

THE LOOK OUT

A Newsletter Created by the Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition

SUMMER 2022

GETTING BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Dear Members,

2022 continues to challenge us. Many people are experiencing burn out as we all continue to navigate life within increasing uncertainties at home, within the community (both locally and globally), and with concern for the health of people and the planet. This time of year, the weather brings a spark of joy as people are able to take vacations, rejuvenate and hopefully soak up some sun. We hope you are well and able to enjoy connecting with those you love and the things you

love doing. Our Board continues to be able to meet in person to engage in conversations; making sure matters of importance are front and centre and shared out to our members.

The newsletters and eblasts share opportunities with you to make a difference in our local municipalities and county. We hope this makes it easier for you to know what's happening and how to get involved, where and when you can.

We are thankful for a great membership of people who care about the place they call home and for the input and feedback contributed on a regular basis. Please send any thoughts, questions, reading suggestions and information you wish us to know as your Board of Directors.

Thank you for renewing your membership and referring others to join. If your membership is due, you can take advantage of the convenient on-line payment method (*e-transfers to info@monomulmur.com*) or mail in a cheque. (*P.O. Box 686 STN Main, Shelburne ON, L9V 3M1*) We accept renewals anytime.

We wish you good health and hope we can gather in the fall for an in-person AGM to work together on the MC² mission: to preserve our rural environment, to support effective local government, and to engage members in concerns that impact all ratepayers and our municipalities.

With thanks, Your Board

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**Mono Mulmur
Citizens' Coalition**
Our voice in the community
SINCE 1988



ELECTION REPORT

Monday October 24th is the date for our municipal election. MC² wants to remind every member how important these municipal elections are to our collective lifestyles in Mono, Mulmur and other residents of the County of Dufferin. Municipal Councils are the primary safeguards as to how the lands in our municipalities are to be used. These Councils approve the annual planning for the Town(ship)s, and as such they are responsible to ensure you or your neighbour don't come up with an idea for their property, which might seriously endanger your privacy, solitude, enjoyment and value of your property. They help control urban sprawl, unwanted industrial development or neighbours wanting to commercialize their residential properties. It

is incumbent upon all our citizens to look seriously at the candidates who are running for municipal office.

Our Councils have done a good job in maintaining the wonderful environment we enjoy every day, but this has not been done without a lot of thought, hard work, and at times, expensive legal proceedings against provincial tribunals and/or private citizens.

The deadline for candidates to apply for Council is August 19th. As we pass that deadline, make sure you visit your Town(ship)'s website and see who is running. If you don't know all the candidates, make a point of getting to know these people. There will be a bio on each individual, but don't just rely on that information. Contact the can-

didates with questions designed to find out their positions on issues that are important to you and your family. MC² will be hosting All Candidates' Meetings for both Mono and Mulmur. Plan to attend your respective meeting and ask the candidates your questions.

Council's job is to listen to its citizens and to govern in a way that is responsive to their wishes.

**YOUR JOB
IS TO ELECT THE
BEST COUNCIL
POSSIBLE!**

MULMUR UPDATES

The Mulmur All Candidates Meeting will be held on September 17th downstairs at the Municipal building from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Come a little earlier for light refreshments and a chat with your neighbours, MC² Board members and the candidates.** This is your opportunity to hear from the candidates and ask how their views of Mulmur align with yours.

We want to congratulate Andrew Cunningham who was appointed to fill the Council vacancy left by Ken Cufaro.

Council recently recognized **Carl Alexander** as the 2022 Outstanding Citizen of the Year for his work with the Bruce Trail Association, **Gordon Laird** as the Township's 2022 Senior

of the Year and **Simon Harman** as the recipient of the Grade 8 Academic Excellence Award at Primrose Elementary School.

Council recently declared a Climate Emergency for the purpose of "recognizing and deepening its commitment to protecting our economy, ecosystems, and community from climate change" and in response to this Climate Emergency, Council will try to limit its contributions to the climate crisis. One of the ways it will do this will be by initiating staff training on climate change and climate lens adaptation; enabling staff to offer educated options to Council at budget time. For more on this, the document can be found on page 5 of

the July 6 Council Minutes.

Mulmur was not successful in its application to Infrastructure Canada's Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program. The monies requested were to cover 60% of the cost of the North Dufferin Community Centre (NDCC) renovation project. From the beginning, we have been told that the project would not go ahead without such a grant. Council has not commented on the future of the Centre.

Have a wonderful August and see you on September 17th.

Cheryl



Summer season is in full progress. Let's all enjoy the warmth that the season has to offer, and the fruits which mother nature has provided .

On the political scene in Mono we followed several developments. Since space is limited here, we'll highlight some of the issues we are monitoring and encourage you to follow as well. Through the various updates that Council makes available (via E-Update free subscription after each meeting) and/or by participating in the electronic option to attend council meetings via YouTube we can all keep ourselves well informed.

These are some points of public interest; Mono Council approved an exemption to the town's noise bylaw to permit a limited number of events to take place at Island Lake Conservation area this summer. A full slate of members to the DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) committee was established and positions filled.

An approval of a "beer-by-the-glass" sales exemption permit was approved to a new brewery established on the 20th Sideroad in the Fifth Line area.

A proposal to dismantle the dam at Monora Park is in progress of approvals. Financing for this proposed renovation has been set at \$320,000.00 (plus rehabilitation will come from various sources as a cooperative effort between governments, conservation agencies and other interested parties).

Dandex corporation has elected to withdraw their application to the OLT (Ontario Land Tribunal) hearing with regards to their proposed rezoning application for a wedding venue on 4th Line. These hearings are very expensive and difficult to budget for, so this is most welcome news for the ratepayers.

An application for refurbishment and expansion for an existing retreat centre at 834235 Fourth Line was received and is being considered by Mono Council. Also on the application stage is an expansion of a stable to accommodate an indoor jumpers horse training centre on the 6th Line.

The town has approved the addition of a storey to the Hilton Hampton Hotel to add a commercial floor at ground level in addition to their originally approved proposed development.

We are pleased that Mayor Creelman put a motion before Council to request that the Province of Ontario put a freeze on all new gravel pit licence/permits. Many gravel producing municipalities have done the same.

At time of writing there is a special council meeting called to deal with a

request to purchase a right of way portion of 5th Line and 15th Sideroad by a private neighbour. Most recent news tells us that the applicant has withdrawn the application and the Council will be reviewing the bylaws surrounding these town right-of-ways. Current Council is of the opinion that these lands should remain Town property for the use of its citizens. (This provides us a clear example of how important it is to have Councillors with land stewardship focus elected to Council.)

As you can see, there are several "on the go" issues we are monitoring, it is so important to keep informed as these issues may affect you directly. It keeps us busy but it's something we enjoy following and reporting on.

Now that the provincial election is concluded we must remember also that we have a municipal election coming up in October. The Town of Mono has elected to provide a limited space on their website for all candidates to have their CVs posted. We urge you to get informed on who your candidates are. If you feel passionate about your town and want to get involved in the decision-making process, consider this as an opportunity for you to run for the various Council positions available and participate. It is your democratic right!

We wish you a great summer and stay in touch.

Del & Bob

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

We are happy to share with our members a fall presentation on **Sunday, October 23, 2022 between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.**, organized by the Environment Committee. The focus will be on waste management, tentatively entitled: **“Skeptical of Recycling? The Future of Our Waste in Dufferin County”**. It will be a wonderful opportunity to re-connect in person as a

group, in addition to a chance to understand and review the data on waste management from the various perspectives and opinions.

Mulmur, Mono and Dufferin County are making increased efforts to integrate better practices to support a sustainable environment in this time of climate crisis. Browsing their websites

and records of meetings via agendas and minutes will hopefully inspire and affirm your own actions on helping the local and global climate.

We are always interested in having members sit in on an Environment Committee meeting, so come out and join us!

Rita

DUFFERIN COUNTY

Welcome to our new regular report on Dufferin County, where we will focus on a few issues/decisions that we feel are important.

Remuneration for the term of Council (2022 to 2026) has been increased after a review of other municipalities. It will increase the salary budget by

\$86,210 and was passed by a vote of 21 to 11. Councillors will make \$24,630.40 (currently \$19,625.28), the Committee Chairs \$26,130.40 (up from \$21,125.28) and the Warden \$79,686.80 (currently \$52,209.32).

Longyuan Power, under the name of Dufferin Wind Power, has submitted a

proposal to build a 20 MW+ solar farm and battery storage system at the former Eco-Energy Park land. Staff was directed to complete a detailed review and report back no later than the September Council meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our members should know that your organization is in a good financial position. With the virtual shut down of events during the pandemic, MC² has not spent funds for workshops, annual meetings, or any other special items. Our membership numbers, while down a bit, have held up fairly well and most members are current with their membership fees. We will be sending out a reminder to members who have forgotten to renew for this year. As

usual, we have also received some generous donations from a cadre of members who want to show their extra appreciation for our work. These donations are very much appreciated.

A detailed financial statement will be sent out with our annual general meeting material. At the end of June, 2022 our bank balance was a little over \$15,000.00, as healthy a position as I have seen in the last 8 years. Members

will be pleased to hear that MC² is making plans to return to our normal pre-pandemic activities in the fall.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support.

Bob

THE LOOK OUT Your comments on this issue are welcomed at info@monomulmur.com.

The Executive of MC²: Elaine Capes, President - Rita Reitsma, Secretary - Bob Mitchell, Treasurer.

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Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Russel / Newsletter Design: Felicite Morgan / Cover Image: 3rd Line Vista / Credit: Felicite Morgan.