

# Sound Opportunities

November 2019 • Newsletter

## Highlights For This Issue

- Facility Renovations
- E-Billing
- Public Works Update
- Solar Field Construction
- Volunteer Gardening Groups
- A Message from the OPP
- Economic Development Update
- Upcoming Recreation Programming

## Bobby Orr Community Centre Ice Pad Renovation Project - Quick Facts



- In 2018, Council approved a \$1.2 million budget for the renovation of the Bobby Orr Community Centre's ice surface.
- The former ice pad and piping system had been in place since 1975, more than 45 years, and was well past its useful life cycle.
- Quinan Construction Limited was retained for construction management and to ensure the project was completed in a timely and efficient manner.
- The renovation project included removal and replacement of the concrete pad, refrigeration piping, boards, glass and netting.
- The renovation project started in May 2019 and was officially completed August 29, 2019, on time and under budget.
- The new surface was ready for the community's use on September 23, 2019.

## New Pump 1 Fire Truck

The Parry Sound Fire Department received its newest edition to the fleet in August. Built by Dependable Fire Apparatus from Mississauga, the custom Pumper Rescue replaces two aging vehicles in the fire fleet. Pump 1 will act as the primary Rescue vehicle and will respond to all Motor Vehicle Collisions and car fires as the first due apparatus. It will also respond as the first vehicle to all water/ice rescue calls, rope rescue calls and wildland fire responses. The firefighters are very pleased with the performance of the new apparatus.



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## Optional E-Billing for Water & Sewer and Property Taxes Billing

The Town is investigating the implementation of e-billing for water & sewer bills, as well as property taxes. This service would be voluntary, and ratepayers who wish to continue receiving paper bills can do so.

### Why Would I Want E-Billing?

The benefits to consider are:

- Environmentally friendly, no longer is there a need for a paper bill to be printed.
- Saves funds in the municipal budget through a reduction in postage, paper and envelope expenses.
- Tax bills arrive in your inbox and can be saved for future needs, such as payments or income taxes.
- Water & sewer bills arrive in your inbox and can be saved for future needs, such as payments or income taxes (rental properties/businesses).
- Ensures consistency in the receipt of your invoices, regardless of being on vacation, moving or any interruptions in the postal service.

### We Would Like Your Opinion

The Town has established a survey to receive feedback from its ratepayers. In early 2019, the survey was circulated with water & sewer bills as well as property tax bills in a paper format.

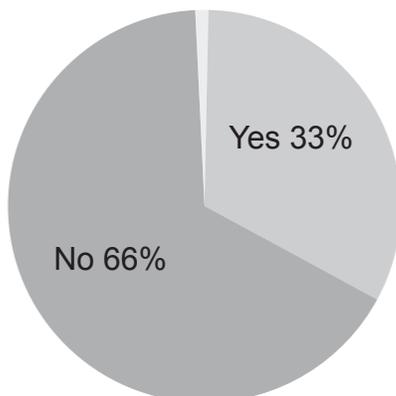
**We encourage EVERYONE to take the time and complete a survey.**

There are two ways to complete the survey:

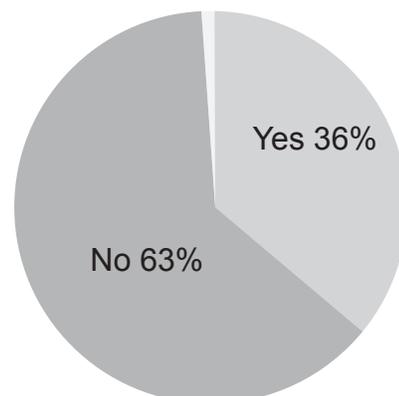
1. Visit [parrysound.ca/ebill](http://parrysound.ca/ebill); or
2. Stop by the office and request a paper copy.

To date the Town has received 389 responses with the following results.

**Would you like to receive your Property Tax bills electronically?**



**Would you like to receive your Water & Sewer bills electronically?**



 Represents Blank Responses

## Parry Sound Community Gardens

Come grow with us! There are 66 plots amongst 5 gardens within the Town of Parry Sound. Want to get involved? Are you interested in a garden plot?

It's fun, and easy! Gardens are located at Yvonne Williams Park, Canadore College, Mission Park and Booth Street Park.

More information can be found on the Town's website under Community Gardens, or contact Rick Harrington – Community Garden Coordinator at 705-746-9330.

## The Beauty in Tower Hill Heritage Garden

The Tower Hill Heritage Garden group originally formed in 2012 with the main objective of tending to the flower gardens and paths at Tower Hill.

The group flourished in 2019 under the direction of the Georgian Bay Master Gardeners.

This year under a formalized partnership agreement with the Town, approximately twenty volunteers spent many hours and poured a ton of sweat into their labour of love.

The Tower Hill Gardeners meet weekly from May - October to tend the Town's best loved Garden - Tower Hill.



## Economic Development Update

Interest in investment in Parry Sound continues to build as Economic Development Officer, Vladimir Shehovtsov, works with investors seeking new opportunities.

Many of these business owners are visiting not only our area but Northern Ontario for the first time under familiarization tours organized by the Town. This gives them a look at available lands, existing local businesses and various funding and incentive programs available by establishing in Northern Ontario. Parry Sound is well positioned, only two hours north of Toronto on the 400 series highway, and offers affordable investment lands, with two industrial parks, one to the north at Woods Road and one to the south at the airport.

The industrial parks have proven to be attractive for investment. Seven Stars Trade Corridor Corporation purchased an established Log Home Manufacturer in the Parry Sound Area Industrial Park this Winter.

SHERP, the world's most powerful industrial off-road vehicle manufacturer, also continues to seek opportunities for growth in Parry Sound. Earlier this year participating in the Days of Search and Rescue organized by the Town and most recently partaking in filming for both a new car show series and Against the Wild 3: The Journey Home.

Various other businesses including manufacturers, real estate developers, food processors, tourism operators and film producers are actively seeking properties and opportunities in our area as a result of the familiarization tours.



## Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Gift Shop Renovation Complete

If you've been to the Charles W. Stockey Centre recently you may have noticed some changes in the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame's Doug & Arva Orr Gift Shop. The space was re-designed by Brenda Ryan at FAD Architects with work undertaken by CFC Construction earlier this year.

The new look makes the gift shop and Hall of Fame entrance a brighter, more inviting space while incorporating natural wood found throughout the Stockey Centre. Custom display cabinetry provides more display space and built-in storage beneath maximizes the usage of space. One of the most unique elements is the incorporation of rink boards from the Bobby Orr Community Centre's renovation!

If you haven't already, be sure to stop in and see the space for yourself. The Stockey Centre and Bobby Orr Hall of Fame are open Monday – Saturday from 10am – 4pm.



## Local Employers Giving Back by Allowing Staff to Attend Fire Calls During Work Hours

The volunteer firefighter model only works due to the sacrifice of time provided by the community members who step up to participate as a volunteer firefighter. Equally important is the buy-in to corporate community responsibility that employers who have these firefighters as employees demonstrate by letting them leave work to attend emergency responses during working hours.

Businesses such as Wolseley, Plumb-It, Canadian Coast Guard, Shaw Almex and the Town of Parry Sound demonstrate leadership and community commitment by providing the flexibility for their employees to respond to emergencies during work hours.

This sometimes comes at a sacrifice to the businesses efficiency as it seems the emergencies often occur during the least convenient times. The Parry Sound Fire Department sincerely thanks these businesses for their generosity in allowing the employees to participate in the protection of the Town.

## Household Hazardous Waste - Open Year Round

Hazardous waste disposal is available year round at the transfer station. Various items are accepted, including but not limited to, anti-freeze, batteries, BBQ lighters, cleaning fluids, diesel, expired/unused medications, fluorescent tubes & bulbs, gasoline, motor oil & filters, paint/paint thinners, propane tanks (non-fillable) and syringes/medical waste. Visit [www.parrysound.ca/HazardousWaste](http://www.parrysound.ca/HazardousWaste) for a complete list.

## Stockey Centre at a Glance

Art Classes & Wine Glasses – Various Dates from October to April

- Nov. 23 & 24 - Seventh Annual One-of-a-Kind Christmas Artisan Show  
From 10am - 4pm each day
- Nov. 27 - The Barra MacNeils: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Tour
- Nov. 28 to 30 - Fifth Annual Gchi Dewin Indigenous Storytellers Festival
- Dec. 1 - The Orillia Silver Band: Sleigh Bells & Brass Christmas Concert
- Dec. 5 - Film at the Stockey: After the Wedding
- Dec. 6 - Michelle Wright: A Wright Christmas
- Dec. 21 - Handel's Messiah
- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Dance Party with the Sunnyslope Bootleggers
- Feb. 29 - Classic Albums Live performs Led Zeppelin
- Mar. 16 to 20 - March Break Events
- Mar. 17 - RUNA
- Mar. 19 - Peter Mennie

More information on Charles W. Stockey Centre events is available by visiting 2 Bay Street, by calling 877-746-4466, or by visiting them online at [www.stockeycentre.com](http://www.stockeycentre.com).

## Day of Search and Rescue

After two successful Days of Search and Rescue, featuring rescue vehicle manufactures this Spring, it was decided to hold the event annually.

Save the Date:  
March 20, 2020

## Winter Parking

It's almost that time of year again to start thinking about snow.

The Town of Parry Sound By-law Department would like to remind everyone that parking on the municipal roads or within the municipal parking lots is not permitted between 3:00am - 7:00am from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Public Works Update

The stone retaining wall along the fitness trail between Bay Street and Mclsaac Way was replaced by Weeks Construction this fall.

Waubeeek Street construction continues and should be 90% complete by the end of 2019. Remaining work will be completed in 2020.

A section of force-main was replaced on Parry Sound Drive this fall.

Compactors were installed at the transfer station for garbage and recyclables.



# 35%

of water & sewer bills are paid through pre-authorized payments.

Both water & sewer and property taxes can be paid this way.

## New Cruise Ships - Le Champlain & the Hanseatic Inspiration

This fall the Town welcomed a new cruise ship, Le Champlain, to the Town Dock and the passengers into our community. The 430ft ship certainly made a statement while in port.

Next June we will welcome a new ship, the Hanseatic Inspiration, as it makes its inaugural visit to the Great Lakes. In total there will be three ships making thirteen visits in 2020.



## Façade Improvement Grant

This year the Town granted \$36,000 in façade improvement funding to local businesses for improvements to the exteriors of their buildings. Improvements have been, or will be made, under the 50% funding program to Maurizio's Pizzeria (patio extension & signage), 47 Gibson St. (siding, front façade improvements & signage), Parry Sound Insurance (lighting), Georgian Bay Software (plans), White Squall (walkway) and FAD Architects - 92 James St. (window and doors).

## Phase One of the Solar Field Construction Has Begun

Clearing has begun for the Town's first photovoltaic (solar) field at the former landfill site, off MacFarlane Street. The initial project will produce 500kW DC and is intended to partially offset Corporate usage from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Additional land on the site will be used in subsequent phases to further offset Corporate energy usage and improve grid resiliency. For more information on this project and others the Town plans to undertake, please see the 5-year Conservation and Demand Management Plan ([www.parrysound.ca/energy](http://www.parrysound.ca/energy)).

## Zoning By-law Review

The zoning by-law is currently under review. Public Consultations will take place in 2020. Watch for updates on our website to have the opportunity to provide input.

## Parry Sound and District Horticultural Society Dig In

The Parry Sound and District Horticultural Society, aka the Garden Club, has a rich and long history serving the Parry Sound District. In the Town of Parry Sound they have been actively planting in Town Parks since 1963, while promoting the protection of the environment.

Monthly meetings are held at Canadore College on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm March - June and September - November. Meeting topics vary from speakers to hands-on workshops. Currently the club boasts close to 100 members.

This year, the "Garden Club", was responsible for beautification at the Stockey Centre, the Gazebo Garden and the Town's welcome sign.

*"Some people look for a beautiful place, others make a place beautiful".* Hazrat Inavat Khan  
We think Parry Sound, on beautiful Georgian Bay, is the perfect place for both.

## **Peter Brown, Director of Public Works Retires After 8 years with the Town of Parry Sound**

After eight years of dedicated service leading the Public Works Department, Peter Brown will be hanging up his hard hat and starting the next chapter of retirement on December 31, 2019.

We take this opportunity to thank Peter for his steadfast leadership and constant support of our community. Peter was not only the leader, but a member of his team, who could often be seen stepping in to assist as needed when staffing was short, be it as the wingman in a snowplow or assisting on a fire scene. Peter will be greatly missed not only by Council and staff but by the whole community. Congratulations Peter!

## **Emergency SOS - A Message from the OPP**

### **How to trigger Emergency SOS on your iPhone**

Apple makes it very easy to trigger Emergency SOS without having to look at your screen or speak to another person. If you're in a situation where you can't move a whole lot, you can trigger it by pressing some physical buttons on your iPhone.

In iOS 12 and newer, when you trigger a call to emergency services in the U.S., you'll also be sending your current location to the 911 center to improve response time. Your location will only be shared with 911 and not with your emergency contacts.

### **How to use Emergency SOS on iPhone 8 and newer**

By default, Emergency SOS is set up so you have to press both the side button and one of the volume buttons to activate.

- Press and hold the Side button and either volume button on the sides of your iPhone.
- Continue holding the Side button and volume button as the SOS emergency countdown begins.
- You can also swipe right on the Emergency SOS switch to activate the call immediately.
- Your phone will now automatically start a countdown and then call emergency services.

### **How to use Emergency SOS on iPhone 7 and older**

- Rapidly press the side button five times.
- Your phone will automatically start a countdown and then call emergency services.

### **How to use single-press Emergency SOS on iPhone 8 and newer**

If you'd prefer to only have to use one button to use the Emergency SOS feature on iPhone 8, iPhone 8 Plus, iPhone X, iPhone XS, iPhone XS Max, or iPhone XR, you can change the settings to allow it.

- Launch Settings from your Home screen.
- Tap Emergency SOS.
- Tap the Call with Side Button On/Off switch. When the switch is green the feature has been turned on. When this feature is enabled, you can activate the Emergency SOS feature by pressing the Side Button five times in quick succession. It's much easier to do inside a pocket. You will still be able to activate Emergency SOS by pressing and holding the Side Button and volume buttons.

### **How to stop accidentally calling 911 on your iPhone**

Remember, with Auto Call off, you can't secretly or as easily call emergency services, so make sure the convenience outweighs the risk.

- Launch the Settings app on your iPhone.
- Tap Emergency SOS.
- Toggle the switch for Auto Call off.

## Upcoming Recreation and Leisure Events and Programming

### Light Up The Park

On Friday November 22, 2019 join us at Market Square Park for an afternoon of activities.

- 3:30pm – Free movie in the Library (Dr. Seuss' The Grinch)
- 5:00pm - 5:30pm – Pizza party (\$2/slice) in the Library
- 5:00pm - 7:00pm – Reindeer Photo Op
- 5:45pm – Welcoming remarks and hot chocolate
- 6:15pm – Lights go on!
- 6:30pm - 7:15pm – Story with Santa

### Remembrance Day Banners in the Downtown

Get out for a walk downtown and enjoy the lovely Fall weather and look up to see all of our Veterans who have local ties to our community. Can't find who your looking for? Take a look on our website for a map of all of the banners. [www.parrysound.ca/remembrancebanners](http://www.parrysound.ca/remembrancebanners)

### Breakfast with Santa

Make sure you drop by on Saturday November 23, 2019 at the BOCC for this pancake breakfast, photo shoot, and public skate with Jolly Old Saint Nicholas! Brought to you in partnership by the Optimist Club of Parry Sound, One Kids Place, Community Living Parry Sound and Hands.

### Santa Claus Parade

See all the magic and wonder of the season in the community parade featuring Santa Claus himself! Brought to you by the Optimist Club of Parry Sound. On Saturday November 30, 2019 , floats start moving at 4:30pm. Check out our website for the parade route.

### Sound of Winter Community Decorating Contest

The Town of Parry Sound is inviting all residents to decorate their homes and businesses in the spirit of the winter season. This is your chance to share the warmth of the holiday season, help create vibrant neighbourhoods in Parry Sound and win awesome prizes!

### SnowFest 2020

Shake off the winter blues with the annual winter carnival, including public skating, free activities, BBQs, and fireworks! Every Family Day long weekend in February!

### [www.parrysound.ca/recreation](http://www.parrysound.ca/recreation)

Visit us online for more information about programming including public skating, belly dancing, shuffleboard, floor curling, pickleball, yoga and more!

#### Downtown Events

[www.downtownparrysound.ca](http://www.downtownparrysound.ca)

#### Event Calendar

[calendar.parrysound.ca](http://calendar.parrysound.ca)

#### Stockey Centre Events

[www.stockeycentre.com](http://www.stockeycentre.com)

Alternate formats available upon request.