and business owners with the implementation of the new by-laws' requirements will be provided prior to the implementation date of October 1, 2003.

Additional information regarding the smoking by-laws can be obtained from the County of Essex website at www.countyofessex.on.ca, Windsor Essex County Health Unit website at www.wehealthunit.org or by contacting the County of Essex Clerk's Department at 776-6441 or the Windsor Essex County Health Unit Tobacco Hotline at 258-2146 Ext. #3112.

Retirement Open House Scheduled for County Engineer

APPROACHING THE COMPLETION of a successful 30-year career with the County of Essex Engineering Department, County Engineer Stuart Kelch has announced his intention to retire. Stuart's official last day of employment with the County will be December 31, 2003, however, an accumulation of vacation time will allow him to commence his retirement plans on September 8th, 2003.

Stu began his career with the County as a Draftsman in 1974, then advanced to the position of Design Engineer in 1980. In 1987 he was appointed Assistant County Engineer and

as a result of his diligent work and demonstrated ability was promoted to the position of the County Engineer in December of 1995. Throughout his many years of service, Stu has served the residents of Essex County with fairness and dedication, always striving to provide a safe, well maintained County Roads System. Patience, integrity and problem-solving abilities are essential for anyone wishing a successful career as a municipal public servant. These are skills that Stu has demonstrated time and time again during his tenure with the County.

Having been such a long-serving employee, Stu takes with him a vast knowledge of Essex County that will be impossible to replace. Despite the loss of Stu as a knowledgeable staff resource, it will be his pleasant demeanor, quick wit and keen sense of humour that will be missed most by his friends, colleagues and peers. Those are the characteristics that have helped Stu to maintain his sanity throughout his long tenure with the County.

That's it,
I'm Outta
Here!!



Retirement will provide Stu the opportunity to pursue his other interests that include motorcycling, woodworking and undertaking general handyman tasks.

Friends and colleagues are invited to help the County express to Stuart our sincere and grateful appreciation for his dedicated service at a retirement Open House on his behalf, scheduled for Thursday, September 18th, 2003 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 201 located at 103 Talbot Street N, Essex. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by September 5th to 776-6441 Ext. 317 or Ext. 321.

Congratulations to Stu on his well earned retirement and best wishes for continued success, happiness and good health in the years to come.

High Praise For Sun Parlour Home

ONCE A YEAR, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) assigns a compliance reviewer to all nursing homes and homes for the aged to ensure that standards are being met. As anticipated, the Sun Parlour Home had "no unmet standards".

More importantly, however, were the exceptionally positive comments in the report. These were summarized as follows:

"The facility provides an organized, multi-disciplinary, caring and professional approach to the provision of care and services to each resident."

"Staff to resident and staff to staff comradery is evident as is in an environment that promotes warmth and a willingness to support individual resident needs."

Congratulations to all staff, volunteers, residents and their families for continuing to make the home sparkle!

New Administrator Appointed at Sun Parlour Home

THE COUNTY OF Essex is pleased to announce the appointment of

Bill MacDonald as the new Administrator of the Sun Parlour Home for Senior Citizens in Leamington. Mr. MacDonald brings a wealth of experience to the Sun Parlour Home, having locally served in excess of twenty-three years in the health care system. With over fifteen years of senior executive



experience, Mr. MacDonald has demonstrated considerable leadership by successfully directing a number of initiatives that have resulted in cultural, organizational and process change. In addition, Mr. MacDonald has served on a number of provincial committees sponsored by the Ontario Hospital Association and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

Mr. MacDonald is a Chartered Accountant (C.A.), a certified Health Executive, a member of the Canadian College of Health Service Executives and has completed an executive course in Managing Health Care Policy.

Mr. MacDonald assumed his new responsibilities at Sun Parlour Home on June 9, 2003. Mr. MacDonald will indeed be a valuable addition to the Sun Parlour Home and the County of Essex Management Team.

Essex County Council Opposed to GTA Trash in Southwestern Ontario

IN ANTICIPATION THAT Michigan might close it's border to trash from the Greater Toronto Area, concerns have been raised by local politicians that the Province of Ontario would require landfills in southwestern Ontario to accept this refuse. Accordingly, the City of Windsor and County of Essex have adopted resolutions expressing their opposition. At the April 16th meeting of County Council a resolution was adopted which established the following actions to be taken by County Council:

- 1) *The County of Essex formally advise the municipalities comprising the GTA and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment that the County of Essex opposes the acceptance of solid waste in the regional landfill site;*
- 2) *The County of Essex, further to the position to be adopted by the cities comprising the Southwestern Ontario Trash Coalition, will not support a Certificate of Approval that would allow the transportation of solid waste from the GTA through Southwest Ontario Cities;*
- 3) *The Municipalities with the GTA be encouraged to work closely with the Province of Ontario to develop long-term strategies and technologies for the disposal and potential alternate uses of solid waste within the GTA;*
- 4) *This resolution be forwarded to all S.W.O.T. members, GTA municipalities, and the Ministry of Environment; and*
- 5) *The Warden be authorized to continue working with his colleagues involved in the Southwestern Ontario Trash Coalition on this matter. -CARRIED.*

Essex County - Partner in Hospitality/Tourism Recovery Marketing Campaign

AT THEIR JUNE 18th meeting, County Council considered an invitation from the City of Windsor to become a partner in a new marketing campaign referred to as "Windsor-Get to Know Your Neighbours Again". Recognizing that a regional approach would be the most effective approach to the campaign, County Council felt it important to become a financial partner. At their June 18th meeting it was:

"Moved by Mr. Renaud, Seconded by Mr. Bowman THAT the County of Essex participate in the "Windsor-Get to Know Your Neighbours Again" industry recovery campaign initiated by the City of Windsor in partnership with business in the hospitality/tourism sector throughout the region,

by way of a \$10,000 financial contribution; and further that the \$10,000 financial contribution be drawn from the County Contingency Reserve. *CARRIED*"

Library News

THE ESSEX COUNTY Library will be changing its computer system this fall from MULTILIS to UNICORN. This will provide enhanced service for our patrons.

Summer Reading Club programs are taking place at all branch libraries during the months of July and August. The theme is "Blast From the Past" and a variety of fun programs for children ages 4 to 6 years and 7 and up are being offered.

The hours at the Cottam Library have changed again. The library is now open on Saturdays from 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Monday and Thursday 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Tuesday 2:30 - 5:30 pm

Windsor Gateway Action Plan Endorsed

COUNTY COUNCIL HAS endorsed the nine-point Windsor Gateway Action Plan as proposed by the Joint Management Committee of the Provincial and Federal Governments. The Action Plan includes the extension of Lauzon Parkway to Highway 401, the expansion of E. C. Row to six lanes from Lauzon Parkway to Huron Church and the Provincial assumption of both Lauzon Parkway and E. C. Row.

Highway 401 Improvements Endorsed

COUNTY COUNCIL HAS endorsed the proposed improvements to Highway 401 from Highway 3 to County Road 42 at Tilbury as described in the Transportation Environmental Study Report prepared by MTO. The proposed improvements include widening to a six-lane cross-section, a concrete median barrier and interchange improvements.

Emergency Medical Service Burn Kits Upgraded

AS A RESULT of recent burn incidents; Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services has changed the way in which burns are treated in the field. Gerry Hedges, an Advance Care Paramedic with the Windsor Service investigated various field treatments for burns and presented EMS management with a product that has been in use in Europe for several years. As a result the long time standard of sterile water and sheets has been replaced by Water Jel burn dressings.

This product consists of deionized water, gelling agents and an antibacterial agent on a sterile dressing. It provides superior cooling and pain relief as well as sealing the burn from further contamination and inhibits the growth of bacteria, which can cause infection.

Water Jel burn dressings are now used worldwide by the Military, Industrial Safety Professionals, and by EMS and Fire Departments. Our local Base Hospital Physician, Dr. Paul Bradford has approved use of the dressings in the pre-hospital setting and Essex County paramedics are eager to begin using this product. Paramedics have attended a short training program in using Water Jel and ambulances will be equipped as soon as the product is received from the manufacturer.

County Receives Clean Audit Opinion for 2002

AT THE AUGUST Government Services Committee, Corporate Section, the 2002 Consolidated Financial Statements for the Corporation were presented. A 'clean audit opinion' was received from KPMG indicating no material weaknesses in the County's financial operations.

Financial operations for 2002 resulted in revenues exceeding expenditures by \$1.6 million. The favourable variance was attributable to lower than anticipated expenditures for Social Housing and Social Services and greater than anticipated interest income and net supplementary taxes revenues.

County of Essex Consolidated Financial Reports are available at www.countyofessex.on.ca under Corporate Records/Financial Statements or in the County Administration Office.

Recycling: Resplendent in Red

THE RED BOX made its debut to County homeowners in March 2002, and since then, red box recycling has been on a roll! According to Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority staff, the introduction of the red box is having a substantial impact on the amount of paper / fibre products being recycled.

During the first six months of 2003, approximately 3.1 million pounds of cardboard was recycled, this represents a 195% increase over the same period in 2001. Homeowners have recycled 1.6 millions pounds of cardboard to date in 2003, up 63% compared to 2001.

Overall, the "Red & Blue Box" program has been well received. Homeowners are using their new red boxes on a consistent basis and recycling tonnages are up 22% across the board.

2003 ECMSA Truck Safety Roadeo

THE 2003 TRUCK Safety Roadeo sponsored by the Essex County Municipal Supervisors Association, took place at the Essex Arena parking lot on Friday July 18th.

The annual Roadeo is a competition designed to test and enhance skills, improve knowledge and improve safe driving practices of equipment operators and drivers from within the area's municipal works departments.

The competition is comprised of two parts, a written test and a driving course. The written test measures the drivers' knowledge of the various acts and regulations that affect their daily work, while the driving course simulates some of the actual problems that may be encountered in the field during the operation of equipment.

The coordinators of the Roadeo were Lyle Morris – retiree from Essex County Roads and Dan Boudreau – Works Superintendent for the Town of

From The Desk of the County Emergency Measures Planner

The last article in this series focused on the passage of Bill 148, the new *Emergency Management Act*, and the real and immediate impacts of this Bill that we could anticipate on our municipalities. One of the first impacts and requirements that was identified, as the key to an effective municipal emergency management program, was the completion of a Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, or HIRA, for the community. In these days of ever increasing demands on budgets, personnel and resource allocations, the key challenge in the development of our emergency management programs is the concentration of very limited and, in most cases, expensive emergency response resources on the most significant risks to the community. To obtain and maintain that focus, each municipality should regularly identify and assess its credible hazards and determine the probability of an occurrence, the potential consequences or impacts should such an event occur and the community's vulnerability. The municipal HIRA, therefore, will include:

1. The identification and research of hazards;

2. The conduct of a risk assessment for each hazard identified; and
3. The establishment of emergency management programs priorities based upon the identified hazards.

The first step in the HIRA process is the identification of all hazards that might affect the community – natural (severe weather such as tornados or ice storms for example), technological (hazardous materials spills or transportation accidents), and human-caused (such as acts of terrorism or sabotage). When examining specific hazards, past occurrences are a good indicator of the likelihood of future events and news reports and other reference materials are helpful in identifying and prioritizing these community-specific hazards, although events such as September 11, 2001 have reminded us to also closely evaluate new information and circumstances within our local and international communities.

Once a comprehensive list of specific community hazards has been created, it is then possible to review the probability of the hazard occurrence and, when it does occur, the potential consequences to our communities. This determination of probability and consequence will then permit the municipal Emergency Management Program Commit-

tee to develop an emergency response plan and program that is aimed at the most probable risks, since it is very difficult, if not impossible, to anticipate every possible risk.

A community's HIRA is not only the first step in the development of a comprehensive emergency management program, it is the planning tool that will permit our current emergency response plans to evolve from all-hazard, general risk response plans to specific risk based plans. This in turn will permit personnel expertise, resources and budgets to concentrate on probable events, yet still retain the capability to always respond to the unexpected. This year's County Emergency Management Coordination summer student project is centered on assisting municipalities with their HIRAs and the completion of the Essex County HIRA.

Further details on this topic, or other Emergency Preparedness and Response topics, can be requested by contacting Phil Berthiaume, *Emergency Management Coordinator*, at 519-776-6441, extension 243 or e-mail pberthiaume@countyofofesssex.on.ca.

Essex.



First Place Winner: Don Kraynack.

Volvo Canada and Aliston Equipment supplied the two identical tandem dump trucks used in the driving course competition. The Roadeo road course barricades and delineators were supplied by AORS, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and were delivered and set up according to standard Roadeo specifications by John Gloor, a retiree from the Perth County Roads Department and Keith Jacobs a retiree from MTO who generously provided their expertise to the entire event. Also making a valuable contribution to the Roadeo were the retirees and supervisors who helped judge the competition.

There were 19 drivers who took part in the

competition, and Don Kraynack and Grant Merklinger from the County Roads Department finished first and second among the contestants from Essex County. Congratulations Don and Grant!

The 1st place drivers from each County are eligible to compete in the Provincial AORS Safety Truck Roadeo in Mitchell this September.



Second Place Winner: Grant Merklinger

Administration Brian Gregg Chief Administrative Officer 776-6441 Ext.325	Corporate Services Rob Maisonville Dir. of Corporate Services/Treasurer 776-6441 Ext. 328	Council Services Mary Brennan Dir. of Council Services/Clerk 776-6441 Ext. 335	Human Resources Don Shaban Manager 776-6441 Ext. 322	Engineering and Roads Stuart Kelch County Engineer 776-6441 Ext 316	Essex County Library Ed George Chief Librarian 776-5241 Ext. 3	Sun Parlour Home for the Aged Bill MacDonald Administrator 326-1215 Ext. 202	Land Ambulance Brian Bildfell Director of Land Ambulance Services 776-6441 Ext. 300
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