



The Cornerstone

Township Of O'Connor

MARCH 2023



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR
SATURDAY, MARCH 11th BEFORE GOING TO BED.

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 or emailed to twpoconn@tbaytel.net on or before Monday, March 13th, 2023 by 4:30 p.m. Please indicate that you are applying for the position of Casual Disposal Site Attendant. Council will review applications at their meeting to be held later that evening.

Employment Opportunity - By-Law Enforcement Officer

The Township of O'Connor, along with the Municipality of Neebing and the Township's of Conmee and Gillies, are currently looking to hire an individual for casual employment as **By-Law Enforcement Officer**. For a full job description, please visit the township's website at www.oconnortownship.ca under "Municipal," "Careers." Applications are to be dropped off to Clerk-Treasurer Buob at the O'Connor Municipal Office at 330 Hwy 595 or emailed to twpoconn@tbaytel.net on or before Friday, March 31st, 2023. Please indicate that you are applying for the position of By-law Enforcement Officer. Applications will be reviewed by Council at the April 11th meeting.

Statement of No Employee Salaries to Disclose

Déclaration selon laquelle il n'y a pas de traitement d'employés à divulguer

The Corporation of the Township of O'Connor

(Name of Organization / nom de l'organisation)

To the best of my knowledge and belief, no employees of the above organization were paid a salary as defined in the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996*, in the calendar year 2022 of \$100,000 or more.

À ma connaissance, aucun employé de l'organisation susmentionnée n'a reçu un traitement, au sens de la *Loi de 1996 sur la divulgation des traitements dans le secteur public*, au cours de l'année civile 2022, de 100 000 \$ ou plus.

Loma Buob

Name / Nom

(Highest Ranking Officer)

(dirigeant / dirigeante de l'organisation qui occupe le rang le plus élevé)

Clerk-Treasurer

Position Title / Poste

Loma Buob
Signature / Signature

February 6, 2023

Date / Date

Prepared under the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996*

Préparée en vertu de la

Loi de 1996 sur la divulgation des traitements dans le secteur public

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

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, March 13th - Council Chambers and virtual.

Monday, March 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 view agendas or attend virtually, please visit the Township website at www.oconnortownship.ca to access the meeting links through the "Council" page. Council welcomes your involvement.

Mayor: Jim Vezina - 577-6735

Councillors:

Alex Crane - 473-9420

John Sobolta - 624-8025

Bishop Racicot - 577-2215

Carly Torkkeli - 620-2579



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.



*St. Patrick's Day is
Friday, March 17th.*

O'CONNOR SKATING RINK

Come check out the new skating rink! See back page for pictures celebrating the 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.

Thank you to all the Volunteers that have helped so far to help keep our rink maintained and bring the ice surface back for our Grand Opening after the warm weather.

For more information or if you are interested in belonging to the Volunteer Committee, please call the Township Office at 476-1451 or 476-1453. Your help is always greatly appreciated!



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

GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY

MARCH 18, 2023

Every year, the Earth yields billions of tons of natural resources and at some point, in the not too distant future, it will run out.

That's why we must think again about what we throw away – seeing not waste, but opportunity.

The last decade has been the hottest on record, and we are now facing a climate emergency of unparalleled proportions. If we don't make significant and rapid changes, we will see continued rising global temperatures, the melting of icecaps, continents on fire and rapid deforestation.

This directly affects humanity with increased poverty, immigration from displaced communities, job losses, waste mountains and natural habitats disappearing. We have the power to make lasting changes to combat this, and with recycling being recognized in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 2030, we are already seeing many individuals, governments and organizations taking direct action to support the global green agenda.

Recycling is a key part of the circular economy, helping to protect our natural resources. Each year the 'Seventh Resource' (recyclables) saves over 700 million tonnes in CO2 emissions and this is projected to increase to 1 billion tons by 2030. There is no doubt recycling is on the front line in the war to save the future of our planet and humanity.

The Global Recycling Foundation is pleased to announce the theme of Global Recycling Day 2023 as

#creativeinnovation. This will recognize the people, places and activities that showcase what an important role recycling plays in contributing to an environmentally stable planet and a greener future which will benefit all.

Global Recycling Day was created in 2018 to help recognise and celebrate the importance recycling plays in preserving our precious primary resources and securing the future of our planet. It is a day for the world to come together and put the planet first.

The mission of Global Recycling Day, as set out by the Global Recycling Foundation, is twofold:

1. To tell world leaders that recycling is simply too important not to be a global issue, and that a common, joined up approach to recycling is urgently needed.

2. To ask people across the planet to think resource, not waste, when it comes to the goods around us – until this happens, we simply won't award recycled goods the true value and repurpose they deserve.

To read more on Global Recycling Day, please visit www.globalrecyclingday.com.

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.

FIRST DAY OF SPRING

IS MONDAY,

MARCH 20TH





Volunteer Fire Department News

Since the last newsletter, the O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department received 1 CO/Fire call and 2 First Response calls.

O'CONNOR FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY ANNUAL BBQ STEAK DRAW

Licence #M709300

- 1st PRIZE - 30 BBQ Steaks**
2nd PRIZE - 20 BBQ Steaks
3rd PRIZE - 10 BBQ Steaks

Draw Date is Saturday, June 17th, 2023 at the O'Connor Community Centre at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00. Only 5000 tickets to be sold! Get them before they sell out! Tickets available at the Township office or from any of our amazing volunteers.

Must be 18 or older to participate.

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 responders. 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.
Ensuring your smoke alarms are working properly could save your life.

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.



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.

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 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!

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.

STAY SAFE DURING EXTREME COLD OR A SEVERE SNOWSTORM

- Don't venture out if extreme weather conditions are expected. If you must travel avoid remote areas, and let someone know where you're going, your route, and your expected arrival time.
- Make sure your heating system is in good working condition and maintained prior to the winter season. Have a back-up heating system, generator, or supplies for a wood burning fireplace if you have one.
- If you are going out, ensure you are dressed for the weather and have layers to add or remove.
- If you must be outside or are caught in a severe snowstorm look for shelter. If there are no buildings around, a small cave, ditch, hollow tree, or a vehicle can help reduce your chances of frostbite or hypothermia. Even if you find shelter, keep moving to maintain your body heat.
- If you begin to experience symptoms of frostbite or hypothermia, seek medical attention, or call 911.
- Check on family, friends and neighbours who may require additional support during a severe winter weather event.
- Have a working smoke detector and carbon monoxide (CO) detector and be especially cautious if you are using space heaters indoors.
- Never use barbecues, camping heaters, gas or coal stoves or a generator indoors.
- If you or someone you see needs help and shelter, call 211. If they are in serious distress or non-responsive, call 911.

DRIVING DURING EXTREME COLD OR SEVERE SNOWSTORMS

- Check the Road Conditions Map at Ontario 511 (call 511, download the Ontario 511 app, or visit 511.on.ca/roadconditions) and consider delaying travel until the roads are safer.
- Clean snow and ice off your vehicle and ensure your headlights and windows are clear.
- Give yourself extra time to reach your destination.
- Reduce your speed and turn on your headlights.
- Drive defensively.
- Leave extra distance between your vehicle and the working sanders, graders, other snow removal equipment and other vehicles.
- Do not pass working sanders, graders, other snow removal equipment and other vehicles when visibility is reduced.



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 Wednesday, March 29th between 4:45 and 5:30 pm. If you are unable to attend at this time, please call Lorna to make arrangements.

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

Thank you to everyone that came out to the Grand Opening of the Township of O'Connor Community Rink. The event was filled with fun for everyone. Thank you to those who did some baking or participated that day to make this event a success. Come out on April 8th to the O'Connor Community Centre for an Easter Egg hunt for the kids. Thank you to Shelley Thorne for organizing the event.

The Community Club members will be having their next meeting on Monday, April 17th. 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!

Murillo Library

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



Looking for donations of:
-shopping bags, plastic or fabric
-children's puzzles

If you would like our monthly emailed directly to you, please send us an email and we will add you to our list:
oliverpaipoongelibrary@gmail.com

Email:

oplibrary@tbaytel.net

Website:

<http://oliverpaipoonge.olsn.ca>

Rosslyn Library

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



Drop in to the Library during March Break Week and make a Diamond Dotz Pokemon or animal sticker!



Participate in the 2023 CBC Canada Reads Program by reading each of this year's 5 contenders. These books are available to borrow at the library.



Special 'Thanks' to Carole Klappart for sponsoring the purchase of these titles. Debates will begin on CBC TV and CBC Radio March 27th to 30th.

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, March 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 the first week of FEBRUARY 2023.

If you have not received it by March 1st, please call 285-0836 or email ruralcupboardfoodbank@gmail.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 12th - 6 pm
followed by General Meeting
In Conmee Council Chambers
(in person) or Virtual

If you wish to attend virtually
please email this address
ruralcupboardfoodbank@gmail.com
to get the "zoom" link

A very special THANK YOU to **CHARLENE REED** as she requested those attending her 80th birthday bring something for the Rural Cupboard Food Bank - those donations fills 4 shelves with groceries!!!!!!!

We also thank the Second Cup at the EVERGREEN PHARMACY for their coffee sales donations.

Thanks

Radon detectors available to borrow at
Oliver Paipoonge Library!



It is recommended that you test for radon during furnace season.

For more information regarding Radon visit Eco Superior:

<https://www.ecosuperior.org/homeenergy>



LAKEHEAD REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Since December 1974, LRCA staff have conducted snow surveys in the following three locations: McVicar Creek (Blanchard Street), Pennock Creek (Vibert Road), and Current River (Hazelwood Lake). Snow depth and equivalent water content were near/slightly above average compared to the historical averages for February 15th. Average snow depth was 4% above average (between 40 to 57 centimetres), and average equivalent water content was 24% above average (between 104 to 137 millimetres). Lake Superior's beginning of February level was 19 centimetres above its period-of-record (1918-2021) average, and 31 centimetres above the February 2022 level.

Please note that the 2023 Tree Seedling Program has been cancelled. The LRCA and Hill's Greenhouses look forward to returning in 2024.

Believe it or not, but spring is fast approaching, which means that ice conditions will start becoming more unstable. This is a reminder to exercise caution around waterways. The LRCA does not monitor ice conditions in our Conservation Areas; if you plan to go out on the ice, proceed with caution and at your own risk.

Also, be sure to wear appropriate footwear while visiting Conservation Areas. The LRCA does not maintain trails during the winter, so conditions may range from deep snow to ice-covered to muddy and wet. With nicer weather on the horizon, visitation to Conservation Areas is going to increase, so we would like to remind visitors to use caution, as natural trails may be uneven and slippery. It's always a good idea to prepare for how the weather may affect your visit. Be sure to advise others of how long you expect to be in the area, and you should be aware of possible encounters with wildlife. Conservation Areas operate from dawn until dusk. Pets must be on-leash at all times. Alcohol is prohibited in Conservation Areas. Campfires and overnight camping is also prohibited. Trails are for recreational use only; no bicycles, motorized vehicles, etc. Harvesting of any kind is prohibited. Visitors must adhere to all **Conservation Area Rules & Regulations**. These regulations are in place to ensure that all visitors to Conservation Areas can enjoy them in a safe, sustainable manner. Thank you for your cooperation, and have fun exploring!

Be sure to Follow, Like and Share the LRCA on social media. Our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages endeavor to effectively communicate with residents of the Lakehead Watershed. We share flood messages, up-to-date events information, interesting facts and gorgeous photography with our followers, and we would love it if you would join in on the conversation. We will also be posting information regarding upcoming workshops and events.

The 2023 Explore Card Parking Pass is available now for \$40.00 +HST. Forgo the \$5.00 per vehicle parking fee/day use fee with an Explore Card. They are valid for one calendar year at all seasonal and year-round Conservation Areas! Visit us at 130 Conservation Road or order online at www.store.lakeheadca.com. Get out and Explore!

GILLIES
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

march events

**MAR
4**

Seedy Saturday

12:00pm - 3:00pm
\$2 entry fee (cash only!)
Bring your seeds to swap or check out
what the local seed producers have for sale!

**MAR
10**

Waldorf Play Group

10:00am - 12:00pm
Donations encouraged for materials
For more info, email: Melanie
melkaltenhach@gmail.com

**MAR
18 &
19**

Book Swap

11:00am - 5:00pm daily
1000's of books!
Donations encouraged for this FREE event!
All proceeds directly support the GCC

**MAR
26**

Chili Cook-off Fundraiser

Starts at 5pm - competitors arrive early
MAX 10 entries so register early
\$10 entry fee (children 6 & under FREE)
Prizes to be won!

**APR
2**

Easter Celebrations

Crafts, Easter egg hunt & the Easter bunny
1:00pm - 4:00pm
\$5 per child "bring your own basket"
Cash only - bake sale - all are welcome!

**The Gillies Community Centre is
available to rent for your next event!**

**Email or message us on Facebook for
rental or any other inquiries.**

gilliescommunitycentre@gmail.com
#1835 HWY 595 South Gillies

The Gillies Community Centre is donation based & volunteer run.
Thank you to all of the volunteers and those who donate - we are incredibly grateful!

MONDAY EVENINGS GENTLE FLOW YOGA

Join Krista for a 4-week gentle
flow yoga series
March 6, 13, 20, 27
7:00pm - 8:00pm
Suitable for beginners -
\$44/person
Register at
krista.bannan@gmail.com

TUESDAY MORNINGS PLAY GROUP

Join us for FREE playgroup
9:30am - 12:30pm
Ages 0-4 accompanied by a
parent
Follow the Facebook Group for
updates!

KNITTING & CROCHET CLASSES

Join Paulette for knitting &
crocheting classes
For dates & times, visit our
Facebook Page
Proceeds from these events will
go directly to the Gillies
Community Centre

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

Thunder Bay Community Pasture NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 4th, 2023

8:00 p.m.

Rural 60 Centre, 5 Pineview Road, Kakabeka Falls
off Hwy. 11-17

For more information contact Diana Bockus
dlbockus@tbaytel.net

475-8761

Everyone is welcome to attend

For more information: dlbockus@tbaytel.net



TOPS can help you reach your weight-loss goals by providing you the support, tools, and accountability needed to be successful.

First meeting is FREE.

TUESDAYS

10:00 am - Baptist Community Church,
corner of Mudlake and Oliver Roads, Murillo

10:15 am - Hope Christian Reform Church,
1315 Crawford Avenue, Thunder Bay

5:30 pm - Blake Community Hall,
71 Blake Hall Road, Neebing

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 pm - O'Connor Community Centre
330 Highway 595, O'Connor

For more information, please contact 807-577-5924



Kakabeka Falls & Rural District RCL Branch #225

Kakabeka Legion, 4556 Highway 11-17, Kakabeka Falls

Friday, Mar. 3rd - **Dance with Quest** 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Saturday, Mar. 11th - **Executive/General Meeting**
2:30/3:00pm

Sunday, Mar. 12th - **Buffet Breakfast** 8:30 am - noon

Friday, Mar. 17th - **Rural 60+ Lunch** 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Saturday, Mar. 18th - **Dance with Quest** 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Sunday, Mar. 19th - **An Afternoon of Music**
2:00 - 4:00 pm

Sunday, Mar. 19th - **Jam Session** 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Saturday, Mar. 25th - **Dance with Quest** 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Mar. 24th - 26th - **Food Group**

Mar. 28th - 30th - **Farm Conference**

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

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



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

GUESS THE IRISH SLANG

(answers on page 14)

1. GAS
2. BOYO
3. GOB
4. BOLD
5. SAVAGE
6. KNACKERED
7. SLAINTE
8. GRAND
9. TRAD
10. CRISPS
11. FAIR PLAY
12. GAFF
13. CHANCER
14. COLLEEN
15. JACKS



TRADITIONAL IRISH BEEF AND GUINNESS STEW

Ingredients

- 6 ounces bacon, diced
- 2 pounds beef chuck
- 3 T all purpose flour
- 2 medium yellow onions, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 medium firm, waxy potatoes (ie, Yukon Gold), cut in 1" pieces
- 2 large carrots, chopped in 1/2" pieces
- 2 ribs celery, chopped in 1/2" pieces
- 1 large parsnip, chopped in 1/2" pieces
- 1 pint Guinness Extra Stout
- 1 cup strong beef broth
- 2 T Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 1 t dried thyme
- 1 t dried rosemary
- 1 1/2 t salt
- 1/4 t black pepper
- 2 bay leaves

Directions

1. Cut the beef across the grain into 1" pieces. Sprinkle with some salt, pepper and the flour and toss to coat the pieces. Set aside.
2. Fry the bacon in a Dutch oven or heavy pot until done then remove it with a slotted spoon, leaving the bacon drippings in the pot.
3. Working in batches and being careful not to overcrowd the pieces, generously brown the beef on all sides. Transfer the beef to a plate and repeat until all the beef is browned.
4. Add the onions and fry them, adding more oil if necessary, until lightly browned, about 10 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for another minute. Add the vegetables and cook for another 5 minutes. Add the Guinness and bring it to a rapid boil, deglazing the bottom of the pot. Boil for 2 min.
5. Return the beef and bacon to the pot along with the remaining ingredients and stir to combine, bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to low, cover and simmer for 2 hours. Add salt and pepper to taste.
6. Serve with some Irish Soda Bread or crusty country bread.

Saint Patrick's Day

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

EMERALD
GREEN
SHAMROCK
MARCH
IRELAND
CHRISTIANITY
PATRICK
TRADITION
PARADE
RAINBOW
SNAKES
POT OF GOLD
LUCK
FAIRY
LEGEND
SAINT
CELTIC
HOLIDAY



I R I S H B L E S S I N G

MAY YOUR TROUBLES
BE LESS
AND YOUR
BLESSINGS BE MORE
AND NOTHING BUT
HAPPINESS
COME THROUGH
YOUR DOOR



Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/5451/>

Agriculture at a Glance

AS OF 2021

Local Snapshot

Thunder Bay
CENSUS DIVISION



150
farms



39,908
acres of farmland



266 acres
is the average sized farm



Thunder Bay

Local Farm Sales

41%
sell farm
products directly
to the
consumer:



4
farms operate a CSA
(Community Supported Agriculture)



14 farms sell
at farmers' markets



37 farms sell directly from their
farm, at stands, or pick-your-own

Economic Contributions in 2021

Local Impact



The local agri-food sector
employed **6,965** people
through **656** local agri-food
business establishments

Farm Cash Receipts



\$30 million
In Farm Cash
Receipts



- Dairy
- Grains & Oilseeds
- Potatoes

Across the Province

Farm cash receipts
generated by local farms
supported **\$66 million**
in GDP and **998**
employees in the agri-food
sector from farm to fork
across Ontario

Farm Facts



23.3%
generate renewable
energy, including
solar, bioenergy and
wind power



31.8%
of farm
operators
are female



68.7%
are small farms
(less than \$100,000
in revenue)



Source: Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (2021) County Profiles.



JESSICA COLEY

Mortgage Specialist

Buying a home is a major decision. Whether you've just started your research or are actively house-hunting, I can help provide you with the personalized advice and solutions you need to make your home ownership goals happen.

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- Switch in
- and more

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jessica.coley@rbc.com

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

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Dave Cell: 626-6510

Jeff Cell: 629-4858



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- Brush and tree removal
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- Ditching
- Excavation

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

We are fully licensed and trained to install conventional, as well as tertiary septic systems (clear stream, Eco-Flo, etc).

Every year we install many septic systems in the Thunder Bay area from small gravity fed systems for a house to large scale commercial septic systems for camps, fire bases etc. please give us a call and we can design a system that is right for you

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rural60@tbaytel.net

MONDAYS

Carving – 10am to 3pm
Disking – 1pm to 3pm

TUESDAYS

Weaving – 10am to 3pm
Knitting – 10am to 3pm

WEDNESDAYS

Cribbage – 1pm to 3pm
Quilting – 10am to 3pm
Beginners Carving 10am to 3pm

THURSDAYS

Weaving – 10am to 3pm
Knitting – 10am to 3pm
Yoga – 10am to 11am

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Craft Room is open – 10am to 3pm

Aging and Health Seminar Series

Conmee Township is hosting an Aging and Health Seminar Series for the month of March! The Information Booklet for the series can be found on the O'Connor website at www.oconnortownship.ca under "O'Connor Living," "Health." Please refer to this booklet for more information on what each topic will cover!

The Township of Conmee look forward to your RSVP

Please contact Nikita to confirm whether you require:

- Free transportation to/from the event
- Free Respite care to cover a loved one while you attend the event
- Free Respite care to assist you at the event yourself
- Any dietary restrictions
- Any social distancing measures, PPE, or virtual attendance option

Nikita Cava – Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
(807) 475-5229 ext. 3
deputyct@conmee.com



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.

Answers to Fill in the Blank:

1. FUNNY
2. BOY
3. MOUTH
4. NAUGHTY
5. AWESOME
6. TIRED
7. CHEERS
8. OKAY
9. TRADITIONAL IRISH FOLK MUSIC
10. POTATO CHIPS
11. WELL DONE
12. HOUSE
13. RISK TAKER
14. GIRL
15. TOILET

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



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.



Renovations made in 2022 that made your personal residence safer and more accessible could be eligible for the **Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit**.

- Learn more: Ontario.ca/SeniorsHomeSafety
- Examples: handrails and wheelchair ramps

Medical expenses that support aging at home made in 2022 could be eligible for the **Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit**.

- Learn more: Ontario.ca/page/Ontario-seniors-care-home-tax-credit
- Examples: hearing aids and hospital beds



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Pinegrove United Church

100 Hwy 130, Rosslyn, ON

In-person worship 10:30 am each Sunday.

See website at www.PinegroveUC.org

Join livestream worship each Sunday at 10:30 am at www.trinityunited.church/livestream.

For Pastoral Care, call Church office at 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)

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!

O'Connor-Conmee Fellowship Baptist Church

3 Holomego Rd.

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



\$88,200 OTF Grant supports updates to Township of O'Connor Community Rink and Rink Shack

On Sunday of the Family Day weekend, local MPP Kevin Holland met with the Council and Staff of The Township of O'Connor to hear more about the \$88,200 Community Building Fund - Capital stream grant from the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) that has been used to renovate the Township of O'Connor Community Rink and Rink Shack, scheduled for completion by early May of this year.

"Investments in our communities such as this one, in O'Connor Township, provide enhanced recreational opportunities for rural families to participate in healthy outdoor activities," said Kevin Holland, MPP for Thunder Bay-Atikokan. Renovation upgrades to the community's rink included resurfacing the rink with concrete to provide a more even surface for recreational play, easier flooding, and to prevent early thaw, as well as installation of a nearby well with pump to provide a water supply for flooding the rink. Additional upgrades include new heating, lighting, and storage area in the rink shack. Thanks to the \$88,200 Community Building Fund grant, renovations to the rink not only provide a fantastic upgrade for winter skating but will also provide an excellent surface for activities such as basketball, tennis, rollerblading, and skateboarding in the summer.

"Physical activity is so important for bodies and minds of all ages," said Mayor Vezina of O'Connor Township. "The new rink surface will give family and friends a level playing surface for recreation and exercise that they can enjoy year-round for years to come."

The Township of O'Connor is committed to ensuring that this community space is maintained to give residents and visitors of the community a place for recreational activity and a place to gather on a year-round basis. Members and visitors of the community are welcome to enjoy the rink for leisure or play any time of the day. For more information, please visit the website at www.oconnortownship.ca

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations celebrates over 40 years of grant making in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. In the last four decades of supporting Ontario's non-profits, the OTF has invested over \$2.6 billion into communities providing opportunities for Ontarians to thrive, which included funding for the Government of Ontario's Community Building Fund. Visit otf.ca to learn more.



Ontario



Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

An agency of the Government of Ontario
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

