



MAYOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 13, 2020

MARINE ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

On Thursday and Friday of this week, members of marine organizations from across Canada and the United States will be assembling in Toronto for a series of meetings. This is a great opportunity to network with marine companies, port authorities and support organizations.

I will be attending the Hwy H20 Annual General Meeting on Thursday, followed by the Chamber of Marine Commerce Annual Luncheon and the Marine Club dinner on Friday.

I am looking forward to establishing and continuing to develop relationships with the various members to bring new ideas to Port Colborne as we look to redevelopment our waterfront.

WINTER BERTHING

If you haven't taken a walk down West Street lately, you will be surprised to see a total of 7 great lakes ships moored in Port Colborne for the winter.

We are also expecting two McKeil Marine barges to arrive later this week who will be berthing by the grain elevators.

Winter berthing brings a boost to our economy and jobs in the city as the shipping companies source everything from food to supplies for their winter retrofits.

WELLAND CANAL BRIDGE CLOSURES

The closure of the Welland Canal to ship traffic also presents a time for major repairs to the Seaway bridges.

Bridge 19 (Main Street) is scheduled for a one day closure on Wednesday of this week and Bridge 19a (Mellanby Street) is scheduled for a one month closure, which we expect to start next week.

Check our website for the latest bridge closures.

GRANTS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The City distributes approximately \$30,000 annually to non-profit, charitable and service organizations that benefit the citizens of Port Colborne and enhance the quality of life in the community.

Council recently updated the grant policy and application form and all information can be found on our website.

The City is accepting the first round of grant applications until Friday, January 31, 2020.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

The City of Port Colborne is looking to gather feedback to improve our customer service delivery by launching a customer satisfaction survey.

Input from the community will assist the City with the modernization of our service delivery and improve our front line service to residents and visitors.

PORTicipate by completing the survey, which takes approximately five minutes, by visiting www.portcolborne.ca/page/customer_service.

Hard copies of the survey are also be available at City Hall (66 Charlotte Street) and the Port Colborne Public Library (310 King Street).

The survey is part of the City's implementation of the Municipal Modernization Program, a provincial grant program that provided the municipality with \$711,467 to modernize service delivery and improve front line services.

Other improvements include corporate branding, updating our customer service policy, redesigning front counters at city hall, upgrades to our phone system, which included the return to live answering last November and website redesign.

SNOWPORTANT INFORMATION

We've been fortunate not to get much snow yet this winter, but it's coming.

Remember, during a snow event don't park your car on the road, clear your sidewalks within 24 hours of the end of the snow event, help your neighbour, and check our website for specific details and SnowPORTant updates.

SPORTSFEST

And if the winter is getting you down, it's time to get out and enjoy our upcoming SportsFest, February 7th to 9th.

Providing a sense of community pride and greater awareness of each community group, SportsFest offers activities for all ages, promotes a healthy lifestyle, and is an opportunity for organized fund raising within the City of Port Colborne.

The Mayor's Cup Invitational Hockey Tournament, indoor volleyball tournament, FREE family skating & swimming and YMCA activities, music trivia, sno-golf, sno-pitch, ball hockey, euchre, soup cook-off are just some of the events that are offered to the community.

New this year is the Polar Plunge to raise money for Special Olympics.

Bundle up the family and get out and PORTicipate.