

JUNE 2026

Council Connect

Council Planning Council Committee of the Whole

MacTier Arena Funding Applications

The Township will be applying for one million dollars in funding to go towards facility upgrades at the MacTier Memorial Arena.

Council voted unanimously to direct staff to apply for funding from both the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario (FedNor), and the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for grants of \$500,000 each. Staff were also directed to set aside \$100,000 from the Working Capital Reserve to put toward the renovations, and another \$125,117 from the Working Capital Reserve and \$30,000 from the IT Reserve to help with management of the project.

The proposed upgrades are to the community centre portion of the arena, including the kitchen, washrooms, and changing rooms, as well as IT connectivity enhancements, back-up power for outage events, and other necessary work to the building.

If funding is received, the work is expected to take place through 2026 and 2027.

Audited Year End Results

The Township's Audited Year End Results showed a \$232,236.70 operating surplus, resulting from operating revenues coming in over budget.

The Township's third-party auditor, as well as Director of Finance/Treasurer, Jasvinder Rattigan, presented Council with the year-end report. The operating surplus was attributed to higher than budgeted operating revenues from various sources including licenses and permits, and investment and interest income.

Council voted in favour of Director Rattigan's recommendation to transfer 100% of the surplus to the Fire and Emergency Services reserve.



Township of
Georgian Bay
MUSKOKA

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Bear Bin Subsidy

A limited number of bear bins will be offered at a discounted rate to residents of Georgian Bay, following Council's approval of a new subsidy program.



The Township is set to enter into an agreement with a vendor, committing to 100 bins at a set discounted rate. The Township will offer a further subsidy of \$75 per unit.

The funds for the subsidy, a total of \$7,500, will be redirected from the Food Cycler subsidy program. Information will be posted on the Township website when available.

Lakeside Collection at Honey Harbour

Council directed staff to request that the District of Muskoka reconsider the hours of operation for lakeside waste collection in Honey Harbour.

The motion was brought forward by Councillor Steven Predko, following the decision of the district's Public Works Committee to provide solid waste collection for Honey Harbour on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Councillor Predko suggested that many people aren't leaving their cottages until later in the day on Sundays, and cited concerns around boat traffic and fuel consumption arising from making multiple trips to land to accommodate the new pick up schedule.

Council passed the motion requesting the District update the hours to 11:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Refresh MacTier Advisory Committee

Council appointed seven members of the public and two members of Council to the newly formed Refresh MacTier Advisory Committee (RMAC).

The Councillors appointed to RMAC are Ward 1 Councillor Steven Predko and District Councillor Wards 1 and 3 Brian Bocek. Ward 3 Councillor Kristian Graziano was appointed as an alternate member should either Councillors be unable to attend a meeting.

RMAC's inaugural meeting is set to take place Monday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m. The agenda will be available the Monday prior to the meeting on the Township's [Council Portal](#).

Port Severn Library



Council heard a report from CAO Greg Mariotti regarding the proposed move of the Port Severn Library to Baxter Ward Community Centre, which came out of discussions had by Council during budget deliberations in 2025 and again following discussions on facility usage earlier in 2026.

Ahead of the June Council meeting, significant public feedback was received regarding the Library – mainly centered around the "Fireside Room" in the community centre. Council heard from several delegates and Open Forum participants expressing their desire to keep that space available to rent.

Ultimately, Council voted to not proceed with the proposed move.

Rock Crushing Application

A public meeting was held at June Planning Council regarding an application from OBD Developments Inc. to extend its Temporary Use Zoning By-law Amendment allowing for rock crushing at its Summerside property within the Oak Bay development for an additional three years.

Director of Planning, Derek Witlib, presented Council with the application, which maintains the same performance standards as the temporary by-law set to expire later this year. Director Witlib highlighted that on top of following the same standards, the application is submitted with updated studies including a planning opinion, noise opinion, and air quality opinion.



Oak Bay's agent was available at the meeting to answer questions from members of Council, including questions regarding timelines and public outreach.

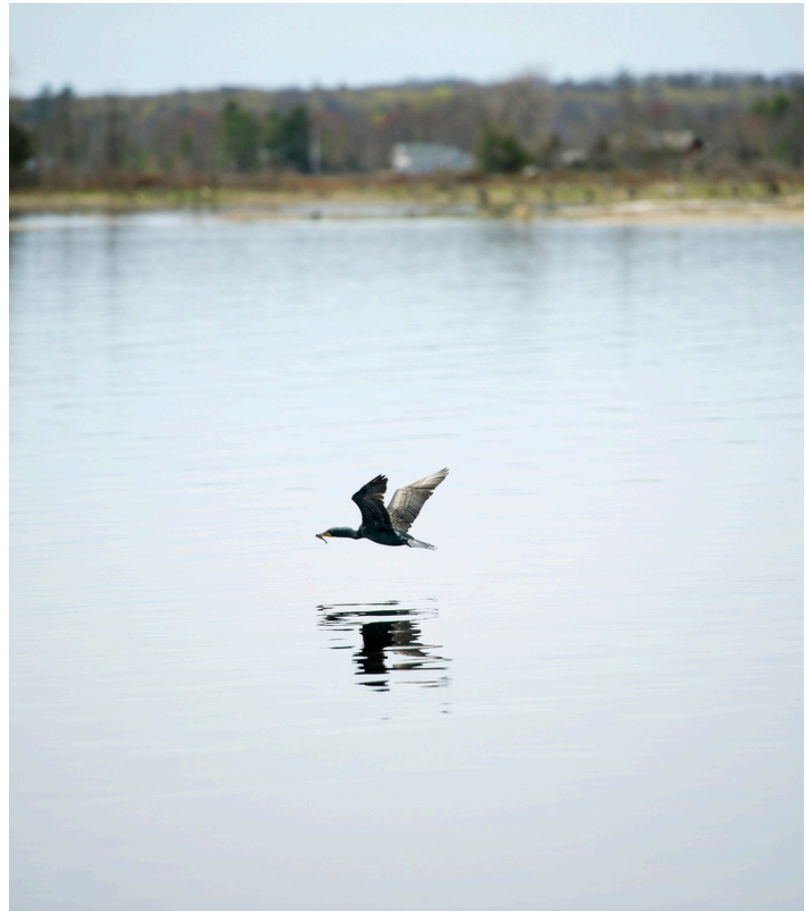
Planning staff will take feedback received through the public meeting into consideration and return to Council at a later date with a recommendation report.

Georgian Bay Land Trust Strategic Plan Update

The Georgian Bay Land Trust will develop a new Strategic Plan, setting the direction for the organization for the next five years.

The Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) is a charitable organization that works to hold and conserve land along the eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay for public benefit. The Township has supported the GBLT in various ways and has partnered on projects including the corridor project, which saw 553 acres of Township-owned environmentally sensitive land protected.

Andrew Young, Executive Director of the Georgian Bay Land Trust, and Andy Mitchell, consultant with Arising Collective gave a presentation at June's Committee of the Whole meeting outlining the process being taken to develop the new strategic plan, and how members of Council and the public can provide their input and feedback. A community survey will be available as of June 15, 2026.



By-laws Enacted

2026-037 - MLEO Student Appointment

2026-038 - MLEO Appointment

2026-039 - Sustainable Communities
Advisory Group Appointment

2026-040 - Refresh MacTier Advisory
Committee (RMAC) Appointments

2026-041 - Confirming Council June 1

2026-042 - SRA Closing (13258 Georgian
Bay Shore)

2026-043 - SRA Closing (200 Stewart Lake
Road)

2026-044 - SRA Deeming (200 Stewart
Lake Road)

2026-045 - ZBA (377B Macey Bay Road)

2026-046 - ZBA (227 Huron Trail)

2026-047 - OPA No. 29 (129 Millard Drive)

2026-048 - ZBA (129 Millard Drive)

2026-049 - Confirming Planning Council
June 2

Bill 98

The Township's Planning Department-led 2026/28 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Review and Updates has been put on pause while staff review and assess the impact of the Province's recently adopted Bill 98.

Bill 98, known as the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, received Royal Assent on June 2, 2026, officially enacting it to law.

The Act makes substantial changes to land-use planning, including mandating a certain framework to be adopted for all municipalities' Official Plans.

Nine topics originally identified to be a part of the review will instead be considered individually by Council during housekeeping amendments to the Official Plan and/or the Zoning By-law.

Planning staff will bring forward a report with a new outline for the review that conforms to the requirements of Bill 98.

Ontario SPCA Pound Services Contract

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society Midland and District Animal Centre will continue to provide pound and shelter services to dogs impounded in Georgian Bay under Township by-laws.



Council voted to renew the Township's contract with the OSPCA for another five years. The Midland branch operates an animal shelter facility in Port McNicoll and has provided services to the Township since 2017.

Fire Department Training Changes

Director of Fire and Emergency Services/Fire Chief, Chad Dowell, presented Committee of the Whole with a report outlining changes to firefighter training regulations coming into effect July 1, 2026.

Chief Dowell highlighted that the Georgian Bay Fire Department is already in compliance with the updated regulations, but that the Fire and Emergency Services Establishing and Regulating By-law will require updating in the near future.

Upcoming Meetings

Refresh MacTier Advisory Committee
Monday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Council
Monday, July 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Planning Council
Tuesday, July 14 at 9:00 a.m.

Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, July 14 at 1:00 p.m. or
immediately following Planning Council

Committee of Adjustment
Friday, July 17 at 10:00 a.m.