



Township of McKellar

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Mayor's Report: Tues May 10, 2022

Community Happenings in and around McKellar:

COVID ALERT: Just a precautionary note that Covid cases have been on the rise. Our WPS hospital had to lock down of late due to the influx of cases and the shortage of staff due to infections. Everyone is asked to use your discretion re social distancing, wearing of masks in public or congested areas, frequent use of sanitizers, avoid large groups, get vaccinated and follow all "safety protocols" if you have or suspect you have Covid.

A special thank you to the Whitestone-McKellar Lions for making a donation to our Volunteer Fire Fighters.

UKRAINE: Please support Ukraine in any way you can. They are in dire need

WAVE'S FIBRE MILL: Wave Weir, a McKellar resident, finally opened her Fibre Mill on May 3 at the PS and area Airport. The McKellar tartan is already a hit and is featured in our 150th celebrations. For complete information, please visit her website: wavefibremill@gmail.com, subscribe to her newsletters, or call 705 378 4878. We wish her great success in finally realising her dream. Congratulations.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE: "Plant one tree for McKellar": Please refer to the website: www.plantonetreeformckellar.com Thank you Joy Allan with help from Steve Munro and Theresa Gregory for initiating this self-sustaining environmental project.

MLCA: Along the same note, thanks to the MLCA for their successful third year of selling native trees, shrubs and seeds to many in our community to support our environment. Under new leadership their executive is reaching out to assist and partner with various McKellar committees and groups to find ways to enhance our lakes, our environment and our sense of community. They have close to 500 members and growing. Cost only \$25 to join. Check them out on their webpage and visit them at the market. Stay tuned. They also recently donated \$500.00 to the McKellar Public Library.

FREE MOVIE NIGHTS: The Recreation Committee showed the award winning documentary- "Honeyland" - on Earth Day – April 22 with free pop and pop corn in our new surround sound "theatre". On May 6, they showed the new "West Side Story" Musical. They have a schedule of interesting movies until the end of June on their website which are free of charge. Join other movie goers on Fri May 27 for the showing of "King Richard" at 7pm CC

THE RIDGE AT MANITOU GOLF CLUB officially opened May 6, we wish them a successful and environmentally friendly year.

ANNUAL CLEAN UP OUR LAKES Campaign is a go for its third consecutive year. Our Lake Stewardship Committee has set aside a bin in the transfer station for families to clean up their lake areas with debris – plastic bottles, tins, fishing line, styro foam, tires, sunken boats etc – basically anything that may pollute our beautiful lakes

A special thanks to those who have also spent the time cleaning up our roadways in McKellar of debris as an earth day initiative and as an on - going public initiative you are appreciated.

LIBRARY INITIATIVES: Congratulations to our Library on their 40th anniversary. They are planning a Honour Wall, an Open House on July 2 and featuring various educational and informative seminars- Check their website for future presentations like “ A Watershed seminar on sustainable and natural waterfronts” was held on Sat May 7 - www.mckellarlib@vianet.ca. See their recent minutes

Our McKellar **BOOK CLUB** had 14 out for their April meeting to review and discuss. “The English Wife” by Adrienne Chinn. Next book club is Tuesday May 24, 1 pm , Library

T BALL registrations were held on May 5 for ages 3-9. Program starts May 30 until Aug 15: If you have any questions, please, contact Rick Brear: rickbrear@hotmail.com

REUSE TENT is being put up as we speak due to popular demand – thanks to Andrew and our staff

COUNCIL UPDATES: visit our new McKellar website: (www.mckellar.ca)

Library Board: see previous comments and recent minutes,

150th Committee: has been working overtime with staff to finalize their various grants to fund a wide array of special 150th Anniversary events in 2023 – please refer to their minutes for more details, They meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:30am in the CC. Visitors welcome Contact Joyce Hopkins: joyphopkins@gmail.com; 705 389 2228 – for more information. Next meeting Wed June7. 9:30 am, CC

Historical Committee: is working on rotational historic displays to encourage visitors to the Heritage Museum; creating a 150th Anniversary Calendar and historic plaque. The committee needs new members with an interest in the history of the township. They meet the first Wednesday of the month at 3:30pm in Council- Next Wed June 1: visitors welcome - visit their website and review their minutes

Recreation committee: meets the last Thursday of the month at 3:30 pm in the C. They are working on children’s t - ball, kids fishing derby, an annual canoe and kayak event, movie nights and on – going activities- see their minutes or visit their website

Bottle Collection: we intend to call a meeting shortly of interested organizations who wish to participate in bottle collections at the transfer station on a monthly rotational basis, If your organization is interested, please contact Mary Smith at: treasuryassist@mckellar.ca 705 389 2842 ext 1. First meeting of interested groups is Monday May 16, 4:30 Council.

Boat launch: Our Director of Operations is in the process of presenting a report on a variety of short and long term solutions to make our boat launches safer. Once the report is received, an ad hoc

committee will be formed to review the report. There will be at least one public meeting to review and discuss recommendations before being presented to council.

Connectivity: Council has asked our IT specialist, Dan Hildebrand, for a report on short and long term solutions to the current issues in hosting fully available and accessible zoom meetings. We are also asking our installers of our new system in the CC to review our concerns and get them fixed asap. We are reaching out to creative proposals in other municipalities-Sequin and regrouping our Connectivity Committee with Whitestone to expedite these serious matters.

FONOM: full summary report next meeting

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY: At our June 10th meeting we will be celebrating the retirement of our longstanding MPP Norm Miller as well as announcing of PSHS scholarship awards for graduating McKellar students.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY, COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE EVENTS:

- Wed May 11 – 150th Committee - 9:30 am Council Chamber
- Thurs May 12 – LSEC – Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee – 6:30pm zoom
- Mon May 23 - 4:30 pm Interested Bottle Collection Groups – Council
- Sun May 22 - Beer Bottle Drive- Hurdville Hall 1-4pm
- Thurs May 26 – Recreation Committee - 3:30pm Council
- Fri May 27 – Free Movie Night –“King Richard” 7pm- free, CC, popcorn and pop
- Mon May 30 – Library Committee- 10 am – ZOOM
- Mon May 30 – WPSHC meeting with Municipal leaders - 5pm- zoom
- Sat June 4 – PS Horticultural Club Annual Plant sale – Tower Hill, PS
- Sat June 11 – Giant Hurdville Yard sale – by donation 10-1 Hurdville Hall
- Fri June 10- 7pm – free Movie Night - CC “ Death on the Nile”
- Tues June 14 – Council 6:30 CC – special presentation to retiring MPP Norm Miller
- Sun June 27 – “Harbour” musical concert: 7pm – Hurdville Hall by donation