



Talpines POA Newsletter

FEBRUARY IS FINALLY FADING 🥰

SOOOO, WHATS NEW WITH YOU?

Sure feels like almost a year since we were able to see one another! We still have a ton of snow here in Waubashene but the sun is breaking through intermittently and temperatures are rising a little. There is room for optimism as our Simcoe Muskoka District health unit is announcing the rollout of vaccines to priority eligible groups beginning March first. Stay safe though, variants are lurking.

A FEW UPDATES

Tay Township now sends out summaries of Council meetings, so if you wish to receive the Council Highlights by email, subscribe to receive them at enews.tay.ca.

SHORT TERM RENTALS IN TAY

You can still submit comments in writing to Council about their **Short Term Rental (STR)** deliberations. At the public Council meeting on Wednesday, staff proposed a by-law amendment which would include a definition of Short Term Rentals, with proponents and opponents making their comments. You can still submit your comments in writing to the ad hoc committee studying the issue through tay.ca. McGill University has done some excellent research on the negative impact of AirBNBs on affordable housing, and community cohesion. The researchers have documented the influx of large corporations into the STR business across Canada. The large commercial enterprises are seeking unregulated locations and buying up properties. This is a complex issue since individual locals have rented out their cottages and run Bed and Breakfast establishments for many years, and wish to keep doing so. Tourism is important for our community and many residents work at providing services to AirBNBs. What balance is important to you? **PLEASE SPEAK UP!**

OUR THREE BRANCH LIBRARY SYSTEM

Recently, our Library Board, and Tay Council have confirmed verbally, and in writing, and in the local press, that they have **absolutely no intention of closing any of our Library Branches**. We're glad to hear it! The Library Board has reviewed the 2016 Library Master Plan adopted by the previous Council, and has taken note of the recommendations, including necessary upgrades to achieve accessibility. An adhoc Committee of the Library Board will be liaising with Council to discuss the recommendations in the Master Plan, many of which remain outstanding.

SIZE OF COUNCIL AND THE WARD SYSTEM

HAVE YOUR SAY

on the Tay Township Council Composition Review

HOW: Join the **Virtual Public Meeting March 17th @ 7:00 p.m**

- Share your thoughts and join the meeting online or by telephone
- Zoom Video Conference ID: **875 7515 4551**
- Join via Video Conference at tay.ca/meetings

- Join via Telephone Conference by calling **705-999-0385** (a local telephone number) and entering meeting ID **875 7515 4551** Or **1-647-558-0588** (long distance) and entering meeting ID **875 7515 4551**
- For technical support getting into the meeting please call **705-534-7248** x266

Check out the tay.ca website for a chart on the “pros and cons” of abolishing the ward system, and decreasing the size of Council.

GEORGIAN BAY FOUNDATION

The Georgian Bay Foundation made an excellent presentation to Tay Council about the rising water levels of Lake Huron, and the failure of the International Joint Commission to take measures to regulate the outflow of water from Lake Superior. Council will consider what action it can take.

WORLD’S CLEANEST WATER AT RISK: the TEEDON PIT ISSUE

Elmvale in Tiny Township has the cleanest water on earth, used as the “gold standard” against which other water is measured for purity. BUT, the provincial Ford government has permitted the extension of the Teedon gravel pit and the taking of water to wash gravel despite intense opposition by residents whose wells are silting, and environmentalists. Tay Council has supported Tiny Township in this monumental battle. WHAT IS FORD DOING?

FOCA’s SPRING MEETING

Director Christine Hurlbut has agreed to attend the FOCA spring meeting and to report back on the proceedings. Thanks Christine!

RECREATION IN WAUB

On a final note, I applied to be a member of Waubauskene’s recreation committee and my application was accepted by Council. I hope some of you will volunteer to help out with recreation activities in town for our seniors, and/ or youth and/or families. Drop me a line with your ideas, let’s get active folks!

All the best on behalf of the Directors

Victoria Reaume, President
talpines.ca

