

## County Council Votes to Acquire CP Rail Corridor

At the April session of County Council the final agreement was presented to councillors for their consideration concerning the purchase of the discontinued Canadian Pacific corridor. In 2011, the County of Renfrew, County of Lanark and the Township of Papineau-Cameron formed a Partnership to engage in discussions to acquire the 296 km stretch of discontinued rail corridor that stretches from Mattawa to Smiths Falls, with 218 km of that cutting through Renfrew County. Today the official announcement was made following the vote by County Council in favour of purchasing the discontinued CP corridor.

Antec Appraisal Group appraised the discontinued rail corridor with a value of \$77,692,039, that amount will be used by the Partners for the official tax receipt portion of the purchase. The Partners have agreed to the cash portion of \$500,000 plus a tax receipt for \$77,192,039. The cash portion of the agreement will be divided amongst the Partners as per the cost sharing agreement that is separated into three closing phases over the next two years. The corridor is split into three closings based on ability to produce transferable descriptions starting with the most easterly section. At the same time it is agreed that the Partners will lease the lands for a nominal fee while the transfers are proceeding. Public consultations will be an important component in shaping the development of the corridor following the purchase.



Kevin Paul from CP Shakes Hands With Robert Sweet, Chair of the Development and Property Committee, and Chair of the CP Acquisition Committee.

Warden of the County of Renfrew, Peter Emon spoke to some of the advantages of the acquisition, *"We are now entering a new era in community connectivity across the County and across the entire trail user group, clubs and associations. While the rails are now gone, the CP corridor continues to connect us through delivery of communications via fibre optic networks and as a transportation corridor for all of us by a range of modes and vehicles."*

*Chair of Development and Property Committee, and Chair of the CP Rail Corridor Advisory Committee, Councillor Robert Sweet said, "The acquisition of this discontinued rail corridor creates a lasting legacy for many communities in the Region by linking Renfrew County to Southern and Northern Ontario by creating a backbone access to existing and future trails. The Partners and CP are pleased with the outcome of this agreement that will benefit our communities for generations to come."*

Kevin Paul from Canadian Pacific had this comment, *"Canadian Pacific is pleased to have this almost 300 km right of way maintained as a continuous corridor and the transfer of it into public hands. The Partnership of County of Renfrew, County of Lanark and the Township of Papineau-Cameron is an excellent example of how a group with a common goal can make a positive decision for generations to come. We commend your vision and look forward to the transformation of this discontinued rail corridor."*

In 2010 Canadian Pacific announced its discontinuation of the 296 km stretch of rail line and its intent to sell it off. CP also expressed a preference to transfer the discontinued corridor to a single entity.



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## **COUNCIL INITIATIVES**

County Council Adopted By-law 38-16 A By-Law to Set Tax Ratios for County Purposes and Lower-Tier Purposes for the Year 2016.

County Council Adopted By-Law 39-16 A By-Law to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Subclasses for County Purposes and for Lower-Tier Purposes for the Year 2016.

County Council Adopted By-law 40-16 A By-Law to Adopt Optional Tools for the Purposes of Administering Limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the Year 2016.

County Council Adopted By-Law 41-16 A By-Law to Establish the 2016 Tax Rates for County of Renfrew Purposes.

County Council Adopted By-Law 42-16 A By-Law to Purchase Land County Road 71 (Matawatchan Road).

County Council Adopted By-law 43-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-01 Rehabilitation of County Road 1 (Madawaska Boulevard).

County Council Adopted By-law 44-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-02 Rehabilitation of County Road 58 (Round Lake Road).

County Council Adopted By-law 45-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-03 Rehabilitation of County Road 515 (Palmer Road).

County Council By-law 46-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-04 Rehabilitation of County Road 4 (Queens Line) and County Road 48 (Magnesium Road).

County Council Adopted By-law 47-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-05 Rehabilitation of County Road 5 (Stone Road).

County Council Adopted By-law 48-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWC-2016-09 Rehabilitation of County Road 50 (Gore Line).

County Council Adopted By-law 49-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWO-2016-10 Asphalt Scratch Coat Paving & Shoulder Graveling.

County Council Adopted By-law 50-16 A By-Law for the Execution of Contract No. PWO-2016-11 Pavement Marking.

County Council Adopted By-law 51-16 A By-Law to Enter into an Asset Donation Agreement to Acquire the Abandoned Railway Corridor Between Smiths Falls, Ontario and Mattawa, Ontario from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

County Council Adopted By-law 52-16 A By-Law to Authorize the County of Renfrew to Enter into a Co-Owners Agreement with the County of Lanark and the Township of Papineau-Cameron for the Long-Term Management of the CP Rail Abandoned Corridor.

County Council Adopted By-law 53-16 A By-Law to Enter into a Lease Agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the Lease of Properties located between Smith Falls, Ontario and Mattawa, Ontario.

County Council Adopted By-law 54-16 A By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Emergency Services Accountability Agreement with the Government of Canada for the Secondment of Deputy Chief Michel Ruest.

County Council Adopted By-law 55-16 A By-Law to Enter into a Partnership Agreement Between the County of Renfrew and Arnprior Region and Ottawa West (Arow) Health Link for a Pilot Project to Conduct an Assessment of Current Practices and Policies Related to Coordination of Care.

County Council Adopted By-law 56-16 A By-Law Concerning the Collective Agreement with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (C.U.P.E.) Local 4425, Renfrew County Housing Corporation.

County Council Adopted By-law 57-16 A By-Law to Amend By-Law 59-02 Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew to Approve a Smoking Policy on Designated County Properties.

