



*The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa  
Activity Report*



*Office of the Mayor*  
Ron Rody

<b>Prepared For:</b> Regular Council	<b>Report No.:</b> RR 2017-03
<b>Agenda Date:</b> August 8, 2017	<b>Period Ended:</b> July 2017

## **Preamble**

The following report is an Activity Report for the Mayor for the months of March to July, 2017. This is not an all inclusive list but rather a selection of matters that may be of interest to Council and deemed important or informative by the Mayor.

## **Office of the Mayor**

### **MARCH 2017**

#### **Wednesday, March 1, 2017**

Attended an Open House meeting at Sir James Dunn Public School as a member of the Accommodation Review Committee.

#### **Saturday, March 4, 2017**

Brought welcoming remarks to the participants of the annual Wawa Ice Fishing Derby.

#### **Tuesday, March 7, 2017**

Regular monthly Council meeting.

#### **Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

Attended the public meeting at the Legion to listen to a presentation on the results of the Wawa Housing Study.

#### **Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

Regular monthly Corporate Planning meeting.

#### **Monday, March 20, 2017**

Participated in a Finance Community meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Ron Rody**  
Mayor, Municipality of Wawa

**Tuesday, March 21, 2017**

- a) Delivered Meals in support of the Meals on Wheels Program.
- b) Attended a meeting at the EDC to receive information on the RBC – Blue Water Program.

**Thursday, March 23, 2017**

Attended the BIA Annual General Meeting.

**Friday, March 24, 2017**

Dropped the puck for the opening of the Girls' Hockey Tournament then visited the Youth Solution Council's Youth Curling Program.

**Sunday, March 26, 2017**

Attended the LDHC's Open House where they unveiled their new Donor boards.

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

- a) Attended the Wawa Energy Plan Implementation Committee meeting.
- b) Attended a Special Corporate Planning Committee meeting to receive the Budget presentations.

**APRIL 2017****Monday, April 3, 2017**

- a) Attended a Finance Committee meeting.
- b) Attended the Regional Mayors Group meeting.

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

Attended the Regular Council meeting.

**Monday, April 10, 2017**

Attended Strategic Planning Committee meeting at 3 Maple Street.

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017**

Attended the Regular Corporate Planning Committee meeting.

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017**

- a) Photo opportunity regarding the RBC Bluewater Program.
- b) Attended the Housing meeting.
- c) Attended the Police Services Board meeting.

**Sunday, April 16, 2017**

Attended a special meeting of the CCG to formally declare a State of Emergency in order to accommodate the evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation.

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

- a) Met with a representative from a local financial institution to discuss the institution's activities in the area.
- b) Attended the Heritage Committee meeting.

**Thursday, April 20, 2017**

- a) Chaired the Michipicoten River SAC meeting held at the Brookfield Office.
- b) Attended an Accommodation Review Committee meeting at Sir James Dunn Public School.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

Chaired the Algoma District Municipal Association meeting in Richards Landing.

**Monday, April 24, 2017**

Chaired the CCG meeting at 3 Maple Street. Updates on the situation with the evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation were discussed.

**Thursday, April 20, 2017**

- a) Attended the Wawa Energy Plan Implementation Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the Regional Employment Help Centre boardroom. Issue of composting was one of the main topics discussed.
- b) Participated in a meeting regarding the Marina. In attendance were Carol Hughes, Alex Patterson, Jim McHardy, Harvey West and Perry Kauk.

**MAY 2017****Monday, May 1, 2017**

- a) Attended the CCG meeting at 3 Maple Street.
- b) Participated in the Accommodation Review Committee meeting at Sir James Dunn Public School.

**Monday, May 8, 2017**

Attended the Accommodation Review Committee meeting at Sir James Dunn Public School.

**Tuesday, May 9, 2017**

Travel day to attend FONOM in North Bay.

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

The theme of this year's FONOM meeting was "Forward Thinking for a Greater North".

The Conference began with the opening of the trade show at 11:00 a.m. followed by a buffet lunch at 11:45 a.m.

The Conference's official opening was at 12:45 p.m. with welcoming greetings from Al Spacek, FONOM President, Al McDonald, Mayor of North Bay and Lynn Buckham, Regional Director of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

- Keynote Address was given by Steve Paikin, Canadian Journalist, Author and host of TVO's the "Agenda". Steve was a most interesting speaker who brought interesting and informative anecdotes of Canadian Political life.
- The Film Industry and its Impact on the North.

Speaker Tanya Bedard, Economic Development Officer, City of North Bay.

Tanya spoke highly of the film industry's use of Northern venues for filming and the huge economic benefits. Key to the success of this venture is cooperation and coordination.

- Knowing the Region: Economic and Labour Market Trends in Northeastern Ontario.

Speakers: Stacie Fiddler, Executive Director, The Labour Market Group

Ms. Reggie Caverson, Executive Director, Workforce Planning for Sudbury and Manitoulin

We learned that many communities, not just Wawa, are experiencing labour shortages, especially in the Service Industry. It should be noted that because the long form was not used in the last census much of the data is not fully accurate. Example – it may not be clear that where a person lives and where he/she works may not be the same place.

**Thursday, May 11, 2017**

The day opened with greetings from Andrea Horvath, Leader of the Ontario NDP.

- Connecting the North: Broadband Update.

Speaker was Randy McAllister, Senior Program Advisor, Broadband, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.

Randy brought insight into the challenges of many small communities to get a high level of broadband service to their community. Of note was Randy's comments that the fibre optic lines in Northern Ontario do have a limited life expectancy and plans are being devised now to eventually upgrade the lines.

- Updates from FedNor.

Aime Dimatteo, Director General of FedNor spoke about all the programs currently available from FedNor.

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- Opportunities for a Sustainable Northern Bioeconomy.  
Speaker Dawn Lambe, Executive Director, Biomass North Development Centre.  
Dawn spoke about the benefits and opportunities of Biomass. Dawn will be in the Wawa area to speak about this topic.
  - Multimodal Transportation Plan for Northern Ontario.  
Speaker Tija Kirks, Director of Policy and Planning, Ministry of Transportation  
Several consultation sessions have been held in Northern Ontario about this topic. Tija gave an update on the project. Eventual development of the Ring of Fire will lead to more transportation related developments.
  - Provincial Review of the District Social Services Administration Board Act.  
Speaker Richard Steele, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Community and Social Services  
Richard provided an update on the process and status of this review. Look for information on this review to come forward in the Fall.
  - Strong Municipal and Indigenous Relations Wiidooktaadwin – Working together and helping each other.  
Speakers: Al McDonald, Mayor of North Bay  
Dwayne Nashkawa, CEO, Nipissing First Nation  
Keith Robicheau, CAO, City of North Bay  
All three speakers highlighted the benefits of the working relationship between the City and the First Nation with examples of progressive projects.
  - Keynote: Premier Kathleen Wynne.  
The afternoon session began with a keynote address from Premier Wynne. She spoke about many Northern Ontario issues but the key topics were the Ring of Fire and Energy Costs.
  - Ontario Ombudsman – Expanded Oversight: Taking Stock After Year One.  
Ontario Ombudsman Paul Dube provided an overview of activities at the Ombudsman’s office. With a full year of experience Mr. Dube was able to outline the kind of inquiries his office has received.
  - In This Together: A look at Council Conduct and Staff Relations.  
Speaker Paul Cassan, Lawyer, Wishart Law Firm  
Paul’s focus was on the Legislation and Municipal Policies that allow a municipality to conduct its business by avoiding conflicts that can deter individuals and councils from their main objective.

The first full day concluded with the FONOM Banquet that featured several speakers and the presentation of long service awards.

### **Friday, May 12, 2017**

The morning began with the annual FONOM Business Meeting. Delegates approved the FONOM Budget and nine resolutions.

- Innovation, the Environment and the Future of Canadian Oil and Gas.  
Speaker Tim McMillan, President, Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers  
Mr. McMillan provided us with details of the current status of the oil and gas industry. Current reserves are excellent however, a challenge for the industry is that pipelines run North and South and the current business relationship with the USA is uncertain.
- AMO Update and AMO Policy Update.  
Lynn Dollin, President of AMO, provided an update on AMO activities.  
Monika Turner, Director of Policy for AMO, gave an excellent presentation outlining all of AMO policy initiatives.
- Ministers Forum.  
This year there were three (3) ministries in attendance:
  - 1) Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs
  - 2) Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy
  - 3) Catherine McGarry, Ministry of Natural Resources and ForestryAll three ministers answered numerous questions from the delegates. The majority of questions were handled by Minister McGarry and dealt with issues like Moose Harvesting. Next year's FONOM will be in Parry Sound May 9-10, 2018.

### **Monday, May 15, 2017**

- a) Attended the Regional Mayors Group meeting held at 3 Maple Street.
- b) Met with Lorne Morrow, Chris Wray, Alain Lacroix and Shelley Bzdell-Casey about the Magpie Forest ESFL.

### **Tuesday, May 16, 2017**

- a) Attended the Environmental Award celebration at the EDC office. Karin Grundt was the first person to receive the award – she was a most deserving recipient.
- b) Attended the BIA meeting at noon.

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017**

Participated in the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee meeting. The group's work is near completion and we will be looking forward to setting goals for 2018-2022.

**Thursday, May 25, 2017**

Attended the Ministry of Education Discussions on Rural Schools.

**Monday, May 29, 2017**

Attended a Canada 150 organizational meeting held at 3 Maple Street.

**JUNE 2017****Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

- a) Attended a Wawa Energy Plan Implementation Committee meeting held at 10:00 a.m. in the Regional Employment Help Centre boardroom.
- b) Attended the Regular Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**Wednesday, June 7, 2017**

- a) Met with our staff to review and update our plans for the Canada 150 celebrations.
- b) Attended the June Council meeting held in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017**

Attended the following four (4) meetings:

- a) 10:30 a.m. – Age Friendly Committee follow up meeting
- b) 1:30 p.m. – EDC Update from Maury O'Neill
- c) 3:00 p.m. – Canada 150 organization meeting
- d) 6:00 p.m. – Corporate Planning meeting

**Tuesday, June 20, 2017**

Attended the following five (5) meetings:

- a) 10:30 a.m. – Age Friendly Committee follow up meeting
- b) 1:30 p.m. – EDC Update from Maury O'Neill
- c) 3:00 p.m. – Canada 150 organization meeting
- d) 4:00 p.m. – Monthly EDC meeting
- e) 6:00 p.m. – Corporate Planning meeting

**JULY 2017****Saturday, July 1, 2017**

Unveiling of our new Wawa Goose monument. A wonderful day of celebration capped off with a fabulous Canada Day Fireworks display.

**Tuesday, July 11, 2017**

Attended the Regular Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers

**Wednesday, July 19, 2017**

Chris Wray, Maury O'Neill and I met with the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines to discuss local initiatives

**Monday, July 31, 2017**

Attended the Wawa Energy Plan Implementation Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the Regional Employment Help Centre boardroom.

**End of report.**