

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28th, 2025

Here is a summary of the Regular Meeting of the Council on **February 19th, 2025**. Full agendas can be found here: <https://whitewaterregion.civicweb.net/Portal/>. The video is available on our YouTube page. This summary does not constitute the official record of the meeting and approved Minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

Presentations and Public Meetings

Council received a presentation from Amanda McParland, President of the Renfrew County Real Estate Board, on real estate trends in Renfrew County. The [Board's Market Activity report](#), based on CREA data, is included in the Council meeting minutes each month. For the purposes of real estate agents, the data of Beachburg and Cobden are separated from the remaining of Whitewater Region's.

Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson recognized the Public Works team who have done a tremendous job keeping our roads safe throughout the winter but especially during the two large snowfalls we recently had. Other points mentioned:

- A huge thank you to all of the Township's volunteers for organizing community events such as winter carnivals, fishing derbies, bonspiels, and more. Special thanks to the Cobden Curling Club for raising \$2,000 for the Food Bank.
- The County of Renfrew and the Township of Whitewater Region are developing a long-term plan for transportation infrastructure and multi-modal planning.

Community Services

Whitewater Region will partner with North Algona Wilberforce, Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley, and potentially the City of Pembroke, to offer swim programs in 2025. This will allow residents to access lessons including access to the Lake Dore Swim Club program. Final details will be confirmed in the coming months.

Council approved increasing its Community Recreation Grant from \$10,000 to \$26,671.67 to support expanded recreation programming and partnerships in 2025 such as summer camps and after-school programs. This funding will help bring new activities and opportunities for youth and families by partnering with organizations such as the Community Resource Centre, BGC Renfrew County, and the Renfrew County Youth Wellness Hub.

- Programs will be available in Westmeath, Beachburg, Cobden, and other locations, ensuring broad accessibility for Whitewater Region residents.

Council approved to adopt a by-law that establishes a Municipal Liability Insurance Program Policy.

Contact: *Stephanie Plebon, Manager of Community Services*
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Office of the CAO

Council approved the seasonal alternative hours of operation for 2025 and directed staff to bring forward an amendment to the Pay and Benefits Policy to delegate the responsibility for approving seasonal alternative hours of operation to the CAO.

Council approved entering into a mutual assistance agreement with the Townships of Horton and Admaston Bromley for building services support and coverage. This agreement aims to address fluctuating demands for service, allowing for shared support in participating building departments.

Council directed the Clerk to extend the current agreement with Integrity Commissioner, Tony Fleming, until December 31, 2027. Fleming was appointed in 2019 and provides guidance to council and staff on matters involving the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

Contact: *Ivan Burton, CAO*
iburton@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 124

Announcements

Members of Council announced the following:

- Councillor Tabbert announced a pancake supper at Grace United Church on March 4th from 4 to 7 PM.
- The Whitewater Seniors will host a PFLAG presentation at the seniors' centre in Foresters Falls.
- Councillor Moore congratulated Kyle Eady, Steven Piecarskie, and Lucas Hewitt on the arrival of their new children.
- There will be a Crokinole party at St. Andrew's United Church on March 1st at 1 PM.
- Councillor Trimm highlighted the Westmeath Winter Carnival taking place from February 28th to March 1st.

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Additional information:

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