

# Huron East Newsletter



**Municipality of Huron East**  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

At this time next year we will be on the eve of the 2017 International Plowing Match. On behalf of Council, I would like to acknowledge the work of the various committees and volunteers as they prepare for the event. Huron East is pleased to be the host municipality for the 2017 IPM and Council and staff will endeavor to provide the necessary support to the event. If you are interested in volunteering, visit their website (<http://www.plowingmatch.org/volunteer-ipm-2017>) or contact the Volunteer Committee Chairs (Lori Vanstone 519-524-4651 [loriipm2017@gmail.com](mailto:loriipm2017@gmail.com) or Mary Garriock 516-529-3190 [mgipm2017@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:mgipm2017@hurontel.on.ca)).



The 2016 budget process was difficult and as our Treasurer has indicated below, the Huron East tax levy increased by 20%. Over 15% of the levy increase was caused by the net impact increase to our OPP costs and cuts in Provincial transfers (\$485,000). Council also increased its funding of our three recreation centres by an additional \$137,000 which represented an additional 4% municipal tax levy increase. The discussions on recreation levies has led to Council implementing a strategic planning process for our recreation centres - please watch for notice of public meetings later this fall and Council encourages your participation in planning the future direction of our recreation centres.

In closing I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance, the Huron community Family Health Team, the Seaforth Community Hospital Foundation, the Huron East/Brussels Community Development Trust and the Brussels Medical-Dental Committee in the recruitment of Family Physician Dr. Bradley Ross to the Brussels Community.

**Mayor Bernie MacLellan**

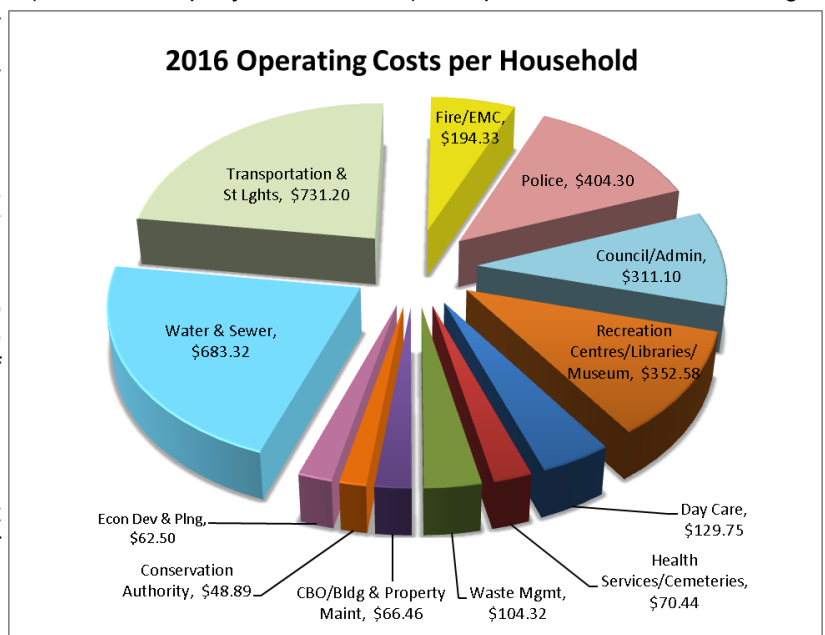
## Brussels Medical Dental Centre

The Huron community Family Health Team has announced that Family Physician Dr. Bradley Ross will be joining their team on October 1st, 2016. Dr. Ross will be practicing out of the Brussels Medical-Dental Centre and accepting patients from Brussels and surrounding areas. If you wish to register as a patient, please visit [www.hcft.ca](http://www.hcft.ca) and click the new patient tab or call 519-600-2273 x268. Please watch for announcements of an open house to meet Dr. Ross later in September.

## 2016 Budget

Council adopted a 2016 budget with total expenditures of \$14 million including \$3.4 million in capital expenditures. Major capital expenditures include resurfacing of Morrison Line (Rodgerville Rd. to Kippen Rd. \$502,613), reconstruction of Sills Street (Lloyd Eisler St. to Railway St. - \$854,285), painting and recoating of the Seaforth Water Tower (\$450,000), upgrades to the Brussels Waste Water filtration system (\$500,000), repairs to the aeration tank - Vanastra Waste Water (\$150,000), replacement of bridge structure - M30 (Canada Company Rd. \$277,810), completion of the LED Streetlight Conversion (\$150,000), and land improvements - 197 Toronto Blvd. Vanastra (\$100,000).

The Huron East Municipal portion of the tax levy has increased by 20.2%. Of the total \$13.1 million tax levy in Huron East, \$5.8 million remains with Huron East, \$4.9 million is allocated to the County of Huron and \$2.4 million is allocated for educational purposes. Property increases per ward vary because of area rated services but will generally range from 7.09% in the Seaforth Ward to 11.95% in the McKillop Ward. Individual properties may experience slightly different rates due to the phasing-in of assessment increases. Please note 2016 is the final year of the 4-year assessment phase-in program and is a re-assessment year. Urban property owners serviced by water and sewer will note that their quarterly bills have remained at 2015 rates with the exception of Vanastra Water rates. Vanastra Water rates increased 6% in 2016 in order to create Reserves for future capital improvements.



## Pre-Authorized Payment Plans

One of the easiest ways to pay your property taxes and utility bills is through a pre-authorized payment plan. Both taxes and utilities can be set up to be deducted from your bank account on the due dates. Property taxes can also be set up as a monthly deduction.

To enrol in a pre-authorized program your account(s) must be current. Please download the application form from [www.huroneast.com](http://www.huroneast.com); come into the municipal office or contact the property tax clerk or utility clerk at 519-527-0160.

## Purchasing a Farm

When a farm is sold it will become 100% residential tax class. This can mean the difference of thousands of dollars on a tax notice. Please call OMAFRA at 1-877-424-1300 or email [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca), as soon as possible after the purchase of a farm, in order to get the property in the correct tax class.

## Mailing Address

Please notify the tax department if your mailing address is incorrect or has changed. **Failure to receive a tax notice does not exempt you from penalty.**

## Vacancy Rebate

Commercial and Industrial properties may be eligible for a property tax rebate. The property must have been vacant for a minimum of 90 consecutive days in order to be eligible. The **deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>** of the year following the taxation year for which the application relates. The building inspector may be required to inspect the vacant unit. This application is not valid for seasonal businesses.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING NEWS**

Free household hazardous waste depot located at the Mid-Huron Landfill site for proper disposal of paints, oils, medications, cleaners, etc. The Mid-Huron Landfill Site is located at Holmesville, 37506A Huron Road (Hwy 8) and is open 5 days a week from 8 am to 4 pm and Saturday until noon.



Recycling and garbage collection schedules are on the Huron East website. Please note that bag tags for all wards are available at the Huron East Municipal Office and at the following locations for specific wards;

**Brussels** – Brussels Variety, Cinnamon Jim's Café, McDonald Home Hardware, Brussels Pharmacy, Brussels Bulk & Bargains

**Grey** – Molesworth Bowling, Farmers Liquidation, Cowboy Loft (Brussels Stockyards), Brussels Variety, Dauphin's Country Store, Cinnamon Jim's Café, McDonald Home Hardware, Brussels Pharmacy, Brussels Bulk & Bargains  
**McKillop** – Dauphin's Country Store, Terry's Restaurant & Variety (Dublin)  
**Seaforth** – Pete's Paper Clip, GT Mini Mart, Shell Station, Brown Sanitation  
**Tuckersmith** (excluding Vanastra) - Pete's Paper Clip, GT Mini Mart, Shell Station, Brown Sanitation  
**Vanastra** – Buckey Joe's General Store

**VANA STRA EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTRE**

(formerly Tuckersmith Day Care)

- Quality child care with trained professional REECE staff
  - Open 6:30 am to 6:00 pm
  - Weekly, Bi-weekly and Monthly rates
  - Children 16 months - 12 years
  - Full or Half Day Child Care
  - Emergent Curriculum, Learning Through Play
  - Gym and Swim
  - After School Care with Swimming Lessons
  - Full Time/Part Time/Flexible Schedules
  - Kids Crew Care - before & after school, school holidays
  - Fee Assistance to Qualifying Families
- Please drop in to visit the Centre any time or call 519-482-7634 for information.



**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Building Permits are typically required for the following:

- All new buildings and additions to buildings
- Repair, renovation and alterations of existing buildings
- Prefabricated and relocated buildings
- All swimming pools in excess of 24" in depth
- Building systems (heating systems, fire protection systems etc.)
- Various structures such as decks, retaining walls, wind generators in excess of 3 kw and free standing towers over 60 ft. in height
- Demolition of structures (obtaining a demo permit gets this structure off your taxes)
- Change of use of a building



NOTE: Permits for plumbing and septic systems are issued by the County of Huron at the Huron County Health Unit. Permits for electrical works are issued by The Electrical Safety Authority.

**FREE WELL WATER SAMPLING**

The Huron County Health Unit reminds you to sample your well water each season and after heavy rain, plumbing work, or if you notice a change in your water's colour, taste or odour. You can also sign up for email updates on testing well water - send your email address to wellwater@huroncounty.ca.

For more information contact the Huron County Health Unit at 482-3614 or visit their website at www.huronhealthunit.ca

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Street Lights

Call the municipal office at 519-527-1710 if you notice a street light is not working. We will arrange to have it repaired if you provide the address of the property nearest to the street light that is not working.

Snow Removal & Parking on Streets:

- No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway
- Parking is not permitted on any street or road between the hours of 2 am and 6 am from November 1 to April 15. Violators will be ticketed and may have their vehicles towed and impounded.

Compost Sites

Huron East provides 2 compost sites for the disposal of yard and garden waste only. Please be sure to remove all containers, boxes or bags and any materials that are not compostable. In the south, the compost site is located at 79522 Hannah Line, Harpurhey. In the north, residents are encouraged to use the compost site in Brussels at the north end of Turnberry Street on the west side.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Prevention Week - October 2 - 8

Working Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarms Save Lives - Test Monthly

- Install working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas.
- If you use fuel fired appliances install a carbon monoxide alarm in your home.
- Develop and practice home escape plans that take into account the unique configurations of the home and occupants, who due to cognitive or physical limitations, may require assistance to escape.



Please contact the Huron East Fire Department for more information 519-527-0160 or 1-888-868-7513 [mbedard@huroneast.com](mailto:mbedard@huroneast.com)

**ANIMAL CONTROL - DOG TAGS**

Every dog owner within the Municipality of Huron East is required to obtain a dog tag annually before February 28, or within 15 days of becoming a dog owner. 2017 Tags and application forms will be available at the Municipal Office or on the Huron East website after December 15, 2016.



**RECREATION**

The new 2016-2017 Annual Recreation Guide was delivered to your door in the Focus Flyer Package late August or can be viewed at www.huroneast.com

You can discover information on programs and services in the Huron East Community Guide or by visiting our website at www.huroneast.com

**Brussels Morris & Grey Community Centre**

Fall Fair Sept. 20 and 21  
 Walk for Wellness Monday to Friday 9:00 – 10:30 am except holidays

Karate starts Sept. 24  
 Adult Volleyball starts late September  
 Zumba starts Sept. 8  
 Pickle Ball is ongoing all year, check out the website calendar for times and days.

Free Free Free Skating

Saturday 1:00 - 2:20 pm except tournament weekends  
 Moms, Tots, Pops and Seniors - Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 - 11:30 am  
 Full schedules will be posted on the website at huroneast.com Recreation/Brussels Arena or call 519-887-6621

**Seaforth & District Community Centres**

Skating - Parents & Tots

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 am - Noon

Public Skating

- Sundays 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm depending on tournaments

All Public Skating is Free thanks to the many sponsors.



Snow Days & PD Days

- Jr. Shiny: 8:00 - 10:00 am  
 - Public Skating: 12 noon - 1:00 pm  
 - Sr. Shiny: 3:00 - 4:30 or 5:00 pm depending on the next ice rental for that day. More shiny times are available depending on that day's program (Always FULL equipment required for shiny) \$5.00

- Shiny Hockey, Mondays 3:00 -4:30 pm \$5.00 per person

Toy Show - November 26 and 27

Seaforth Fall Fair - Sept. 15, 16 and 17

Winter Dance - December 16

Watch the Huron Expositor for more information on dates, times, locations and other programs or call 527-1272 for details.

**Vanastra Recreation Centre**

Once again the renovations have continued! This summer the parking lot was paved to improve accessibility parking spaces along with safer access in the winter with decreased risk of an icy parking lot.

If you haven't been to VRC in a while, we invite you to come and see the many improvements that have been completed over the past 3 years. There is new flooring throughout, new washrooms, and the RCAF mural display to name a few. Please feel free to use the coupon below to come and see the changes and enjoy a free swim.

Programs and Services

New this year is a Men's Fitness Class. This class is available from November 3 to April 27. This is a no music, no choreography, no dance type of class. This class is designed to strengthen muscles, challenge balance and coordination, as well as improve cardio vascular.



Other specialty programs include Water Running, Kayaking, Aquatic Rehab for post knee, hip or shoulder surgery and Baby Aqua-fit. To find out more about these programs and more, visit our website at www.huroneast.com. or call 519-482-3544

COUPON

One FREE adult admission to any adult swim. Limited to one per adult. (Expires December 31, 2016)