



**TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK**

EaZy Talk

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

AUGUST 2009

Tax Payment Due

Just a friendly reminder that the 1st instalment of final taxes is due on August 31st. If you do not have the tax bill that was mailed at the end of July, please contact the Township Office.

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Collection Events

Just a reminder to check your Waste and Recycling calendars for upcoming dates for collection of Household Hazardous Waste, Scrap Metal and White Goods. This information is also available on our website and extra calendars can be obtained at the Township Office.

Infrastructure Funding

The Township has been very successful in securing a significant amount of funding to assist with a wide variety of Road and Park Infrastructure Projects. To date, the Township has secured \$4,163,274 from the Federal and Provincial Governments to assist with \$6,248,305 in projects.

Building Canada Fund (BCF)

Under the Building Canada Fund Program, the Township secured \$492,138 to assist with the reconstruction of Coleman & Burton Streets in Innerkip. This project is part of the larger Innerkip Wastewater System and Road Reconstruction Project. Work commenced on July 15th, 2009 with a ground breaking ceremony attended by Federal, Provincial and Municipal Officials.

The Township was also successful under the 2nd Building Canada Fund intake with the Maplewood Sideroad/15th Line Improvement project. This project allowed the Township to accelerate and complete work that was started in 2008. The Township secured \$1,021,736 in funding on a \$1,532,600 project.

Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF)

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund was created to accelerate infrastructure investments. This program will assist with the following projects:

- ♦ 16th Line Rehabilitation—\$2,096,000 total project with funding of \$1,395,936
- ♦ Rudy Subdivision Street Reconstruction and Urban Profile—\$638,000 total project with funding of \$424,908
- ♦ 10th Line, Lots 1-5 Hardsurfacing—\$666,000 total project with funding of \$443,556

More information on the Building Canada Fund and Infrastructure Stimulus Fund can be found at www.bcfontario.ca.

Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC)

In addition to programs for roads, the Federal and Provincial Governments created a program to assist with upgrades and improvements to recreational infrastructure. The Township was successful with 2 of its applications under the RInC Program.



Ground Breaking —Coleman Street Innerkip. Pictured from left to right: MPP Ernie Hardeman, Mayor East Zorra-Tavistock Don McKay and MP Dave MacKenzie.

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Upcoming events and meetings can be viewed on the Township website at www.twp.ezt.on.ca

How to Use your Fire Extinguisher

Do you have a fire extinguisher in your home and do you know how to use it?

This is a simple way to remember the steps to take when using your fire extinguisher. Start by standing approx. 3 metres back from the fire and remember "P.A.S.S."

- ♦ **P**ull the pin. The pin is there as a safeguard and locks the handle. Pulling it out enables it for use.
- ♦ **A**im low. The hose or nozzle should be pointed at the base of the fire to best put it out.
- ♦ **S**queeze the lever above the handle. This will shoot the extinguishing substance from the hose or nozzle. Keep in mind that most small extinguishers will run out of their extinguishing agent in 10-25 seconds.
- ♦ **S**weep from side to side. As you move slowly toward the fire, keep the hose or nozzle aimed at the base of the fire. If the flames appear to be out, release the handle and watch closely. If the fire ignites again, repeat the process.

A few things to keep in mind:

- ♦ Before using your extinguisher, ensure everyone has left the area and call 911.
- ♦ Always have an exit route at your back. Never let the fire get between you and your way out.
- ♦ Have the area inspected even if you are sure you have extinguished the fire.
- ♦ Inspect your extinguisher monthly for damage and ensure it is properly charged.
- ♦ If you use your extinguisher, it must be recharged by a professional.

Visit www.fireextinguisher.com to view a demonstration.

Innerkip Rescue Sled

The Innerkip Firefighters have obtained a piece of equipment that will safely add to any shore-based rescues that they may be called upon to perform. While this is a specialized rescue skill, there would be opportunities to use this level of service in other areas of the municipality. The Township does have some water courses that occasionally have had the need for emergency assistance, as well as several open ponds. The Rescue Sled is a multi-purpose device, being a durable piece of equipment that can assist in moving people from isolated areas such as woodlots, yet versatile enough to act as a sled for remote rescues in winter conditions.

As an association, the Innerkip firefighters have been holding fundraising breakfasts for many years and in the past have used the proceeds for vital Township equipment such as auto extrication heavy hydraulics and a

thermal imaging camera. Both pieces of equipment are integral to the emergency response services they provide and add to the safety of not only our firefighters, but the Township community as a whole.

Credit should be given to the Innerkip Firefighters for their resourcefulness in discovering this innovative new technology, and their dedication to making their community a safer place to live.



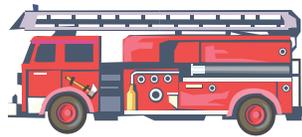
Mock Disaster Exercise

As part of the Township Emergency Management Planning, our fire department will be holding a mock exercise on Tuesday October 20, 2009 in the village of Tavistock.

Training is a very important aspect of emergency management and we are pleased to be able to provide this valuable experience to our Township volunteer firefighters. All three stations (Tavistock, Hickson and Innerkip) and Township office staff will be participating in some capacity during the exercise. Other emergency response agencies will also be taking part (Police, Oxford County EMS and Red Cross).

Through training together we hope to improve our skills so that we can better serve the residents of East Zorra-Tavistock in the event that a real emergency does occur.

Due to the planned emergency there will be some detour routes in and around the village for a period of time during the morning hours of 9 a.m. to approximately 11 a.m. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this may cause and we will do our utmost to advise the public so that local residents remain well informed as the date gets closer.



Canadian Red Cross



Message from the Mayor



"The capitalist imperative to privatize profits and socialize costs becomes particularly problematic when economic activity is generating enormous social costs by running up against the limits of human and environmental health and when it is continually deepening a horrendous inequality".

This is a quote from Robert Albritton's new book Let Them Eat Junk, How Capitalism Creates Hunger and Obesity. I have found this a very interesting read, and I see many of his concerns in our own community.

It is easy to say "I have paid my taxes to all three levels of government so let them look after the social needs" however, the inequalities continue to grow. I am optimistic and very encouraged to see our local community actively involved in caring for each other and our local environment. It is amazing

to see so many of you giving so generously. You give your time to organize and support community events and activities. You give your money to local groups and fundraisers to meet local causes. You give your smile, respect and friendliness so we can all feel a significant part of community. While you may not be able to erase all inequalities, you are certainly making this a great place to call home.

A special mention for TAP, the Tavistock Assistance Program which will give us a chance to ensure everyone in our community has food, shelter and clothing for themselves and their family.

On Another Note.....

May I also encourage you to participate in our Photo Contest. This is a great opportunity to capture the "Pride of East Zorra-Tavistock" and share it with others. We do not need an outside ad agency. We need your picture of the essence of our great community.

1st Annual EZT Photo Contest

We are inviting the residents of East Zorra-Tavistock to show their pride in their community by photographing the beauty of the township, and submitting their photos to the first annual "East Zorra-Tavistock - Showcasing our Pride" Photo Contest. We are very fortunate to live in one of the most productive, beautiful areas in Southwestern Ontario – so why not let it show?

Scenic photos will be accepted until October 23, 2009. Entries can be uploaded in a .jpg format to ezt@twp.ezt.on.ca or drop off a 5 x 7 print at the Township Office in Hickson. Photos will be judged and the winning entry will be published in our

November Newsletter this year. Prizes will be awarded for winning photos, with the "Pride of East Zorra-Tavistock" photos showcased in our office and on our website throughout the year.



We hope this will become an annual, or even seasonal, contest and that eventually, we might add more categories, however, for now, we are looking for 'scenery' of East Zorra-Tavistock, so get busy, EZTonians –

"point-shoot-click and submit"

Infrastructure Funding

... Cont'd from page 1

Funding of \$238,333 was approved for \$357,500 in improvements and renovations at Innerkip Park. The improvements will involve new lighting, fencing and ball diamond upgrades, building and other improvements.

Hickson Park will receive \$146,667 to assist with \$220,000 in park improvements. The Park will see new lights, a booth renovation and fencing and ball diamond improvements. In 2008 the Hickson Lions Club and Hickson Recreation Committee planned new washrooms and electrical improvements for the Park. This funding will allow the next phase of the project to be completed very quickly.

It is anticipated that work in both Innerkip and Hickson Parks will start in the fall of 2009 and be completed in 2010.

For more information on the Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program see www.rinc-on.ca.

Council

Mayor & County Councillor

Don McKay

519.532.2500

dmckay@twp.ezt.on.ca

Deputy Mayor

Maureen Ralph

519.462.2955

mralph@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Clive Lawry

519.655.3102

clawry@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 1

Dave Oliphant

519.655.2295

doliphant@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 2

Don MacDonald

519.462.2672

dmacdonald@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Jeremy Smith

519.469.8287

jsmith@twp.ezt.on.ca

Councillor - Ward 3

Betty Yeoman

519.462.2364

byeoman@twp.ezt.on.ca

Council meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Basement Flooding Handbook

As part of the Township's ongoing work under the Tavistock Flood Prevention Program, the handbook from the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction provides information on how you can reduce your chances and your neighbours' chances of having basement flooding.

This handbook also provides some background information and descriptions of municipal sewer and stormwater management issues that have led to basement flooding problems. It is our hope that this handbook will provide useful guidance to any homeowner who would like

to reduce their chances of having basement flooding. While this information is being provided as an educational item under the Tavistock Flood Prevention Program, some of the information in the handbook would be relevant to every homeowner.

Homeowners and residents are encouraged to review the handbook. If you have any specific questions about drainage at your location, please contact the Township at 519-462-2697. A copy of the handbook can be found on our website at www.twp.ezt.on.ca/TFPWG/default.asp.

Tax Billing for Capped Classes

Taxes for properties in the capped classes (commercial, industrial, multi-residential) will not be billed until mid-August this year due to delays relating to reassessment and the information flowing from MPAC to the consulting firm that calculates taxes for these properties. For this reason, taxes will be due in one instalment, payable October 30, 2009. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Battery Recycling Program

In recent years, much of the general public has become more aware of their responsibility to be environmentally friendly. In the past couple of months, the Township has become involved with a program to recycle rechargeable batteries.



A few examples of rechargeable batteries are batteries from cell phones, laptops, cordless power tools, cordless phones and cordless toys.

If you have any rechargeable batteries that you would like to recycle, you may drop them off at the Township Office in Hickson.

Office and Facility Contacts

Township Office

90 Loveys Street
Box 100
Hickson ON N0J 1L0
Phone: 519.462.2697
Fax: 519.462.2961
Email: ezt@twp.ezt.on.ca
Website: www.twp.ezt.on.ca
Office Hours: Mon - Fri
8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

County of Oxford

Phone: 519.539.9800
Website: www.county.oxford.on.ca

Tavistock & District Recreation Centre

Phone: 519.655.2102
Fax: 519.655.3560

Tavistock & District Memorial Hall

Phone: 519.655.9992
For Bookings: 519.655.2102

Innerkip Community Centre

Phone: 519.469.3889
For Bookings: 519.469.3449