

Mayor's report to city council

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024

PAO conference highlights

I've been away since Sunday at the Police Association of Ontario conference.

Police across our province face unprecedented challenges.

Highlights

Great Lakes Day on Capitol Hill

Next week I will be in Washington DC for Great Lakes Day on Capitol Hill. I serve on the board of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, which is a coalition of 250 mayors from Canada and the United States working to protect the Great Lakes. We meet with federal, provincial, and state representatives on both sides of the border whenever there's an issue relating to governance, economics, and science.

Golden Puck

Both arenas at the Vale Centre were back-to-back busy all weekend with 60 games played in the the Martin Van Gool Memorial Golden Puck 58th annual tournament.

The Golden Puck Hockey Committee is featured on our Sports Wall of Fame in the Vale Health and Wellness Centre. Founded in 1964, the committee coordinated its first tournament with eight peewee novice all-star teams from across Ontario. Out-of-town players were billeted with Port Colborne families for the three-day tournament. Back then, on the Saturday night of the tournament, Golden Puck held a dinner dance in the French Hall for all the parents and volunteers.

Golden Puck has a long history in Port Colborne, and is now named for the late Martin VanGool, who volunteered almost since the beginning.

On behalf of council, I congratulate the winning teams.

In the Under-9 division, Rosedale defeated Cayuga 4-3 to win the Golden Puck title.

The Under-11 champions are West Niagara Smithville, a strong team which shut-out Port Colborne 3-0.

In the Under-13 division, Port Colborne Sailors shut out the Hespeler Shamrocks 4-0 for the championship.

Bravo to Port Colborne coach Paul Masotti and his team, for excellent leadership. Thank you to the Golden Puck Committee for your continued leadership and hospitality shown to guests to our city from across Ontario.

Operatic Society

Congratulations to members of the Port Colborne Operatic Society and their best-selling show, Something Rotten, which is in its final run this weekend in Lakeshore Catholic High School Auditorium.

The hilarious farce about “the world’s first musical” is set in the time of the William Shakespeare. The costumes alone are worth the price of admission! Something Rotten is the 78th production – yes, 78! – of the Operatic Society, which was founded in 1945. It is the oldest amateur theatre company in Niagara.

Every year, the backstage crew and on-stage stars just seem to get better. Port Colborne is so fortunate to have the Operatic Society, and a community which loves and supports the work. Bravo. There are limited tickets at the door, for anyone who hasn’t seen it yet. The final three shows are Friday and Saturday night, and Sunday afternoon.