

APRIL 2026

# Council Connect

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## Refresh MacTier Advisory Committee

Following the recommendations out of the Refresh MacTier consultation process, Council approved the formation of the Refresh MacTier Advisory Committee (RMAC).

Director of Corporate Services/Clerk Karen Way presented Council with the Terms of Reference for the new Committee, highlighting that RMAC is not intended to replace the current MacTier Arena Advisory Committee (MAAC), but rather that the MAAC would evolve into the RMAC, merging and expanding on existing and newly identified objectives.

The RMAC will help lead in the planning, evaluation, and implementation of Refresh MacTier initiatives. Its mandate is to review, investigate, and make recommendations to Council on priority projects in the community of MacTier. Unlike the MAAC which has met every second month, the RMAC will meet monthly, with the first meeting slated for June 22, 2026. The MAAC will meet in both April and May ahead of the appointment of members for the RMAC.

Recruitment for the RMAC is underway, with applications closing May 21, 2026 and appointments being made by Council at their June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Residents from across the Township are welcome and encouraged to apply. You can find all information and the application form on the [Township Website](#).



## Deputy Fire Chief Appointment

The Township of Georgian Bay has appointed Kurt Woll as Deputy Fire Chief at the April meeting of Council.

The appointment comes following the promotion of former Deputy Chief Chad Dowell to Director of Fire and Emergency Services/Fire Chief.

Deputy Chief Woll has served more than 35 years with the Township's Volunteer Fire Service, including his latest role as District Chief.



Township of  
**Georgian Bay**  
MUSKOKA

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## Mayor's Report

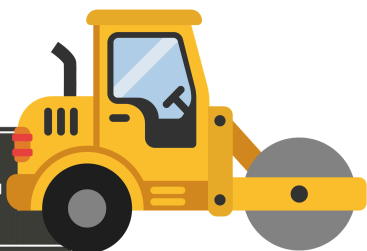
Mayor Peter Koetsier presented Council with a report highlighting the Township's key achievements aligned with the Strategic Plan during the 2022-2026 term.

The Township's Strategic Plan is comprised of six pillars: environmental protection; fiscal responsibilities and technology efficiencies; streamline planning policies and procedures; customer experience and community engagement; District and Township relationship; and engage with Indigenous Communities.

Mayor Koetsier called the list impressive, and expressed his appreciation for all the work that went into each item on the list.

You can read the report in the [April Council Agenda](#).

### Roads Restoration



Director of Operations Mara Engel presented Council with a report on proposed road restoration work for 2026, including slurry seal, gravel repair, and chip and seal treatment.

Council awarded the tender for slurry seal to Miller Group through a cooperative purchasing group managed by the District of Muskoka. The slurry seal is applied to roads that have already had base reclamation and high-float surface treatment (chip and seal) to further protect against water and extend the life of the road.

Council also directed staff to prepare two requests for tender (RFP) - one for gravel road rehabilitation for an overall cost not to exceed \$925,000, and the other for chip and seal with a total cost not to exceed \$140,000.

A list of roads identified for restoration work this year can be found in the [Operations report](#).

### Use of Municipal Resources Policy

The Department of Corporate Services continues its preparations for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Deputy Clerk Sydney Levesque presented Council with an updated Use of Municipal Resources in a Municipal Election Policy. The Policy, mandated by the Municipal Elections Act, establishes clear rules and procedures governing the use of municipal resources during the election campaign. Levesque highlighted that the Policy's last update was ahead of the 2018 election, and that the new version was created collaboratively with Clerks across Muskoka to ensure consistency throughout the District.

The approved Policy can be found in the Township's [Document Centre](#) and on the [Elections webpage](#), where you can also find up-to-date information on the upcoming election.



## By-laws Enacted

2026-018 - Deputy Fire Chief Appointment (Woll)

2026-019 - Confirming Council April 13, 2026

2026-020 - SRA Closing (1110 Eastshore Road)

2026-021 - SRA Deeming (1110 Eastshore Road)

2026-022 - ZBA (377B Macey Bay Road)

2026-023 - SRA Closing (210 Birch Acres Pts 3-4)

2026-024 - SRA Closing (210 Birch Acres Pts 1-2)

2026-025 - SRA Deeming (210 Birch Acres)

2026-026 - Confirming Planning Council April 14, 2026

## Upcoming Meetings

### MacTier Arena Advisory Committee

Monday, April 27 at 10:00 a.m.

### Council

Monday, May 4 at 9:00 a.m.

### Planning Council

Tuesday, May 5 at 9:00 a.m.

### Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, May 5 at 1:00 p.m. or immediately following Planning Council.

### Committee of Adjustment

Friday, May 8 at 10:00 a.m.

### Sustainable Communities Advisory Group

Monday, May 25 at 10:00 a.m.

## Official Plan and Zoning By-law Review

Township planner Jeff Kratky presented Planning Council with a project plan for Applications No. O26-04 and Z26-08 (Water Access, Navigation and Marinas), part of the 2026/28 Official Plan and Zoning By-law review.



The project tackles item three from the previously identified Council wish list, which seeks to set tests and/or conditions for development of water access only lots that ensures safety on narrow waterways and considers adequate access to the water through marinas.

The project plan highlights key events and a tentative timeline for the applications, including Waterfront Working Group consultations, a public open house expected during the first week of July, a public meeting before Council in August, and a decision meeting of Council in September.

## Upcoming Reports and Considerations

The following items are either scheduled for a future meeting or were referred to staff to bring back during this month's meetings:

- A report analyzing potential options to provide a reprieve to water access only properties for waste management services is expected to come forward in May.
- A report on Integrity Commissioner cases and costs was referred to Committee of the Whole for further discussion.
- Committee of the Whole directed staff to review the current Public Docks By-law for the inclusion of additional language regarding the use of launches for commercial operations, and updates to the fee schedule.
- Committee of the Whole directed staff to report back on potential approaches to encourage new commercial and residential development.