

TOWN OF PARRY SOUND 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

On behalf of Council, I am pleased to present you with the 2015 Annual Report for the Town of Parry Sound.

One of the first orders of business for 2015 was the development of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan. After a comprehensive community consultation process, Council adopted the Plan November 3, 2015. The Strategic Plan sets priorities for the term of Council and will bring focus and direction to annual business planning and decision-making processes, and forms the basis for the 2015 Annual Report.

In support of the Strategic Plan, a number of infrastructure improvements were completed and funding for future projects approved. The Site Plan Control By-law was updated from the 1980's, streamlining processes. We welcomed the opening of the new Parry Sound Public School and Gardens of Parry Sound. Working with community organizations, the Town received a Trails Master Plan, a comprehensive living document which recommends future routes and linkages which will benefit members of the community, public health, the environment and the economy.

We hope you find the Annual Report informative, and welcome any questions you may have.

Jamie McGarvey, Mayor



174

Bobby Orr
Community
Centre Room
Bookings

154

Waubuno Beach
Swim Program
participants

96

Bobby Orr
Hall of Fame
Adult Triathlon
participants

78

Bobby Orr
Hall of Fame
Youth Triathlon
participants

OUR COMMUNITY

Waubuno Beach Welcomes Two Historic Artifacts

Anchors of the 'Atlantic' and 'Seattle', two historic artifacts important to the history of the Town of Parry Sound have been relocated from Belvedere Heights to Waubuno Beach and are proudly displayed along with the 'Waubuno' anchor.

Both ships were victims of the 'Great Storm of November 1903'. The 147' steamer 'Atlantic' was enroute from Collingwood to Byng Inlet and was headed into Parry Sound for repairs after taking shelter behind the Pancake Islands. Enroute to Parry Sound, fire broke out. The vessel burnt to the waterline and sunk in the Killbear Channel near Spruce Rock. All of the 25 crew and 3 passengers survived the harrowing ordeal.

The very next day, the lumber barge 'Seattle' departed Parry Sound for Detroit with over half a million board-feet of lumber. Almost across Georgian Bay, the 'Seattle' encountered mechanical problems and was pounded onto the shoals in the Mink Chain of Islands north of Parry Sound. The Red Rock lighthouse keeper rescued the crew of 9 men and brought them into Parry Sound.

The vessels are forever linked by the Great Storm of 1903 that sealed their fate. Their story is an integral part of the history of Parry Sound.

Eric McIntyre was the energy behind this relocation project. Thanks, Eric! The Town would also like to thank the Belvedere Heights Board of Directors.



OUR COMMUNITY - PUBLIC WORKS

Operations Department

- Wakefield and Dufferin Street completed. Includes new road, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, gravity sewers, storm sewers and watermains, 100% Provincial funding. Project completed on time and on budget at a cost of approximately \$1.4 Million.
- Forest Street completed to first lift of asphalt. Final lift in 2016. \$2 Million in funding from the Province and includes new road, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, gravity sewers, storm sewers and watermains.
- New intersection realignment at Canadore College Drive. Improves safety and access to Canadore College and Gardens of Parry Sound.
- Repairs to storm sewer, sanitary and water services on section of Hillcrest Avenue.
- New asphalt on section of Bowes Street.
- Rebuilt Shoppers dock, Champagne Street boat launch repairs.
- Beatty Street and Isabella Street intersection installation of a 3-way stop sign, to improve pedestrian access to new school.
- Ongoing dangerous trees removed from Cemetery and right of ways.
- Ongoing monument repairs at Hillcrest Cemetery to make them safe for the public.
- Modifications to the Transfer Station and Household Hazardous Waste building, to provide a safer work environment and easier access for the public.
- Ongoing talks with both CN and CP Rail and Transport Canada to reconstruct the Isabella Street Crossing.
- Replaced crumbling retaining wall Louisa Street and Bowes Street.
- Replacement of all High Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights with LED. Will provide considerable hydro savings.
- Replacement of HPS lights on Fitness Trail and Waubuno Beach with LED.
- Funding approval in the amount of approximately \$2 Million for Emily Street reconstruction, from Rose Point Road to Parry Sound Road, including pedestrian connection to Town network of trails.
- Funding approval for section of William Street, from Mill Lake Road to Addie Street. To include new watermain, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, road works, sidewalk and bike lanes.
- Complete sidewalk replacement on Cascade Street, from Church Street to Isabella Street. Other sections of sidewalk in Town replaced.
- New backhoe purchased to replace aged equipment.
- Asphalt recycling trailer purchased, allowing for improved and faster pothole repairs.
- 924 locates performed by staff through ON1Call.



2015 Administration Statistics

Council held **23** regular meetings and **9** special meetings.

The Town had **3** freedom of information (FOI) requests.

The Town issued **250** burial permits, and **80** marriage licenses

Wastewater Treatment

- Pump replacements, upgrades, successful cleaning of wet well and new variable frequency drive at Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) #6
- Commenced design modifications to Prospect Street SPS#9
- Flushed and cleaned 19,981m of sanitary sewer
- Installed insulated manhole lids in trouble areas
- Reclaimed 6,282.9m³ of biosolids for land application
- Treated 1,422 ML of sewage
- New digester roof to eliminate leaks
- Installed new scum pit lids
- New alum pump
- Replaced raw sludge pump #1
- New skimmer pump on sand filters
- SCADA upgrades in plant and SPS#6
- SPS#12 and SPS#9 forcemain repair
- Numerous lateral repairs
- Multiple camera/locates
- Vac out grease and debris in lift stations
- New blower motor aeration #1
- New blower unit digester building

New Website Launched www.parrysound.ca

In April 2015 the Town launched a new website www.parrysound.ca. The new website is easier to navigate with an improved layout and up to date, accessible content.

One major upgrade to the website is the improved event calendar. Event organizers are now able to publish their own events allowing for better more up to date information sharing.

Water Treatment

- 2 new water operators hired to fill vacancies
- Flushed and serviced all fire hydrants
- 98 water meters installed
- North water storage tower SCADA computer upgrades
- Replacement of 4 Rotork actuators
- Drinking water quality management system audit and licence renewal
- Elevated water storage tower inspections completed by a remotely operated vehicle and reports provided for the Bowes Tower and North Tower
- Underwater inspection and report of raw water intake at the Water Treatment Plant
- 1,071 ML of water processed

Booth Street Revitalization



Great things happen when a community comes together. The Carrington volunteers had a busy 2015 making major improvements to the Booth Street Community Park. The Park was given a new life with upgraded playground equipment, new wood chips in the play areas, a new kids' bike path, a Community Garden coordinated by Parry Sound Community Gardens and the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve and financially supported by Walmart, improved lighting, parking and access. Special thanks to Luke Decissio, Granite Ridge Bins, Georgian Bay Native Non-Profit Housing and Parry Sound Non-Profit Housing.

The Carrington volunteers also managed to put in a concrete floor and new boards at the Mission Park rink with generous donations by Home Depot, Parry Sound Ready-Mix, McNabb's Home Lumber and Gray's Paints.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE EMERGENCY SERVICES

6,061 District Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Responses in 2015

56%

Urgent - 3,432
Life threatening

Prompt - 1,073
Serious/Important but
not life threatening

18%

Other - 712

12%

Non-Urgent - 587

10%

Scheduled
- 257

4%

ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE

In 2015 the Town of Parry Sound purchased a new accessible vehicle utilizing the provincial gas tax. A specialized transportation service is available through an agreement with the West Parry Sound District Community Support Services.

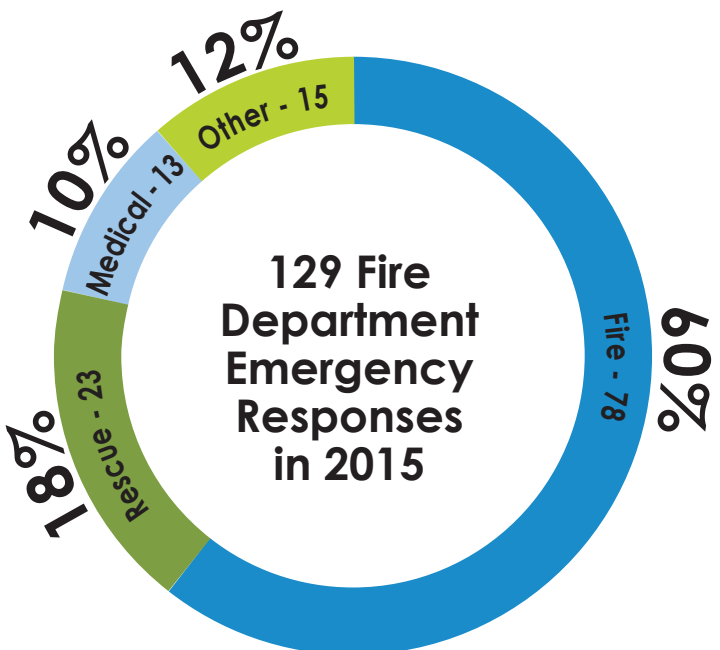


DOG POUND

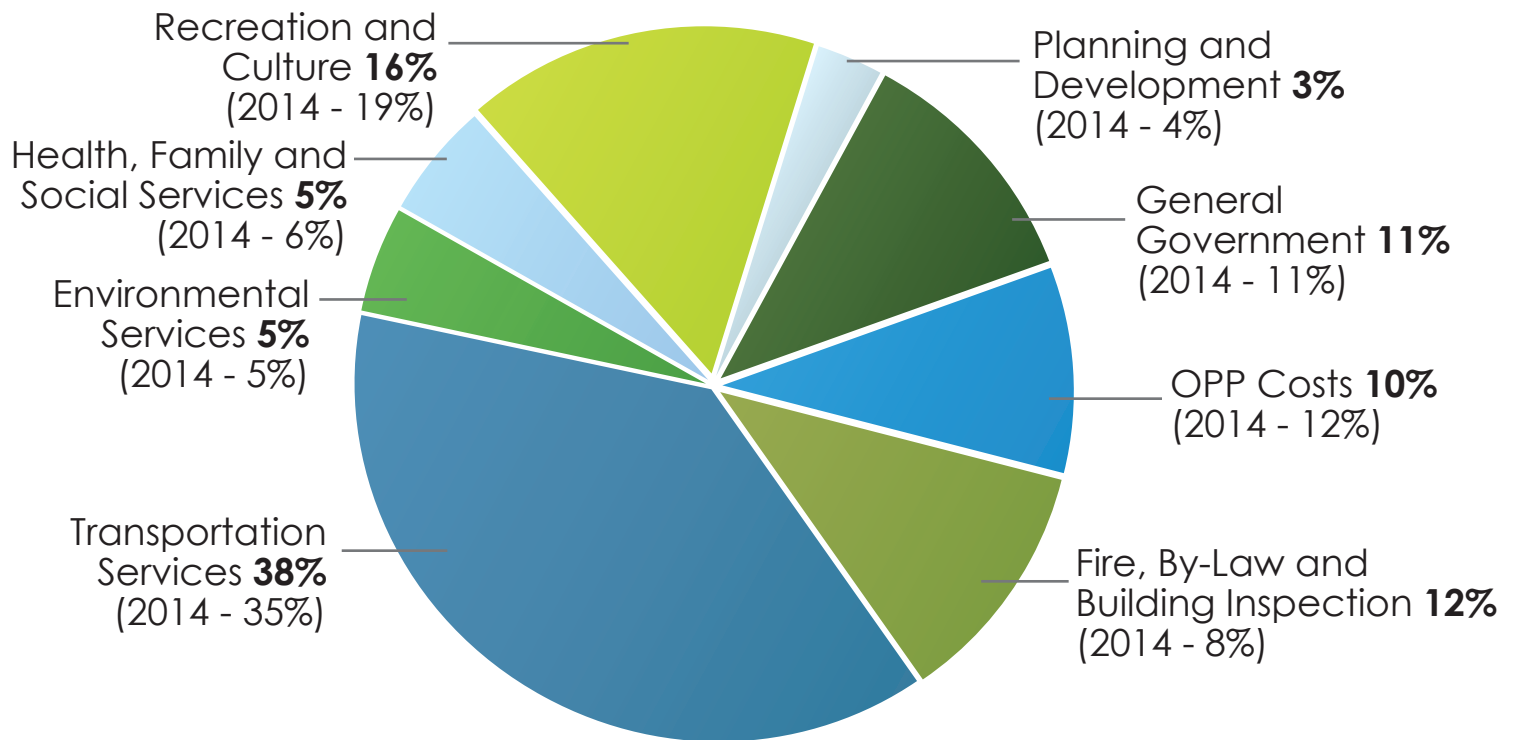
The Municipal Pound located in Parry Sound is operated as a joint effort between five local municipalities.

Dog Pound Count by Municipality

Parry Sound	31
Seguin	26
McDougall	8
Carling	2
Whitestone	0
Other.	1
Total:	68



CASH OUTFLOWS (Disbursements)



Excludes: Water, Wastewater, POA, Land Ambulance and Amortization of Capital Assets

BUDGET SUMMARY - CASH OUTFLOWS

	2015	2014
Council	\$ 233,450	\$ 233,475
Corporate Services	\$ 2,146,191	\$ 1,774,809
OPP	\$ 1,994,007	\$ 2,184,020
Fire, By-Law & Building Inspection	\$ 2,384,407	\$ 1,507,140
Transportation Services	\$ 7,878,735	\$ 6,271,470
Environmental Services	\$ 1,032,752*	\$ 978,800*
Health Services	\$ 684,283*	\$ 670,458*
Social & Family Services	\$ 436,172*	\$ 417,414*
Recreation & Culture	\$ 3,391,429	\$ 3,443,048
Planning & Development	\$ 635,456	\$ 729,250
	\$ 20,816,882	\$ 18,209,884

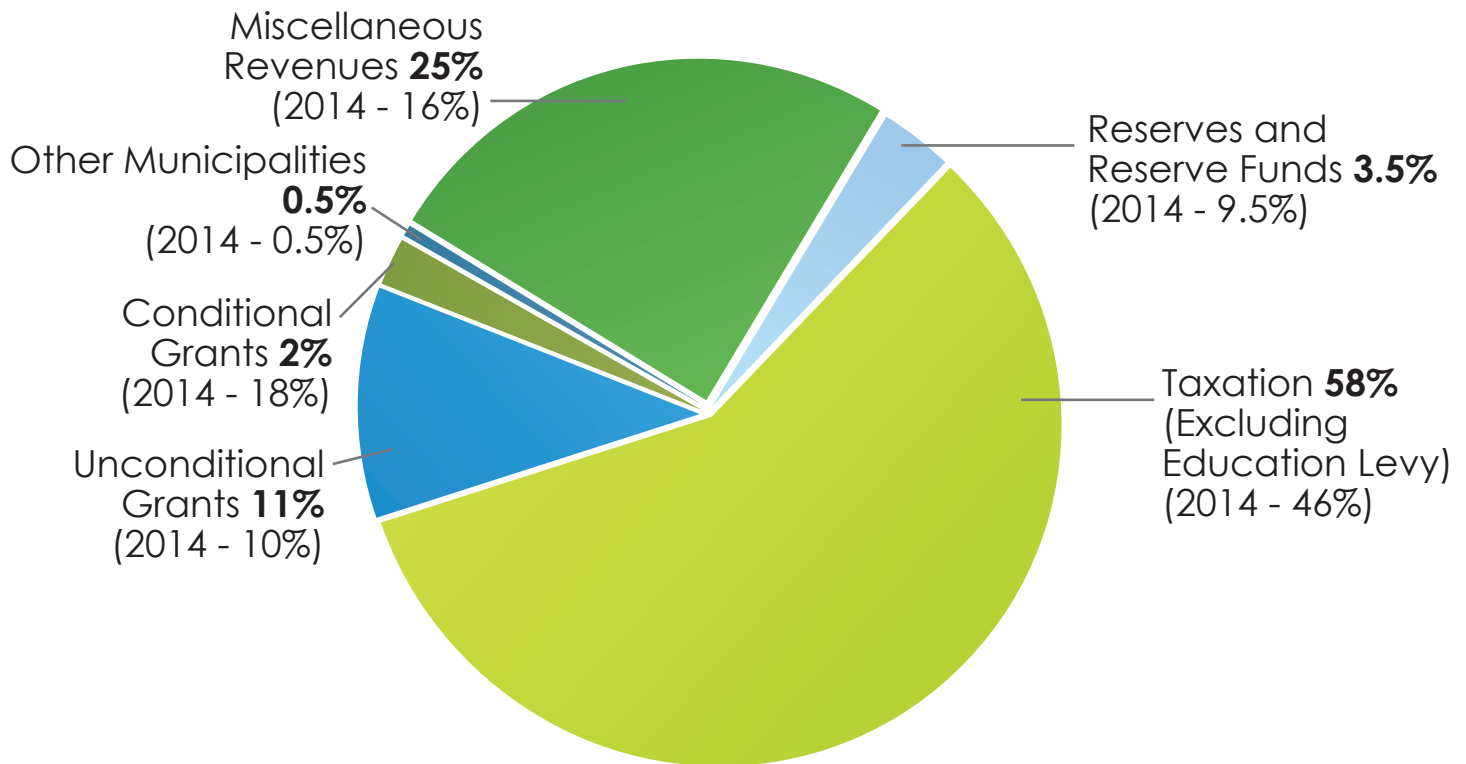
* Figures exclude budgetary requirements related to "Water and Wastewater Services"; as well as only the net effect of Land Ambulance Services and the administration of the Provincial Offences Act.

Accessibility Planning

On October 29, 2015, the Town celebrated 10 years of action toward an accessible Ontario. The event raised awareness on communication challenges for people with limited speech and celebrated the Town's accomplishments to date.



CASH INFLOWS (Revenues)



Excludes: Water, Wastewater, POA, Land Ambulance and Amortization of Capital Assets

BUDGET SUMMARY - CASH INFLOWS

	2015	2014
Taxation (Excluding Education Levy)	\$ 9,420,674	\$ 8,808,124
Unconditional Grants	\$ 1,784,900	\$ 1,863,100
Conditional Grants	\$ 371,291*	\$ 3,491,543*
Other Municipalities	\$ 86,993*	\$ 92,493*
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 4,080,449*	\$ 2,982,627*
Reserves & Reserve Funds	\$ 566,000*	\$ 1,816,337*
	\$ 16,310,307	\$ 19,054,224

* Figures exclude budgetary requirements related to "Water and Wastewater Services"; as well as only the net effect of Land Ambulance Services and the administration of the Provincial Offences Act.

Accessibility Planning

The Town is committed to accessibility planning. The Town annually updates the multi-year Accessible Plan to identify achievements made within that fiscal year.

Feedback is welcomed pertaining to accessibility at any time. Feedback is necessary to improve service and remove barriers. To view the Town's achievements or provide feedback visit: www.parrysound.ca

Water Meters / Water Bylaw

Effective August 1, 2015 a new Water and Wastewater Bylaw came into effect. Under this bylaw there is the implementation of some new user fees as well as some additional instances when a water meter is mandatory. Check out our website www.parrysound.ca under Live Here - Water and Sewer for more information or contact the Town Office at (705) 746-2101.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Town Finance Staff Elected to Provincial Boards

In 2015, two finance staff were elected to the Boards of Directors of two Provincial associations and one finance staff volunteered to a Provincial committee. Rob Beaumont, the Town's Revenue and Taxation Supervisor, was elected in September to the Board of the Ontario Municipal Tax and Revenue Association (OMTRA).

Director of Finance and POA Court Services, Trevor Pinn, was elected to the Board of the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA) in July 2015 effective January 1, 2016.

POA Senior Finance Clerk Gail Finnon, was also appointed to the Collections Committee of OMTRA focusing on the professional development and best practices for municipal collectors, particularly for Provincial Offences Act Court.

These appointments will ensure that the Town of Parry Sound has a voice at the Provincial level and an ability to impact policy development for the municipal sector.

WEST PARRY SOUND AREA COOPERATION

Regional Marketing Plan and the Tourism Summit

The Regional Economic Development Advisory Committee (REDAC), introduced two new projects in 2015, the Regional Marketing Plan and the Tourism Summit.

Regional Marketing Plan

With funding assistance from FedNor and NOHFC, REDAC hired a consultant, HCA Mindbox to develop a Regional Marketing Plan. The Plan will be actionable and realistic, with the goal being to promote economic growth and attract/retain investment and businesses, thereby building economic capacity, growing the population of the West Parry Sound area. Objectives of the plan include a brand and vision, identifying target markets and developing a comprehensive marketing plan/strategy targeting industrial, residential, commercial, tourism investment and tourism attraction. The Plan is also to include strategies that target the cottage market. The Plan is expected to be completed April 2016. Implementation of the Plan will be the responsibility of the Community Investment Initiative for Northern Ontario (CiINO) Regional Economic Development Officer who will be hired through funding assistance from FedNor and REDAC.

Tourism Summit

Tourism is important to the economic viability of our area. REDAC partnered with Explorers' Edge who hired a consultant to work with community groups, tourism operators/owners and area municipalities clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the various tourism-related agencies. The report will be completed in the spring of 2016.



'Pearl Mist'

The 'Pearl Mist', a 210 passenger cruise ship visited Parry Sound five times in 2015.

This was the second year the ship docked in Parry Sound and the first time it stayed in port over night. The ship brings many new visitors to our area.

ACTIVE LIVING

Stockey Centre & Bobby Orr Hall of Fame

Attendance year over year comparison

Year	Non-Ticketed Shows	Ticketed Shows	BOHF Admissions	Total Attendance
2014	11,224	11,204	5082	27,530
2015	11,508	13,645	3945	29,098



Updates and Improvements

In January 2015 the Stockey Centre Performance Hall floor was completely refinished with a new environmentally friendly product. An extensive upgrade to the lighting system was completed in late December.

Patron and Community Experience Improvements

Facility renters at the Stockey Centre are now permitted to hire their own caterers for their events, giving customers more flexibility in their event plans and allowing more businesses to benefit from events held at the Stockey Centre.

Free events like the Bands on the Bay series of Tuesday night summer concerts, and a Family Fun Day event are becoming a must attend event. Thanks to M&M Meats as a partner in making the Family Fun Day possible. We continue to plan March Break programming for children to include events in the March Break week.

For the first time in several years, the Stockey Centre hosted a New Year's Eve Dance Party featuring the popular local band, The Sunny Slope Bootleggers. The event was a sell out!

2015 Induction

The year 2015 saw Ernie Eves, Wilfred 'Bucko' McDonald, Les Tabobondung and the 1956-57 Parry Sound Shamrocks inducted into the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame. This event was another sell-out! Jared Orr was the recipient of the 2015 Parry Sound Minor Hockey Top Defenseman award. What an honour to welcome these worthy individuals and teams into the Hall of Fame.

2015 Bobby Orr Hall of Fame (BOHF) Celebrity Golf Classic

The 2015 Golf Classic was another great success with 25 teams participating, along with the pleasure of the support of 30 celebrities including Don Cherry, Doug Gilmour, Bernie Nicholls and many more. This is the largest annual fundraiser for the BOHF and the most sincere appreciation goes out to Bobby Orr for not only hosting the event, but for the tremendous amount of work that he personally puts into the organization of the event.

We are truly fortunate to have Bobby Orr's support for these events.



ACTIVE LIVING

Trails Master Plan

The Town of Parry Sound received a Trails Master Plan on November 17, 2015. The Trails Master Plan is a comprehensive, living document which identifies all walking, hiking, biking, ATVing and snowmobiling trails in the Town of Parry Sound. The Plan recommends future routes and linkages which will benefit members of the community, public health, the environment and the economy. It is a long term plan which coincides with Council's Strategic Plan.

Open Streets Events

Led by a group of dedicated community volunteers including the Downtown Business Association and supported by the 8-80 Advisory Committee, two Open Streets events were held in 2015. Residents and visitors were able to enjoy a range of activities such as cycling, skateboarding, sport demonstrations, crafts, food and entertainment on Bay Street, James Street up through William Street with no vehicles on the roads.

Benefits of Open Streets include increasing the level of social interaction, feelings of connectedness to the outdoors, to the community and to others. There is also the building of awareness of the importance of creating people oriented towns by engaging residents around issues of active transportation, public spaces and building healthier communities. Planning is underway for the 2016 event. Come out to meet your community neighbours and enjoy family fun activities.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Big Sound Marina's Dock B Redevelopment

With the support of FedNor funding, Big Sound Marina's Dock B will undergo a redevelopment. This will essentially involve two components: upgrading the floating dock system to allow for an expansion/extension of the 22 finger slips to 35', upgrade 23 power pedestals to modern models with LED lighting. The redevelopment will allow the marina to remain competitive and to respond to the needs of the customer, ensuring that the marina remains a key economic driver. The project has been awarded to Kropf Industrial and will be completed before the 2016 boating season begins.

Free Parking Program Pilot – 6 month trial – June 1 to November 30, 2015.



After receiving positive feedback from patrons of the downtown and strong support from the merchants, the Parking Committee recommended that the Free Parking Program continue and the parking meters be removed from the downtown.

After deliberating the issue, Council directed staff to work with the Downtown Business Association to bring forward a comprehensive strategy as to how we can ensure the long term viability of the downtown in the Spring of 2016.

In the meantime, the Free Parking Program continues. For more information on the Free Parking Program visit: www.parrysound.ca/en/visit-us/Free-Parking

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION STATUS REPORT

Applicant	Development/Subject	Status
6963510 Canada Inc. Louisa Street	An application for rezoning has been submitted to permit various industrial uses.	Awaiting information from the applicant.
Lea 6 Oak Avenue	Rezoning to permit a basement apartment in an existing dwelling.	Approved by Council.
Van Gelder 48 Bowes Street	Rezoning to permit a business and professional office, and an accessory dwelling unit.	Approved by Council.
Microsuite 1 Joseph Street / 100 Church Street	Rezoning to permit residential development (12 new units total). As part of the Zoning By-law Amendment, the property was also severed into three parcels.	Approved by Council.
General Parking Amendment	A general amendment to the Zoning By-law to permit off site parking for residential uses in the Downtown.	Approved by Council.
Metal Tree Inc. 34 Seguin Street	Off site Parking Agreement to permit the construction of four residential units.	Approved by Council.
Parry Sound Mall 70 Joseph Street	The Parry Sound Mall severed a portion of the property in order to facilitate a larger development plan.	Adopted by Council.
Thunder Creek Winnifred Avenue	Extension to time lines for release of securities.	Approved by Council.
Barker 40 Pine Drive	An agreement to permit services to the former OSPCA building in order to facilitate the redevelopment of the property.	Approved by Council.
New Site Plan Control By-law	An update to the previous site plan control by-law from the 1980s.	Approved by Council.
Sound Holdings Inc. 60 Bowes Street	This property is currently being redeveloped for the Parry Sound Health Team Facility.	Approved by Council.
Trestle Brewery 9 Great North Road	The development of a restaurant, microbrewery and retail store.	Approved by Council.
Major Building Projects Completed in 2015	Parry Sound Public School - 21 Beatty Street Gardens of Parry Sound - 12 College Drive Rexall Store - 19 Pine Drive Hands the Family Help Network - 2 May Street	All building are complete and occupied.
General Development	New residential building permits approved in 2015.	6 Single detached homes 6 apartments and 0 condo units. 12 units in total.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Building Permit Statistics

Permit Type	Description	Total Permits 2015	Total Permits 2014	Total Project Value 2015	Total Project Value 2014
Major (A) Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential projects over \$50,000 Non-Residential projects over \$250,000 	9	12	\$5,753,500	\$21,342,764
Minor Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential projects under \$50,000 Non-Residential projects under \$250,000 	95	83	\$1,999,112	\$2,152,126
Other Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signs Other permits not counted in statistics 	12	12	\$110,500	\$104,750
Total		116	107	\$7,863,112	\$23,599,640

Benefits of the Film Industry

The film industry continues to see Parry Sound's Northern Ontario status and proximity to the Greater Toronto Area as an advantage. In 2015, \$2.5 million was spent in Parry Sound, as reported through the economic impact surveys which are completed following each film. The film industry creates work in a variety of areas - from seamstresses, hair stylists, carpenters and teachers to printing companies, restaurants and caterers and more. The Town's Film Policy ensures that film companies are aware of Town policies and by-laws and that parties impacted by filming are informed. We anticipate that 2016 will be another busy year for film.

Downtown Sustainability Task Team

At the November 17th meeting, Council gave direction for staff to work with the Downtown Business Association (DBA) to bring forward a comprehensive strategy as to how we can ensure the long-term viability of the downtown by:

- Comparing what we do with other communities;
- Researching what we are allowed to do;
- Assess how we are meeting our stated goals of our Official Plan and Zoning By-law;
- Identifying budget impacts in moving forward and taking action.

This comes as a result of the many recommendations that were outlined in the 2015 Downtown Consumer and Market Study. A task team has been established with a report expected to be provided to Council in May 2016.



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Alternate formats available upon request