



Mayor's Blog

Vaccines! Please follow Southwestern Public Health for your opportunity to get vaccinated and help your community get out of these restrictions. Phase 2 from Mid-March to July is essential workers, older adults, at risk populations, and other adults.

As I write this there are zero active COVID-19 cases in Zorra, 45 in Oxford, and 66 in Southwestern Public Health as a whole, and our area is in Orange. Please continue to #DoYourPart to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, to keep your community healthy, and businesses and services open:

- Stay home if you are sick
- Practice physical distancing by staying at least 2 metres apart
- Wear a face covering
- Wash your hands

At the March 3, 2021 Zorra Township Council meeting, Council decided to eliminate the Township's dog tag registration program, effective January 1, 2022. Existing dog tags will remain in effect for the balance of this year. Consider supporting local over the next few months to purchase a personalized dog tag.

Council also decided to support Thamesford Minor Baseball Association constructing a semi-permanent batting cage in Lions South Park in Thamesford.

Council has agreed to work with Quadro telecommunications to bring a fibre optic line south on 15th Line to service Thamesford and properties along 15th Line, and wrote a letter of support for Execulink Telecom for a project that would extend fibre optic coverage for the remaining areas of Zorra south of Road 84 not presently serviced by high speed internet, the above Quadro project, or the previously announced SWIFT project.

Proposed Southwest Landfill update:

Under the Planning Act any applicant is entitled to a fair hearing as their planning application(s) proceeds. Council members must not take an opinion in favour of, or opposed to, any application in advance of rendering a decision on any planning matter. For a municipality to take a position before even considering a planning application would be considered "bad faith" and leave the Township, and any of its decisions, vulnerable to appeal or a court challenge. It would be a great shame if a local council member, in an effort to appease immense public pressure, publicly stated a position that could then legally undermine their ability to deliver the desired result for their community. There is more detail in a "backgrounder" we released to explain Zorra's role and position in the process: search "backgrounder" at zorra.ca

Your Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee is expecting the final Peer Review Team report by June.

I can assure you that my vote will be consistent with my campaign commitments and the Zorra Strategic Plan. While I cannot say how other Council members will vote, I can guarantee that the Zorra Strategic Plan commitments will be considered. If you have



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input on the proposal I encourage you to also submit your input to Walker as they are obliged to include it in their Environmental Assessment application to the Provincial Ministry of the Environment.

This year Oxford County Public works will be performing work at the closed landfill sites located at Lakeside – 256321 25th Line, Embro – 335381 33rd Line, and Thamesford – 622914 Road 62. They are establishing an environmental monitoring program which is considered a best practice for the management of closed landfill sites. Starting in mid-February and running through to August, the following activities may be observed: Contractor site visits to establish gas probes and monitoring well locations as well completion of private and public locates, drilling and installation of gas probes and monitoring wells, spring and winter surface water and gas probe monitoring, repair of fencing, removal and/or cover of exposed material.

Seventh generation decision making is about considering the consequences of our decisions on the next seven generations. It is most frequently cited in an environmental context, and that is a great use of it, but it is useful in a broader context to. Decisions we make today will not only affect US tomorrow, but our children's children, and theirs, and our neighbours' grandchildren, and on and on.

As always, please feel free to contact me on any issue:

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