



TOWN OF DEEP RIVER NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Mayor



On behalf of Council and the Staff of the Town of Deep River, we would like to extend our very best wishes to you and your family during this holiday season. We are blessed to live in such a wonderful community filled with so many incredible people.

As you will read in this newsletter, we have enjoyed a number of significant successes throughout 2011. More importantly, we have very ambitious plans as we move forward in 2012.

I would like to thank all of the talented staff who work for our municipality. Each and every day they demonstrate their dedication and commitment to our community.

I would also like to thank the vast number of community volunteers who generously give of their time for the betterment of all.

Please come and join us at the Town Hall for the New Year's Day levee to be held between 1:30 PM and 3:00 PM on January 1st, 2012 as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the construction of our Town Hall and the official mortgage burning.

Enjoy the Holidays!

David Thompson ~ mayor@deepriver.ca



Mayor David Thompson recently presented a certificate of appreciation to the Wadleigh family on behalf of all military families living in Deep River. Accepting the certificate were Sam, Nicola, Jack and Ed Wadleigh

Administration Department

2011 Top Five Accomplishments:

- Establishment of a Joint Health and Safety Committee. Training has taken place to ensure that we have Certified Health and Safety members on both the management and staff level of the committee. The focus of the committee in 2011 was to have the members familiar with their roles and responsibilities and to begin establishing policies and procedures as they relate to all of the Town of Deep River's area of operations.
- To successfully hire new positions within the Town of Deep River including Public Works Labourer, Accounts Clerk (Payroll), Accounts Clerk (Taxation), Deputy Clerk, Director of Public Works, Fire Chief and Treasurer.
- The project implementation, review and proposal for a new website development and meeting management system. The work on the new website has begun and both projects will be completed early 2012.
- Comprehensive review and revision of the Procedural by-law.
- Improved communications both within the corporation and with the community. Improved inter-internal communications involving management meetings and the use of a shared staff calendar. Improved communications with the public through quarterly newsletters, "Stand Up and Be Heard", "Question and Answer" section on the website, posting the entire agenda package contents on the website and posting draft minutes to the website vs. waiting until they were approved by Council.



Administration Top 5 Objectives/Goals for 2012:

- Establish a comprehensive Health and Safety manual for the Town of Deep River as well as create a training schedule to train staff with regards to the policies and procedures that affect them in the performance of their duties.
- Review and revise the Municipal Emergency Plan and train the Emergency Control Group on their roles and responsibilities in the event of a municipal emergency.
- Continue to work on the development of the Keys Centre Property for potential housing development. Also continue to work on identifying additional lands that may be developed.
- Implementation of a comprehensive Property Standards by-law and provide certification training to staff to perform the duties associated with enforcement of the by-law. In addition, the department will begin a review of existing by-laws and make amendments as required.
- Realign and upgrade our communication and financial systems within the corporation by implementing policies and procedures, upgrading the server, upgrading the financial system and the telephone system to ensure better functionality, reporting, integrity of the data and improve the flow of information.

Planning & Development Department

Planning and Development Top Five Accomplishments for 2011

- Worked with the Official Plan Review Committee to complete a total review of the Official Plan as part of the five year Official Plan Review Process.
- Worked with the executive of the Chamber of Commerce to complete the move to become a branch of the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber.
- Completed Official Plan and Zoning amendments that will allow for future commercial development.
- Worked with Community Futures Development Corporation to deliver a grant writing workshop that will potentially lead to thousands of federal grant dollars flowing into the community.
- Completed a report on the Chalk River Business Park that plots a path forward for future development of the park.

Proposed Revisions for the Official Plan have been reviewed by the County of Renfrew Planning Department and will be presented to the public in January as part of the provincially mandated five year review process. This process should be completed fairly early in 2012, but the timing will depend on the extent of the further changes required. Once this process is complete the Town will then move forward with revisions to its zoning by-law to make it consistent with new Official Plan policies. It is expected that both the revised Official Plan and Zoning By-law will be completed in 2012.

A new version of the Ontario East Economic Development Program is now available through the Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC). A very informative grant writing workshop was held on December 6th at Deep River Town Hall, and was co-sponsored by the Area Economic Development Department. The priority for the program is job creation or retention. It is available to both profit and non-profit organizations. There is approximately \$2M available over a three year span for Renfrew County. The application deadline for the first round of funding will be January 16th, 2012 and first round money has to be spent by March 31st.



Finance Department

The Finance Department is working hard in anticipation of our fiscal year end. Our auditors are visiting and it will soon be time to prepare year end reports and start working to finalize financial reports for the year end. Through the hard work of Council and staff, the municipality was able to enact a 2011 budget with an 8% decrease in the municipal tax rate. The Finance department will be making sure all pencils are sharp as we begin the 2012 budget process.

As always, there are challenges but we are also anticipating some changes and new projects in the coming year. Internally, we hope to have a new accounting and financial reporting system in place during 2012. Council is also considering a number of capital works projects and we look forward to providing support and assistance during these deliberations. It promises to be a busy and interesting year!

Recreation Department



Recreation Department Top Five Accomplishments for 2011

- Installed second phase of docking at the marina
- Public washroom upgrades at the arena
- Successful special youth events held throughout 2011
- New programs added in 2011—Parent and Tot Soccer Program, Baby Aqua fitness
- High enrollment in all the recreation spring and summer programs

Recreation Department Top Five Objectives for 2012

- Phase three of marina docking and marina pier project
- New Youth Programming
- Replacement of the Dectron at the Community Swimming Pool
- Play Equipment upgrades at Community Parks and Playgrounds
- Researching On Line Registration to accommodate our Community Residents better



Public Works Department



Public Works Top Five Accomplishments for 2011

- Flushing of the entire Town's Water Distribution System including identification of deficiencies, problem areas, and system hot spots
- Tendering and administering various Town contracts including Sludge Extraction and Haulage, SPCA, Streetlights, construction of salt shed at Public Works Yard, Paving and Concreting at Various Locations throughout Town, and recycling of salvaged asphalt to use as road granular repair material
- Initiating and processing East End Water Looping Project on McElligott Drive to the Hospital on Banting Drive
- Miller Road Landfill expansion project including initiation of Environmental Screening Process
- Public Works routine operations including responding to residents calls, emergencies and regular seasonal operational and maintenance activities including extending support to internal and external departments

Public Works Top Five Objectives for 2012

- Execution and commissioning of East end water looping project to enhance water quality issues and processing of West end water looping project
- Initiation of Water Conservation Pilot Project
- Working with the County of Renfrew GIS Department to initiate developing a framework for incorporating the Town's GIS System into the County Mapping System and Database
- Researching proposal of assumption of Town roads into the County of Renfrew road network with the County Public Works Department including conducting traffic count studies at select locations in the Town roadway network in consultation with the County of Renfrew Public Works Department
- Initiating Infrastructure Master Plan Study

Christmas Tree Pick Up

Please place Christmas trees at the curb (away from the path of snow removal). Public Works will pick them up during their day to day operations.

Public Works Department cont'd...

Parking Interfering with Movement of Traffic and Removal of Snow Prohibited as per Section 170 (12) of the Provincial Offences Act

No person shall park or stand a vehicle on any highway (including road or back lane) in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic, or the clearing of snow from such highway as outlined in By-law No. 22-89, a By-law regulating the parking of vehicles.

Parked cars are an obstacle to safe and efficient weather response efforts. We thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep the Town roads clear for the safety and convenience of all residents.

Depositing Snow or Ice on the Traveled Portion of a Highway

By-law No. 5-86 states that it is illegal to deposit snow or ice on any roadway within the limits of the Town. No person shall for the purpose of cleaning or clearing of any driveway or other property, or for any other purpose, deposit or cause to be deposited snow or ice from such driveway or property on any roadway. Any person contravening the provisions of this By-law shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 exclusive of costs.

Snow Safety

Please advise children not to play on snow banks or high snow piles, or slide out onto the street. Snow tunnels and forts can also be dangerous because the roof may collapse and trap the child inside. Snowplow drivers may inadvertently knock a fort down and the child could suffocate. Many tragic accidents have been caused by building tunnels or forts in snow banks.

Snow Removal Activities

The Town gives the highest priority for the removal of snow and ice from roadways to the main routes that carry the most traffic. The goal is to quickly make these roadways passable and remove the snow and ice to bare pavement as soon as practical considering the duration of the storm, accumulation and temperatures. Secondary streets are the next priority. The Town's third priority for snow and ice removal is all other traffic lanes including back lanes to make these lanes passable as soon as practical.

One of the most frequently asked questions is "why do the plow trucks block my driveway with snow?" We apologize for this inconvenience, but this is the only practical way to try to clear the roadways of snow and ice for traffic. It is the responsibility of the property owner to clear their driveway if they must get out. If you do remove the snow in front of your driveway it is best to move it to the right side of your driveway if you are facing the roadway.

Christmas/New Year Garbage and Recycling Pick Up Schedule

There will be no change to Garbage and Recycling pickups over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Fire Department

The Deep River Fire Department has responded to 127 emergency calls this year. Some of the top accomplishments for 2011 are:

The Deep River Fire Department has kicked off the "Alarmed for Life" program with door to door smoke alarm checks that began in September with very good results. The department will be continuing our door to door campaign with the intent of 100% compliance. We ask all residents to take the time to ensure their smoke alarms are working and you have one on each level of your home and outside your sleeping quarters. Ontario has seen 80 fire related deaths in 2011, and 45% of these homes did not have a working smoke alarm. **IS YOUR SMOKE ALARM WORKING??** We ask everyone to ensure they have a safe holiday season and be extra careful with candles, use of proper electrical devices and heating appliances. If you have any questions related to fire prevention please contact the Deep River Fire Department at 613-584-2000 X120.

Deep River Fire Fighters received the Ontario Fire College Component # 3 Emergency First Response Training in September. Having this training and new medical equipment will enable the Deep River Fire Department to assist residents of Deep River until Renfrew County EMS (Ambulance) arrives for advanced care. We will be able to assist Renfrew EMS when response times are delayed due to bad weather and/or when ambulances are busy elsewhere in the County. DRFD is currently working with Renfrew County EMS to develop a tiered response agreement similar to other Emergency Services in Ontario. DRFD could supply oxygen therapy, defibrillation and advanced first aid until the Renfrew County Paramedics arrive for more advanced care. This medical equipment is also very valuable for the Health and Safety of our Deep River Fire Fighters. Heart attack is the leading cause of death in fire fighters.

We have upgraded the Deep River Fire Department Radio Communications systems to help improve on response times and ensure the safety of our fire fighters. We now have the capability to talk directly to Renfrew dispatch using our portable radios while on scene. The DRFD can now ask Renfrew dispatch to complete an ALL CALL page to have additional DRFD resources respond to the station or the scene during a large emergency.

Fire Prevention week was a huge success this year. We provided fire extinguisher training to town staff and to numerous town organizations; handed out fire prevention material and answered fire safety concerns.

With the holiday season approaching us quickly Deep River Fire Department would like to wish all a safe and happy holiday and all the best in 2012!

**Please make sure your house number is visible from the street so
emergency services can respond quickly!**



The 12 Days of Holiday Fire Safety—Key Messages



Day 1	Water fresh trees daily. It's time to trim that Christmas tree, and if you're using a real tree, buy a fresh tree and keep the base of the trunk in water at all times. Keep your tree away from any ignition source such as the fireplace, heaters or candles.
Day 2	Check all sets of lights before decorating. Before you put those lights on the tree or around the front window, check the cords closely. Discard any sets that are frayed or damaged.
Day 3	Make sure you have working smoke alarms. With family and friends spending extra time at your home over the holidays, it's a great time to check your smoke alarms. Remember that you need working smoke alarms on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test your alarms to make sure they will alert you and your family if a fire occurs, giving you the precious seconds you need to safely escape. Replace smoke alarms if they are over 10 years old.
Day 4	Make sure you have working carbon monoxide alarms. Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odourless gas that can quickly kill you. Installing carbon monoxide alarms in your home will alert you to the presence of this deadly gas. Replace any carbon monoxide alarms over seven years old.
Day 5	Make sure everyone knows how to get out safely if a fire occurs. Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and make sure someone helps young children, older adults or anyone else who may need assistance to evacuate. Once outside, stay outside and call 911 from a cell phone or neighbours house.
Day 6	Use extension cords wisely. People often use extension cords for that extra set of lights or the dancing Santa in the corner. Extension cords should be used only as a temporary connection. Make sure cords never go under rugs as this can cause damage to the cord and cause a fire.
Day 7	Give space heaters space. If you are using space heaters to help take the chill off, remember to keep them at least one metre (3 feet) away from anything that can burn such as curtains, upholstery, or holiday decorations.
Day 8	When you go out, blow out! Candles can set the perfect mood for a holiday celebration, but remember to always blow out candles before leaving the room or going to bed. Keep lit candles safely away from children and pets and anything that can burn, such as curtains, upholstery, or holiday decorations.



The 12 Days of Holiday Fire Safety—Key Messages—*cont'd.*



Day 9	Keep matches and lighters out of the sight and reach of children. People often keep matches and lighters handy to light holiday candles. But matches and lighters can be deadly in the hands of children. If you smoke, have only one lighter or book of matches and keep them with you at all times.
Day 10	Watch what you heat! The holiday season is one of the busiest times of the year, which means it's easy to get distracted from what we are doing. Cooking fires most commonly occur when cooking is left unattended. Always stay in the kitchen when cooking—especially if using oil or high temperatures. If a pot catches fire, carefully slide a tight-fitting lid over the pot to smother the flames and then turn off the heat.
Day 11	Encourage smokers to smoke outside. Careless smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires. If you do allow smoking indoors use large, deep ashtrays that can't be knocked over and make sure cigarette butts are properly extinguished.
Day 12	There's more to responsible drinking than taking a cab home. With all the festive cheer this time of year, keep a close eye on anyone attempting to cook or smoke while under the influence of alcohol. Alcohol is all too often a common factor in many fatal fires.

Deep River Library

- The Library ended the year with its annual Volunteer Appreciation Party. Every year the Library board hosts an informal party in the program room. Over a hundred volunteers and guests attended the festive event. The Library welcomes anybody who would like to volunteer for a range of tasks in the library.
- Over the past year, the Library has enhanced many of its digital services. We installed the Mandarin online catalog. Patrons now can renew and reserve library items from home. Also, through our web site, deepriverlibrary.ca patrons have access to 11,000 e-books and 5,000 talking books. Downloadable DVD's and CD's will soon be available on our Overdrive service.
- The Library began a new program which highlights the community's literary creativity at our first Writer's Café. Writers presented in an informal setting original works of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Our next Writer's Café will be held in January 2012. If you are interested in participating, please obtain an application form at the Library.
- In 2011, the Library Arts Committee, LAC planned and implemented seven art shows in the Program Room, i.e., the community's art gallery. If you would like to help LAC in its volunteer work, please contact LAC at the Library.



Deep River Police Service

On-going Training

The fall and winter months are prime time for on-going police training. Constables Amanda Ueltzhoffer and Matt Barker completed an in-service Immediate Rapid Deployment (IRD) training course. All regular front-line members of the service have now received the IRD training. Acting Sergeant, Darin Faris, completed the two week front-line supervisors course at the Ontario Police College. Additionally, members of the service completed annual Use of Force Training. New this year was a fall firearms shoot which provided members extra practice with their service firearms. Requests for 2012 courses at the Ontario Police College have been completed and submitted. An update of the department's training plan will be completed when course allocations have been received.

New 12 Hour Duty Schedule

Front-line members of the Service are into their second year of a new 12 hour duty schedule. The schedule was completed and implemented as a result of co-operation between the Deep River Police Association members, the Deep River Police Services Board and Chief Michael Ueltzhoffer. The schedule provides extended periods of two officer coverage during the evening and night shifts as well as having the officers off every other weekend. Results to date have shown no additional costs, scheduling flexibility and good staff morale.

Communications Services Change

Efforts are well under way to complete the transfer of our communications services from Pembroke Police Service. We have undertaken to work with the Belleville Police Service and their fully staffed communications center. The Belleville Police communicators will be attending Deep River in the coming weeks to have a familiarization tour of our beautiful town. We look forward to educating and entertaining them. We believe there will be no noticeable change in service. The changeover is currently scheduled for December 21, 2011.

RIDE Program Commences

The Deep River Police Service is a proud participant in the provincial RIDE program. The Service continues to receive annual grant money to sponsor additional staffing for the program. The Service's funded portion of the program commenced October 29, 2011 and will continue into the early part of 2012. Citizens are reminded not to drink and drive. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.



***Deep River Police Service* cont'd...**

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday!



Chief Michael Ueltzhoffer



Sergeant Barry Swarbrick



Acting Sergeant Darin Faris



Constable Dave Newell



Constable Steve Lehoux



Constable Marek Brela



Constable Matthew Barker



Constable Amanda Ueltzhoffer



Constable Robert Medeiros



Carol Skea, Administrative Assistant



New Year's Day Levee

Please Join Us!

Mayor David V. Thompson and Deep River Council invite you to ring in the New Year on:

**Sunday, January 1, 2012
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Town Hall, 100 Deep River Road**

The New Year's Day Levee has evolved into an occasion to call upon representatives of our municipal government to exchange New Year's greetings and best wishes for the coming year with our residents, and to renew old acquaintances and meet new friends in a convivial atmosphere. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the events of the past year and to welcome in the challenges and opportunities of the New Year.

A special presentation will be made at 2:00 p.m. regarding the history of our Town Hall, and at that time we will also be able to shred our mortgage papers now that our final payment has been made. Please join us for some snacks, light refreshments, and lively conversation.

