

# Georgian Bay Times



November 2025



Community  
Remembrance  
Day Services on  
Page 14



Township of Georgian Bay  
99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn, Ontario L0K 1S0  
Phone: 705-538-2337 Toll Free: 1-800-567-0197  
[www.gbtownship.ca](http://www.gbtownship.ca)

# COUNCIL DATES

NOVEMBER 2025



## PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

Public participants for electronic public meetings are responsible for securing their own device (web camera, microphone, and speakers required) and internet connection.

All participants will be required to follow all instructions and procedures provided. Failure to comply will result in their removal from the meeting. Submit registration requests to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca) and clearly identify the following information:

- First and last name
- Municipal address
- Phone number
- Application number and title

As always, written correspondence for Members can be sent in advance of the meeting start time to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca) or [info@gbtownship.ca](mailto:info@gbtownship.ca).



You can Watch Council Meetings  
on YouTube.

Council

Monday, November 3 at 9:00 AM

Planning Council

Tuesday, November 4 at 9:00 AM

Committee of Adjustment

Friday, November 7 at 10:00 AM

MacTier Arena Advisory Committee

Monday, November 24 at 10:00 AM

Special Council (Budget)

Tuesday, November 25 at 9:00 AM

Special Council (Budget)

Wednesday, November 26 at 9:00 AM

Planning Council and Committee of Adjustment

requests for remote participation are due the previous business day by 12:00 Noon to [planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca)

Council and Committee of the Whole requests for

Open Forum remote participation are due the previous business day by 12:00 Noon to [clerks@gbtownship.ca](mailto:clerks@gbtownship.ca).



# 2026 Municipal Grants



## Supporting our Community

The Municipal Grant Policy provides funding that benefits the residents of the Township of Georgian Bay.



## Two Grant Opportunities

### Over \$1500

- ✓ Application due November 11, 2025
- ✓ Present to Council November 25, 2025
- ✓ Send request to the Clerk; name of organization, amount requested, how will it be spent.
- ✓ Confirm who will be in attendance and include contact information.

Submit requests to:  
[clerks@gbtownship.ca](mailto:clerks@gbtownship.ca)

### Under \$1500

- ✓ Application Opens January 1 - March 31, 2026
- ✓ Application available on our website.

### Important

These deadlines ensure fiscal responsibility and fair consideration of all requests. Approved applications will be included in the 2026 Township Budget.

# FINANCE

## 2026 Staff Proposed Township Budget: Planning for a Sustainable Georgian Bay

Each year, Council must approve a balanced budget before property tax bills are issued. The operating budget funds the day-to-day services that keep Georgian Bay running smoothly, while the capital budget ensures we continue to build and maintain the infrastructure that supports residents and visitors alike.

### 2026 Budget Overview

The 2026 Staff Proposed Budget totals approximately \$19.9 million, including:

- \$14.7 million in operating costs
- \$1.3 million in carry-forward capital projects
- \$3.5 million in new capital investments
- \$0.4 million in contributions to capital reserves

➔ **This represents a 7.36% municipal tax increase over 2025.**

With service enhancements and board increases, the total rises to \$20.3 million, a projected 11.14% tax increase.

### Key Budget Milestones

July 7, 2025: Council Reviewed 2026 Budget Timelines

Nov 3, 2025: Draft Budget Tabled

Nov 25, 2025: Boards & Agency Presentations

Nov 26, 2025: Public Budget Deliberations

Dec 1, 2025: Budget Adoption & Approval

### Why It Matters

The budget process ensures that every dollar is spent responsibly, balancing community needs, maintaining essential services, and investing in the future of Georgian Bay.

Learn more and  
view the full  
2026 Staff  
Proposed  
Budget  
Executive  
Summaries

**BUDGET 2026**

# STAY IN THE KNOW

## Canada Post Strike: Stay Informed & Keep Your Payments On Track

The Township of Georgian Bay is monitoring the ongoing Canada Post strike. While mail delivery may be delayed, residents can still ensure bills, taxes, and other payments are submitted on time using alternative methods.

### How to Make Payments During the Strike

#### 1. Online Payments

Pay your property taxes, water bills, or other Township invoices securely through your bank's online banking system.

Set up payees as "Township of Georgian Bay" for easy processing.

#### 2. In-Person Payments

Visit Township offices in Honey Harbour, MacTier, or Port Severn to pay by debit, credit, or cash.

Office hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday.

#### 3. Drop Box Payments

Use the Township drop boxes located at our office entrances for cheque or cash payments. (Cheque is the preferred method if dropping it off like this)

Payments are collected daily to ensure timely processing.

#### 4. Pre-Authorized Payments

Sign up for automatic withdrawals to avoid missed deadlines during postal disruptions.

#### Stay Informed

Follow updates on mail delivery and Township notices at [gbtownship.ca](http://gbtownship.ca). Contact the Township office at [accounting@gbtownship.ca](mailto:accounting@gbtownship.ca) with questions about payment options.



#### Tip:

Plan ahead! If mailing is necessary, consider sending your payments early or using registered mail through alternative carriers to avoid delays.

# 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION



## Consider Running for Local Government

The next Municipal Election will be held on October 26, 2026! If you are a community-minded leader with an interest in local government, environmental protection, and helping to shape the Township of Georgian Bay - consider running for Council.

Municipalities are the closest level of government to their citizens, making decisions on matters of economic development, land-use planning, operational services, and more. Sitting on your local Council is an opportunity to represent yours and your neighbours' best interests through these decision-making processes.

Keep an eye on the Township's [election webpage](#) for more details for both voters and potential candidates as they become available.



## AMO Training

Interested in running for office for the first time, or for re-election? The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is offering a free workshop for aspiring municipal leaders, with one stream for elected officials considering re-election, and one for community members considering a run for municipal office.

The Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities workshop is part of AMO's Healthy Democracy Project, and includes four sessions covering: leading with purpose; conflict management and relationship building; mental health; and turning values into action.

To learn more and/or register for the workshop, visit AMO's website [here](#).

Series: [Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities | AMO](#)

# THINK ABOUT IT...



## Help Shape the Facility Rental Fee Policy Survey



The Township of Georgian Bay is looking at the policy that guides how facility rental fees are set and when they may be waived. This important initiative aims to balance community access with responsible fiscal management, and residents are invited to have their say.

Currently, rental fees do not fully cover the costs of operating Township facilities. Depending on the type and duration of the rental, a portion of those costs are subsidized by taxpayers. The Township is seeking community input to help determine how much of these costs should be covered by public funds and under what circumstances fee waivers may be appropriate.

“We’re committed to creating a fair and transparent approach that supports community use while ensuring long-term sustainability,” said Director of Operations, Mara Engel. “Hearing directly from our residents will help us find the right balance.”

Current Facility Rental Rates:

- \$40.00 per hour – Community member rate**
- \$60.00 per hour – Commercial business rate**
- \$3.00 per adult – Not-for-Profit program rate**

Community feedback will help shape the Township’s final policy to ensure it reflects local values and priorities.



**Please Note:** No personal information will be collected or shared as part of this survey. The link provided will direct you to an external survey platform, Google Forms.

# TIME FOR A CHANGE



Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 AM! Set your clocks back one hour before bed on Saturday night and enjoy that extra hour of sleep.

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*A simple reset today can help keep our whole community safe tomorrow.*

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Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Replace batteries if needed and make sure every level of your home has working detectors. It's a quick task that saves lives!



# WINTER IS COMING



## Winter Parking In Georgian Bay

**November 15 and April 1.**  
**Parking By-Law 2018-06**

### WINTER PARKING

The Township prohibits parking within 3.05 metres (10 feet) of the edge of any gravel, surface treatment or asphalt road within Georgian Bay between November 15 and April 1.  
Parking By-Law 2018-06



#### WHERE IS BYLAW ENFORCED?

On **ALL** municipally maintained roads within the Township of Georgian Bay.



#### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Remember, it's not just about parking – it's about creating a winter wonderland that's safe, accessible, and ready for anything!



#### OUR GOAL

To educate our residents and visitors to create a peaceful, safe place for all to enjoy.

#### Web Services



Pay your tickets online at our website. It's fast, easy and convenient.  
[gbtownship.ca/payments](http://gbtownship.ca/payments)



#### Don't Get Towed

Our By-Law officers have the right to have your vehicle towed if you are in contravention of the parking by-law. This will cost you \$\$\$.

# LIBRARY NEWS

## Books, blankets, and big ideas! November feels better at the Library!

### Programming



The Georgian Bay Public Library offers rich programming for every age, designed to inspire, engage and connect our community. With three friendly branches throughout the Township, you'll find a warm space for learning, fun and creativity.

### Adult programs

Whether you're looking to expand your knowledge, meet new people or just try something different, our adult-focused sessions deliver. Think book clubs, hands-on workshops, tech help, and social events that bring neighbours together.



### Childrens Programs

For our youngest readers and their families, we've got story-times, play-based learning, craft sessions and regular events that make literacy and a love of reading fun and accessible.



### Tween Programs

Tweens and teens are invited to dive into dynamic, age-friendly activities that spark curiosity and creativity — from coding and crafts to games and group projects built just for them.



## Library Hours

Fall / Winter

### Honey Harbour

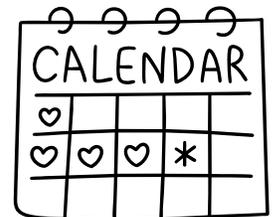
Tuesday: 10 am – 6 pm  
Wednesday, Friday, and  
Saturday: 10 am – 3 pm

### Port Severn

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday:  
10 am – 3 pm

### MacTier

Tuesday: 10 – 3 pm  
Wednesday: 10 – 6 pm  
Friday and Saturday:  
10 am – 3 pm



View the Township Community Calendar for daily schedule or check out the library website by clicking the links.



# Stay Informed - Visit Engage Muskoka

Engage Muskoka is your go-to online hub for shaping the future of our community. Whether you're passionate about local infrastructure, housing, or sustainability, this platform lets you learn about ongoing projects, share your thoughts, and stay connected to the issues that matter most.

## Why check it out?

- Be heard: Share your opinions on key community projects.
- Stay informed: Access up-to-date information on local developments.
- Shape the future: Contribute to decisions that impact Muskoka's growth and sustainability.

## Featured Projects:

- Solid Waste Master Plan: Planning for sustainable waste management over the next 30 years.
- Transportation Master Plan: Developing a long-term strategy for Muskoka's transportation network.
- Muskoka Housing Task Force 2.0: Addressing the affordable housing crisis with community-driven solutions.
- Community Transportation Plan: Creating accessible and affordable transportation options for all residents.
- Bay and Beyond: Upgrading aging infrastructure to ensure reliable access to clean drinking water and efficient wastewater services.

Visit [engagemuskoka.ca](https://engagemuskoka.ca) today to explore these projects and more.



## Upcoming District of Muskoka Meetings



# COMMUNITY

## STAY ACTIVE STAY SAFE



Staying active is key at any age! Regular movement boosts heart health, strengthens muscles and bones, improves balance, and supports mental wellbeing. Even light activities like walking, gardening, or gentle stretching make a difference, and group activities add a social boost too. The World Health Organization recommends at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week — and it's never too late to start. No matter your age, every step counts toward a healthier, happier you!

### Walking Trails & Parks

Enjoy the Township's scenic trails, from gentle, accessible routes to more challenging paths for seasoned hikers. Trail accessibility details and maps are available on the Township website to help you plan the perfect outing.

- Port Severn Walking Trail (3 km)
- School House Walking Trail (4 km)

### Community Programs

Join in the fun with others as they enjoy the facilities for activities like pickleball, crafting, yoga, lightweight exercises and more!

Check out our Recreation webpage or community calendar for more details!



[www.gbtownship.ca/recreation-leisure](http://www.gbtownship.ca/recreation-leisure)

Continue to monitor the Township of Georgian Bay Community Calendar for events and activities to help you stay active in the community.

# COMMUNITY

## STAY BUSY IN GEORGIAN BAY!



### MacTier Activities

Stay active and connected with weekly programs at the MacTier Arena and around town!

- Shuffleboard – Fridays, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
- Exercise Classes – Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- Crafters' Corner – Tuesdays, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Arena
- Train Dominoes Group – Wednesdays, 1:30 PM at the Library

🎃 Coming Up: Don't miss the Halloween Party at the Legion this Saturday!

🦌 Wild Game Night returns November 29th at the Lions Hall — a MacTier favourite! (Tickets go fast, so snag yours early!)

### Baxter Ward Pickleball

🏓 Stay active year-round with Pickleball at the Baxter Ward Community Centre (25 Community Centre Drive, Port Severn).

Drop-In Schedule:

- Monday: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Wednesday: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
- Friday: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

No registration needed — just drop in and play!

\$ \$2.00 per person, per session.

A fun, social way to stay moving all year long!



Continue to monitor the Township of Georgian Bay Community Calendar for events and activities to help you stay active in the community.

# SKATE SCHEDULE

MacTier Arena



**MONDAYS**  
**PUBLIC SKATE**  
5:00 TO 5:50 PM



**TUESDAYS**

<b>LEARN TO SKATE</b> 4:00 - 4:50 PM	<b>PUBLIC SKATE</b> 5:00 - 5:50 PM
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**WEDNESDAYS**  
**ADULT SKATE**  
8:00 TO 8:50 PM



**THURSDAY**  
**ADULT SKATE**  
5:00 TO 5:50 PM



**FRIDAYS**

<b>PUBLIC SKATE</b> 7:00 - 8:20 PM	<b>SHINNY HOCKEY</b> 8:30 - 9:20 PM
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[gbtownship.ca](http://gbtownship.ca)



[@gbtownship](https://www.instagram.com/gbtownship)

# Where can you attend a Remembrance event?

## Coldwater

Pay tribute to our Fallen at Coldwater's annual Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11. The Parade will form-up in front of the arena at 10:30 a.m. and march through Michael Anne Drive, Gray Street, and Coldwater Road, to end at the Cenotaph by the Legion for the Remembrance ceremony. A contingent of serving military personnel from CFB Borden will join the parade. Light lunch will be served inside the Legion after the parade.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Coldwater  
2 Michael Anne Dr, Coldwater  
Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025  
Time: 10:45 a.m.

## MacTier

The Royal Canadian Legion in MacTier hosts a Remembrance Day service at their branch at 11 Elizabeth St. The ceremony typically starts around 10:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. on November 11th, and is followed by a light luncheon.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion MacTier  
11 Elizabeth St.  
Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
(followed by a luncheon)

National  
Indigenous  
Veterans Day is a  
November 8!



we will remember we will remember we will  
we will remember we will remember we will  
we will remember we will remember we will

# TOY DRIVE



*Make a Child's Holiday Magical*

DONATIONS ACCEPTED FROM NOW UNTIL

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12**

**DONATE NEW, UNWRAPPED TOYS AND HELP MAKE THE HOLIDAYS SPECIAL FOR OVER 70 CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

**TOP ITEMS NEEDED**

- Toys and educational games
- Gift cards and clothing
- Art supplies, books, and sports items

**DROP-OFF POINTS**

**Township Administration Office**  
99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn

**Georgian Bay Library Branches**  
MacTier, Honey Harbour & Port Severn

For more info contact us at **705-528-2437** or visit [www.gbtownship.ca](http://www.gbtownship.ca)



# ALL ABOARD FOR *Giving*

**The CPKC Holiday Train brings \$7,000! Let's show MacTier's heart can match**

**it!**  
**How you can help:**

Donate non-perishable food at the Holiday Train event, or make a financial donation toward our \$7,000 community match.

Encourage your business, club, or family to take part!

Every dollar donated doubles the impact, together, we can make this the brightest season yet in MacTier.

 **Event: CPKC Holiday Train**

 **Date: Sunday, November 30, 3:00 PM**

 **Goal: \$7,000 Community Match**

# *Sleighing Hunger*

A Generous local donor has pledged to match every donation, doubling the impact of each contribution up to \$25,000!

It's a chance for the community to make a difference, knowing that every dollar donated will go twice as far in supporting the **Port Severn / Honey Harbour Food Bank.**

Donate online at [gbtownship.ca](http://gbtownship.ca) or by Cash or Cheque at the Municipal Administration Office 99 Lone Pine Road, Port Severn



**Closes December 31, 2025**



**SAVE THE DATE**

## *Christmas in Georgian Bay*



From Holiday Trains to Santa Claus Parades get in the Holiday spirit in Georgian Bay!

### **CPKC Holiday Train:**

Sunday, November 30 @ 3:00 PM

### **SEGBAY Tree Lighting:**

Friday, December 7 @ 7:00 -8:00 PM

### **Port Severn/Honey Harbour Parade & Party:**

Saturday, December 6 @ 1:00 PM

### **MacTier Christmas Parade:**

Sunday, December 7 @ 6:00 pm

*See You There!*

## MacTier

MacTier Memorial Community Centre, 9 Haig St, MacTier

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

10:00 - 10:30	Coffee / Tea Social
10:30 <sup>AM</sup> - 11:00	Canadian Trivia
11:00 <sup>AM</sup> - 12:00	Acrylic Painting - Nancy Hunter
12:00 <sup>PM</sup> - 1:00	Lunch - Beef Shepherds Pie
1:00 <sup>PM</sup> - 2:00 PM	Building Connections in the Community - Metis Nation of Ontario

## Port Severn

Baxter Ward Community Centre, 275 Honey Harbour Rd, Port  
Severn

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025**

10:00 - 10:30	Coffee / Tea Social
10:30 <sup>AM</sup> - 11:00	Foot Soak
11:00 <sup>AM</sup> - 12:00	Dining Around the World: Ukraine
12:00 <sup>PM</sup> - 1:00 PM	Lunch: Utrainian Cuisine - Alexandr Soloviov
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Cultural Exploration - Suzanne Witt- Foley



WISE Mobile  
Active Living  
Centre  
programs  
offers FREE  
programs for  
older adults  
55+ in  
Muskoka.  
Become a  
member today!

**SENIORS PROGRAMS & SERVICES**  
Registration Required One Week in Advance

705-645-2100 ext. 4199

[seniorsprograms@muskoka.on.ca](mailto:seniorsprograms@muskoka.on.ca)

# THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

## DOWNLOAD

### MUSKOKA WASTE APP

Get customized waste management information right to your phone.



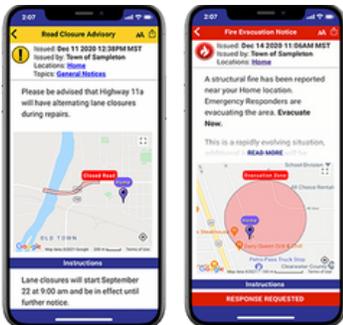
MUSKOKA

Never miss a collection day again! The Muskoka Waste App makes managing your recycling, compost, and garbage schedules simple. Get weekly reminders, collection calendars, and sorting tips right on your phone. Not sure where something goes? Use the handy "What Goes Where" tool to find out instantly. Download it free from your app store and keep Muskoka clean and green, one bin at a time!



## WHAT3WORDS

The What3Words app divides the world into 3-metre squares, each identified by a unique set of three words. It's a fast and precise way to share your exact location. Perfect for emergencies, trail adventures, or giving clear directions in rural areas. Download What3Words today to help emergency responders or friends find you quickly, anywhere in Georgian Bay.



## GEORGIAN BAY ALERT

Be the first to know about emergencies and important community updates with Georgian Bay Alert, powered by Voyent Alert! This free notification system keeps you informed about road closures, fire bans, extreme weather, and other critical events in the Township. Receive alerts the way you prefer — by text, email, phone, or through the mobile app. Sign up today at [gbtownship.ca/alerts](http://gbtownship.ca/alerts) and stay connected when it matters most.

# LOCAL FOOD TASTES

## Celebrate Local Harvest Recipes

Fall is here, and our local farmers and gardens are brimming with fresh produce! Try these simple, delicious recipes that highlight the best of the season.

### ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH SOUP



#### Ingredients:

1 large butternut squash, peeled & cubed

1 onion, chopped

2 cloves garlic, minced

4 cups vegetable broth

1 tsp cinnamon, ½ tsp nutmeg

Salt & pepper to taste

#### Instructions:

Roast squash, onion, and garlic at 400°F for 25–30 mins.

Blend roasted vegetables with broth until smooth.

Season with cinnamon, nutmeg, salt, and pepper. Serve warm.

### APPLE & CRANBERRY CRISP

#### Ingredients:

4 cups local apples, sliced

1 cup fresh cranberries

½ cup brown sugar

1 tsp cinnamon

¾ cup oats

¼ cup flour

4 tbsp butter, cubed

#### Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Mix apples, cranberries, brown sugar, and cinnamon; place in baking dish.

Combine oats, flour, and butter until crumbly; sprinkle over fruit.

Bake 35–40 minutes until topping is golden. Serve warm.





PROUDLY PRESENTS THE  
**FOODCYCLER**  
PROGRAM



DISCOUNTED FILTERS AT LIBRARY BRANCHES AND  
THE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICE

1 PACK FOR ECO 3/5 \$22.60  
(HST INCLUDED)

4 PACK FOR ECO 3/5  
\$67.80 (HST INCLUDED)

1PACK +REFILLABLE  
CARTRIDGES FOR FC-30  
\$22.60 (HST INCLUDED)



AVAILABLE NOW!



## BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED

Purchase yours for \$ 20  
Renewal Date is January 1, 2025

### Current Fire Rating?



**CLICK HERE**

## ATTENTION SHORELINE LANDOWNERS

Changes to Provincial planning regulations mean that shoreline lands are subject to Site Plan Control. Before making a Planning application, contact the Planning Department to find out what this means for you.

**Email:**

[planning@gbtownship.ca](mailto:planning@gbtownship.ca)

**Phone:**

705-538-2337 Ext. 263



Looking for more information from  
Council?

*click here!* 

**@COUNCIL**  
*Connect*