



PORT COLBORNE

Mayor's Report

JUNE 27, 2023

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

On behalf of City Council and staff, congratulations to the graduating classes of 2023 at Lakeshore Catholic High School and Port Colborne High School. Each high school is celebrating convocation ceremonies this evening, where hundreds of proud parents will be cheering their sons and daughters for their achievements. We salute the principals and staff for their commitment to students after three challenging years. We send best wishes to all the students for the next chapters of their lives. Make the most of every year, students!

IAN ROBERTS CERTIFICATION ACHIEVEMENT

Just a quick commendation for Ian Roberts, our Superintendent of Roads and Parks, who recently received additional provincial certification from the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors. Council supports the continued education and training of our staff, for their personal growth as well as to add to the experience and expertise of our team. We're proud of our team. Those letters after Ian's name are as important to us as they are to him. Today also happens to be Ian's fifth anniversary with the City of Port Colborne. Two excellent achievements to celebrate. Congratulations, Ian.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR SENIORS

The Library's **Let's Talk About** series is back with an important session to wrap up Seniors' Month. The session is Thursday, June 29, from 2 to 4 pm in the LR Wilson Archives, next door to the Library. There will be speakers from Bridges, Port Cares, Niagara Regional Police and Friends Over 55, as well as city staff from By-Law, the Fire Department and the Seniors' Advisory Committee. I will be there, too, to answer seniors' questions and concerns. So come out, and Let's Talk.

SLOW DOWN – SAFETY ZONES SIGNS

We're all aware speeding is a huge issue. There are more car crashes and accidents on roads and highways than ever before. We all have to SLOW DOWN! Just please drive the speed limit. Give yourself time to get to where you're going.

We have signs you can put in your lawn to remind drivers to Slow Down in the Safety Zone where you live.

Come get one from our customer service team at city hall.

We'll have some at the market on Friday, too.

CANAL DAYS LAUNCH

We had a perfect day to welcome sponsors and special guests to our Canal Days launch party last Wednesday in the pavilion at Sugarloaf Marina. It was a fantastic event!

Kudos to Jasmine Peazel-Graham and her communications team, and Amy Duffy and her Canal Days crew for an excellent presentation, and excellent line-up.

Things are really coming together, we're getting great action on social media, and lots of positive response. The festival is a month away!

Rather than read the list of bands and musicians, let's cue up the video, and share all the sights and sounds of what's to come.

SAIMA CUE VIDEO

Isn't that great? We're all looking forward to the 45th annual Canal Days Festival in the Civic Long Weekend in August. We can't wait to see you again!

CANADA DAY

Before we get to our signature festival in five weeks, it's our country's 156th birthday Saturday. Yes, Canada Day, July 1 is Saturday already!

The Niagara Antique Power Show annual Canada Day weekend is back, full steam! I'll be out at the Learn Farm on Wilhelm Road at noon for opening ceremonies. The volunteers have coordinated a terrific weekend of historic displays and activities for the whole family.

I'll also be celebrating with Port Colborne Optimists in HH Knoll Lakeview Park. Activities and events, food and non-stop music get underway at 10am and run until 6pm. I'll see you there for opening ceremonies at 1pm. There are so many things to see and do: including the Niagara Regional Police Band at 2:30.

When the Optimists wind up Canada Day in the Park, we'll all move over to West Street for the continuation of Port Colborne's Community Concert Series. Canada Day on the Canal runs from 6 to 10pm. The concert stage will be near the Harbour Master House on West Street at Charlotte.

XPrime takes the stage at 6:30pm, followed by Grace2, the Tragically Hip tribute band at 8:30pm.

Stick around for Canada Day fireworks over the canal at 10pm. We are always complimented by our fireworks displays over the canal, designed by RedBoss.

Let's all look forward to an amazing weekend ahead with lots of local things to do, to make us appreciate our home, our city, our country.

Let's support all the organizers and volunteers, let's salute our neighbours, and let's all be thankful and proud to be Canadian.