

Renfrew County District School Board Delegation

At the October session of County Council, the Renfrew County District School Board (RCDSB) delegation delivered an overview of their new strategic plan to council and staff. Ms. Wendy Hewitt, Board Chair, Ms. Susan Humphries, Board Vice-Chair, Mr. Pino Buffone, Director of Education, and Ms. Lisa Schimmets, Superintendent of Business & Corporate Services; each in turn spoke to the importance of the board having a strategic plan and to making council aware of its goals and objectives.

The presentation focused on the guiding principles, enrollment, funding challenges, and addressing the role of communicating more effectively with municipal councils, the goals and objectives that the board is looking to achieve over the next 3 years covered in the plan. Particular emphasis was put on the RCDSB's Long-term Accommodation Plan (LTAP). The LTAP is a major component of the strategic plan and looks at four main elements: condition of schools in terms of building condition, elimination of empty space, program opportunities, and enrolment numbers.

Following the presentation several County Councillors asked questions and made comments that centered largely on the concept of the various school boards looking at the concept of shared services and facilities, improving communication with the public, and transportation issues. Ms. Hewitt thanked council for their comments and questions and assured council that their concerns have been heard and that the board has been looking at and in some cases been sharing services with other boards. She mentioned that the provincial funding continues to be a challenge to effectively fulfill all their financial needs. Ms. Hewitt also re-iterated that the closure of schools by the province has been paused for the time being. Council's concerns were echoed by Warden Murphy who commented; "Partnerships with other school boards is the only way we are going to survive this in rural Ontario."

COUNCIL INITIATIVES

County Council Adopted By-Law 99-17 A By-Law to Regulate the Operation of Off-Road Vehicles on County of Renfrew Roads.

County Council Adopted By-Law 100-17 A By-Law to Purchase Land County Road 67 (Simpson Pit Road).

County Council Adopted By-Law 101-17 A By-Law to Accept the Transfer of Land County Road 37 (Murphy Road).

County Council Adopted By-Law 102-17 A By-Law to Acquire Land County Road 515 (Palmer Road).

County Council Adopted By-Law 103-17 A By-Law to Acquire Land County Road 1 (River Road).

County Council Adopted By-Law 104-17 A By-Law to Acquire Land County Road 4 (Queens Line).

County Council Adopted By-Law 105-17 A By-Law to Approve the Town of Deep River Official Plan with Modifications.

County Council Adopted By-Law 106-17 A By-Law to Execute Land Use Agreements with Multiple Snowmobile Clubs and the Snow Country Snowmobile Association for a Period of Five Years Commencing December 1, 2017 to April 30, 2022.

County Council Adopted By-Law 107-17 A By-Law to Amend By-Law 34-16 being a By-Law to authorize the Warden and Clerk to execute an agreement with the Champlain LHIN.

County Council Adopted By-Law 108-17 A By-Law To Authorize The Warden And Clerk To Execute The Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement With The Ministry of Education for the 2018-2019 Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centre Service Agreement.

County Council Adopted By-Law 109-17 A By-Law to Authorize the Warden and Clerk to Execute an Agreement with the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan for the Township to Use Renfrew County Housing Corporation Lands to Store Gravel and Crushed Stone.

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