



GEORGINA

# Council Highlights

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## Georgina Town Council Jan. 27, 2021

### **COVID-19 verbal report from Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief**

Council received a verbal report from the Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief who provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. York Region has opened a [Voluntary Isolation Centre](#) which is available to residents facing complex barriers who may otherwise be unable to safely self-isolate away from others in their households. Council received the verbal report, and endorsed the water and property tax deferral program for property owners who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Verbal report – Pefferlaw Fire Hall update**

Council received a verbal report from Lawrence Artin, Head of Special Capital Initiatives, about construction work at the [Pefferlaw Fire Hall](#). The firefighting water tank has been completed and filled with water, and most painting has been completed. Gas, electrical and plumbing are nearly complete, and the gear grid units have been installed in the gear room. The aim is to have Georgina Fire and Rescue Services occupy the building by the end of February or beginning of March once Hydro One connects power. Some technical issues are being worked out between the electrical engineer, electrician and Hydro One supervisor.

### **Request from the Georgina Heritage Advisory Committee to designate Bonnie Park in accordance with Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act**

Council received the report and voted to refer the report back to staff and the Georgina Heritage Advisory Committee for clarification on the inclusion of Lorne Park in the heritage designation. Council also requested more detail in regards to the effect the designation would have on amenities in the park, and future changes and alterations.

### **Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Report and motion concerning its discontinuation of the operation of the Pefferlaw Dam**

Council approved the motion from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) and referred it to the Chief Administrative Officer for follow up and reporting back to Council. The motion includes a recommendation the LSRCA work with the Town in 2021 as a transition period for the operation of the dam. This includes developing funding opportunities with the Town for LSRCA staff and Town staff to install the stop logs together in the spring of this year, and providing the Town with the equipment required for the operation of the dam and provide training as required. [Read the motion.](#)

### **Off-road vehicles within the Town of Georgina**

Council received the briefing note and directed staff to request that York Regional Police staff provide a deputation to Council on off-road vehicle enforcement in Georgina. As of Jan. 1, 2021, municipalities listed in Ontario Regulation 8/03 were mandated for off-road vehicle use on highways unless they pass a by-law to prohibit or regulate their use on highways. The Town of Georgina is not listed in the regulation and does not have to take any immediate action. Off-road vehicles remain illegal on Town roadways.

### **Rural economic development grant program**

Council received the briefing note and approved the recommendation that Council endorse the submission of an application to the Rural Economic Development Grant Program to support the establishment of a business incubator accelerator at the Link. Council also approved delegating authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to execute any required agreements. Council allocated \$150,000 from the tax rate stabilization reserve for the business incubator accelerator pilot with this amount to be reduced based on finalizing partner-funding contributions. As well, Council directed that staff reach out to York Region, East Gwillimbury and Brock Township to secure funding partnerships.

### **Additional Council Information**

Comprehensive minutes of Georgina Town Council Meetings, which detail the full list of Council decisions, are available under [Agendas and Minutes](#) on the Town website once they have been ratified by Council.