

Community Services Sub-committee
Department Update
January - March 2025

PARKS

- First group of seasonal staff started the week of April 7th
- Spring cleanup has begun on Parks/Cemetery
- Inverness Park play structure RFP will be recommended shortly
- Swans are back on river (10)
- 2025 Festival Hydro pruning list complete
- Contractor working on work orders
- Inhouse forestry staff low-limbing neighbourhoods

PARKS CAPITAL

- Tender awarded for replacement of the park paint shop and lunchroom roofs

CEMETERY

- Office is open by appointment with walk-up service using an intercom system in place, staff continue:
 - Burials
 - Cemetery sales
 - Cemetery maintenance

CEMETERY CAPITAL

- Tender awarded for replacement of the cemetery office and chapel roofs
- Columbarium tender has been recommended to award

TRANSIT

2025 Monday-Friday	Ridership	Saturday On-Demand	2024 Monday- Friday	Ridership	Saturday On-Demand
Jan 19-24	10,224	263	Jan 21-26	10,424	225
Jan 26-31	9,442	238	Jan 28-Feb 2	10,239	265
Feb 2-7	10,723	221	Feb 4-9	10,974	240
Feb 9-14	9,959	233	Feb 11-16	10,734	220
Feb 16-21	7,679	267	Feb 18-23	9,007	262
Feb 23-28	11,326	211	Feb 25-Mar 1	10,766	180
Mar 2-7	10,505	246	Mar 3-8	11,500	181

Mar 9-14	8,833	197	Mar 10-15	9,729	160
PC Connect					
January 2025	1885		January 2024	1660	
February 2025	1696		February 2024	1828	

TRANSIT CAPITAL

- **Approved** Projects for 2025 (ICIP)
- Bus wash replacement (Completed)
- Bus Storage/Facility Upgrades (Project started and ongoing upgrades)
- 40 ft. Hybrid Electric/Diesel Conventional Buses (2) (Both delivered and to be in service April)
- New Transit office build to begin Summer 2025 (RFP posted)

PARALLEL TRANSIT

Weekly Ridership

Weekly 2025	Ridership	Weekly 2024	Ridership
Jan 19-24	426	Jan 21-26	388
Jan 26-31	394	Jan 28-Feb 2	401
Feb 2-7	448	Feb 4-9	362
Feb 9-14	425	Feb 11-16	359
Feb 16-21	357	Feb 18-23	371
Feb 23-28	420	Feb 25-Mar 1	390
Mar 2-7	405	Mar 3-8	394
Mar 9-14	412	Mar 10-15	363

- Pre-pandemic ridership was typically 400 per week.

PARALLEL TRANSIT CAPITAL

- Procure 2 Mobility buses in Spring 2025

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

- The Oneida Language and Beading Classes held its second event and attendance has tripled since the inaugural one. This program supports Truth and Reconciliation Initiatives through partnerships with Kaswentha- Two Row Now and Falstaff Family Centre.
- Staff have started the planning process for the Canada Day Parade and the Family Celebration in Market Square with updates to the website, and food vendor applications. Float registration for the parade will open in the beginning of May.
- Event staff successfully hosted the Provincial elections, including early polls, in February, and planning is underway for the Federal Election to be held in April. Currently, staff has 20 applications in various stages of circulations for upcoming outdoor events and in March supported 5 public events in the City Hall Auditorium including the Stratford Film Festival, Conestoga Open House, Springworks & Climate Conversation.
- Recreation staff held a very positive March Break Program with each day being at capacity and are currently planning for a sold-out PA Day on May 2.
- New Rink Board advertising fully launched in January 2025 and has since brought in \$31,736 in revenue. This has tripled the existing sales bringing the overall advertising total to \$46,903.

RECREATION FACILITIES

- Facility Maintenance staff have started the process of preparing the seasonal washrooms and facilities for opening on May 1st.
- The Provincial Skating Competition was hosted at the Rotary Complex from March 21st to 23rd.
- The ice surface on Rink A at the Rotary Complex was removed on March 29th.
- The Canadian Dairy XPO was hosted at the Rotary Complex and Agriplex on April 2nd & 3rd.
- The ice surface at the Dufferin Lions Arena was removed on April 5th. Recreation Facility Operator staff are now completing maintenance at the facility before they transition to the Packham Sports Complex for the spring and summer season.
- The Stratford Home & Leisure Show is being hosted at the Rotary Complex on April 11th to 13th.
- The project has started and will be completed by May 15th in advance of Lions Pool opening for the season in early June.
- This project will be completed in early June in advance of the Ontario Pork Congress using the gymnasium space for their annual event.
- The membrane waterproofing and railing replacement capital project at the Boathouse started in March. This project is expected to be fully completed by the end of April.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

- The roof replacement capital project at the William Allman Memorial Arena has been fully completed.
- The replacement of the lap pool liner at Lions Pool was awarded to Ontario Pool Coatings for \$125,640.
- The replacement of the floor scrubber machine at the Rotary Complex has been awarded to Karcher Professional Wash Systems for \$25,580. The new machine is expected to be delivered in May.
- The refinishing of the gymnasium hardwood flooring at the Agriplex capital project was awarded to Creative Sports Solutions for \$22,500.