

Friday, March 10, 2023

Hello my fellow residents of Alnwick Haldimand:

Now that February is behind us, we're likely not too far away from spring which always brings new life and vitality.

On February 27, 2023, the township had the pleasure of hosting two Executives from CN Railway.

Mr. Clarke Trolley, General Manager, and Mr. Daniel Salvatore, Manager of Public Affairs Ontario and Atlantic Canada, were here to acknowledge Alnwick Haldimand Fire Department, The Lass and Ladle, and the Grafton Esso for their assistance. You no doubt recall the winter storm we experienced on Christmas Eve and Day, that was upon us a mere 2 months ago. There was heavy snowfall with really strong winds, causing both road closures and power outages. During the height of this storm, there was also a train derailment that occurred just east of Station Rd, knocking out both rail lines.

Mr. Trolley and Mr. Salvatore were here to thank our firefighters, the management and staff of the Lass and Ladle restaurant, and the Esso service centre for all the support and services provided to CN crews as they worked over Christmas Eve and Day to get trains running again.

Fire Chief Dave Dawson accepted a cheque of \$10,000 on behalf of AH firefighters. The CN executives also presented Terry Carruthers owner of the Lass and Ladle and Paul and Raman Nijjar, owners of Grafton Esso each with a cheque of \$500 made out to the charity of their choice.

Mr. Trolley commented the trains just would not have been running without the close by food and essential services available. The Township would also like to thank everyone involved.

On February 23 Council passed the 2023 budget for the township. The final approval came about, following a focused three-month consultation period between department heads, senior staff, and the new council. Although the exact number has yet to be determined the combined total made up of County, Township, and Education taxes will result in a 5.48% increase over the 2022 rate.

The Township is currently reviewing the short-term rental bylaw established last year. This was a significant topic during last year's municipal election campaign period. Council announced an opportunity for taxpayers to get involved in assisting Council to update this bylaw. Council has appointed a committee and provided terms of reference. Council has requested committee recommendations be submitted by April 30, 2023. The intent is to have a revised by law established and approved following the May 2nd, 2023 Council meeting.

John Logel

Mayor

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