

Community Services Department Update
NOVEMBER 2023

PARKS

- Fall clean up continues
- Staff are collecting picnic tables and outlying park garbage cans to be placed in winter storage
- Swans to winter quarters
- Plows, blowers, and salter implements are being installed on trucks and tractors
- Staff are starting 2024 annual flowerbed designs
- Winterization of irrigation system on sport fields

PARKS CAPITAL

- 2024 tenders for turf and tree tenders have been posted

CEMETERY

- Staff continue with:
 - Customer sales and service
 - Casket and cremation interments
- Winterization of irrigation system at cemetery

CEMETERY CAPITAL

- Nothing currently

TRANSIT

- All fleet disinfected nightly
- Hand sanitizer placed at front doors for customers to use when entering bus
- Gloves/surgical masks/disinfectant still made available to staff
- Plexiglass driver barriers will remain in place

Weekly Ridership:

2023 Monday-Friday	Ridership	Saturday ODT	2022 Monday-Friday	Ridership	Saturday ODT
Oct 15- Oct 21	10,330	260	Oct 16- Oct 22	11,733	213
Oct 22- Oct 28	10,901	214	Oct 23-Oct 29	10,290	234
Oct 29- Nov 4	11,423	261	Oct 30- Nov 5	11,818	224
Nov 5- Nov 11	11,238	217	Nov 6- Nov 12	11,438	184
Nov 12- Nov 18	10,465	228	Nov 13- Nov 19	11,107	198

TRANSIT CAPITAL

- **Approved Projects for 2023 (ICIP)**
- Accessible shelters (Project underway)
- Bus wash replacement (RFP scheduled for Winter 2024)
- Bus Storage/Facility Upgrades (Project scheduled in 2024)
- 40 ft. Hybrid Electric/Diesel Conventional Buses (2) (Production start date of Spring 2024)
- Magnuscards Mobile App (Project underway)

PARALLEL TRANSIT

- All fleet disinfected nightly

Weekly Ridership:

Weekly 2023	Ridership	Weekly 2022	Ridership
Oct 15- Oct 21	380	Oct 16- Oct 22	377
Oct 22- Oct 28	395	Oct 23-Oct 29	351
Oct 29- Nov 4	431	Oct 30- Nov 5	370
Nov 5- Nov 11	425	Nov 6- Nov 12	366
Nov 12- Nov 18	409	Nov 13- Nov 19	392

- Pre-pandemic ridership was typically four hundred per week
- Continuing to surpass weekly ridership

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

- Registration for the final PA Day camp of 2023 was full with twenty-six participants. It was hosted on November 17 at the Rotary Complex, where campers participated in a variety of activities including crafts, active games, group activities and individual exploration time.
- The upcoming Holiday Break Camps are currently accepting registrations for children ages 4 – 13. Over twenty-five spots will be available each of the seven days.
- The Agriplex Fieldhouse was home to the Ontario Badminton Championship November 18-19 and OFSAA Senior Boys' AA volleyball championships on November 23 – 25, 2023. The volleyball championship saw over twenty teams across the province participate and this year, OFSAA will celebrate 75 years of the organization's role in school sport.
- Santa's Parade of Lights planning is well underway with the event being held on December 3 from 5pm to 7pm. As of November 16, the float registration is full with forty-seven floats and three bands participating in this year's festivities.

- 14 indoor events occurred at the Rotary Community Halls in November, and 9 events have planning underway for December.

FACILITIES

- The Stratford Minor Hockey Association hosted the annual Silver Stick tournament (November 3-5), and the Stratford Minor Girls Hockey Association hosted the annual Festival Cup Challenge (November 17-19) at the Rotary Complex, William Allman Memorial Arena, and Dufferin Lions Arena.
- The replacement of the roofing system at the Stratford Public Library has been completed.
- The Rotary Club of Stratford hosted the annual Arts and Crafts Show at the Community Halls at the Rotary Complex on November 10-12.
- All outdoor and seasonal facilities have been winterized and closed for the operational off-season.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

- The reconstruction of the Tennis/Pickleball Courts at Milton Street Park has been partially completed. The drainage, fencing, and asphalt surfaces have all been installed. The remaining scope of work to still be completed is the acrylic surfacer and court line painting. This will be completed in the spring months of 2024 as the material must be applied with consistent warm and dry weather conditions. The courts will open in the Spring following the completion of all work.