



The Cornerstone

Township Of O'Connor

FEBRUARY 2023



Please note that the **Township Office will be closed** Monday, February 20th for the Family Day holiday.

2023 INTERIM TAX BILLS

The Interim tax bills will be mailed out during the first week of February. These bills will include the first two of four installments for the 2023 year. Due dates for the Interim Tax Bills are February 28th and April 28th. The interim billing is based on 50% of your previous years property taxes. Once the 2023 budget is approved and the rates have been finalized, the final billing, which includes the last two installments for 2023 will be issued. Payments of cash or cheque can be dropped off at the Municipal Office located at 330 Hwy 595. Alternative methods of payment include etransfer, internet or telephone banking. When sending etransfers, you must send a separate email to the township at twpoconn@tbaytel.net with the password so that the etransfer can be accepted. Otherwise, your bill will remain outstanding. For more information, please call the Municipal Office at 476-1451.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

The Township of O'Connor is currently looking for one person to sit on the Committee of Adjustment. The Committee is comprised of three members which include one Council member and two non-Council members. The Committee makes decisions on any minor variance applications, that are received from a property owner, in respect of land, building, structures or the use thereof. When the proposed development of lands does not conform to the Township's Zoning By-law or Official Plan but where the general intent and purpose of the by-law and the plan are maintained or application is required. Interested persons may submit a letter to Council by Monday, February 13, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at the O'Connor Municipal Office located at 330 Highway 595. Council will review the letters at their meeting that evening.

Employment Opportunity - Casual Disposal Site Attendant

The Township of O'Connor is currently looking to hire an individual for casual employment as **Disposal Site Attendant**. The individual would be required to fill in for the Disposal Site Caretaker when required. For more information, please contact the Municipal Office at 476-1451. Applications are to be dropped off at the Municipal Office, 330 Hwy 595, on or before Monday, February 13th, 2023 by 4:30 p.m. Please indicate on the envelope that you are applying for the position of Casual Disposal Site Attendant. Council will review submitted resumes at their meeting to be held later that evening.

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS

The Township of O'Connor Council and Staff would like to wish Richard Pitton a very happy retirement. Mr. Pitton worked for the Township of O'Connor seasonally as an Equipment Operator for the Township's Road Department for the last 6 years and retired January 2023. Congratulations on your retirement Richard! We wish you the best of health, happiness, and success on your new journey in life.

O'CONNOR SKATING RINK

Come check out the new skating rink! See back page for Grand Opening! **Please keep your dogs at home.** Although it's fun to bring dogs along, they can leave behind urine and fecal matter around the rink. In an effort to keep our rink area clean and safe, please leave them at home.

We also ask that only shovels and snowblowers be used on the rink for clearing snow. Unfortunately, plow trucks can leave residual salt and sand from their tires on the rink. This could lead to ice damage or premature melting.

If you are interested in volunteering or for more information, please call the Township Office at 476-1451 or 476-1453. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Emergency Contacts:

Medical Emergencies: 911

Fire: 911 Police: 911

Municipal Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday:

9:00 am to Noon & 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Fridays: 9:00 am to Noon

Office Phone: 476-1451

Fax: 473-0891

Garage: 476-1453

Community Centre: 476-1452

Website: www.oconnortownship.ca

E-mail: twpoconn@tbaytel.net

Find the Cornerstone on our website!

Disposal Site Hours:

Winter Hours (Sept 1 - Mar 31)

Tuesdays 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Summer Hours (Apr 1 to Aug 31)

Tuesdays 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saturdays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Volunteer Fire Department:

O'Connor needs volunteer firefighters!

For more information or questions on volunteering, please call Fire Chief Henry Mattas at 628-3523.

Dog Control Officer:

Margaret Foster, 632-1235

Building Permits:

By-law Number 2016-12, being a by-law respecting Construction, Demolition, Inspections, and to set out the rates for permits within the Corporation of the Township of O'Connor states that building permits will be required for the construction, erection, alteration, repair, removal, relocation and change of use of all buildings, decks or structures within the Township of O'Connor. If you are building anything larger than **161.2** square feet or any building with heating and/or plumbing, you are required to apply for a building permit. For more information, please call the Township Office or the Township's **Chief Building Official, Ken Yanishewski, at 708-9944 or email to cbo5801.16@gmail.com** Applications are available on the Township website or at the Township office.

Oliver Paipoonge Library Hours:

Rosslyn - Tues & Thurs 10 am - 8 pm

Fridays 10 am - 3 pm

Saturdays 1 - 4 pm

Murillo - Mon & Wed 10 am - 8 pm

Saturdays 9 am - 12 noon

Email: oplibrary@tbaytel.net

<http://oliverpaipoonge.olsn.ca/>

Thunder Bay District Health Unit:

625-5900 or Toll Free: 1-888-294-6630

www.tbdhu.com/coronavirus

Telehealth Ontario:

1-866-797-0000

Call Ontario 2-1-1 to find programs and services in your area.



COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next meetings of Council:

Monday, February 13th - Council Chambers and virtual.

Monday, February 27th - Council Chambers and virtual.

The regular meetings of Council will be held at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers at 330 Highway 595. Virtual attendance at these meetings will remain an option for those not wishing to attend in person. To attend virtually, please visit the Township website at www.oconnortownship.ca to access the meeting links through the "Council" page.

Mayor: Jim Vezina - 577-6735

Councillors:

Alex Crane - 473-9420 John Sobolta - 624-8025

Bishop Racicot - 577-2215 Carly Torkkeli - 620-2579

Council welcomes your involvement.



Dogs Running at Large

If you are having trouble with dogs running at large, please contact the Township's Dog Control Officer, Margaret Foster at 632-1235. Please be mindful of making sure your dogs are off the roads and in your own yard. With icy road conditions, you are keeping drivers and your pets safe by keeping them in the yard.



The Township of O'Connor
Council & Staff would like to
wish everyone a safe and fun
Family Day this Monday,
February 20th.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORMS

Have you filled out or updated your Emergency Information Form? These forms are so important to have on file at the Township Office for your safety, in the event of an emergency. As a small community, staff are always concerned of our residents' well-being. These forms give staff the information they need to ensure that your needs are met during an emergency or in the event of an emergency evacuation. It also lets staff know if you are willing to give a helping hand to your community in the event of an emergency. All information is kept confidential and used only in the event of an emergency.

Find the Emergency Information Form on the Township's website under "O'Connor Living", "Emergency Services." Email or drop off completed forms to the Township Office during regular office hours or drop in an envelope through our mail slot located on the office front door.



O'Connor's History Book

"First Hundred Years Of Country Living At Its Best"

The Township of O'Connor has copies of the O'Connor History Book which commemorate the "First 100 years of O'Connor's Country Living At Its Best." Copies of the hardcover book can be purchased for \$40 at the O'Connor Township Office during regular office hours. Share the memories and get one today!



DISPOSAL SITE

Not sure what to do on these cold wintery days? Now is the perfect time to declutter your house! But don't throw those items away. Reuse, repurpose or donate!

1. Start with the Pantry.

Find all the unopened items in your pantry you thought you would consume and decide whether to keep them or donate them before they expire. Donate your items to the O'Connor Blessing Box or Rural Cupboard Food Bank. Drop off at the O'Connor Township Office at 330 Hwy 595.

2. Next to the Closets!

Go through your closet...ALL of them! Take out any clothing you no longer wear and hand it down to family or friends or donate to a charitable organization. If you haven't worn it in at least six months or it no longer fits, it doesn't belong in your dresser drawers. Take out all the unused sports equipment and donate it or bring it to Play it Again Sports for store credit.

3. The Toy Box

Clean out the toy box. Not just the kids toy box, but the pet's toy box too! Get the kids to help. Give them the satisfaction of regifting some toys. Donate gently used items to charitable organizations or regift to family and friends.

4. The (dreaded) Junk Drawer

Clean out that awful overflowing junk drawer. Recycle old scrap paper. Bring your old batteries to the Township Office where staff take them in for recycling for you. Repurpose all those little items into a fun and innovative idea.

5. The Basement

Reclaim your basement by sorting out old equipment, furniture and anything else you have taking up space. Not sure what to do with these old items? Donate or repurpose of course! Find a highschool graduate that will be in need of furniture come September, or donate equipment to Teen Challenge or the Underground Gym. One man's junk is another man's treasure.

6. Your Office

Clear the way for a more productive workspace! Old electrical equipment no longer useful? Bring old electronic equipment (computers, printers, tv's) to the WEEE (electronics) bin at the O'Connor Disposal Site at no charge. Clean out old files for shredding and recycling. Bring old books and binders to a charitable organization.

7. Seasonal Items

Now's the time to start sorting out all your seasonal items. Start now and put all the excess items you can do without to the side in boxes for this summer's yard sale. Don't wait until spring. Spring is for gardening!

Bottom line... Decluttering does not mean throwing away. Keeping our unused items out of the landfill helps keep the waste and taxes down. Do your part in keeping as much waste as possible out of the landfills.

Bonus... February is the perfect time to chase the winter blues away and decluttering will help get you there. Decluttering will not only clean your living space, it will also help clear your mind, help you feel more at ease and help fight off the winter blues.

Please check our website at www.oconnortownship.ca for more information in our Waste Disposal Guide to properly dispose of your waste and how you can sort, reuse, repurpose, and donate your items.



Volunteer Fire Department News

Since the last newsletter, the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department received 1 Chimney Fire call and 7 First Response calls.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER! WE NEED YOU!!

The Township of O'Connor is looking for volunteers. Now is the perfect time to join for anyone seeking to volunteer as firefighters or first response. Our community needs more volunteers to ensure that in the event of an emergency, our residents will be taken care of as fast as possible. Without a Volunteer Fire Department, residents can also expect an increase in their insurance rates. For questions on volunteering for the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department, First Response and/or Auxiliary, please call:

Fire Chief Henry Mattas at 628-3523

Volunteer Fire Department

Leanne at 475-5828

Volunteer First Response

Cheri at 621-5768

Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary

PLEASE NOTE: To apply for the Volunteer Fire Department, First Response or Auxiliary team, meeting dates and applications can be found on the Township of O'Connor website at www.oconnortownship.ca.

Your Volunteer time could make a difference in someone else's life.

WINTER FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

- * Give space heaters space...at least 3 feet!
- * Maintain and clean your chimneys regularly.
- * Keep matches & lighters away from children's reach.
- * Always stay in the kitchen while cooking.
- * Please keep your fire numbers visible and clear of snow so that emergency vehicles can find your home.
- * Review your Home Fire Escape Plan with the family.

Don't forget to test your smoke alarms monthly. Now that days are getting colder, we are using our chimneys and furnaces or woodstoves. Ensuring your smoke alarms are working properly could save your life.

SMOKE DETECTORS & CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS SAVE LIVES



The O'Connor Fire Department has for purchase:

Kidde Smoke Alarms.....\$25.00

Kidde Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms.....\$25.00

Kidde Combination Smoke/CO Alarms.....\$50.00

These units can be picked up at the O'Connor Township Office during regular office hours. For more information on fire safety, please check the Township website at www.oconnortownship.ca or ask the Township Office staff for available information pamphlets.



O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

Maximum capacity in the Community Centre is 162 people. If a liquor license is required, the Centre's capacity is 132 people. Please call the Township Office at 476-1451 for more information or to book your event.

O'Connor Community Centre Rental Fees:

- ⇒ Social with Liquor - \$200.00
 - ⇒ Hall Rental No Liquor - \$75.00
 - ⇒ Use of basement Kitchen - \$50.00
- Please note that a damage deposit may be required.**



DONATE YOUR:

- ⇒ POP CANS ⇒ BEER CANS
- ⇒ LIQUOR BOTTLES ⇒ BEER BOTTLES

For the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department! HELP OUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT RAISE MONEY BY PUTTING YOUR CANS AND BOTTLES IN THE SPECIALIZED BINS FOR O'CONNOR!

The O'Connor Fire Department Auxiliary has pop & beer can, beer & liquor bottle bins at the O'Connor Disposal Site, the O'Connor Fire Hall, Kakabeka Falls Public School and Green Acres Variety. Using these bins helps raise money for the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department, thus reducing the tax dollars needed during budget time.

PLEASE NOTE: These bins are ONLY for pop & beer cans, beer & liquor bottles. All other recyclables should be placed in the regular recycling bins at the Disposal Site. Thanks to all who have donated to date.

FEELING EXTRA CHARITABLE? Drop the can tabs off at the O'Connor Township Office to go to the March of Dimes.

Winter Driving

Winter brings snow and snow brings out the plow trucks. Please use caution and slow down when approaching plow trucks on Municipal roads and on Provincial highways and let them do their job to ensure roads are clear and safe to drive. When plowing and shoveling snow from driveways, residents are reminded that it is illegal to push the snow across a roadway. Ridges that are left behind can cause a potential hazard to motorists. Be cautious in inclement weather, slow down and always be aware of other drivers. Also, it is important to check your winter tire pressure on a regular basis as the cold temperatures can decrease tire pressure. Drive safe.



O'CONNOR EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGING SERVICE

Winter season is here and the possibility of snow storms, ice storms, road closures and power outages are happening! Now is the time to make sure you are signed up for O'Connor's Emergency Text Messaging Service. It is free of charge and phone numbers are for this service only.

Stay informed on road closures, emergencies and updates happening in O'Connor Township.

Instructions for the Township of O'Connor Emergency Text Messaging System can be found on the township website at www.oconnortownship.ca under "O'Connor Living", "Emergency Services."

Stay informed, Starting today!



Commemorative Plaques

Celebrate a family member, friend or loved one and order a plaque TODAY!

The Township of O'Connor offers plaques to observe special anniversaries of 50 years or longer and birthday celebrations of 75 years or older for present and past residents of the Township. If you know anyone who will be celebrating either of these special events, please contact the Township Office three weeks prior to the date and a plaque will be ordered at no charge.

19 85 MOM'S PANTRY

Canada's Food Fundraiser

The **O'Connor Community Club** is holding a Mom's Pantry Fundraiser. Mom's Pantry Products are a Canadian fundraising company that is 100% family owned and operated with over 40 years of experience in the fundraising industry. They believe only in offering the best products with high quality ingredients and nutrients for that homemade goodness. They have over 200 products to choose from and also provide nut free and gluten free products. **Orders can be placed on-line at www.momspantry.ca. The order number is 366353 and the passcode is 22726.** If you are unable to order online or if you would like a paper copy of the order form, please contact Lorna at 475-3537 in the evenings or at the Township office at 476-1451. Orders will be ready for pick up the week of March 27th (date to be determined).

Save time, Online ordering easier than ever!

Orders must be in by Friday, March 10th!

NO ACCOUNT IS REQUIRED AND SIGNING IN IS NOT NECESSARY.

1. Simply navigate to momspantry.ca
2. Click on «Shop Now» and start adding products to your cart.
3. When you're done adding items, click «Check Out» and enter the Order Number **366353** and Group Passcode **22726**. The Group Name is O'Connor Community Club. If you order online, DO NOT submit a paper order form. Once you finish the checkout process, complete your payment to finalize your order. No further action is required.

O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CLUB

Please join us at the Grand Opening of the O'Connor Community Rink on Sunday, February 19th between 1 and 4 to celebrate the newly resurfaced rink.

The community Club is once again having their yearly Mom's Pantry fundraiser. Please see ad left of this for further details. Pick up date will be posted in the March issue of the Cornerstone.

The Community Club members will be having their next meeting on Monday, April 14th. If you are interested in joining the O'Connor Community Club team or volunteering for the club, please contact Lorna or Linda at 476-1451 for more information. All are welcome to attend. Meeting nights are flexible to adhere to members availability. We are always looking for new members, event ideas and activities!

O'CONNOR BLESSING BOX

Thank you to everyone that has donated to the O'Connor Blessing Box. The "Blessing Box" is a **community pantry** open to and supported by the residents of O'Connor. The Blessing Box can be found outside of the O'Connor Community Centre at 330 Highway 595. If you have any questions, please contact Shelley at 629-2851. If you would like to contribute to the Blessing Box, please see examples of items below to donate:

- Rice
- Pasta, Boxed Soup
- Oatmeal, Cereal
- Oatmeal, Granola or Cereal Bars
- Crackers
- Pancake Mix (add water mix)
- Peanut Butter
- Toilet Paper, Tissue Boxes

NorWest Community Health Centre

Virtual chair yoga from the comfort of your home

Christine will lead you through a gentle chair yoga practice that will exercise your mind and body. Learn seated yoga postures, breathing techniques and new ways of relaxation and stress management.

Yoga can help to:

- Improve flexibility
- Improve balance
- Increase strength
- Manage pain
- Reduce stress
- And is an all-round great time!

**Everyone is welcome to join this free program.
EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 1:30 p.m.**

CALL SHAUN AT 473-5528 TO REGISTER



Kakabeka Falls & Rural District RCL Branch #225

Kakabeka Legion, 4556 Highway 11-17, Kakabeka Falls

Friday, Feb. 3rd - **Teen Challenge** 2:00 - 7:00 pm
 Saturday, Feb. 4th - **Teen Challenge** 7:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Saturday, Feb. 11th - **Executive/General Meeting**
 2:30/3:00pm
 Sunday, Feb. 12th - **Buffet Breakfast** 8:30 am - noon
 Friday, Feb. 17th - **Rural 60+ Lunch** 12:00 - 1:00 pm
 Saturday, Feb. 18th - **Dance with Quest** 7:00 - 10:00 pm
 Sunday, Feb. 19th - **Jam Session** 6:30 - 9:30 pm
 Saturday, Feb. 25th - **Dance with Quest** 7:00 - 10:00 pm
 Sunday, Feb. 26th - **An Afternoon of Music**
 2:00 - 4:00 pm

For questions or information on events, please call and leave a message on the Legion hotline at 473-9122.



For more information
or to book an
appointment, please
call (807) 473-5528.

Murillo Library

Monday 10 – 8:00 pm
Wednesday 10 – 8:00 pm
Saturday 9 am – 12:00 pm
935-2729



Shopping bags needed, plastic or fabric.

If you have an abundance of bags, the Library would love to have them to offer patrons for their book check outs.

Donations of puzzles wanted at the library. The winter is long and puzzles and puzzles are a popular activity. Both the Murillo and Rosslyn Library have puzzles available to borrow.

Email:

oplibrary@tbaytel.net

Website:

<http://oliverpaipoonge.olsn.ca>



The Library will be hosting a free kids Valentine's craft indoors at the Rosslyn Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 11th from 11:00 to 3:00. Drop in, registration is not required.

Rosslyn Library

Tuesday 10 – 8:00 pm
Thursday 10 to 8:00 pm
Friday 10 – 3:00
Saturday 1 – 4 pm



Thank you to the St. Marks Quilting and Craft group for their donation in memory of Marnie MacMillan and Gillian Hearn.

We will be adding a number of new quilting and knitting books to our collection as a lasting legacy in honour of these ladies.



CRIBBAGE

BEGINNERS WELCOME!

EVERY TUESDAY 1 P.M.

ROSSLYN COMMUNITY CENTER

3405 ROSSLYN ROAD



'Get Creative' craft gathering
Every Thursday from 1 to 4:00

at Rosslyn Hall



Bring in your current craft project to work on alongside other 'crafty-minded' people. This is a great time to meet new people, socialize and share tips and ideas.

Call 939-2312 for more information.

Join us at Rosslyn Library!



CARPET BOWLS GAME

Activities for Seniors

Seniors!

Help nurture your mind and body with a fun game of carpet bowling.

- Relaxed and gentle pace of exercise
- Socializing and fun times
- Free
- Coaching available
- Snacks and refreshments

Beginners welcome!!

Where: Rosslyn Hall

Date: every Friday

Morning session 10 am - noon

Afternoon session 1 pm - 3 pm

Pre-booking takes priority over drop-ins

Please call the library at 939-2312 for more information or booking.

Please bring indoor shoes!

Thunder Bay & Area Food Strategy

Are you passionate about building a sustainable food system for the Thunder Bay region? For more information to become a Food Strategy Network Member to provide oversight and strategic advice for the implementation of the strategy, visit <https://tbfoodstrategy.com/>

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Conmee Municipal Complex
19 Holland Rd, Kakabeka Falls P0T1W0
807-285-0836

**Next Food Bank is
Wednesday, February 15, 2022**

**Registration 9 am to 11 am
Drive-thru pick up**

We sincerely thank all those that continue to support us during COVID-19.

Your donations enable the food bank to remain open.



Ontario Park Pass lending continues in 2023!

Use your library card to borrow a week-long day use park pass this year. Oliver Paipoonge Public Library has 6 passes available, use this opportunity to enjoy the health benefits of being outdoors and experience the beautiful nature that our parks have to offer. Contact the Murillo or Rosslyn Library for more information.

Start the new year off right! It's time to join.... Free Exercise Class for all ages



This safe low-impact routine works to lubricate joints and keep them flexible, strengthen and stabilize individual muscles and increase blood circulation resulting in a decreased number of falls and an increased ability to better accomplish day-to-day physical activities.

**Drop in every Tuesday and Thursday
from 11:30 – 12:00 at Rosslyn Library**
(Stretch bands and balls on Tuesday, weights on Thursday) *Please bring indoor shoes and weights.*

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

TAX RECEIPTS

for 2022 Donations

Will be issued first week of FEBRUARY

If you have not received it by

March 1st, please call 285-0836

or email ruralcupboardfoodbank@gmail.com

THANK YOU

To Rapport Credit Union for the countless years they had a food drop-off bin - Since they have moved to their new location, it is now adjacent to the Evergreen Pharmacy, all donations should be left at the Pharmacy location.

To the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department and O'Connor Volunteers for the generous donations raised at their Christmas Parade held in November.

To Gary and the Kakabeka Falls Legion for so generously raising funds throughout the year through the Musical Sundays, the Christmas Concert and the Christmas Dinner held for the Rural Cupboard Food Bank Clients and Volunteers.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 12th - 6 pm

Followed by General Meeting

Conmee Council Chambers

(in person) or Virtual

GILLIES COMMUNITY CENTRE EVENTS

PLAYGROUP TUESDAYS

9:30-12pm
Please follow the FB group for updates & schedule:)

WALDORF PARENT & CHILD GATHERING

2nd Friday of every month
from 10-12pm
Donations encouraged for materials
Contact: melkaltenbach@gmail.com

BOOK SWAP

FEBRUARY 25 & 26
1000's of books!
11-5pm daily
\$Donations\$
Encouraged
FREE EVENT!
All donations directly assist the GCC

SEED SWAP RETURNS

MARCH 4TH!
That's right! Seedy Saturday returns March 4!!
More details to come. Please follow us on Facebook for more info.

THE GCC IS AVAILABLE TO RENT FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT!

Email: gilliescommunitycentre@gmail.com
or message us on Facebook for rental or any other inquires.

#1835 HWY 595
SOUTH GILLES



This is a reminder that the LRCA does not monitor ice conditions at any of our Conservation Areas. Make yourself aware of weather conditions before heading out to explore, and always ensure you are dressed appropriately and are wearing appropriate footwear while visiting. There is no winter maintenance on any of our trails. Please be safe when visiting.

The LRCA conducts snow surveys on a bimonthly basis on the 1st and 15th of the month between November and May of each year. There are three historical snow survey locations which are located at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area (Current River), Madeline Street (McVicar Creek), and Vibert Road (Pennock Creek). Snow depth and weight (water content) are collected and forwarded to the MNRF's Surface Water Monitoring Centre as part of the Flood Forecasting Program.

The January 16, 2023, snow surveys indicate that the snow survey locations are above average for snow depth and water content, when compared to the historical averages for January 15. The snow depth results were: McVicar Creek – 35.4 centimetres (cm) (16% above average), Pennock Creek – 41.8 cm (24% above average), and Current River – 48 cm (10% above average). The water content results were also above average for all three snow courses, with an equivalent water content ranging from 121 millimetres (mm) at McVicar Creek, 103.9 mm at Pennock Creek and 115.6 mm at Hazelwood (Current River). The next snow survey measurements will be taken on February 1, 2023.

Please be advised that a "pay and display" unit will be installed at Silver Harbour Conservation Area during 2023, which will replace the coin box at that location. Vehicles parked at Silver Harbour (including vehicles utilizing the boat launch facility) will be required to display a slip from the Pay and Display unit or have a valid Explore Card Parking Pass displayed. All revenue generated through day use parking fees and Explore Card sales is used for Conservation Area upkeep and maintenance (including boat launch facilities) and staff costs. Non-compliance is subject to fines under Regulation 113: Conservation Areas – Lakehead Region. The 2023 Explore Card Parking Pass is available now, which provides parking at our Conservation Areas for one calendar year at a cost of only \$40.00 +HST instead of the \$5.00 per vehicle day use parking fee. Visit our webstore at www.store.lakeheadca.com or give us a call at (807) 344-5857 to purchase yours now! Get out and Explore!



NATIONAL FLAG DAY OF CANADA - FEBRUARY 15TH



Hymers Fair News



The Hymers Agricultural Society (HAS) is pleased to introduce its 2023 Board of Directors:

Erin Laforest, President
Lawrence Prystanski, 1st Vice President
Wendy Wright, 2nd Vice President
Debbie Hoover, Exhibit Secretary
Oona Szyja, Treasurer

Randy Creighton, Director	Gerry Murray, Director
Margaret Duncan, Director	Nadia Myhal, Director
Sara Fisher, Director	Rhonda Prystanski, Director
James Glavish, Director	Victoria Prystanski, Director
Jeff Glavish, Director	Charlene Shuttleworth, Director
Chris Lawrence, Director	Don Shuttleworth, Director
Aury Murray, Director	Teri Treftlin, Director
	Deb Wright, Director

Welcome back returning members and a special welcome to our newest members James Glavish and Deb Wright.

The Hymers Agricultural Society is seeking a Recording Secretary for our monthly meetings and Volunteer Co-ordinator!

- It is a part-time position of no more than 5-10 hours a month maximum (not including Fair Weekend).
- The qualified candidate should have knowledge of taking minutes and Microsoft Office.
- Duties include but are not limited to: attending monthly board meetings to take minutes, preparation of all monthly agendas, minutes and action plans, volunteer recruitment and co-ordination.
- An annual honorarium of \$1,500.00 is offered to the qualified candidate.
- Training from previous Secretary will be provided. Please apply by Email at info@hymersfair.com, or Mail to Hymers Agricultural Society, c/o Debbie Hoover, 97 Cox Crescent, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 7K7 Spread the word!

NEW ONTARIO SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Presents

2023 Spring Gun Show

SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

at

SLOVAK LEGION
801 ATLANTIC AVENUE, THUNDER BAY, ON

\$5.00 ADMISSION
(CHILDREN 12 & UNDER FREE WITH PAID ADULT ADMISSION)

DOOR PRIZES

BUY — SELL — TRADE — DISPLAY

GUNS * KNIVES * RELOADING SUPPLIES * OPTICS * AMMUNITION
ACCESSORIES * LITERATURE * CARTRIDGES * CLUB DISPLAYS

THIS SHOW IS A FUNDRAISER FOR THE JUNIOR SHOOTERS PROGRAM

www.nosa-newontarioshooters.org
Facebook: New Ontario Shooters Association Inc.—NOSA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL SAMANTHA 807-626-4003



NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AGRICULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH



Register Now!

Virtual Symposium March 8, 2023

HOSTED BY



About the Symposium

The National Symposium on Agricultural Mental Health has been established to connect farmer mental health groups, researchers, government officials and policy makers, members of Canada's agricultural community including agricultural associations and producer groups, individual advocates, and most importantly farmers to address the challenges and opportunities of the farmer mental health movement across the country.



Program Partners & Supporters

This project was paid for in part by the governments of Canada and Ontario through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership), a five-year, federal-provincial-territorial initiative.



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Ontario



Need Help? CALL 2-1-1

WHAT IS 211?

211 is a multi-channel information and referral system. 211 is accessible to Ontarians 24/7 via:

- Telephone (2-1-1)
- Email (questions@211north.ca or gethelp@211ontario.ca)
- [Online Chat](#) (211ontario.ca)
- Online database of Human Services

211 provides free, confidential, multilingual access to information & referrals to the full range of community, social, health and government services. 211's Certified Community Resource Specialists assess each person's needs and connect them to the best available resources.

211 helps to navigate the complex network of human services quickly and easily, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 150 languages.

When you don't know where to turn, turn to 211.

211 is a critical information system and an easy way to find, or give help in your community. 211 also:

- links residents to the community and helps them access services
- eliminates confusion and frustration about where to go for help
- reduces workers' time researching services to help their clients
- improves community planning via user needs and other statistics
- aims at directing non-emergency calls away from 911
- responds to municipal and community needs in an emergency and disaster



TROUBLE CALLING 211?

Toll-Free Phone: 1-866-624-1729

TTY: 1-855-405-7446

24 Hours / 7 Days a Week / 365 Days a Year

Beat the Silent Killer

Make sure **YOUR** household is safe from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Ensure all fuel-burning appliances and vents in your home are inspected annually. Find a registered contractor at **COsafety.ca**



Install and regularly test carbon monoxide alarms



of all carbon monoxide deaths and injuries in Ontario occur in homes



Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are similar to the flu without the fever

It is often referred to as The Silent Killer



No Odour



No Colour



No Taste

Many Ontario homes have on average **4-6 fuel-burning appliances** that produce carbon monoxide



Fireplace



Portable Fuel Heater



Dryer



Furnace



Stove



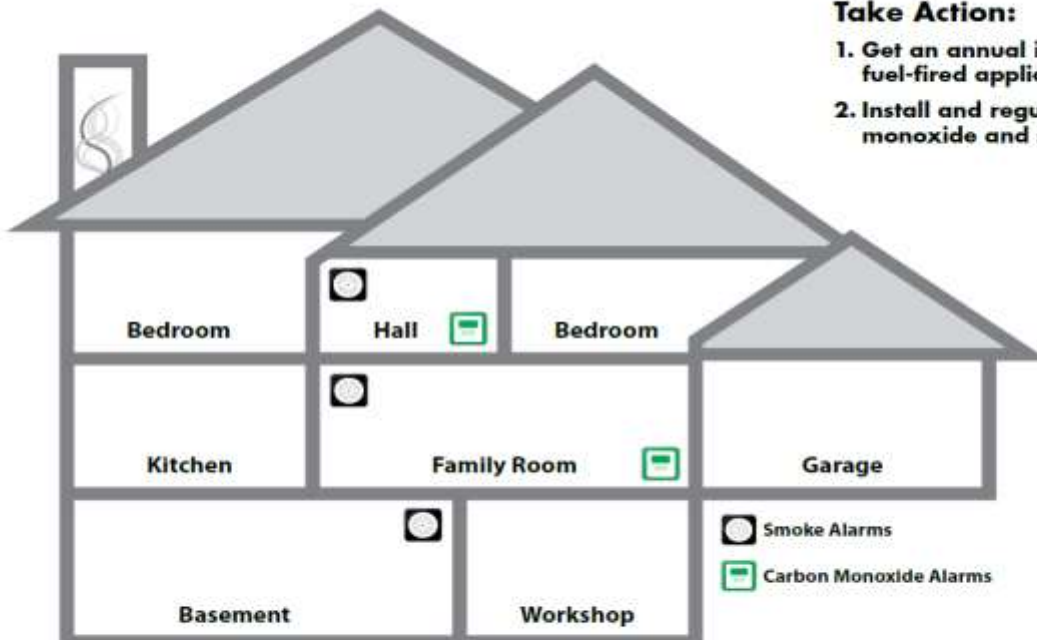
Water Heater



Portable Fuel Fired Generator

COsafety.ca
ontario.ca/firemarshal

Alarm Location Guidelines*



*Ontario law requires a working smoke alarm on every storey of the home and outside sleeping areas. Follow manufacturer's instructions for your specific alarm device.



COsafety.ca



FEBRUARY THEME WORD SCRAMBLER

(answers on page 15)

1. NGOHRUOGD YDA

2. TRAHSE -----
3. PUCDI -----
4. TALE ETNWRI

5. EYALR RGSIPN

6. ALFYMI YAD

7. ODWAHS -----
8. SEAHolocCT

9. BKCAL TYSIRHO HOMTN

10. SNLIVTENAE AYD

11. OMEFEDR -----
12. LWOSREF -----



CHERRY BREAD (with Maraschino Cherry Glaze)

Recipe by Lizzy T (can be found on Pinterest)
Submitted by Erin Laforest

Ingredients

2 cups all purpose flour
1 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp salt
2 jars maraschino cherries (10 oz jars),
drained (reserve juice)
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup milk (2%)
1/2 cup canola oil
(or vegetable or melted coconut oil)
1 large egg
1 tsp almond extract (or vanilla)

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350F. Spray a loaf pan (9"x5") with cooking spray, or grease with shortening, then dust with flour. In a medium bowl, stir together the sugar, milk, oil, egg, and almond extract. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Add the dry ingredients and stir until just combined. Coarsely chop the cherries in a food processor or with a knife. Gently fold cherries into batter. Pour batter into pan and bake for 50-55 minutes. An inserted toothpick should come out clean. Allow to cool for 10 minutes and remove to cool completely on a wire rack.

To make the glaze, combine the powdered sugar, melted butter, cherry juice and almond extract in a small bowl and whisk until it is smooth. Once the bread is cool, spread the glaze on top of the bread. Do not spread the glaze while the loaf is still hot. Slice and serve. Store at room temp.



Glaze

1 cup powdered sugar
1 Tbsp melted butter
2 1/2 Tbsp maraschino cherry juice
1/2 tsp almond extract

Valentine

E	B	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	S	V	Q
Y	D	N	E	I	R	F	L	R	I	G	T	A	H
G	I	C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	R	L	D
R	S	Y	U	D	Y	S	E	M	L	D	E	E	R
E	T	U	U	N	T	C	O	I	O	A	I	N	O
D	R	D	R	E	C	B	M	A	V	T	R	T	M
R	A	B	C	I	N	U	U	T	E	E	A	I	A
O	E	B	E	R	E	E	P	R	R	A	U	N	N
S	H	E	E	F	E	E	H	I	E	E	M	E	C
E	T	M	E	Y	R	Y	M	D	D	H	A	N	E
S	E	I	E	O	P	D	D	E	R	E	C	D	H
B	E	N	T	B	A	E	A	Q	C	I	A	C	G
E	W	E	T	E	U	Q	U	O	B	T	E	R	A
E	S	B	C	A	Y	R	A	U	R	B	E	F	H

BE MINE
LOVE
FEBRUARY
CHAMPAGNE
BOYFRIEND
ROMANCE
RED ROSES
BOUQUET
VALENTINE
GIRLFRIEND
CUPID
SWEETHEARTS
ADMIRER
CHERUB
DATE
CHOCOLATES



Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2212/>



POSITION AVAILABLE!!!

Junior Grader and Machine Operator Intern

Township of Conmee

Job Description: The intern will work alongside existing municipal staff working the standard eight-hour day/forty-hour work week, with the flexibility to work irregular hours, including evenings, weekends and holidays. The Public Works Department provides a variety of services for the safety and convenience of the public within the Township of Conmee.

Responsibilities include:

snow/ice removal, road maintenance, road construction, equipment maintenance, building maintenance, disposal site maintenance and cleanup, cemetery maintenance and interments. Will also be responsible for the safe operation of vehicles and equipment and have the ability to work independently to carry out assignments and work well with others.

This is a unionized position (CUPE 87). Union membership is required. Wage is \$24.45/hr.

Qualifications:

Class "DZ" license with a clean drivers abstract. Experience on a snowplow truck, backhoe and grader would be an asset. Must be able to perform repairs on vehicles and equipment, and be responsible for same. Ability to work flexible hours is imperative. Demonstrated skills in troubleshooting. Knowledge of relative legislation and the Health and Safety Act. Willing to work in inclement weather and weekends. Secondary education preferred. Must be willing to participate in training and new legislative upgrades.

Candidate Criteria:

- Candidate must be a new entrant into the workforce, are transitioning to a new career, or the unemployed or underemployed who are entering a new field.
- Candidate must have not previously participated in an NOHFC funded internship in the 2020 Mandate.
- Candidate must be 18 years of age or older.
- Candidate must be legally eligible to work in Canada.
- Once hired, the candidate must reside in the Northern Ontario community in which they are employed (i.e District of Thunder Bay)

Length: 52 weeks

Application Deadline: March 3rd, 2023

Please mail applications to:

Attn: Shara Lavallee, Clerk
19 Holland Rd W.
Kakabeka Falls, Ontario, P0T 1W0

or email conmee@conmee.com

This opportunity is proudly supported by Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and is funded through the Workforce Development Program. Eligibility requirements of the program can be found here: <https://nohfc.ca/en/pages/programs/people-talent-program/workforce-development-stream>





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jessica.coley@rbc.com

<https://mortgage.rbc.com/jessica.coley>

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**O'Connor-Conmee Fellowship
Baptist Church**

3 Holomego Rd.

**PLEASE CALL 473-9362
FOR MORE INFORMATION**



O'Connor Free Methodist Church

293 Sitch Road

We have in person worship services
Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

The services will also appear
“live” on our Facebook page at 10:45 a.m.
if you would like to worship with us
from your own home.

Facebook: O'Connor Free Methodist Church

Pastor Chris Fiorito

Cell 624-6579

Church 577-2363

Email: pastor_chris@live.com

Please email, call or text
if you have any inquiries.

www.oconnorfreemethodist.org
Come As You Are, Everyone Welcome!

Pinegrove United Church

100 Hwy 130, Rosslyn, ON

In-person worship 10:30 am each Sunday.

See website at www.PinegroveUC.org to join live stream
any Sunday at 10:30 am.

For Pastoral Care call Church office, Student Minister David
Colwell, 939-1364, or Email: pinegrove@tbaytel.net

Redeemer Lutheran Church

13 Marion Street, Kakabeka Falls, ON

For information, please contact Pastor Dan Barr
473-9164 or check the website at www.redeemerlcc.ca

St. James' Anglican Church

10505 John Street Rd., Murillo, ON

Please visit our website at countrywarmthinchrist.ca
to view online services every Sunday or join in person.

Rector: Reverend Jonathan Blanchard
807-939-1103 parish.rector@tbaytel.net

St. Mark's Anglican Church

5 St. Mark's St., Rosslyn, ON

Please visit our website at countrywarmthinchrist.ca
to view online services every Sunday or join in person.

Rector: Reverend Jonathan Blanchard
807-939-1103 parish.rector@tbaytel.net

St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church

10 Porter St., Kakabeka Falls, ON

For information, please contact
Parish Priest: Fr. Randal Morrisseau at 935-2898 (Rector)
www.directorydotb.ca/augustine/#2

RENTAL SUITE AVAILABLE

Looking for a great renter! If you are a genuinely good person or couple who like country living without the hassles of all home ownership has to offer, are non-smokers, non-drug users, perhaps we have something to offer! One bedroom, full bathroom with laundry facilities. Electric boiler baseboard heat & pellet stove to supplement in the cold winter. No carpets. Backup generator system in case of power outage. Rent will be all inclusive with satellite & internet. Ideally, we would also love to have someone who could offer help with lawn care/snow removal as able. Our property contains our home along with this suite in close proximity, which is why we need to find the right fit in a renter. No pets preferred even though we love animals too! Hoping for spring/early summer availability. If it sounds like you are potentially the right fit, please contact us for more details telling us a bit about yourself - ctbostowell@gmail.com References will be required.



Cornerstone Advertising

The following fee structure for advertising in the Cornerstone has been set by Council;

- **Business Ad** - \$10.00
- **Full Page Ad** - \$30.00
- **Personal/Classified Ads** (ie. Garage sale, Parties, Funeral or Celebration of Life) - \$5.00
- **Announcements** (ie. birthday, anniversary, baby) - \$2.00
- **Death Announcements** - Free of Charge for past or present residents of the Township of O'Connor .
(This does not include funeral ads)

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS THE 23RD OF EACH MONTH.

*O'Connor Council and Staff would like
to wish everyone a*



*Happy Valentine's Day
Tuesday, February 14th!*



**GROUNDHOG DAY IS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY
2ND**

Answers to Fill in the Blank:

1. GROUNDHOG DAY
2. HEARTS
3. CUPID
4. LATE WINTER
5. EARLY SPRING
6. FAMILY DAY
7. SHADOW
8. CHOCOLATES
9. BLACK HISTORY MONTH
10. VALENTINE'S DAY
11. FREEDOM
12. FLOWERS



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to celebrate the
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**TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR
COMMUNITY RINK**

330 Highway 595

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

from

1:00 - 4:00 pm

MPP Kevin Holland to speak at 1:15 p.m.

Event hosted by

THE O'CONNOR COMMUNITY CLUB

Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

Put on your skates in the newly renovated rink shack and join
in the skate on our newly paved skating rink!

For more information, please call the Township of O'Connor at 476-1451.