



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

For Immediate Release

Council Highlights

Wyoming, ON – At its regular meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 2008 at 12:30 p.m., Lambton County Council:

- Noted that Gallery Lambton will alter its hours of operation effective November 2008 to better serve the public. In November, the hours will change as follows:
 - Monday – Closed to the public.
 - Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday – 10 am – 5:30 pm
 - Thursday – 10 am – 8 pm
 - Saturday – 10 am – 4 pm
 - Sunday 11am – 4 pm

- First Fridays – 10 am – 4 pm
- Family Day – 11 am – 4 pm
- Civic Holiday Monday - 11 am – 4 pm

- Adjusted the Homeownership Program criteria to allow for a maximum of ten (10) per cent down payment assistance with a maximum limit of \$15,000, effective for purchases closing after October 1, 2008. Other changes include: an increase in the maximum household income level to \$69,000, and a slight decrease to the maximum eligible house price to \$182,204.

- Directed staff to sell a three-bedroom, four level single detached house located at 730 Cathcart Blvd., according to the County's policy concerning surplus property.

- Approved a one-time 80:20 cost shared discretionary health benefit, known as the Fall Health Benefit, in the amount of \$245 for each dependent child under the age of 18 for which Ontario Works financial assistance is issued for the month of August 2008.

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- Authorized the Warden to send letters to the Minister of Infrastructure Canada and the Minister of Public Infrastructure and Renewal urging their immediate and continued attention to finalizing the full and complete Building Canada Fund – Ontario agreement in time to allow Ontario municipalities to incorporate funding from this program into their 2009 capital budgets, and, that area municipalities, along with local MPs, local MPPs, AMO and FCM be copied and requested to forward similar letters.
- Accepted the delegation from the Township of Enniskillen and the Town of Petrolia of the authority to designate a Heritage Conservation District under the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- Supported a request from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers to send a letter to the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review opposing the deregulation of Canada Post and insisting that the government hold public hearings and properly consult with the true owners of Canada Post – the public.
- Requested staff submit a report detailing any outstanding deficiencies related to the re-building of North Lambton Lodge.
- Requested a report from Gallery Lambton outlining what environmental conditions or other requirements are necessary to allow for the permanent display of the Gallery's Group of Seven collection.
- Established a Corporate Review Committee consisting of Warden Jim Burns and Councillors John McCharles, Gord Minielly, Mike Bradley and Steve Arnold. The committee will assess the strengths and weaknesses of the current organizational structure and make recommendations to Council and the administration that will lead to more effective and efficient management of the County and improve the administrative system where needed. The committee will be authorized to use staff and / or whatever professional assistance necessary to assist in the review and a report on the findings and recommendations of the Committee will be submitted to Council within four to six months.

For more information about Lambton County, visit www.lambtononline.ca.

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