

PART B **Monthly Activities** (continued)

c) **Partnerships**

Healthy Living Lambton and Lambton County Library have teamed up to help county residents stay active and healthy. The “Step-count your way into health” program is offering step-counters (pedometers) to help motivate residents to walk more, more often. Step-counters are now available for loan at all local library branches along with many resources on how to get active.

4. **General Manager’s Report**

Recommendation

That the General Manager’s Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. **Correspondence**

- a) 9-9-04, copy of a letter from the Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Culture, approving Lambton County Library’s 2004/05 operating grant for \$283,948.

Recommendation

That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Hon. Meilleur for ensuring the timely receipt of this year’s operating grant.

- b) 9-10-04, copy of a letter from the Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Culture, approving Chippewas of Sarnia First Nation Library’s 2004/05 operating grant for \$2,495.

Recommendation

That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Hon. Meilleur for ensuring the timely receipt of this year’s operating grant.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- c) #9-14-04, copy of a letter from John Callaghan, President of cinéSARNIA, reimbursing Lambton County Library \$5700 to cover the cost of the projector screen installed in the Sarnia Library theatre. The cinéSARNIA money is the result of a successful application for Trillium Grant funding. This money has been earmarked to help offset costs for new dimmer board equipment in the theatre.

Recommendation

That a receipt be issued and a letter of appreciation be sent to cinéSARNIA for including the theatre as a partner in their Trillium grant application.

2. Donations

- \$9 for use in the Port Franks Library
- \$100 for the purchase of reference material from E.A. Hamlin, Sarnia
- \$1000 for the purchase of a wooden reading table for the new Wyoming Library, from the Wyoming Lioness Club
- \$40 from the Bright's Grove donation box
- \$19 from the Corunna donation box
- \$20 from the Courtright donation box
- \$71 from the Grand Bend donation box
- \$40 from the Mallroad donation box
- \$11.55 from the Thedford donation box

Sale of used books: \$702.93

Recommendation

That these donations be gratefully accepted and that thank you letters be sent in accordance with the County's recognition policy.

Additional Items Attached for Information Purposes Only

Adult Programs Calendar August 2004
Children's Programs Calendar August 2004

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**c) The Lambton County Garden

Prominently situated at the front of the main building, this garden profiles the geography and built structures of Lambton County. It is an interpretive garden in that it orients the visitor to the primary earth features of the County, as well as some of the key historical features across Lambton. The garden is planted with perennials interspersed with fabricated metal sculptures created by our talented Nova retiree, Terry Atkin.

d) Participation in Canadian Heritage Inventory Survey

The Lambton Heritage Museum was selected to participate in a nation-wide survey of museum audiences and their advance use of the Internet in pre-visit planning. This is especially timely for our museum in light of the extensive Heritage Sarnia-Lambton television ad campaign currently underway and the prominent use of the www.timewellspent.ca website to drive audience visits. Canadian Heritage Inventory has compensated the museum for completing the survey work. A summary of results and comparison with other museums will be available in the fall.

e) Oil Heritage Day

This July 18th event was the season opener for horse-drawn wagon rides through the historic Fairbank Oil Properties. First introduced last year, the rides are popular with family groups and seniors. Blacksmithing demonstrations and the opening of a new gas well display are added activities this year.

f) Ohio Motorcoach Marketplace Promotion

In collaboration with Tourism Sarnia-Lambton and Hiawatha, 200 group tour coordinators visited the museums on a personal farm tour. Hopefully these key individuals will enjoy the County's offerings and book a group motorcoach trip in the following months.

g) Ongoing Partnership with Union Gas

The Oil Museum has enjoyed a valuable partnership over the past year with Union Gas. Union Gas crews replaced timbers, belts and boards and graveled the engine room of the Canadian Drill Rig; this structure was, at one time, closed to the public due to structural deterioration.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

In addition Union Gas installed a new gas well head display, and fabricated a new display rack for the drill tools they donated previously from Port Alma. The museum's windmill was also painted by Union Gas.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

- a) 9-3-04 Letter dated July 12, 2004 from Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley requesting that the Committee undertake serious discussions with Glen Phillips regarding the sale of his Sarnia Historical Collection.

Upon learning of the availability of this significant collection, a search of county holdings in the museum, library and Lambton Room collections was conducted. While the Phillips' collection is extensive and includes numerous quality and scarce items, the search established that there exists considerable duplication of holdings already owned by the County. However, about two dozen items were identified as being of interest and difficult to obtain from other sources.

Recommendation

That a discussion be opened with the Glenn Phillips regarding the possibility of purchasing those items identified as unique and of interest so that these items remain in Sarnia-Lambton.

- b) 9-6-04 Letter dated July 12, 2004 from the Town of Petrolia requesting that the County shares in the cost of the Oil Heritage District Route Signage. The total cost of the signage for the Oil Museum and the Petrolia Discovery has previously been paid by the Town of Petrolia.

The signs are located at the Hwy 21/402 off ramp and on Hwy 402 west. The total annual cost is \$642.00

PART C Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)

Recommendation

That the County offer to pay 50% of the cost of the signs since they are promoting a County facility.

2. Collections Management

Lambton Heritage Museum

Artifacts Recommended for Acceptance:

- Dutch heritage items, corset, Cunningham Meats items from Petrolia, (plus Wallaceburg souvenirs for referral to Wallaceburg Museum), all from Elizabeth Tenhoeve, Plympton
- Chippewa white ash basket, from Nelson LaPorte, Grand Bend
- 8 x 10 Pinery photo, 1898; (plus Jos. Senior photo frames and beakers, trays and salts, for Huron County Museum.) from Pat DeVries, Exeter
- Androck screen fly swatter, 1930's, from Frank Fuller, Watford
- Yo-Yo Quilt from Forest, by Karen Bruton, Petrolia
- R. Vidal's flag, first Union Jack to fly over Sarnia; portrait of Malcolm Cameron of Sarnia; from Ed Phelps, London
- Box of significant photos, 1920's cottage photos by Senior, from Walker Hills & Oakwood Inn, from Phillip Walker estate, Grand Bend
- Hat, Boer War certificate, pipes, and an early oil portrait of Mrs. Faithorne by Talfourd, Sarnia. All items pertain to the history of the Pardee family, arriving Sarnia in 1864, donated by Jane (Pardee) Lesaux
- Octagonal-legged primitive highchair; exceptional fretsaw miniature washstand, from Forest; rare Edwardian fern stand sold by Swift Bros. of Watford; small kitchen work table in green paint; art photograph of Lake Huron by WA Couse, Sarnia, all from Ron Van Horne, Forest

Artifacts Recommended for Refusal:

- Guelph cook stove (out of area) Robb McCann
- Parlour organ (duplicate) Oakwood Inn, Grand Bend
- Crosscut saws, shoe last; M. Needham, Sarnia
- 1930's electric motor, 25 cycle; F. Sniderhan, Pt Franks
- 1st Baptist Church Pew, (duplicate) Colleen Crisp, Sarnia
- Niagara Falls prints, (out of area); B. Haslip, Sarnia
- Girl Guide outfit, 1940's, London (out of area); stamped roofing tin, from Linda Koolen, Arkona

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- Ditching machine for two teams; 1900 cement mixer, from L. Yeo, Bayfield. (out of County, too large & of limited use for the story)
- Medical casts, shortwave shock treatment panel, farm rake, all from Dr. MacDonald of Thedford. (refer to Moore Museum which has a medical display and this family doctor practiced in that community prior to 1915)
- Square grand piano (we have one), N. Fortine, Sarnia
- Houseload of parquet teak flooring, Horst, Kerwood

Oil Museum of Canada

Artifacts Recommended for Acceptance:

- Caloroptic (used to measure heat value in natural gas); Gravimeter (used to measure specific gravity of natural gas); three gas drilling soil sample bags stamped with address, from Al Stuart, Windsor
- Framed portrait of Howard & Lawrence Hartley; Wedding photo of Howard & Alice Hartle, merchants of Oil Springs, from Deb McKinley, Oil Springs

Lambton Room Donations

- Omeme: Mississauga Camp Site to Ontario Village, Arkona Through The Years, donated by Ciel Clarke, Inwood, Ontario
- Lambton North District Women's Institute Tweedsmuir History Books 1 & 2 on microfilm (positive and negative copies), donated by Lambton North District Women's Institute, Warwick, Ontario
- Anglican Church Registers of the Watford Area 1879-1921 on microfilm (positive and negative copies), donated by St. James Brooke Cemetery and Chapel Board, Watford, Ontario
- Family of Walter Jardine and Elizabeth Simpson 1808-2003, donated by Dorothy Johnson, Petrolia, Ontario
- Farrells of Ontario and Wisconsin: From Cahir, Tipperary, Ireland to Lambton County, Ontario, Canada and Pine Bluff, Wisconsin, U.S.A. 1840-1849, donated by Ray Farrell, London, Ontario
- Transcription of the Rokeby Farmers Club and The Rokeby Literary Society Club Journal 1914-1946, donated by Janie Vafiades, Strathroy, Ontario
- Walnut United Church Women's Records including Treasurer's Book 1956-1979 and 1980-1982; Minute Book 1968-1970 and 1973-1977; Bank Book 1981-1982, 1976 Annual Report Lambton Presbyterial U.C.W., donated by Shirley Edgar, Alvinston, Ontario

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- General Register of S.S. # 17 Enniskillen 1934-1944, donated by Dorothy McAuslan, Wyoming, Ontario
- 17th Annual Report of the Lambton Health Unit 1962, donated by Jean Thomson, Toronto, Ontario
- More Dating Old Photographs 1840-1929, Ontario Genealogical Society 2004 Syllabus, donated by Alan Campbell, Sarnia, Ontario
- Cable-Hagle-Hobbs Family Charts, donated by Sherilyn Gertz, Dearborn, Michigan
- Brooke Women's Institute Minute Book 1987-2000, Brooke Women's Institute, Alvinston, Ontario
- Official Opening Programme Hanna Memorial School February 11, 1947, 2 Centennial Day 1967 Editions of the Sarnia Gazette, donated by Suzanne Whyte, Sarnia, Ontario
- Mellen Family Photo (laser copy), donated by Morley Mellon, Kitchener, Ontario
- \$66.22 from Beverly Silver, Las Vegas, Nevada
- \$109.34 from used book sales

Recommendation

That these donations be gratefully accepted and that thank you letters be sent in accordance with the County's recognition policy.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

b) Exhibitions: Current

The exhibition *The Human Condition: Selections from the Permanent Collection* in the Main Gallery focuses on the figure and portraiture and how the artist reveals the innermost natures of our being. The show continues until August 28, 2004.

Canadian Painting 1914-1925: Selections from the Permanent Collection June 12 – August 28. This exhibition, in the Sadie A. Knowles Gallery, focuses on the crucial years 1914-25 that saw the rise, development and eventual success of The Group of Seven. The period also saw the first purchases of The Sarnia Women's Conservation Art Association beginning in March 1920

c) Exhibitions: Upcoming

Over Here: Women, Work and World War II: London, Ontario Fibre artist Johnene Maddison introduces us to the role played by women on the home front during World War II. Main Gallery from September 4 to October 9, 2004. Opening Reception, Saturday, September 4, 2004 at 3:00pm.

Skot MacDougall: Daydreamscapes: Sarnia artist and muralist, Skot MacDougall features an exhibition of dream-like landscape paintings at Sadie A. Knowles Gallery from September 4 to October 9, 2004. The Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, September 4, 2004 at 3:00pm.

d) Programs

Children's Art Classes

16 children's art classes are being offered from July to the end of August.

Adult Art Classes

No adult classes are being offered during the summer months.

Public Lectures

The curator gave a walking tour of the Permanent Collection Exhibitions on Saturday, August 7, 2004 at 3:00pm to coincide with the Kiwanis International Festival.

Sarnia artist, Skot MacDougall will present a walking tour of his exhibition on Saturday, September 11, 2004 at 3:00pm.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

London Fibre artist, Johnnene Maddison will present a walking tour of her exhibition on Saturday, September 25, 2004 at 3:00pm. She will also offer a workshop between 9:30am and 2:30pm on the same day.

Hidden Treasures Appraisal Day

Gallery Lambton and the Sarnia Library Branch are co-sponsoring an Art and Book appraisal day for Saturday, September 18, 2004 between 10:00am and 4:00pm at Gallery Lambton. Jens Thielsen of the Thielsen Galleries, London, will do the art and Marvin Post of Attic Books will do the books. Proceeds will go to benefit Gallery Lambton and Sarnia Library Branch.

e) Permanent Collection Loans

The Edmonton Art Gallery has returned Edwin Holgate's *The Lumberjack* from its national tour in the exhibition, "Soundtracks." The same Gallery has Lawren Harris' *Winter Evening* and this will be returned in April 2005 following the exhibition at The McMichael Canadian Collection (December 4, 2004 to February 14, 2005). The McMichael Canadian Collection has returned Joanne Tod's *Identification/Defacement* that had been in the exhibition, *Identities, Canadian Portraits* from February 28 to June 13, 2004.

f) Statistics

g) Gallery Lambton Advisory Committee Minutes

May 10, 2004 meeting.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

None at this time

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

c) Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program

The Ministry has provided the Fixed Funding amount for committed supportive Rent Supplement Units. Based on current rents there will be an annual surplus of \$2,011.00, which will be used to offset rent increases requested by rent supplement landlords.

There is still an opportunity to receive additional fixed funding for uncommitted supportive housing units, however, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Ministry of Community and Social Services have yet to decide how to reallocate remaining supportive housing funds.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

a) 9-7-04 A letter, dated June 4, 2004, from the City of Kingston regarding the Rent Bank and Rent Supplement Programs. Since the Province has confirmed that the programs will be 100% funded by the Province and that an additional 10% will be funded to cover administration costs, the City is now expressing its support for these programs.

b) 9-13-04 A letter dated June 25, 2004 from the Regional Municipality of Halton to the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program. Halton Region is requesting that full funding for their 115 regular committed rent supplement units be provided and that they be allowed to retain unspent rent supplement funding.

Recommendation

That correspondence 9-7-04 and 9-13-04 be received and filed.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- c) 9-29-04 AMO resolution related to the transfer of mortgage renewal responsibilities to the Social Housing Services Corporation. Currently, the process is controlled by the Province and AMO is requesting endorsement of their resolution requesting that the Social Housing Services Corporation be given this responsibility, in keeping with the “say for pay” principal.

Recommendation

That the AMO resolution be endorsed.

2. Replacement Make-up Air – Capital Project #C-HGS-130

The above project was approved for the replacement of the Make-up Air systems at 230 Capel Street and 125 Euphemia Street, Sarnia. The work at 230 Capel Street is completed and the remaining funds total \$16,689.06.

Facilities Services have recommended that the replacement of the Make-up Air system at Euphemia Street be postponed and the funds be used instead for the completion of an energy audit at both Euphemia Street and Cathcart Blvd. Both buildings utilize hydro for heat and under the Kyoto Accord, potential upgrades or alterations may be partially funded by Nation Resources Canada. The energy audit is a requirement for obtaining National Resource funding

Recommendation

That the replacement of the Air Make up system at 125 Euphemia Street, Sarnia be postponed and the remaining \$16,689.06 be used to conduct an energy audit of 125 Euphemia Street and 700 Cathcart Blvd. in Sarnia.

3. Housing Analysis and Recommended Strategies Report

The request for Proposal for the Housing Analysis and Recommended Strategies Report closed July 26, 2004. Notice of the Request for Quotations was sent to 12 vendors and an ad was placed in the newspaper. Four vendors requested the documentation and two quotes were received. The lowest quote was \$39,179 and the approved budget for this work was \$30,000. As the bid amount exceeds the budget it is recommended that the appraisals of the owned properties be cancelled and the \$10,000 approved for the completion of the appraisals be used to complete the Housing Analysis and Recommended Strategies Report.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion** (continued)

Recommendation

That the Housing Analysis and Recommended Strategies Report be awarded to Tim Welch Consulting in the amount of \$39,191.00, and that the appraisal of the County owned housing units be cancelled and included in the 2005 Budget Request.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

b) Complaint Investigation – North Lambton Rest Home

On June 16 and 22 the MOH compliance advisor visited NLRH following up on a complaint investigation with respect to food temperatures and timing of meal service. The dietary aide job routine has been since changed to ensure beverages are set out no earlier than 15 minutes prior to meal service, and an audit incorporated. Staff have been reinstructed and recording of temperatures will be monitored daily. A number of steps have been taken to ensure that adequate staff are available to assist with meal services; job routines have been reviewed and revised accordingly.

c) Statistics

Occupancy Report for June 2004 is attached.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

a) 9-5-04 Memorandum dated June 16, 2004 from Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care advising that the per diem rates for Nursing and Personal Care and Support Services will be increased by a total of \$0.97 retroactive to April 1, 2004.

b) The 2004 budgets were based on receiving a per diem increase as of April 1 and therefore this announcement will have no impact on the budget.

Recommendation

That correspondence 9-5-04 be received and filed.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- b) 9-24-04 Letter from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care advising of additional funding for the community support programs. The County's share includes \$13,344 in new base funding and \$3,000 in one time funding.

Recommendation

That correspondence 9-24-04 be received and filed.

- c) 9-4-04 Letter from Lambton Senior Citizens Home Corporation and their invoice for \$2,400 for the period November 2002 to June 2004 for the use of space in the Forest Apartment Building.

In November 2002, the County wrote to the Home Corporation to request the use of space in the Forest Apartment building for the Adult Day Program, during the Phase 2 of the construction project at North Lambton. The Day Program required space two days a week plus some storage area. There was a verbal agreement with the SCHC that the space would be made available free of charge for the County. Due to the construction delays, the County has been using this space for more than 1 ½ years; the Resident Manager has had numerous conversations with SCHC over the past year to discuss the project's progress and the continued need for the apartment space. At no time was there any mention of a rental charge, nor is there any signed rental agreement.

The North Lambton Outreach program is 100% funded by the Province and normally would pay the North Lambton Rest Home for use of space. They have not been paying North Lambton for space since using the space in the Forest Apartment Building but continue to be funded for the rental expense. The payment of rent to the Seniors Home Corp would have no budget impact and any savings that has been achieved by not paying the North Lambton rent would have to be returned to the Province.

Recommendation

That the Adult Day Program pay the Lambton Senior Citizens Home Corporation for rental of the program space.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

2. Donations

The following donations were received by the Homes:

- A broda chair donated to LMV by P. White.
- A geri chair donated to NLRH by C. Chapman.

In addition, the following cash donations have been received:

- LMV Therapeutic Garden: total of \$4,420
- AAEC: total of \$500

Recommendation

That these donations be gratefully accepted and that thank you letters be sent in accordance with the County's recognition policy.

3. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

There is a collection of dental equipment in all three Homes that has not been used for some time, in some cases several years; the current value of this equipment is unknown. Some of this equipment was previously used at MGM by Dr. Shingles, the volunteer dentist. Provisions for a dentist were not made in the new facility as Dr. Shingles chose to retire at that time and her desire was to have her equipment donated to a third world country. A list of equipment in all three Homes was shared with a number of local dentists to determine what value the equipment holds and no interest was initiated, or value determined, through these contacts. ERDO has indicated an interest in having this equipment donated, for distribution to a third world country.

ERDO (Emergency Relief and Development Overseas) is the humanitarian arm of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. Their mandate is to collect virtually anything that they can and ship it, by sea container, to missionaries in the developing countries for free distribution to the needy. This organization has shipped approximately 125 sea containers to developing countries throughout the world since 2000.

Recommendation

That the obsolete dental equipment currently in the Homes be donated to ERDO for distribution to a third world country.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

- b) Lambton EMS has received their draft report from the Service Review performed by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care in February. A number of issues were identified in this draft and they relate primarily to issues internal in nature, such as management of human resource files. There were no concerns identified relating to patient care. A meeting was held July 29, 2004 with the South Western Ontario Field Office to discuss the draft. Once our response to the recommendations is forwarded to the Ministry and reviewed, a final report and our new certification will be issued by the Ministry. A further report to committee will be made at that time.
- c) Lambton EMS provided coverage again this year to the Bay Fest event held in Sarnia on July 16-18, 2004. This was a Special Events coverage agreement and will be paid by the Stokley Entertainment Group. The event went very well from an EMS prospective with approximately 12 patients transported to hospital.
- d) Lambton EMS will also be providing event coverage for the Unlimited Hydroplane races to be held on the St. Clair river on August 20-22, 2004. Lambton EMS has been attending the race organization meetings and working with the St. Clair Fire Department and OPP on preparing plans for the event. Lambton EMS will be providing one EMS unit dedicated to the race event as well as a duty vehicle when available. It is unsure at this time as to the magnitude of the crowd expected.

4. **General Manager's Report**

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. **Correspondence**

- a) 9-8-04 Letter dated June 11, 2004 from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care announcing a \$50,511 increase to the Land Ambulance Services Grant.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

This funding was an increase to the Base Budget for Lambton EMS for increases to the wage and salary lines based on Ministry of Health and Long Term Care approved costs.

Recommendation

That correspondence 9-8-04 be received and filed.

2. Signing Authorization Listings

A Department Signature Listing and Signing Authorization Listing is attached. The appropriate changes have been made to recognize the new organizational structure and to match the County's purchasing policy.

Recommendation

That the Department Signature Listing and Signing Authorization Listing be accepted, as per County Policy, and that these positions and signatures supercede all previous signing authorities.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

b) Paperless Council Meeting

IT is progressing with the Paperless Council Meeting Project. The majority of County Councilors have received their laptops and have been trained on their operation. An RFP to supply an electronic agenda system to the County was issued August 7. A recommendation on the electronic agenda software will be presented at the September 15 Committee meeting. Although this is behind schedule, it is anticipated that overall implementation of an electronic agenda system can be completed by the end of the year as per the schedule.

c) County Internet/Intranet

Both the County Internet site and Intranet site have been moved to County servers in a test environment. Once testing is completed in early August and the new hardware has been configured and tested, we will complete the cutover. This new environment will increase security and will provide much needed flexibility in enhancing our web services.

Preliminary discussions have taken place with some of the local municipalities to provide web services. Discussion focused on the types of services that could be provided by the County which may include hosting as well as web development. Such support could be provided on a cost recovery basis.

d) Geographic Information System

On July 28, the County launched its new Geographic Information System (GIS), which will assist municipal governments, businesses and organizations as well as the County in enhancing their daily operations. This project will open the door to many new technologies and provide opportunities to improve how the County delivers its services.

Late July an announcement was received that a new round of Geosmart funding is available. Geosmart, a Ministry of Natural Resources initiative contributed \$400,000 towards our current GIS project. A meeting was held August 5 with local municipalities, conservation authorities, and County staff to identify potential projects and to determine the feasibility of applying for additional funding from Geosmart. The County cannot apply for this funding as it received funding during the last round, however, it can be a partner and use its expertise to help with the application process.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

This new funding could help local municipalities in their efforts to expand their use of GIS.

Preliminary discussions have also taken place with some local municipalities to provide GIS services. For municipalities that do not have the in-house expertise or the resources to get their GIS up and running, County staff could assist on a cost recovery basis.

e) Financial Information System

Work continues with IT staff, Howard Lucas and Vadim (the County's Financial Information System (FIS) software vendor) on improving the inventory and purchasing modules. Many modifications and enhancements have been identified and prioritized with work scheduled to begin in the fall.

f) CKLAG IT Committee (WAN)

Over the past several months, County IT staff has been working as part of the CKLAG IT Committee on an RFP to replace the current Wide Area Network (WAN) contract that expires at the end of 2005. CKLAG (Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrators' Group), a consortium of ten major public sector institutions in the County of Lambton and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, are participating in a joint RFP with the intention of enhancing the broadband interconnectivity of sites and providing Internet services. Although all CKLAG partners will share the same WAN (Wide Area Network) core, each CKLAG organization will maintain its own independent, private network.

The majority of the CKLAG partners currently share networking services provided through a previous joint RFP (1999). A five-year agreement with Bell Advanced Communications was signed in 2000, and will conclude on December 31, 2005. The infrastructure contains a variety of technologies including:

- ✓ ATM backbone
- ✓ 10 and 100Mb/s fibre connections
- ✓ xDSL (HDSL or ADSL) copper connections
- ✓ Wireless (Shared 10Mb/s)

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

To address current and future requirements, CKLAG is looking for a solution that will meet or exceed the minimum requirements stated for each of the locations. For the majority of CKLAG, a fibre solution is strongly preferred and therefore it is expected that the proponent's primary proposal be a solution that brings fibre into each of their required sites.

It is expected that by bringing Fibre to the majority of CKLAG sites, there could be an opportunity for private sector businesses to take advantage of the fibre availability. This could present economic development opportunities to the County as many of the sites that will require servicing by fibre as part of the CKLAG initiative will be in municipalities that currently are not served by fibre.

Over the next several months, the CKLAG IT Committee expects to select a preferred vendor and will present a recommendation to the CKLAG Executive Committee for approval. Once approved in late September, a detailed report and recommendation will be presented to County council for approval.

4. Corporate Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the Corporate Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

None.