



## **Mayor's Report to the March 26, 2018 Council Meeting**

### **Upcoming Events in Port Colborne**

We have several exciting events happening in Port Colborne over the next week.

First is our annual Top Hat Ceremony and Fair Trade Breakfast. We will be welcoming the first downbound vessel into the Welland Canal on Thursday morning. Come join us at Lock 8 Park for a pancake and sausage breakfast at 8 a.m., followed by the Top Hat Ceremony at 8:30.

A reminder that our Farmer's Market will be open this Good Friday. Come down to market square and welcome back our spring vendors.

Saturday March 31 is our Easter Eggstravaganza at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre. Cindy Cook from Polka Dot Door will welcome kids with two performances at 10 and 12 and the egg hunt starts at 11. Free swimming and skating in the afternoon. Check our website for times.

Also on Saturday March 31 is the Port Cares Food Drive with our Fire Department. They will be in the Sobey's parking lot from 10 – 4 collecting donations.

### **May 28<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

Election Ontario will be holding advance polls for the upcoming provincial election in the council chambers at City Hall. One of the days conflicts with our May 28<sup>th</sup> council meeting, and as such, we have decided to cancel this council meeting.

### **Spring and Summer Leisure Guide**

Our Spring and Summer Leisure Guide has been released. I encourage you to check out the new programming and summer camps. Get the whole family out to PORTicipate.

## **Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority**

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority recently identified a lack of agreement between the funding municipalities and as a result of this lack of agreement there was an opportunity to rebalance the levy apportionment between Hamilton, Niagara and Haldimand.

The City of Hamilton appealed the new apportionment and the NPCA took the fiscally prudent approach of establishing a reserve to accommodate the City of Hamilton and to protect the taxpayers of Niagara, should they be successful in their appeal.

The City of Hamilton was not successful in their appeal and the NPCA has decided to return the excess funds to the taxpayers of the watershed via the funding municipalities.

These funds will be returned to the taxpayers of Niagara by using the full amount refunded to reduce the 2019 levy.

## **Transit Funding**

The federal government recently announced significant funding opportunities for public transit projects.

The Niagara Region will be eligible to receive over \$1.9 million, while the City of Port Colborne is eligible to receive \$239,000.

Once the actual funding guidelines are received, we will look at how we can best apply for these capital funds.