



JANUARY 2013
NEWSLETTER



TOWNSHIP OFFICE

45 Beatty Street
Nipissing ON P0H 1W0

PHONE NUMBER:

705-724-2144

FAX NUMBER:

705-724-5385

E-MAIL:

admin@nipissingtownship.com

WEBSITE:

www.nipissingtownship.com

MUNICIPAL GARAGE:

705-724-2194

ANIMAL CONTROL:

Sandy Briggs 705-724-2676

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Frank Kirstein 705-499-1469

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
*Closed statutory holidays and
Remembrance Day*

Council Meetings 2013

- January 8th & 22nd
- February 5th & 19th
- March 5th & 19th
- April 9th & 23rd
- May 7th & 21st
- June 11th & 25th
- July 16th
- August 13th
- September 3rd & 17th
- October 8th & 22nd
- November 12th & 26th
- December 17th

Council meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and take place at 45 Beatty Street, Nipissing.

All meetings are open to the public, everyone is welcome.

Minutes of all Council meetings are posted on the Township website.

www.nipissingtownship.com

Message from the Mayor:

One of the determinations of Council has been to expand and improve communication with you. We have an active website available where you can find information and share your ideas. We have devoted much effort into each of the newsletters we publish. Keep the newsletters available for ongoing reference.

Over the past two years, we have experienced significant progress with cell phone and high speed internet coverage. We are not finished with this initiative as areas of our township are still underserved.

Thank you to all who seriously recycle. Your dedication is giving us an opportunity to extend the life of our landfill sites and giving us time to prepare financially for the eventual needs ahead. The Clear Bag program will help us to encourage everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Finally, we are celebrating our 125th anniversary since incorporation as a Township. Wow! We have a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate our heritage and get to know our neighbours better. I encourage you to actively seek out a role to play in this special commemoration of 125 years as a community. I eagerly anticipate working with you and sharing in this wonderful celebration! ~ Pat Haufe

Payment by DEBIT now accepted at the Township Office.

2013 Budget Update:

The 2013 Budget process is on track. The 1st scheduled Budget Meeting was held Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the Township Office. The final budget meeting will be scheduled within the next few weeks. The date will be available on our website, in the Almaguin News or by calling our Office for more information.

Grant Update:

We recently received confirmation that we have been awarded \$21,558.37 under the Building Together: Municipal Infrastructure Strategy to create an Asset Management Plan which will put the Township in an excellent position to apply for future Infrastructure funding as it becomes available.

We were also recently notified of two successful applications under Industry Canada. \$72,579 has been awarded to us for upgrades to the Nipissing Community Centre, particularly in the Fitness Centre area and \$1,500 has been awarded for upgrades to the Museum Kitchen to allow for continued events such as the Strawberry Social and Heritage Day.

The Township of Nipissing would like to acknowledge and thank the Ministry of Infrastructure and Industry Canada – FedNor for these opportunities and we look forward to working with them on these exciting projects.



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STRATEGIC PLAN 2013 – UPDATE:

Council has reviewed the results of Public Meetings held in 2011 and are setting priorities for the next Strategic Plan Revision. Items being considered include Economic Development, Municipal Services and Communications, Marketing and Recreation and Tourism.

Based on feedback received at the public meetings, we have added for consideration: Agriculture, Collaborating with other Municipalities, Green Energy Initiatives, Historical Designations, Housing, Internet and Cell Coverage, Local Farmers Market, Property Standards, Public Education, Waste Diversion, Youth Retention and Volunteerism.

Please forward any comments you may have on these issues to admin@nipissingtownship.com to help Council guide the Township in a positive direction.

Township of Nipissing

Fitness Centre

**Located at the Community Centre,
Lower Level – 2381 Highway 654.**

Membership Fees:

Seniors (60+) – 1 year	\$150.00
Student – 1 year	\$150.00
Family (of 2) – 1 year	\$325.00
Individual – 1 year	\$175.00
6 months	\$ 90.00
3 months	\$ 50.00
1 month	\$ 20.00
1 week	\$ 10.00
Per day	\$ 5.00
Swipe Card Deposit	\$ 10.00

(Refundable upon return)

Hours of Operation:

7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

7 days per week

For additional information and to view images of the Fitness Centre please visit www.nipissingtownship.com.

For more information please contact the Township Office at 705-724-2144 or admin@nipissingtownship.com

HERITAGE PARK RINK

Please visit our website for the 2013 outdoor rink schedule.

For further information please contact the Township Office. 705-724-2144

We would like to welcome Stacy Moffatt to the position of Rink Caretaker for the 2012/2013 Season!

A Note from the Public Works Department

Ratepayers are doing an excellent job of recycling. Your efforts continue to increase and we are diverting large amounts of material away from our landfill, which will extend its useful life. For more information on recycling, please visit our website at www.nipissingtownship.com to download our recycling guide.

During this winter season, I would also like to thank those who are not plowing snow from private driveways or laneways across municipal roads. When this occurs, ditches fill in and are unable to function properly leading to washouts in the spring and icy road conditions in the winter.

Enjoy the season and drive safe!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Several areas surrounding us have established Farmer's Markets. We would like to know from our residents and producers if you would be interested in starting or attending a local market within the Township of Nipissing.

We have created a survey for your input. Please visit our website, www.nipissingtownship.com for a link to our survey. We also welcome comments by telephone, email, letter mail or fax. Help us bring the activities you would like to see to the Township.

The Council of the Township of Nipissing and staff would like to welcome Tracy Butler as our new Museum Curator. We look forward to the upcoming 2013 season!

SPRING 2013
NEWSLETTER



125th Anniversary Celebrations

Saturday, August 17, 2013 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Celebrations will take place at the Nipissing Township Museum, Heritage Park, Public Works Garage and Township Office.

The day will include children's activities, family activities, vendor exhibits, historical displays, live entertainment, open stage, artisan displays, food, beverages and fireworks at the end of the day.

The 125th Anniversary Committee met for the first time on January 16, 2013 to begin planning the August 17th event as well as other smaller events throughout the year.

**One event that we are hoping to organize is an evening of Photos, Memories and Friendship. The Committee is hoping to have this evening planned for late Spring but we need your input. If you have a photo display or video that shows the history of our community and founding families, we would love to have you present it during the evening event. Please contact the Township Office at 705-724-2144 or admin@nipissingtownship.com to discuss this event further.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ... VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ... VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 125th Anniversary Committee is seeking volunteers to help during the August 17th celebration and to help with various other events throughout the year.

On August 17th we will need volunteers to help out at Knox United Church, the Nipissing Township Museum and at Heritage Park and surrounding areas where displays will be set up. We are also hoping to have a photo/memory/social evening during the late spring, more details will follow.

High school students are encouraged to volunteer and have the hours count towards the school requirements.

If you are interested please contact the Township Office at 705-724-2144 or admin@nipissingtownship.com to be added to the team.

HELP US REMEMBER THE LAST 125 YEARS!

We are inviting everyone to share in the celebration. Write a song, write a poem, write a story or share a memory with words or photos. We will gladly accept all submissions at the Township office, 45 Beatty Street. For more contact information, please visit our website at www.nipissingtownship.com. We will also be listing all events and updates on our website as the planning continues.

We look forward to sharing this milestone with all residents, guests, friends and families!

Reminder

CLEAR BAGS FOR GARBAGE STARTING MAY 1, 2013

Last year we enclosed information sheets with our final tax bill and the fall newsletter titled "Clear Bags for Garbage Starting May 1, 2013".

This initiative is part of the ongoing waste diversion strategy required to extend the useful life of the Township of Nipissing's land fill sites.



2013 LANDFILL ENTRY PERMITS INCLUDED WITH THE INTERIM TAX BILLS.

Clear Bag Survey Results

We received, to date, 53 responses to our Clear Garbage Bag Survey with very diverse comments. For example;

1. Some thought it "makes you aware of what you are throwing out" to "they don't want items seen through the clear bags".
2. "I have been using the clear and light blue recycling bags for a few years" versus "Do not want to use clear bags".

It is encouraging to see that 98% of the respondents supported the current recycling program.

Currently, we estimate that 30% of our residents are using clear garbage bags. We anticipate most residents will be ready for the May 1st, 2013 implementation date.

ELECTRONIC WASTE

You can now bring your used & unwanted Electronics to both Township of Nipissing Landfill sites. Please deposit your electronics in the marked green containers at the landfill.

WHAT'S ACCEPTED?

Display devices such as computer monitors and televisions, desktop computers, portable computers, computer peripherals like keyboards. Items also accepted include photocopiers, printers, scanners and old fax machines. Cellular devices, pagers, home theatres as well as digital cameras, speakers and much more! Please visit the webpage to download the RECYCLEYOURELECTRONICS flyer.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Township of Nipissing residents can take all of their Household Hazardous Waste products to the HAZARDOUS WASTE DEPOT, FREE OF CHARGE. The Hazardous Waste Depot is located on 112 Patton Street in North Bay. The hours of operation are Wednesday to Saturday from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Items accepted: Batteries, aerosol cans, antifreeze, automatic transmission fluid, brake fluid, car wax and polish, degreasers, drain cleaner, gasoline/kerosene, grease and lubes, insecticides, metal polish, nail polish, mothballs, motor oils and waste oils, oil filters, pesticides, oven cleaner, photochemicals, rustproofers, turpentine, varnish and much more.

Please call the Wasteline at 705-474-0400, ext 2333, if you have any further questions.

Keep fire safety in mind as temperatures drop!

As we prepare to be blasted by chilling Arctic temperatures this winter, the Nipissing Fire Department is urging the public to keep fire safety in mind when taking steps to deal with colder winter weather.

The winter months traditionally see more fires in Ontario homes related to heating equipment and appliances. People need to pay close attention to potential fire hazards related to the use of fuel-burning appliances, space heaters and even block heaters in their vehicles.

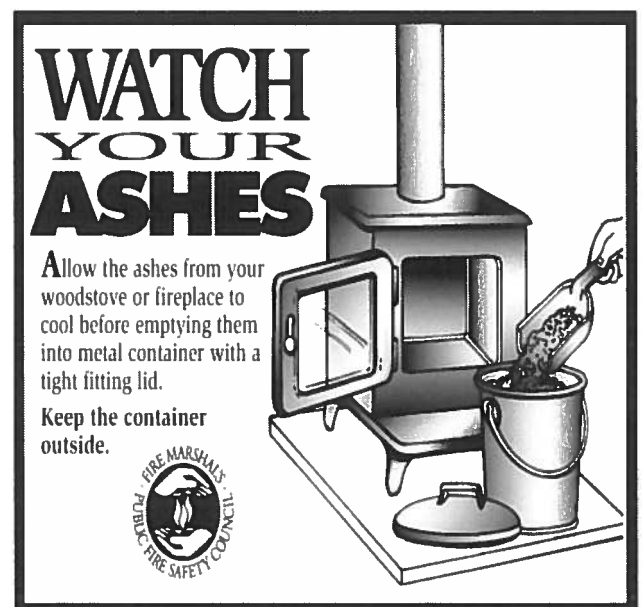
"Block heaters should be treated just as any other piece of electrical equipment around the home," explains Fire Chief Rob Serson. "Cords and connections should be in good repair and caution should be used to ensure circuits are not overloaded."

Important fire safety tips for cold weather include the following:

- ❖ Burn dry, well-seasoned wood in fireplaces and woodstoves to reduce the risk of excessive creosote build-up in chimneys.
- ❖ Allow ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid. Keep the container outside.
- ❖ Keep intake and exhaust vents for furnaces and heating appliances free of ice and snow accumulations to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide build-up from inefficient combustion. Install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms to alert you to the presence of this deadly gas.
- ❖ Keep space heaters at least one metre (3 feet) away from anything that can burn, including curtains, upholstery, and clothing.
- ❖ Replace worn or damaged electrical wires and connections on vehicles and extension cords and use the proper gauge extension cord for vehicle block heaters.
- ❖ Consider using approved timers for vehicle block heaters rather than leaving heaters on all night.
- ❖ Ensure that vehicles are not left running inside any garage or building.
- ❖ Ensure there is a working smoke alarm on every storey of your home.

The Nipissing Fire Department reminds everyone that the Ontario Fire Code requires smoke alarms to be installed on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Failure to comply with this law can result in a ticket for \$235 or a fine of up to \$50,000. If you require more information about smoke alarms or fire safety, please visit our website at www.nipissingtownship.com

For more information on fire safety,
please contact
Rob Serson, Fire Chief
(705) 724-2144



FROM OUR BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

We would like to share some information regarding how to properly obtain a Building Permit.

A complete application consists of: A completed application, 2 sets of scaled detailed construction drawings, and a site plan. The homeowner can create/complete all these documents. A new home requires an Energy Efficiency Design Summary page to be completed as well. We have supplementary pages available to help you with the process, such as a 'deck checklist' and a foundation repairs page. We are always prepared to assist you and answer any questions or concerns.



Benefits of Obtaining a Building Permit

- Prevents legal complications when trying to sell or re-mortgage your home
- To verify your project conforms to the construction standards set out in the Ontario Building Code and all other relevant codes and By-Laws, and to ensure general workmanship
- To ensure safe conditions and avoid personal injury to occupants and neighbouring residents

When Do I Need a Building Permit?

The Building Code Act states: 8.(1) No person shall construct or demolish a building or cause a building to be constructed or demolished unless a permit has been issued by the Chief Building Official. Construct is defined in the Act as: anything to do in the erection, installation or material alteration or repair of a building (in short).

It would appear that you need a permit for everything, but that's not exactly the case. For clarification regarding whether your project requires a permit, please contact Jeff Peppin, CBCO at (705) 724-2144.

Just remember, the Building Department works for YOU to ensure you get a proper job done. Knowing that the home you have just built or purchased has been inspected should give you peace of mind.

When Can I Start Construction?

You can start construction as soon as the permit is issued, paid for, picked up and **posted on site**. Note, an application submitted to the department does not authorize commencement. Starting prior to authorization can be dangerous and or costly. Not only does your project have to conform to the Building Code, it also must comply to the provisions of the Municipal Zoning By-Law, which is available online at www.nipissingtownship.com

When Do I Call For Inspections?

Inspections of your project will be required at various stages. Amongst the paperwork returned to you when you pick up your permit is a list noting what inspection stages to call for. Please note, the Chief Building Official is available Tuesdays and Thursdays, and inspections are usually performed in the afternoon.

When in doubt about anything regarding your project, it is encouraged that you contact the Building Department: Jeff Peppin CBCO at (705)724-2144, or email cbo@nipissingtownship.com

It's easier to do it right the first time and abide by the law, than work retroactively. Please get your permits ahead of time.

I look forward to working with you in 2013

Jeff Peppin CBCO