

Sound Opportunities

March 2018 • Newsletter

Highlights For This Issue

- Exciting Plans for Downtown
- Grant Recipients
- Elections 2018
- Bobby Orr Hall of Fame
- Charles W. Stockey Centre
- Parry Sound Job Fair
- Cruise Ship Schedule
- The Allure of The Concilio Group

EXCITING PLANS FOR DOWNTOWN PARRY SOUND

The Downtown Business Association Board of Directors have some fairly large projects in the works. One of these items is a Strategic Planning Workshop in partnership with the Town of Parry Sound and the Downtown Steering Committee. During the session an exciting new Vision Statement was created:

“To be the “Wildly Civilized” Georgian Bay Downtown that turns your wealth of experiences into amazing memories!”

The Board is ready to embrace this new Vision Statement to create a vibrant and experience-based downtown including a new “Wildly Civilized” event. Stay tuned to our website for more details. The Strategic Plan is still in the draft stage, however, once it is finalized it will be shared and posted on our Website.

A beautification plan for James Street has been adopted and will be moving forward this spring. It involves new greenery on the main street and some new “parkettes”. To view this plan go to our website listed below.

The DBA’s signature summer events – The Painted Paddle/Chair Silent Auction, Georgian Bay Craft Fair and Downtown Car Show are in the works for 2018.

Check the website for more information and dates

www.downtownparrysound.ca

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Love Your Block Grant Recipients Announced

Recipients have been announced for the 2018 Love Your Block grant program.

The Love Your Block grant fund – offered in partnership between the Town of Parry Sound and Lakeland Energy – is open to all community members and community groups and provides funding to projects and events that aim to positively impact our local neighbourhoods, and the people who live there.

For the 2018 project period, the following applicants have been awarded funding for their project or event:

Applicant	Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Description
Dan DiNicolo & Becky Pollock	\$2,000	James Street Green Up & Clean	A spring cleanup of litter around properties on James Street, from Seguin Street to the CPR Trestle bridge where it becomes Bay Street, and a “spruce up” of store front areas.
RISE: Resource Centre for Independent Living & Community Living Parry Sound	\$1,800	Stop Gap Parry Sound Project	Reduce physical barriers in the downtown core by building temporary ramps for persons with accessibility needs.
Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve	\$300	Middle Eastern Community Supper	A charity dinner to raise funds for the “Community Kitchens” program.

The Town of Parry Sound and Lakeland would like to thank all those who submitted applications and extend congratulations to the above grant recipients.

For more information on the Love Your Block grant program,
visit www.parrysound.ca

2018 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

1.98% tax rate increase, \$79.73 increase impact on average home. Taxes on average home: \$3,147.22, \$181,000 additional raised for capital works and assets.

Major Projects & Expenditures: completion of Emily St. reconstruction, reconstruction of Waubeek & Prospect Streets, waste transfer station compactors, BOCC ice pad replacement, Isabella St. realignment, Stockey Centre roof and siding replacement, paving of various streets, year-round household hazardous waste service, creation of Corporate Communications Officer position, creation of Economic Development Officer position, additional Parks & Operations summer students, Fire Dept. breathing apparatus, new sidewalk plow, new (used) vacuum truck.

For a more complete description of 2018 initiatives, please refer to the Town’s website.



2018 Municipal and School Board Elections October 22/18

Once again Parry Sound will be conducting telephone and internet voting only for the upcoming municipal election on October 22, 2018. Telephone and internet voting means, no proxy votes, no advance polls; in fact, no physical polls at all. Eligible voters will be able to cast their vote from 10:00 a.m. October 9th to 8:00 p.m. October 22, 2018.

It is the responsibility of every elector to make sure they are eligible to vote and that they are on the voters' list. The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), provides the preliminary voters' list to all municipalities in Ontario during an election year. MPAC is once again offering a tool called Voter Look Up which will allow everyone to check on-line to ensure they are on the voters' list, before the list is provided to each municipality in August/September of this year.

If you check voterlookup.ca first you can add or change your information over the internet. If you wait and check the Voters' List after it is provided to Parry Sound, then you must come down to the municipal office, provide proof of your identity and then you can get on the list.

Voter Look Up will be available end of February/beginning of March this year.
Check our website for updates and further information regarding Voter Look Up

Jackie Boggs, Clerk/Returning Officer

FLUORIDATION

Council has directed that the question of whether or not the Town's water should be fluoridated be placed on the ballot during the municipal election this October.

A public meeting on fluoridation was held February 20th. This was not a forum for each side to present their case on whether or not there should be fluoridation. The Municipal Act states that there is to be no campaigning before filing with the Town Clerk starting May 1, 2018. This includes no 'campaigning' of any kind prior to May 1st including on the fluoridation matter.

As for after May 1st, it's appropriate to not allow campaigning for the question at Council meetings as we would not allow campaign material about a candidate to be placed on the agenda. The same rules apply.

Although Council is not obligated to hold a public meeting Council may consider doing so closer to the election so both sides may be heard. More information will be provided primarily through the Town's website, the Sound Opportunities Newsletter and at Council meetings.

Bobby Orr Hall of Fame



Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Celebrating Youth Event

Saturday June 23, 2018

Join Bobby Orr in recognizing the contributions of our youth in the community by nominating an outstanding youth, group or team today!

Nomination deadline: May 4th, 2018 at 4 pm.

Nomination forms and further details available at the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame, 2 Bay Street, Parry Sound or by calling 877-746-4466 ext. 208.



Bobby Orr and the 2017 Celebrating Youth Finalists

Charle W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts

THE STOCKEY CENTRE & BOBBY ORR HALL OF FAME ARE YOUR HEADQUARTERS FOR MARCH BREAK 2018!



Tuesday, March 13

- Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Activities, 11am to 1:30pm
- Family Fun Movie: SING, 2pm, Free Event

Thursday, March 15

- Long & McQuade Musical Petting Zoo, 1pm to 3pm, Free Event
- Science North Exhibits, 1pm to 3pm, Free Event

Friday, March 16

- Zoo To You, 1pm to 3pm, Free Event

Saturday, March 17

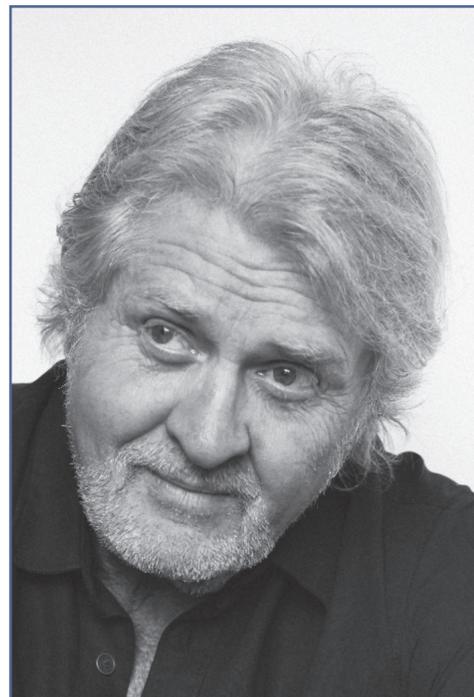
- Zumba Kids, 10am, Free Event

TOM COCHRANE WITH RED RIDER

Monday April 2nd, 2018

Eight-time Juno Award Winner & Canadian Music Hall of Famer Tom Cochrane visits the Stockey Stage, celebrating the 25th anniversary of 'Life is a Highway' and an incredible career that spans more than 40 years! This is a special concert for not only the Stockey Centre, but the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame as well, as Tom Cochrane was inducted into our own local Hall of Fame in 2013 during the facility's special Tenth Anniversary Celebrations!

For more information on this event, call us at 877-746-4466 or visit stockeycentre.com.





Parry Sound Job Fair

Wednesday, March 21, 9:30-12:30

Bobby Orr Community Centre

Your job. Your future.

Meet local employers ready to hire!

Now in our 7th year, the YMCA Employment Services has been taking the lead on the community-wide Parry Sound Job Fair. This event has filled a need in our community, providing a valuable service in connecting job seekers with employers looking to hire—especially for the busy tourism season. This event has grown year after year, with record attendance last year.

In 2017, over 50 employers and over 300 job seekers connected at the Parry Sound Job Fair, with 100% of employers finding potential employees. Are you looking for work or a job change? Bring plenty of copies of your resume and dress to impress because employers are ready to hire!

Do you need some support to be ready for the Job Fair? The YMCA Employment Services will be hosting a series of **FREE** Get Job Ready events to help you confidently walk into the Job Fair ready to be hired.

Your job is out there. We'll help you find it.

For more information, visit our facebook page @parrysoundymcaemploymentservice or call our office at 705.746.8480



The Bobby Orr Hall of Fame welcomes Caitlin Dyer as Curator

The Town of Parry Sound has hired Caitlin Dyer as Curator of the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame. Caitlin has a bachelor's degree in history from McMaster University and a master's degree in Public History from the University of Western Ontario. She joined us in January from The National Ballet of Canada Archives where she worked for more than six years.

"I'm very excited to join the team here at the Stockey Centre and look forward to increasing community engagement and bringing new interpretation to the Hall of Fame." Caitlin's experience will help us expand on the great events currently put on by the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame and create new programs and exhibits.



2018 Cruise Ship Schedule

The Town of Parry Sound will once again be a port of call for Great Lakes Cruise ships. The “MS Pearl Mist” and “Victory II” will call into port for a total of 12 visits in 2018.

Date	Ship	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Thurs. June 7th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0830	1830
Mon. June 18th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0800	1900
Fri. June 29th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0830	1830
Tues. July 10th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0800	1900
Thurs. July 12th	‘Victory II’	0500	1830
Sat July 21st	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0830	1830
Wed Aug 1st	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0800	1900
Fri. Aug 3rd	‘Victory II’	0700	1800
Sun Aug 12th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0830	1830
Thurs. Aug 23rd	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0800	1900
Sun. Aug 26th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	2100	1900 (next day)
Thurs. Sept 6th	‘MS Pearl Mist’	0800	1900

*Dates and times subject to change.

This is a great opportunity to showcase Parry Sound and welcome international visitors.

Parry Sound Welcomes The Concilio Group

The Allure of Parry Sound – The Concilio Group

There are many reasons why companies are choosing to relocate to smaller centres for the welfare of their businesses. One of the hottest topics these days is “Wellness” in the workplace, which can be a difficult thing to achieve in the larger centres across North America. As millennials become the backbone or the heavy lifters for big companies, their values are quite different from previous generations. They want careers and a lifestyle and affordable living.

At The Concilio Group, we recognize what a jewel like Parry Sound represents to the people that we are choosing to work with us. We had many choices in Ontario, but we landed on Parry Sound for reasons that some that live in town, may forget in the greyness of February.

The Concilio Group is a Managed Services business, which means that we serve as an IT back shop for large corporations with a growing fatigue for spending money on servers, analysts, IT professionals, benefit programs and other cost centres that make them less profitable. Hence, we can relocate to a great town like Parry Sound. We originally had some reservations as to whether strong resources with the appropriate experience could be found in the smaller centres. We have been pleasantly surprised, by all the individuals we have interviewed.

Our client base is currently North American in scope, but we intend to become an international player in the coming year. We have a proprietary data base technology called Atomicdb that provides us with such a significant differentiator from others that run Managed Services. We currently work within business verticals that include healthcare, pharmaceutical, automotive, telecom, utilities and insurance. Our healthcare clients include many of the super hospitals in Toronto, The Cleveland Clinic and we intend to have The Henry Ford Medical Centres join us this year.

Each one of these verticals promises to provide us with exponential growth over the coming years and make us a significant employer in the Town of Parry Sound. We have now purchased a building and we are currently meeting with architects, builders and designers. It is our passion to become a valuable member of the community and hopefully our new site, will add to the aesthetic charm of Parry Sound.

Our collateral material, signage and correspondence will show that we are proudly located in Toronto, New York and yes, Parry Sound.

David J. Howell