

Spring 2021

WARD 6 NEWSLETTER

Councillor Ron Ashmore

"Putting Ward 6 First"



Dear Ward 6 Residents,

Serving you is an honour.

I continue to put your needs first as I proudly represent you on Kawartha Lakes Council.

CITY-WIDE NEWS:

Covid-19

Restrictions under the *Re-Opening Ontario Act* continue to affect our community. For provincial Covid-19 information, please contact the HKPR District Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577 ext 5020.

Covid-19 testing at Ross Memorial Hospital is by appointment only. 1-705-328-6217.

To book a vaccine, please call 1-888-999-6488.

For all other resources, please call 1-888-822-2225 or visit kawarthalakes.ca.

Budget

Council passed the lowest budget increase in recent history at 1.5% without affecting service levels at all. In fact, more funds will be coming to our municipality in the next few months to assist with not only pandemic recovery but also infrastructure, especially road reconstruction and repair.

Building Development

Kawartha Lakes is experiencing unprecedented demand for new development. Applications for permits have increased by five times the 2020 number. Several projects are in final approval stage, some are on deck, and many are shovel ready.

The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo

Don't miss this outstanding event, October 13-16, at the Lindsay Fairgrounds. Traditional events like the BMO Plowing competition, the Hydro One Education and the Ontario Mutuals Queen of the Furrow Competition will be featured as well as a redesigned tented City and RV Park that will protect everyone with additional health protocols.

Your Voice

Participating in democracy has never been easier. Start your own petitions at jumpinkawarthalakes.ca/online-petitions

WARD 6 NEWS

Mill Pond Bridge

Council approved this important infrastructure project for Omemee and it passed in the capital budget. Construction will begin in early summer and be finished this fall.

Roads and Maintenance

Council approved several roads in Ward 6 for resurfacing, gravelling and lifestyle improvement this spring and summer. Ditching and brushing will continue in the ward. I was able to secure the biggest possible share of the budget for Ward 6. Please visit the City website at kawarthalakes.ca/en/municipal-services/resources/Budget-and-Finance/2021-Proposed-Capital-Budget-Book.pdf and see page 12 for details of urban/arterial resurfacing, pages 13-15 for details of rural resurfacing and pages 18-25 for details of gravel resurfacing.

Docking Policy

The City will hold public consultations before making decisions on this very important issue. Register to make your voice heard at <https://jumpinkawarthalakes.ca>

Omemee Splash Park

I am working with individuals, businesses, community groups and City staff and Council to make this proposal a reality in the near future.

Improved Broadband and Internet

The Government of Canada Universal Broadband Fund awarded Ward 6 funding to bring high-speed Internet to 1550 Dunsford and Thurstonia homes using Bell DSL and Xplornet. Starlink Space X will also be available soon.

Speed Reductions/Improved Safety

Staff have responded to the safety concerns of the community with lowered speeds on some roads, improved safety features like four-way stops, and new speed technology.

Pigeon Lake Wild Rice Management Plan

I am happy to report that Council supported the Pigeon Lake Wild Rice Management Plan I facilitated with Trent Severn Waterway mediators to work together, for the first time with all parties, to address our shared concerns.

Economic Development

Council's recent lowering of commercial development charges to 0% on the first 2,500 sq m has attracted increased investment and development interests in Ward 6. I am actively pursuing these opportunities for Ward 6 investment and development.

BOARDS, TASK FORCES AND COMMITTEES

Ross Memorial Hospital Board of Governors

As your Council's representative to the Ross Memorial Hospital Board of Governors, I exercise oversight for the corporation and make decisions in the best interests of the hospital as a whole, keeping in mind, without prejudice, the needs and interests of the stakeholders to whom the hospital is accountable. The Board is currently seeking Governor applications from members of the public with clinical experience. Please apply here: <https://www.rmh.org/about-ross-memorial/board-of-governors>

Kawartha Lakes Council Community Recovery Task Force

As your representative on this vital task force, I collaborate with the community to make recommendations to Council and staff about what resources and supports are needed to help us all recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/news/community-pandemic-recovery-task-force-makes-recommendations-to-council.aspx>

Municipal Heritage Committee

My role on this committee is to advise Council on property designations under the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990*, and to serve our collective interests in preserving the unique heritage of our community.

Municipal Law Enforcement Bylaw Appeals Committee

As your representative on this committee, I hear appeals and exemptions requests under the *Kawartha Lakes Property Standards Bylaw*, *Regulate Animals (Order to Restrain) Bylaw* and the *Fortifications Bylaw*.

Omemeet Downtown Revitalization Committee

My role on this committee is to identify and address the strengths and challenges of the Omemeet downtown and to develop common goals and priorities for revitalization. <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/business-growth/resources/Background-Intro-for-Omemeet-DR-Binder.pdf>

Municipal Drainage Committee

On this committee, I advise Council and staff on procedures that need to be followed to facilitate good, functional drainage in our community under the *Ontario Drainage Act* and the *Municipal Drainage Policy*. <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/living-here/municipal-drains.aspx>

Community Policing Advisory Committee (OPP)

The OPP serve Kawartha Lakes outside Lindsay and former Ops township. As your representative, I help build positive partnerships between the public and police to proactively solve shared problems in our community. https://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/police_serv/about.html

Waste Management Advisory Committee

As your representative on this committee, I advise Council and staff about your waste management and recycling needs.

Want to Join a Board or Committee?

Apply here: <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/municipal-services/boards-and-committees.aspx>

NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING?

Email me: rashmore@kawarthalakes.ca



Phone me: 705-934-2223 (mobile) or 705-324-9411 ext 3896 (calls forward to my mobile)

Contact the City: <https://forms.kawarthalakes.ca/Report-an-issue-or-concern>

Follow me on Twitter: @ronashmore1

Follow me on Facebook: Ron Ashmore

Check out my website: <https://www.ronashmore.ca>

Yours truly, the People's Councillor for Ward 6,

Ron Ashmore