

Township of Perth South



February 2020 Newsletter

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Congratulations to the new Perth County Council Warden, our very own Deputy Mayor Jim Aitcheson!

At the December 5, 2019 Council meeting, Perth South Deputy Mayor Jim Aitcheson was sworn in as Perth County's Warden.

"I've been on Council for 13 years now and there are things that I want to accomplish" Jim Aitcheson said during an interview following the ceremony. "I thought it was time to take a leadership role and push things forward."

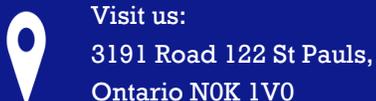


Rhonda Ehgoetz, Perth East's Mayor, was elected to replace Aitcheson as deputy warden.

Connect With Us



Local call: 519-271-0619
or Toll Free:
1-866-771-0619



Office hours Monday to Friday
8:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth

Effective December 1, 2019, is in effect until December 31, the Township of Perth South 2023.

began a contract with the Stratford Perth Humane Society (SPHS) for services which include animal control for dogs, by-law services, and pound services. The contract

"We are extremely pleased to partner with the Township of Perth South to provide animal control and bylaw services,"

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Invitation to Participate in Alternative Housing Survey

Dear Residents of Perth South Township,

There is a need for improving the available affordable housing and widening the sources of income for agricultural communities in many areas of Perth County. As a strategy for this, we are researching the plan to repurpose accessory agricultural buildings. The main structures that we will be looking at are grain storage bins. As Architecture, Project and Facility Management Students from Conestoga College, we have designed a short survey to help discover the need, interest, expectations and resources available in the Township. We really appreciate your assistance and look forward to hearing from you!

Please visit our survey at:

<https://.surveymonkey.com/r/5FDCH7F>

Sincerely,

Cailyn Poschner & Rishabh Jain

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Conestoga College

850 Fountain St. S. Cambridge, ON N3H 0A8



Bluewater Recycling Association Calendar Magnet

Due to the complete phase out of garbage bag collection there has been an increase in the number of Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA) member municipalities being serviced by automated bin collection. In order to ensure efficient routes for the collection of waste and recycling, BRA must adjust their current collection schedules. It is likely that the Perth South collection day will change; however, we do not have the new day at this time. Because of this we are unable to provide the annual collection calendar magnet as we have in the past. Updates on any changes to the collection schedule will be provided through the Township website www.perthsouth.ca/garbagerecyclingwaste as well as www.bra.org

Kirkton-Woodham Public Swimming Pool

70497 Road 164 (Hwy 23) in the Village of Kirkton

This outdoor swimming pool is located beside the Community Centre and Park and offers swimming lessons, swim team,

aqua fit and public swimming from late June through late August.

Supervised Pool Rentals are available for picnics & parties.

Check out www.kirkton.ca/k-w-pool or call 519-229-6522 to find swim times and registration information.

The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth

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stated Kathrin Delutis, executive director, The Humane Society of Kitchener Waterloo and Stratford Perth. "We look forward to spending time in the community and helping both people and pets."

"We are extremely pleased to partner with the Township of Perth South to provide animal control and bylaw services,"

The animal control portion of the contract

is specifically geared for dogs, with full services being provided on weekdays, and emergency services being provided on evenings, weekends and holidays. Perth South dog owners are required to obtain a licence for their dog each year. A dog tag is the best form of ID for your dog as it will assist in recovering your dog if lost. If you are unsure if your dog is registered contact the Township office. If you have lost your dog or have found a stray dog please contact the humane society in Stratford at 519-273-6600 or visit the location at 125 Griffith Road in Stratford. For a full list of services, along with operating hours, please visit www.kwsp humane.ca The current contract does not cover stray cats, or sick or injured wildlife. For sick or

injured cats and wildlife, community members are still welcome to call the humane society to determine if they can provide assistance. For stray cats, the humane society will accept cats as space and resources allow. They ask that community members call the centre in advance at 519-273-6600. Residents would be responsible for bringing the cat to the humane society and they may have to be placed on a waiting list due to space.



Perth Council Meeting

The Schedule for the upcoming council meeting is now available online!

Visit www.perthsouth.ca/councilcalendar for more information

ONLINE SOCCER REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

GO TO WWW.PERTHSOUTH.CA TO REGISTER TODAY!

St Pauls Athletic Association is now accepting registration for the 2020 soccer season.

You can also print the registration form and bring it, along with your payment, to the Township office during regular business hours.

Deadline for Registration:

Registrations received after March 1, 2020 will be subject to a late fee of \$25.



Proposed Annexation of Lands from Perth South to City of Stratford

The Township of Perth South, County of Perth and City of Stratford are proposing a municipal boundary adjustment that would result in lands located in Perth South being annexed into the City of Stratford. The proposed annexation will see approximately 320 acres transferred from Perth South and Perth County to the City of Stratford.

Over the past 20 years Stratford has undertaken a series of annexations in response to the demand for additional lands to meet residential and employment growth pressure as shown on the map below.



Stratford currently has no industrial lands in its inventory and the current proposed annexation will provide much needed land to Stratford and will enable Stratford to accommodate large users and develop an industrial park of 1-3 acre lots that are currently in high demand. The properties subject to the annexation would create additional industrial land supply in the immediate proximity of existing industrial areas and will extend the existing industrial lands area known as Wright Business Park.

The proposed annexation is a partnership between Perth South and Stratford to

develop serviced industrial lands for future development. This partnership is a win-win for both municipalities as Stratford requires additional land for industrial development and Perth South has land but does not have the water and waste water services for development. In addition, the economic growth, new employment opportunities and spin-off effects from this development of

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Proposed Annexation of Lands from Perth South to City of Stratford

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the annexation lands will benefit the City, Township and County.

Being a mainly rural community Perth South Council and staff take the role of stewards of prime agricultural lands very seriously. As such, when we have to consider annexing our lands to the City of Stratford, we do this with full consideration of the importance of farmland. We don't take this decision lightly, we do this with the intention of maintaining as much agricultural lands as possible, while at the same time keeping our Township viable.

Keeping the Township viable has been increasingly difficult in recent years. Our biggest challenge is the reduction of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) grant from the province. This grant funding, which supports all operations of the municipality, was reduced by \$2 million in 2012. We are required to reduce expenditures by the \$2 million each year, or alternatively, find replacement revenue. An increase in taxes as replacement revenue would be equal to adding \$1,252 to every household's tax bill. Alternatively, we would have to add an additional 1,428 homes to the Township. The latter is not possible as we lack the required water and wastewater services.

Other challenges include farm consolidations which eroded both our tax base and population, little to no growth in any sector due to development challenges, and most recently, the news that our largest employer and tax payer, Maple Leaf Foods, is closing and moving its operations to London.

Perth South has previously partnered with Stratford in a similar partnership for land development with a land annexation and tax revenue sharing agreement. This partnership has been a significant factor in offsetting OMPF losses. In 2019 the tax revenue sharing agreement provided Perth South with \$511,013.51, an amount that represents revenue to offset 25% of our OMPF loss. In addition, these same lands generated \$119,142.79 in revenue for the County of Perth. We feel that this proposed partnership through the annexation of lands for industrial development will have the same positive impact.

Public comments on the proposal are being accepted until 11:59 p.m. on January 31, 2020. Comments can be submitted to Tatiana Dafoe, Acting City Clerk, City of Stratford at tdafoe@stratford.ca. All comments received will be circulated to the three Councils prior to the proposal being considered. The proposal will be considered by the three Councils on the following dates:

City of Stratford	February 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
County of Perth	February 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
Township of Perth South	February 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.



Do you have a food-focused farm gate business in Perth South?

We have an exciting opportunity to help promote all the great local food you produce through the Discover More Flavour promotional program!

What is Discover More Flavour?

In 2019, Perth County launched a new farm gate map where local food-focused farm gate businesses were surveyed and mapped in both a hard-copy map as well as through the digital mapping platform at www.perthcounty.ca/farmgate. The goal is to promote and draw more customers to each of these businesses.

What is the promotional program?

We are offering the opportunity for food-focused farm gate businesses located in The Township of Perth South to receive a promo kit to help raise awareness and presence at the road-side. Promotional kits will be distributed on a first come first served basis and can include any of the following program-branded items:

- Cooler Bags
- A-Frame Chalk Board Sign
- Pens
- Farm Gate Blade Sign



How is the program funded?

The Township of Perth South received funding from the Provincial Government through the Main Street Program to purchase and provide promotional material to local businesses.

How do I participate?

Interested businesses should send an email to sfranklin@perthcounty.ca with their business name and information. If you are a new or existing business that was not included on the original printed map, you will be required to fill out a form with further information on the products offered.

Interested In Participating? Have More questions?

Email: sfranklin@perthcounty.ca