



Council

Mayor

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Councillors

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Mayor's Message:

"The year that was; the year that is and the year that will be"

Let me wish everyone a warm, safe, positive, healthy and prosperous 2022. Last year is finally behind us. Please refer to my "Mayor's Report to the Community" for an overview of what happened in 2021, what we are working on this year and what we may be able to accomplish from our Action Plan prior to the election next fall.

We should be very proud of our hard working staff for their excellent coping skills, customer service and due diligence during COVID-19. Even though we were locked down for over 18 months, they continued to persevere on our behalf to deliver the services we have come to expect. Thank you is never enough. You are appreciated.

Our Council and staff are working on a final set of priorities that are intended to finish numerous projects that were put on hold during this difficult time and to complete items from our four-year Action Plan. A few examples include:

- Celebrate our community volunteers
- Launch our new website
- Continue to support environmental and lake stewardship initiatives
- Continue to push for high speed fibre connectivity
- Amend and implement our new Roads policy
- Continue to plan for our 150th Sesqui Centennial celebration in 2023
- Approve a fair and responsible budget

I encourage all our hard working committees to continue to make recommendations to Council for the improvement of the quality of life in McKellar. As well, I would like to sincerely say thank you to our many, many volunteers who organize all our projects and events that enhance our sense of community.

We intend to move forward collectively to our new normal while getting ready for our 150th – Sesqui Centennial - celebration of the founding of McKellar in 2023. More than ever, we all need to stay safe, positive, forward thinking, involved in McKellar life and work together to ensure we are a warm and welcoming community.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at 705-389-2228

peterhopkins1942@gmail.com

Enjoy a happy 2022.

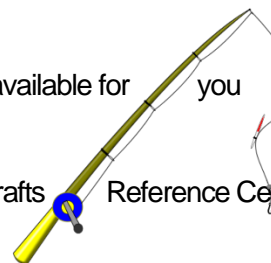


McKellar Township Public Library: Let's celebrate our beautiful library

The McKellar Library is 40 years old this year! To celebrate this milestone, we would like to surpass our record of new card registrations this year. 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.mckellarpubliblibrary.ca> and our Library Catalogue at https://olsn.ent.sirsiidynix.net/client/en_US/mckellar/ Like us on Facebook.

We are your local resource centre.

- Books, E-books, Audio Books, DVD's, Magazines and even **Fishing Rods** are available for you to borrow.
- **FREE internet** with five computers and desk top publishing requirements.
- **Free Wi-Fi** is also available for your personal devices.
- **Free online** databases available for your use. Mango Languages, Hobbies & Crafts Reference Centre and Ancestry Library.
- Photocopying, printing and faxing are also available at the library.



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: (registration required)

- March 19th, 2022 10:00 am -12:00 pm – How to use Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED)
- March 26th, 2022 - Alzheimer's and Dementia Seminar

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

Email at mckellarlib@vianet.ca

Waste Management Department:

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Summer Hours

April 15-September 15

Winter Hours

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

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

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:

<http://township.mckellar.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Property-Tax-Email-Request-Form.pdf>

In the Community – YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED!

Interested in volunteering in the community? The McKellar Recreation, Historical Committee, 150th Anniversary Committee are in need members and/or volunteers.

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



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:

<http://township.mckellar.on.ca/download/applications-forms/BUILDING-PERMIT-APPLICATION-2016.pdf>

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

After a couple of difficult years offering only virtual contests and the occasional event like Hallowe’en, Santa’s visit and a couple of Movie Nights due to Covid-19 restrictions, the committee is again offering its regular programs and filling the community centre with fun and laughter.



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
Tai Chi Beginner	Friday	10 am – 11:00 am
Tai Chi Advanced	Friday	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Pickle Ball	Friday	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Movie Nights	Friday (once per month)	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

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 ice.

Watch for a schedule for the return of the very popular ‘Movie Nights on the Big Screen’. The new sound system with surround sound and new visual equipment offers a real theatre experience. Funded by the Recreation Committee, Movie Nights, as with other programs, are free to the public. Bringing your own chair and snacks makes for a comfortable and inexpensive night out.

March Break will see the return of the Kids’ Ice Fishing Derby on Armstrong Lake on March 19, 2022 and hopefully other children’s events like our Easter Carnival. Check out the recreation committee Facebook page for updated news and photos of events or contact joyphopkins@gmail.com with questions, suggestions and offers to help.



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.
- We anticipate that the EWM Heritage Museum will reopen in the spring by appointment only.





McKellar Sesquicentennial Committee

The Township of McKellar is celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2023 and a committee of volunteers on the Sesquicentennial Committee have been working hard 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.

The committee is looking for your ideas on how to celebrate this momentous milestone and create a community involved year of celebrations. Contact joyphopkins@gmail.com or attend one of our meetings to share your ideas.

Watch for a special Historical Anniversary 2023 calendar from the Historical Committee or share your McKellar stories small or large with the McKellar Public Library for their book of memories. Create your own special family or neighbour event and send us the information. The Ideas are limitless. There are many exciting Anniversary projects in the making and information will be made available to the public in the coming months.

Our committee members are looking forward to 2023 with optimism 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, Kathy Spence, Elyse Graff, Marianne Henskens, Morley Haskim

Events planned so far:

- Kickoff event in January
- A special recognition of McKellar’s day of incorporation on April 15, 2023
- An indigenous celebration on June 6, 2023
- The main ‘Celebrate McKellar’s 150th’ event will be held July 28, 29 and 30, 2023



Photo Credit Joyce Hopkins

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 PROVINCIAL SENIOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT: **AL LAST**

Al continues to be a teacher, mentor, builder, giver, doer, innovator and conservationist. He is also an excellent photographer. He is a friend and a volunteer to all. What would McKellar be like without Al Last.

Congratulations to a wonderful and deserving recipient of the Provincial Senior Volunteer of the Year Award for McKellar 2021.
Everyone’s friend: Mr. Al Last.

McKellar By-law Enforcement

2021 was an interesting year, with COVID-19 lock downs and the influx of people to the McKellar and Parry Sound area. Bringing with it By-law infractions like:

- Noise complaints
- Daytime burning
- And many more

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.



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 Fire Chief at fire@mckellar.ca



TANKER SHUTTLE ACCREDITATION – You may be eligible for a reduction in insurance upon presentation of this form.

<http://township.mckellar.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/McKellar-Tanker-Shuttle-Certificate.pdf>



**RE-OPENING
CANADA DAY
WEEKEND
SATURDAY, JULY 2nd, '22
10AM-1PM**

677 Hwy. 124, MINERVA PARK,
MCKELLAR

The McKellar Market is looking forward to our thirteenth season starting July 2nd through to September 3rd (Saturdays) from 10am-1pm at Minerva Park, 677 Hwy. 124, McKellar. Watch for our signs. Lots of parking and accessible by car and boat with docking available. 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 for our Special Event Days and Busker announcements posted on the township website, Facebook, and Instagram.

2022 Special Market Dates:
Thanksgiving Market- Saturday, October 8th; 10am-1pm
Christmas Market- Saturday, November 12th, 10am-1pm

Serving our Community since 2009

Contact Us:

**701 Highway 124, P.O. Box 69
McKellar, Ontario
P0G 1C0
Phone: 705-773-9578
Email: rjqibson2217@gmail.com
Website: www.township.mckellar.ca**

The McKellar Market is where amazing products are bought, and great friendships are made!

Follow us on:



***For your shopping safety, COVID-19 Protocols will be enforced and monitored by the McKellar Fire Department if necessary.**

AERODROMES and DRONES

Aerodromes include airports, heliports, seaplane/ski-plane bases, or anywhere that an aircraft can take off and land. It is a Federal Offence to fly a recreational drone within three nautical miles of an aerodrome. Most of the Township of McKellar and a portion of the Municipality of McDougall are federally designated as an Aerodrome and are therefore considered a “No Fly Zone” for Drones. You could face serious penalties and/or jail time, if you break the rules, including:

- Up to \$1,000 for flying without a drone pilot certificate.
- Up to \$1,000 for flying unregistered or unmarked drones.
- Up to \$1,000 for flying where you are not allowed.
- Up to \$3,000 for putting aircraft and people at risk.

Transport Canada say anyone who sees someone flying a drone illegally should call 911. For more information on flying a drone safely and legally please go to: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/drone-safety>



'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. Free registration is required.



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 Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee of McKellar Township was changed by Council from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee in the fall of 2021. We have met monthly. The meetings are either hybrid or exclusively on zoom. The public is welcome to attend.

We are examining the work that needs to be done to protect the lakes and lands of the township. In the three years that the ad hoc committee met, they developed a final report which included four broad goals to guide the future work of the committee:

1. The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will advocate for clean water and healthy lakes in the Township by regularly assessing water quality in conjunction with the Manitouwabing Lake Community Association, the Public Health Unit, the Lake Partner Program, and the Georgian Bay Biosphere through assessment of indicators of potential contamination and providing educational suggestions about the factors which promote clean water and the beauty of our environment.
2. The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will promote and maintain a healthy wildlife habitat, on land and in the water, by assessing factors which cause pollution, educating the McKellar township residents about those factors and making recommendations to Council concerning Bylaw changes or other actions to be taken.
3. The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will promote environmental responsibility in all recreational activities on our lakes.
4. The Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee will continue to work with the Georgian Bay Biosphere (GBB) to combat climate change and reduce our carbon footprint to improve the health of our citizens, the lakes and environment.

Since the fall, we have made progress on a number of issues. We have received a preliminary report on the lake capacity study completed by Chelsea Crundwell and Carl Mitchell from U of T.

- We received a presentation on Work Permits, Boat Houses and the Public Lands Act by S/Sgt Robert Gibson of the MNRF. We have designed and received the delivery of signs promoting catch and release fishing which will be posted in the summer. The MNRF requested assistance in monitoring the catches in Armstrong Lake, which they have stocked twice; so, two additional signs were made to assist fishers in anonymous reporting.
- We have researched and purchased educational information on lake protection that we will give to township residents this summer with a view to nutrient level of the lakes and the biodiversity of the flora and fauna in the lakes.
- We have also researched information on septic system management, and will have that available.

Other areas of activity include:

- reviewing [a food cycler program for food waste](#) at council's request
- reviewing the Georgian Bay Biosphere's ICECAP program to decrease carbon emissions
- studying the history of control of the water level management in Lake Manitouwabing.

Jennifer Ghent-Fuller

OPP ONLINE REPORTING PROGRAM

This program allows you to submit a report to the OPP from computer or mobile device. All submissions will be sent directly to OPP and reviewed by officer. Use this system to report lost/missing property under \$5000.00, stolen license plates or validation stickers, theft from a vehicle under \$5000.00, mischief to a vehicle under \$5000.00, damage to property under \$5000.00, thefts under \$5000.00 and driving complaints. Visit www.opp.ca/reporting for information and reporting.

DID YOU KNOW.....

Modified snowmobile mufflers are a concern for the police. Much of Ontario's trail system encompasses private property. The private land owners allow the use of their land for snowmobile use via Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) trails. BUT, landowners and municipalities are being disturbed by the increase in snowmobile exhaust noise, which is resulting in trail closures. Under the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act, section 18.2, there are applicable charges for modifying, altering or changing the exhaust or muffler on your snowmobile.