

# COUNCIL NEWS

Northumberland  
county

March 23, 2011

## COUNCIL APPROVES 2.34% LEVY INCREASE

**COUNTY COUNCIL:** Jennifer Moore, Director of Finance, provided County Council with a review of the current Draft 2011 Budget position and the following information represents portions of Jennifer's presentation to County Council. The 2.34% Levy Increase was approved unanimously by County Council and County staff were acknowledged and thanked for their work on the 2011 Budget.

### 2011 Budget – Highlights

- ▶ ODSP upload frees up almost \$2.2M in levy dollars
  - ▶ \$800K Waste reserves & capital projects
  - ▶ \$500K will increase the Roads budget
  - ▶ \$233K will increase Social Housing reserves
  - ▶ \$217K will increase the EMS reserve for future base replacements
  - ▶ \$150K will increase the Facilities reserve for capital projects
  - ▶ \$142K will increase the GPL reserve for the future rebuild project
- ▶ Employer contributions to OMERS will increase \$170K
- ▶ The waste collection contract was re-tendered in 2010 and an annual savings of \$725K will be realized
- ▶ Several significant capital projects included in the draft budget:
  - ▶ Eagleson landfill remediation
  - ▶ Roads & bridges capital program
  - ▶ Replacement of windows at 860 William St.
  - ▶ MRF baler replacement
  - ▶ Replacement of 3 ambulances
  - ▶ Equipment replacement such as: snowplow, bulldozer, backhoe, hoist, roll-off bins, etc.
- ▶ Some initiatives deferred to minimize 2011 levy impact

### Tax Rate

#### Residential Tax Rate

2010 was .00486655  
2011 (draft) is .00471047



2010

.00486655 x \$200,000 = **\$973.31**

2011

.00471047 x \$200,000 = **\$942.09\***

\* Property owners will see the assessed value of their home increase

- ▶ MPAC assesses all homes on a 4 year schedule
- ▶ Changes in assessed value are phased-in over 4 years
- ▶ If a home was assessed at \$200,000 in 2010
  - ▶ The County taxes were \$973.31
- ▶ If the phase-in assessment of the home is \$210,000 in 2011
  - ▶ The County taxes will be about \$989.20

## 2011 COUNTY BUDGET....Cont'd

### Long Term Planning

- ▶ Strong focus on future needs in developing the 2011 draft budget
- ▶ Key considerations include:
  - ▶ Planning for long term capital projects
  - ▶ Developing funding strategies for infrastructure needs
  - ▶ Smoothing the levy impact from year to year
- ▶ Operating departments have developed 5-10 year capital plans and preliminary 5 year operating plans
- ▶ Key capital needs identified for the medium to long term:
  - ▶ Landfill capacity
  - ▶ Golden Plough Lodge rebuild
  - ▶ Bridge repair & reconstruction (e.g. Campbellford)
  - ▶ Social Housing capital repairs & maintenance
  - ▶ Sustainable road construction budget
  - ▶ EMS base replacement
  - ▶ MRF equipment replacement

### Draft Cash Budget Summary

Operating expenses	\$74.8M
Capital	\$11.6M
Debt Principal Repayment	\$1.2M
Change in Reserves	<u>\$0.5M</u>
	\$88.1M
Revenues (non-levy)	\$43.2M
Debt Financing	<u>\$3.2M</u>
Levy	\$41.7M

## 860 WILLIAM STREET PRESENTATION

**COUNTY COUNCIL**—At the February 16th, 2011 Session, County Council directed staff to prepare a report on the 860 William Street Issue Paper that is included in the 2011 Budget. Jennifer Moore, Director of Finance, reviewed the original business case and noted that the decision made by County Council at that time stands as a good financial decision. The tender for replacement of the windows and screening of the HVAC units on the roof at 860 William Street has been issued and requests bids for two options—one to include the HVAC screening and one for the window replacement only. The tender results will be presented to County Council at the April 20th Session for their review and consideration. It was the consensus of County Council that, if at the April 20th Session Council decides to replace the windows only, that the remaining funds be placed in the Facilities Maintenance Reserve.

### Option 1 – Windows & HVAC Screen, New Entrance



COURTHOUSE EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS

ARCHXES Design Inc. Architects

### Existing Ramp Entrance



### Current Issues

- ▶ Windows require replacement
- ▶ Grade of driveway
- ▶ Shallow curb a trip hazard
- ▶ Inadequate wheelchair accessibility
- ▶ Outdated entrance canopy
- ▶ Unsightly appearance of multiple rooftop HVAC units

### Option 2 – Replacement Windows Only

COURTHOUSE EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS  
(Alternative Design)

ARCHXES Design Inc. Architects

## TENDERS/RFP's/RFQ's Award

TENDER/RFP/RFQ	AWARDED TO:	AT THE BID PRICE OF:	BUDGETED AMOUNT
Quotes for Benefit Provider	Industrial-Alliance	\$2,482,969 annually	\$2,776,000
Tender #05-11 One Regular Cab Mechanics Truck	Pride Bodies Ltd.	\$77,204.29 2011 Model	\$85,000
Tender #06-11 One Snowplow	Francis Canada Truck Centre	\$195,392.43 2011 Model	\$225,000
Tender #07-11 Two 3/4 ton Crew Cab Trucks	Performance Chrysler	\$63,882.89 2011 Model	\$80,000

## RICE LAKE TOURISM RENEWAL INITIATIVE

Tourism Manager Eileen Lum showcased a video that will be on the new portal Web Site to be launched in **Mid-April**. The Rice Lake Tourism Renewal Initiative has resulted in a tourism partnership with local businesses and organizations with the goal of increasing tourism growth opportunities for the businesses located on and around the lake. The newly formed Rice Lake Tourism Working group, in collaboration with Northumberland Tourism and Peterborough & Kawartha Tourism, are working on several new initiatives including a new portal website **ExploreRiceLake.ca** soon to be launched in mid April and a new Explore Rice Lake presentation which will reside on the new portal site. Go to [p3itnow.com/RiceLake](http://p3itnow.com/RiceLake) for a sneak preview of this presentation.



YOU'RE WATCHING ▼ Time remaining: 03:33

Introduction

Chapter Selection

Explore  
Rice Lake

[www.ExploreRiceLake.ca](http://www.ExploreRiceLake.ca)

Presentation Powered by P3 © 2010



# REGION 8 TOURISM ORGANIZATION-PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Dan Borowec, Economic Development & Tourism Director, together with Eileen Lum, Tourism Manager, attended County Council and outlined the new **My Key My Region** which is a rewards card program initiative that is being launched mid March to the end of June. The **My Key My Region** program has been designed to build a competitive and sustainable tourism region that maximizes the collective regions' potential to successfully grow tourism spending in Northumberland County, City and County of Peterborough and City of Kawartha Lakes .



MyKeyMyRegion.com





**My Key My Region Program**



- Strengthen local resident awareness of the great experiences within our region
- 160,000 **My Key My Region** cards circulated, reaching over 50% of the region's population through \$70,000 worth of TV, radio, print and online media promotions for the program.



- Businesses will have complete control over the savings, deals, offers, giveaways or promotions they wish to offer, for example:
  - Offer 10%-15% off with use of card
  - "Upsize" an item for free
  - Employ a 2 for 1 offer use of the card
  - A free night's stay



**My Key My Region Program**

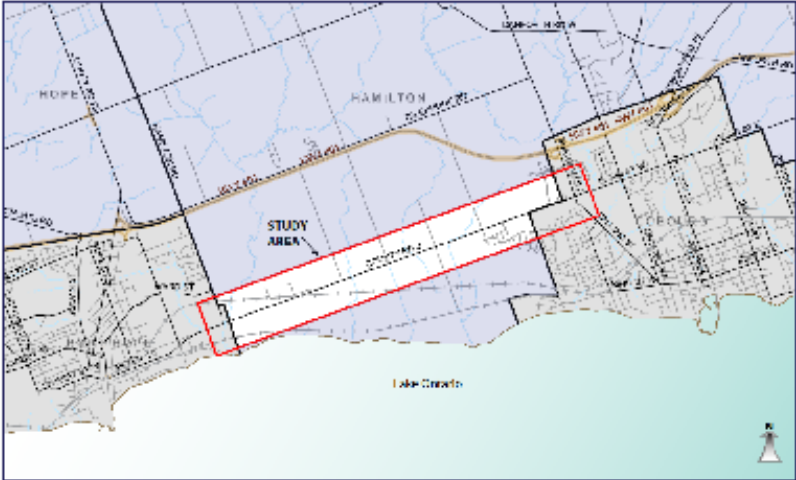
# COUNTY ROAD 2 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY

**COUNTY COUNCIL** – Tony Reitmier and Guinevere Ngau from HDR iTRANS Consultants, retained by the County for the Environmental Assessment (EA) Study on County Road 2 provided an update on the study. A Public Information Center is being held on Tuesday, March 29th, 2011, at which time the County will present the statement of issues for the project, a list of alternative solutions and the evaluation criteria for each alternative as well as the preliminary preferred planning alternative.

**NOTICE OF PIC #1**  
**County Road 2 Improvements Class Environmental Assessment Study**  
**from Hamilton Road to William Street**

**The Study**  
The County of Northumberland has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment for improvements to County Road 2 from Hamilton Road in Port Hope to William Street in Cobourg (see map). In order to best address operational deficiencies and the need for additional east-west transportation capacity in the area, a number of alternatives will be examined as part of the study including the potential widening of County Road 2, cross-sectional elements, intersection improvements, and the overall impact of improvements on the social, cultural and natural environments.

**The Process**  
This notice signals the commencement of the Class Environmental Assessment, a study which will define the problem, identify and evaluate alternative solutions, and determine a preferred design in consultation with regulatory agencies and the public. The study is being carried out in accordance with the planning and design process for Schedule 'C' projects as outlined in the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (October 2000, as amended in 2007), which is approved under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.



**Public Consultation**  
Public consultation is a vital component to this study. Two Public Information Centres (PICs) will be held for the general public to receive your input, comments and concerns on the study findings and recommendations.

At the first PIC, the County will present the statement of issues for the project, a list of alternative solutions, the evaluation criteria for each alternative and the preliminary preferred alternative. Representatives from the County of Northumberland and the project consultant will be present to answer questions and discuss next steps.

The first PIC will be held as follows:

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Tuesday, March 29th, 2011</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>County of Northumberland Headquarters 555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg</b>

**Comments Invited**  
If you would like to provide us with your comments, require additional information, or would like to be placed on the project mailing list to be notified about upcoming public meetings, please contact:

<b>Peter Nielsen, C.E.T.</b> Manager, Design and Construction County of Northumberland 555 Courthouse Road Cobourg, ON K9A 5J8 Telephone: 905-372-3329 ext. 2344 Fax: 905-372-1696 Email: <a href="mailto:nielsenp@northumberlandcounty.ca">nielsenp@northumberlandcounty.ca</a>	<b>Anthony Reitmier, P.Eng.</b> Consultant Project Manager HDR Corporation 144 Front Street W, Suite 655 Toronto, Ontario M5J 2L7 Phone: 416-847-0005 ext. 5545 Fax: 416-597-3127 Email: <a href="mailto:anthony.reitmier@hdrinc.com">anthony.reitmier@hdrinc.com</a>
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Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

# EASTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL NETWORK

**County Council:** Mr. David Fell, CEO of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) attended County Council on March 23, 2011, to provide an update on the EORN project.

## Eastern Ontario Regional Network

### EORN – What is it?

Network Superhighway with higher speeds, bandwidth and efficiency than currently exists

**Rural**



**Urban**



**EORN**



*Large capacity network that will serve at least 95% of E. Ontario's population & business with up to 1.5 Mbps and at least 85% with up to 10Mbps*

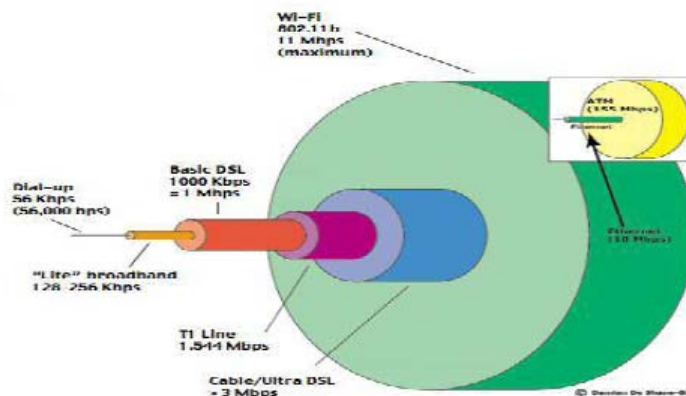


### Satellite Service Highlights

- Provides access to up to 1Gbps of satellite capacity
- Coverage extends across region – ensures no one “left behind”
- Two phases of service deployment based on existing and new satellites to be launched
  - Phase 1 = From Now to December 31, 2011
  - Phase 2 = January 1, 2012 forward

## Eastern Ontario Regional Network

### Bandwidth to the Consumer



For more information on the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, please go to the County Web Site at:

[www.northumberland.ca](http://www.northumberland.ca)

OR:

[WWW.EORN.ca](http://WWW.EORN.ca)

*Bandwidth at affordable prices*



## NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY FOREST CERTIFICATION

On March 23rd, 2011 County Council directed staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Eastern Ontario Model Forest program to obtain registration as a Forest Stewardship Council certified forest. Forest Certification is a tool by which a Forest owning organization can demonstrate corporate responsibility to the public and improve the marketability of their timber products. Essentially certification provides a stamp of approval indicating the forestry products were harvested within comprehensive environmental, social and economic standards. Certification can be an asset in demonstrating corporate responsibility and sustainable management of natural resources. Timber treatments in the County Forest already meet, and in many cases exceed, many of the established Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification guidelines. Since our last assessment of the merits of certification a year ago, the industry has indicated increased demand for FSC certified timber, and the EOMF has extended their geographic range to include Northumberland County. During the 2010-2011 Timber Tender we were asked by potential bidders whether or not the County Forest was certified. We only received two bids and the successful (highest) bidder has achieved FSC Chain of Custody Certification for their facility

The County has been presented with a very favourable, low-to-no cost opportunity to become certified under the Forest Stewardship Council certification in 2011 as a partner in the EOMF Forest Certification Program. The certification process and options are discussed below. The Eastern Ontario Model Forest Program is a leading example of this partnership. They obtain, hold and manage the FSC certificate from SmartWood and conduct all dealings with the forestry auditors. They provide resources and expertise to forest landowners and ensure that the certification criteria are being met. Essentially they make the certification process affordable for smaller landowners and bring them together in a common cause-the pursuit of responsible forest management and broader sustainability goals. Rather than paying the full cost of an individual certificate, landowners pay a proportional ratio of the EOMF certificate based on their property size. The industry is indicating an increased demand for FSC wood and timber, and EOMF is now offering to assist with certification. The ongoing costs of maintaining our designation should be affordable and approximately the same as registering this year (i.e. less than \$5,000 per year) and an extension of current staff and consultant roles. With funding being offered by the EOMF to cover at least 50% of the required gap analysis and to reimburse the initial registration fee, County Council concluded that the County should capitalize on this opportunity now while conditions for becoming certified are most favourable. The 50% of the cost for the County – estimated to be \$2,000 will be funded within the 2011 County Forest Budget.

