



Township of McKellar 2023 SPRING NEWSLETTER

701 Hwy 124, McKellar, Ontario, P0G 1C0

Phone: 705-389-2842 Fax: 705-389-1244

Council

Mayor

David Moore
705-389-3076
dmoore@mckellar.ca

Councillors

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705-774-0750
mhaskim@mckellar.ca

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705-389-1346
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Nick Ryeland
705-774-4398
nryeland@mckellar.ca

Debbie Zulak
705-389-3031
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Mayor's Message:

LOOKING FORWARD TO A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Since its incorporation in 1873, the Township of McKellar continues to thrive as a single-tier municipality after 150 years. Reaching the year 2023 is certainly a cause for celebration. We sometimes bent but we did not break. The Sesquicentennial Committee has coordinated a number of local organizations in the preparation of year-long events for everyone to enjoy.

The problems of our recent past are now behind us and we can look forward with a newfound optimism to a brighter tomorrow. The road to recovery has already witnessed the resolution of many planning issues and the implementation of more customer-friendly policies, the establishment of a new procedural by-law and the preliminary investigations of new projects.

The recently enacted Roads Policy will serve to help clarify the expectations for maintenance and construction of new and existing municipally owned roads throughout the Township.

Minerva Park's McKellar Market continues to be a success story under professional leadership. Noteworthy as well are the many volunteers who continue to give so selflessly of their time to make our community a better place in which to live or visit. Recognitions are long overdue.

Budget discussions are underway centering on improved infrastructure, primarily in the public works department but including more reliable internet service, with allocations earmarked for area-wide projects such as the proposed Recreation and Cultural Centre and a possible future Campus of Care. Public participation is always encouraged prior to the expenditure of large sums of residents' monies on such large area projects.

Council continues to work well together, with the guidance of professional and dedicated staff, and always welcomes the input that you, the citizens, provide for directional assistance. We are all on this journey together.

Enjoy 2023 with family, friends and community and keep safe!

In the Community – YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED!

Interested in volunteering in the community? The McKellar Recreation, and Historical Committee, as well as, the Library Board are in need of members and/or volunteers.

Photo Credit Joyce Hopkins



For more information, contact the Township Office. Volunteer applications can be found on the township website at: www.mckellar.ca



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
OUR 2022 PROVINCIAL
SENIOR OF THE YEAR
RECIPIENT:
VIVIAN MOORE**

Tax Department

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Telephone and internet banking payments can be made through the following banks:

- Bank of Montreal
- CIBC
- First Bank
- Kawartha Credit Union
- Manulife
- Meridian Credit Union
- National Bank
- RBC
- Scotiabank
- Tangerine
- TD

Payments and other correspondence may be dropped off at the Township Office between 8:30 am – 4:30 pm or in the Drop Box located outside the Office/Library main door.

Email request forms are available on our website if you wish to have your tax bill and/or receipt sent to you by email, please click on the following link:

<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/property-taxes.aspx>

McKellar By-law Enforcement

With an influx of people over the past two years to McKellar, it has also brought with it an increase in by-law infractions such as:

- Noise complaints
- Daytime burning
- Winter has brought with it more infractions for illegal parking on snow plow routes and snow pushed on roads from driveways.

Public safety is everyone's responsibility and should be their priority.

To report a public safety violation, call 705-389-2842 Ext 8 or 705-774-1325 and the By-law Officer will take the information and respond appropriately.

Chris Everitt, MEOL

McKellar Historical Committee

- The Historical Committee continues to search for new members. Please contact the Township Office.
- If you have any artifacts to loan to the committee, or photos for the committee to copy & display, please contact us.
- We are working continuously on a new website, virtual tours & contests to engage the public.
- Thanks to the Township for loaning us extra space in the former Youth Room to offer special rotating displays.
- The Historical Committee is providing information and photos for various 150th Anniversary events. Watch for a Historical walk of the village and a Christmas Past Event.
- The Library has copies of the 2023 Anniversary Calendar for \$10 (proceeds go to the Evelyn Watkins Museum)
- The EWM is open by appointment. Contact the Township Office to arrange a date and time.

Building Department:

Building permits must be obtained prior to the beginning of any construction. Permits are required for new structures, additions, sleeping and guest cabins, chimneys, wood stoves, fireplaces, accessory buildings, structural foundations, docks, storage buildings, decks, and porches. Applications are available on the Township website at:

<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Building-Package-Handout.pdf>

Approval from other agencies may be required before a building permit can be issued. Other agencies may include the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Hydro One, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Department of Fisheries and Oceans.



DOCKS – Planning on replacing your dock or installing a new one? You require a building permit from the Township.

OPEN PERMITS – If you have an open permit, please contact the Building Department to review the necessary steps to close off your project.

INSPECTIONS – Remember, it is the property owner or their agent's responsibility to notify the building department at the various stages which require inspection, as outlined in the building permit.

SHIPPING CONTAINERS - Shipping containers are considered a building under the Building Code Act and therefore require a building permit to install.

For more information:
CHRIS BORDELEAU, CBO
705-389-2842 ext. 2

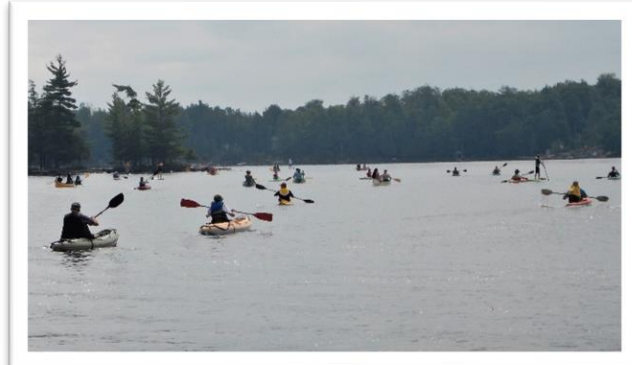
Recreation Committee:

The Recreation Committee is a Committee of Council consisting of volunteers interested in providing activities and events for all ages of the McKellar community and are committed to making the community centre the “centre of the community”. The Committee offers regular programs filling the community centre with fun and laughter.

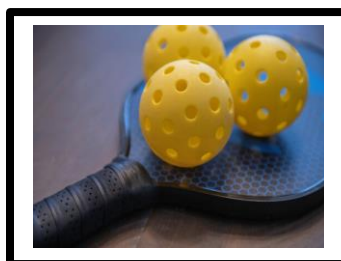
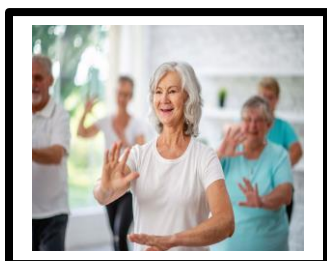
All are welcome to participate in these indoor programs. Equipment is supplied. Skating and Pickup Hockey continue to be offered in the Rink until Mother Nature determines no more. There is no cost for most programs.

“Movie Nights on the Big Screen” are becoming very popular, with the new audiovisual surround sound system, it offers a real theatre experience. Funded by the Recreation Committee, movie nights are free to the public. You can bring your own lawn chair, snacks and drinks. A big thanks to Larry Machielli for providing popcorn and pop. ENJOY THE SHOW!!

The kids ice fishing derby was held on February 18, 2023. The Snowmobile Run is on March 4 and on March 17th, the recreation committee, (in honour of McKellar’s 150th celebrations and of the Irish Settlers) presents a St. Patrick’s Day Dance. Tickets are being sold at the Township Office, get yours soon as this event sells out fast.



Regularly Scheduled Recreation Programs	Day	Time
Seniors Walk Fit (Seniors Walking and exercising)	Monday	10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Badminton	Monday	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Pickle Ball	Tuesday	9:30 am – 11:30 am
Seniors Walk Fit (Seniors Walking and exercising)	Wednesday	10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Badminton	Wednesday	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Tai Chi Beginner	Friday	10:30 am – 11:30 am
Tai Chi Advanced	Friday	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Pickle Ball	Friday	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Movie Nights	Friday (twice a month)	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm



McKellar Township Public Library

Creating Our Future Together

Last year, for our 40th Anniversary, we aimed for 40 new card registrations and far surpassed our goal with 78. This year, we have launched a new Strategic Plan for continued enhancements of our library. It is available for download on our webpage. If you don't have a McKellar Library card, and you pay taxes to the McKellar Township, PLEASE sign-up for a library card. Check out our website at <http://www.mckellarpubliclibrary.ca> and our Library Catalogue at https://olsn.ent.sirsiidynix.net/client/en_US/mckellar/ Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/people/McKellar-Township-Public-Library/100064583326811/>.

We are your local resource centre:

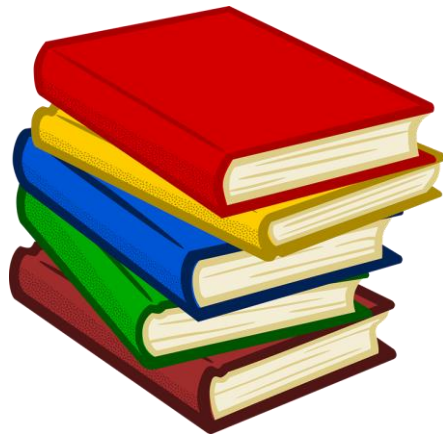
- Books, E-books, Audio Books, DVDs, Magazines and even Fishing Rods are available for you to borrow.
- FREE internet with five computers and desktop publishing requirements.
- Free Wi-Fi is also available for your personal devices.
- Free online databases available for your use. Auto Repair Source, Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center, Home Improvement Reference Center, Small Business Reference Center, Small Engine Repair Reference Center, and Ancestry Library
- Photocopying, printing and faxing are also available at the library.
- Used books for sale.
- We are pleased to offer the loan of **Ontario Parks Day-Use Vehicle Permits** to library card holders. A savings of approximately \$21.00/day!

Up-Coming Events:

- Cooking with James call the library for dates.
- Stories of McKellar book to be published this year.

Contact the library by phone at (705) 389-2611

Email at mckellarlib@vianet.ca



The McKellar Market

The McKellar Market is looking forward to our fourteenth season beginning Saturdays, Canada Day, July 1st through to Labour Day September 2nd, 10 am – 1 pm on the waterfront at 677 Hwy 124, Minerva Park, McKellar. Watch for our signs, accessible by car and boat with docking available. Additional parking is available at the Community Centre, 701 Hwy 124 and at designated parking spaces throughout the village.

Our destination market offers beautiful handmade crafts, homemade baked goods, fresh produce, smoked meats, cheese, VQA Wine, and lots more. Fun for the whole family. Watch the Township Website, The McKellar Market Facebook Page and Instagram for updates on special events and busker announcements.

2023 Special Market Dates:

Thanksgiving Market – Saturday, October 7, 2023, 10 am – 1 pm
677 Hwy. 124, Minerva Park

Christmas Market – Saturday, November 18th, 2023, 10 am – 1 pm
701 Hwy. 124, McKellar Community Centre

See you in McKellar this Summer!



**RE-OPENING
CANADA DAY
SATURDAY, JULY 1st
10 AM-1 PM
677 Hwy. 124, MINERVA PARK,
MCKELLAR**



Contact Us:

PH: 705.773.9578
E-mail: rjgibson2217@gmail.com
Visit the township website at
www.mckellar.ca
Follow us on



McKellar Fire Department:

SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE

ALARMS – IT’S THE LAW – Installation of smoke alarms on each level of your home, cottage and sleeping cabin and a minimum of one carbon monoxide detector are requirements of the law. Remember to regularly test and replace batteries in all alarms. Always react to a triggered carbon monoxide alarm – **Call 911!**

Please reach out for more information on the safe operation of your detectors.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



CAN'T BE SEEN **CAN'T BE SMELLED** **CAN'T BE HEARD** **CAN BE STOPPED**



FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT - Do you have a desire to help others, to help your community? Do you want to do more, learn more and gain new skills that can save a life? We are currently recruiting to complete our roster of volunteer firefighters. As a volunteer firefighter you will play an essential role in keeping our township and citizens safe. All of our firefighters are expertly trained and properly equipped. If interested in joining this important community team please contact the Fire Chief at fire@mckellar.ca

Home Safe Home McKellar kicks off November 9, 2022. If you or someone you know is a McKellar resident and wants to learn about smoke detectors or carbon monoxide detectors, or you are in need of the proper installation, you can now call the Township office and book a time for two firefighters to come out to your home. The firefighters will help you understand how to keep you and your family safe. The **BEST** part is it is **FREE!!!** Call Lori at the Township Office at 705-389-2842 ext. 1 to book your time.



'McKellar News'

'McKellar News' is a weekly column by Joyce Hopkins published in the North Star. Although the column and photos are sent in every week, it occasionally does not get published in the printed copy due to space constraints, but it is posted every Thursday online at parrysound.com under the 'Opinion' heading.



The column varies in content including upcoming events, reports on special occasions, historical information and news and stories about all that is McKellar and has been successful because of input from the community. If you want to learn more about people in our community and know what is going on in the township, make a habit of reading the column every week. Help keep community news viable by sending your news and stories to joyphopkins@gmail.com and let the North Star editors know that community columns are an important addition to the paper.

Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee

The Township of McKellar web page lists links to our reports and YouTube seminars here:

<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/explore-and-play/resources/LSEC-and-McKellar-Video-List.pdf>

Here are the highlights of our past year:

- **WATERFRONT** – we distributed Lake Protection Workbooks and Septic Smart booklet to all households
- **FISHING** – we created a sign detailing best practices for catch-and-release fishing and posted it at boat launches
- **WATER QUALITY MONITORING** was continued in conjunction with MLCA
- A report on the history of monitoring **WATER LEVELS** on Lake Manitouwabing was posted
- **INVASIVE SPECIES** – signs were posted and sampling conduction through FOCA in conjunction with MLCA (results on the web page)

COMING IN 2023

- Four demonstration **POLLINATOR PATCHES** will be planted on township property
- Water quality monitoring will continue and be upgraded to regularly include phosphorus and calcium in cooperation with **MLCA** on six township lakes
- Guidelines for maintaining lake water quality by maintaining and restoring **SHORELINE VEGETATION** are being developed
- Working with **MLCA** and an Ontario researcher on a study on **BOAT WAKES** on Lake Manitouwabing
- The **CLEAN UP OUR LAKES** program will return for a month at the end of April at the transfer station

Jennifer Ghent-Fuller



McKellar Sesquicentennial Committee

The Township of McKellar is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. The Sesquicentennial Committee has been working hard since June 2021 to create a year of festivities for all to enjoy. Each month will see a special event organized by the committee along with activities and special occasions by other McKellar committees and community organizations.

The Sesquicentennial Committee plans to explore our past, celebrate the present and leave legacies for the future. Plans include shining a light on what makes McKellar so amazing and unique, its natural beauty, culture and rich history.

Make a habit of regularly checking www.mckellar150.com, McKellar 150th Anniversary Facebook page, Twitter, the Township of McKellar website, Facebook pages of McKellar organizations and committees, and the McKellar News in the North Star. Watch for posters around the West Parry Sound area. Mark your calendars with all these important dates.

Important components of the year's celebrations include:

- ❖ Community involvement
- ❖ Monthly special events planned by the Sesquicentennial Committee
- ❖ The events organized "in honour of the 150th Anniversary" by various local organizations and committees
- ❖ The three legacy projects and unveiling ceremonies: The McKellar Horse, Indigenous Artwork and a historical timeline done over 15 decades
- ❖ The Whitestone/McKellar Lions Club and the 150th Committee Raffle with 100% of the funds to the Mck/Dunchurch Pastoral Charge
- ❖ The support of the Township of McKellar Council and staff, local organizations and businesses
- ❖ The support of the OCAF Grant, the Government of Canada Legacies Fund, and the Government of Canada Community Anniversaries Grant
- ❖ The McKellar 150th Celebration Tartan, officially registered in the Scottish Tartan Registry

Our committee members are looking forward to the Anniversary Events and a positive attitude and are looking forward to a community-wide celebration of all that is McKellar!!

Your Sesquicentennial Committee consists of Joyce Hopkins, Lynne Aylsworth, Mary Smith, Sheila Hardie, Cheryl Saunders, Ann Bradley, Elyse Graf, Marianne Henskens, Morley Haskim and Steve Macdonnell.

McKellar 150th Calendar of Events:

- **March 17 – St. Patrick's Day Dance**
- **April 15 – Live History Performance**
- **April 29 – Volunteer Fire Fighter Appreciation Dinner**
- **May 6 – D18 Horticultural Celebration**
- **June 6 – Indigenous Artwork Ceremony**
- **July 9 – Tour of McKellar Gardens**
- **July 9 – Community Ribfest (MLCA)**
- **July 28 – Celebration Dance**
- **July 29 – Grand Celebration**
- **July 30 – Pancake Breakfast**
- **August 5 – Art Gala & Performance**
- **August 6 – Art Show**
- **August 13 – Marathon Du McKellar**
- **September 16 – Bert Weir Tribute**
- **September 23 – Tribute to Fiddling**
- **October 29 – Cemetery Tour**
- **November 3 - WWII Movies**
- **November 25 – Dinner/ Showcase**
- **December 2 – Christmas Past**
- **December 3 – Christmas Lighting**
- **December 9 – Parry Sound Singers**
- **December 31 – New Year's Eve Party**



Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Legacy Grant

Canada

Community
Anniversaries
Grant

Waste Management Department:

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Summer Hours		Winter Hours	
April 15-September 15		September 16-April 14	
Sunday	9am-7pm	Sunday	9am-4pm
Monday	9am-4pm	Monday	9am-4pm
Wednesday	9am-7pm	Wednesday	9am-4pm
Saturday	9am-4pm	Saturday	9am-4pm

Transfer Station Attendant:
Andy Ward, 705-389-1379

"NEW" 2023 Transfer Station (DUMP) Permits are being sent out with your Interim Tax Bills. These are "cling-on" passes to be placed on the inside of your driver-side windshield in plain view for the Landfill Attendant to see.

Transfer Station Permits are available by emailing the Township Office at admin@mckellar.ca