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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

For Immediate Release

Council Highlights

Wyoming, ON – At its regular meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m., Lambton County Council:

- Heard a presentation from Mr. Murray Pink, Emerald Ash Borer Project Manager, from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. He gave an update to Council concerning the Emerald Ash Borer.
- Directed staff at the Community Health Services Department to utilize up to \$1500 of one-time 100% provincial funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to defray costs associated with World Tuberculosis Day activities.
- Directed staff to pay \$32,493 to Chatham-Kent for EMS services to the First Nations community of Walpole Island.
- Directed staff to develop a Cultural Advisory Committee, which will act as an advisory body to provide leadership, advice and assistance to County Council on matters related to the Libraries, Museums and Cultural Services Department.
- Approved new criteria for the awarding of grants. Five principles will be used to determine eligibility for grants: residence (party requesting funds should reside / conduct business within the County), geographic benefit (grant should be for an activity which benefits the majority of the County's population), core services (grant should be for an activity which falls within the County's core services), operational sustainability (groups applying should be operationally sustainable and the grant should not replace shortfalls in operational funding from another level of government), and capital programming (only grants for capital funding will be considered as groups must be operationally sustainable).
- Directed staff to inform the province of Ontario that it should invest an additional \$50 million in the Trillium Foundation to provide more funding opportunities to not-for-profit groups.
- Directed staff to withhold the Corporation's payment to MPAC until it adopts the recommendations made by the provincial ombudsman.

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