

# **Mayor's Report**

September 27, 2021 Council Meeting COVID-19

Ontario continues to pause its exit from the Roadmap to Reopening.

Ensuring you get vaccinated is more important than ever with the new Delta variant of COVID-19. Visit Ontario.ca for vaccination locations.

Also, you must now proof of vaccination to enter certain businesses and recreation facilities. Please ensure you carry this with you. If you need assistance in getting a printed copy of your vaccination record, stop by the Public Library and they can assist you.

Please watch our social media pages for complete updates as we receive them from the province. At this time, it will still be important for you to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

Staff are continuing to offer customer service support for residents, businesses, and visitors by phone, email, website, and social media channels.

If you have questions in regards to City Hall services or would like to report a concern, you can contact a Customer Service representative Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by calling 905-835-2900 or via email <u>CustomerService@portcolborne.ca</u>.

Alternatively, you can visit our website <u>www.portcolborne.ca</u> and submit a service request or inquiry by clicking on the "Request A Service" tab, located on the top right corner of our website page.

### Remembrance Day Poster Contest at Branch 56 in Port Colborne

The Royal Canadian Legion is now accepting entries for the Youth Remembrance Contests.

In partnership with schools across the country and with The Legion National Foundation, they promote remembrance and support youth education through the annual poster and literary contests. Students in Grades 1 through 12 are invited to submit their creative works, with a focus on Remembrance, through their local school to be entered into Legion Branch contests.

Winning entries move forward to the Legion's Provincial level contests. Finalists are then forwarded to the Legion National Foundation in Ottawa to be judged at the national level.

Last year, Ryan Mullins, a student at Lakeshore Catholic High School entered the poster you see on the screen in the Intermediate Grades 7, 8, 9 Black & White category.

He subsequently won at the Branch 56 Level, Zone, District and Provincial Levels and won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the National Level.

What an achievement for the student from Lakeshore Catholic High School in Port Colborne.

I encourage you to start thinking about an essay or poem to write or a picture to draw that inspires remembrance.

For more information, please contact Helene Trotier-Tate, Youth Education Chair at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 on Clarence Street.

## **Christmas Card Contest**

I would also like to invite the children of our community to help us with the design of our 2021 Christmas card.

Christmas is a time of family and friends. It brings many wonderful memories. I find it most appropriate that our children be a part of creating those memories which can be passed on to future generations.

The theme is "Christmas in Port Colborne."

Submissions should be made on a white sheet of paper, 8 ½" X 11", either vertical or horizontal, using any number of colours. Deep, dark colours produce a better illustration. I encourage you to draw an image that conveys the Christmas spirit with special focus on a Port Colborne person, place or thing.

The contest is open to all children who live or go to school in Port Colborne, up to and including those in Grade 8.

I would appreciate all submissions be received at my office at City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street by Friday, October 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. If you are dropping off your picture, please knock on the front door or drop it in the mail slot on the front east side of the building.

Please print your name, address and telephone number on the back of the picture.

## Meeting with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation

Last week, myself, Gary Long, Manager of Strategic Projects and Bram Cotton, Economic Development Officer met with staff from the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation including Vice President Jean Aubry Morin and Nicholas Poirier-Quesnel, Manager of Government Relations to discuss future opportunities for partnerships between the city and the Seaway.

These included land development, maintenance of properties, the cruise initiative and infrastructure at Dock 18.

The Seaway is a great asset to our city and businesses and we will continue to forge relationships to benefit all.

#### Niagara Region – Transit Survey

Niagara Region and all 12 local area municipalities are considering moving to a single, consolidated public transit system – a decision that could be made as early as this fall.

The proposed model based on consultation with all municipalities, would bring consistent operating hours and fares, new digital payment technology, and better connections for riders across Niagara.

It would contribute to the social and economic prosperity of Niagara in many ways by,

- Creating better access to jobs and services in Niagara, opening up new job options for residents in neighbouring municipalities, and new markets for businesses
- Protecting our natural environment by providing residents with more sustainable and environmentally friendly public transit options, reducing traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions
- Preparing Niagara for the future, by making sure our transit options can scale up to meet the needs of our growing population and job market
- Supporting the expansion and connectivity of GO Transit service to the region

I urge you to visit the website: www.movingtransitforward.ca to read more about it and complete the online survey.

## Multi-Use Trail between Welland and Port Colborne

Repairs are underway on the multi-use trail between Welland and Port Colborne. With the bad weather we had last week, things got a little delayed and we expect the trail to open by October 9<sup>th</sup>, in time for Thanksgiving weekend.

#### Fire Prevention Week – October 3-9, 2021

This year Fire Prevention Week is October 3-9 and focuses on "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!" Knowing what to do when an alarm sounds will keep you and your family safe. When an alarm makes noises – a beeping sound or a chirping sound – you must take action.

Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services is also inviting the community to PORTicipate in a fun interactive BINGO game. Starting this Thursday, residents can find Fire Safety BINGO cards online, on the City's Facebook page and in the October edition of City Hall News. The BINGO card will ask safety questions, to make sure residents are prepared for an emergency. For example, "Have you checked your smoke alarm recently?", "Do you know when your smoke alarm expires?". Once the resident has successfully completed an entire line on the BINGO card, they can snap a picture and send it to the City of Port Colborne via a Facebook private message or by emailing communicationsofficer@portcolborne.ca.

Fire & Emergency Services will a be hosting a free mask giveaway on Wednesday, October 5 from 4-6 p.m. at the Fire Station, located at 1 Killaly Street West. During this time, the Fire Fighters will be handing out masks and fire prevention safety goodie bags for kids!

More information about Fire Prevention Week can be found at portcolborne.ca/firepreventionweek.

Take care and be safe.