

IN CONVERSATION WITH CALVIN TOWNSHIP BUILDING TOMORROW BY WORKING TOGETHER TODAY!

ISSUE NO #4 | AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 1



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Rent Calvin Town Hall



A Message from Mayor and Council – On Target This Term

As the days of Summer/Fall 2022 continue to roll along Mayor and Council of Calvin Township hope that you have had a great summer and if you haven't, will be taking some well-deserved personal time off and enjoying the continuing warm weather. We as a group, want to also take a few minutes to reflect on the past four-year term of this Council as we head into a Fall municipal election. First and foremost, as a Council we certainly want to take the opportunity to thank all the citizens of Calvin for their outmost support, dedication, and feedback throughout the term. As a new Mayor and Council, we have dedicated much time to transition and training which has assisted us in understanding, undertaking, and completing new projects, by-laws and procedural processes associated to our governance role in this community. We have also faced many challenges including Covid 19, understanding the implications of this world-wide pandemic and how it impacted all of Ontario, including small communities such as Calvin Township. Following provincial guidelines, implementing measures to protect our own staff and community, and working together as a new Council to manage our budget, we were able to emerge over the course of this past year stronger and more prepared to move into the future.

Covid also provided all of us a new opportunity to work remotely, opening up new possibilities of economic development for communities such as Calvin. *Continued on Page 3*



IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER 2022 DATES IN CALVIN TOWNSHIP

September 20, 2022 – Candidates Debate 7:00 pm

Father's Day Spaghetti Dinner Update



\$3,000 Raised Thank you so much!

Calvin Woman's Association would like to thank everyone who participated in our Calvin Working All-Together fundraiser. We would like to thank everyone who donated to the silent auction, bake sale, and bake auction. The dinner was a great success as we raised almost three thousand dollars. Especially wonderful to see the support from the neighbouring communities for this worthwhile project. We all enjoyed the good food and great music but most of all coming together for the first time since Covid to support our community.



Municipal Office
1355 Peddlers Dr.
Mattawa, ON
POH 1V0

Hours of Operations
Monday, Tuesday and
Wednesday by
appointment only

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday Closed

Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m
Please note: open by
appointments only on
days of operation

Phone Number
705-744-2700

Fax Number
705-744-0309

Email
administration
@calvintownship.ca

Website
www.calvintownship.ca

**After Hours Number
for: Animal Control,
Road Concerns and
Livestock**



QUOTE OF THE MONTH – PROVIDED BY COUNCILLOR CASTELIJN

“Don't fix it if it ain't broke”

First, since I build and fly model airplanes, my favourite saying is, “Takeoff is optional while landing is mandatory.” As well as “Every successful landing is merely a controlled crash.” All kidding aside, I do not really have a favourite quote to contribute other than: “Don't fix it if it ain't broke”. I see too many people “improve” things that have worked well for many years. It is probably due to my age (76) and I have lived through the 50's and 60's when life did not change dramatically in a short time. Something Council accomplished is to get the new zoning by-law passed. This has been dragging on for many years and is now ready. Another thing could be to return to open, physical meetings now that the Provincial Government has cancelled many covid mandates.



We do have the video equipment to broadcast live for those residents that can not be physically present. One of the questions I get is, “Why are there so many closed meetings? Is not everything in the interest of all of Calvin?” My counter argument usually is, “Would you agree to have your name/situation publicly discussed whereby not everyone may agree or sympathise with you?” Plus, there are many situations in Council where it is mandatory that they be discussed in closed session because of privacy and confidentiality laws set forth by the Provincial Government. Something very positive is the initiative of the Calvin Women Association to fundraise for a fairly large project, even though it is not all worked out in detail yet.

Thanks for your support of Calvin Township. Councillor Bart Castelijn.

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL (Continued from Page 1)

Many new opportunities have come along for citizens who wanted to work from home or have had the opportunity to come and live in Calvin because they can work remotely. As a Council, Covid has opened up new opportunities for us to conduct the business of the community via on-line and live streamed to ensure greater transparency and accountability for all of us. As a new Council we have also had to work with a new Integrity Commissioner and the importance of this for every citizen should be clear. The oversight and compliance to the code of conduct should be and remain one of the most important aspects of Council administration and responsibility to accountability to their community.

The past few years have also brought many accomplishments and progress to Calvin Township, almost too many to list here in this newsletter. A few of the more notable goals and priorities for this Council included keeping taxes low and programs and services moving forward. Council also invested time into training, bought a new fire truck, provided funds for a new renovation, and upgraded the heating at the fire hall as well as added a new municipal garage roof and upgraded heating system, drilled new water wells, and installed both a new wheelchair access, renovated the women's and men's bathrooms and installed air conditioning at Town Hall for those requiring these, such as staff. The Town Hall is also dedicated as an Emergency Centre which is why the upgrades were made. With the assistance from a Provincial grant, Council purchased a new road grader for the Roads Department. Council also implemented a new electronic payment system to ensure vendors were quickly and appropriately compensated. This Council also adopted a new official Zoning By-Law which was years in the making and will place the community in a much better development position for the future.

As Mayor and Council, we also want to take this opportunity to thank our current and past staff at Town Hall for their patience and dedication toward the administration of this community. We have and continue to make staff a priority and we want to ensure they have a safe, strong, and healthy workplace here in Calvin. As we continue to work hard to close off this term of Council, we also want to thank those who have or will be placing their name on the election ballot for October 24, 2022. As a Council and community we should all have one goal when it comes to Calvin Township.....remember build tomorrow by working together today!

Remember Build Tomorrow by working together today!

Mayor Ian Pennell and Members of Council



CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL HOURS OF OPERATION

Please note: Shane Conrad the **CBO Chief Building Official** will be in the office at Calvin Township Town Hall on the following times and dates:

Wednesday – In the office at Town Hall.

Tuesday to Thursday he answers the phone and can be reached at 705-218-0899



Burning Regulations 2022

Make sure you know the rules for outdoor fires and follow safe practices. Each year dozens of residents and cottagers across Ontario lose structures and property to fire caused by careless burning. Your Fire Department would like to remind you that **outdoor burning regulations are enforced between April 1 and October 31.** If you burn, follow these steps:

Choose a safe time

Any fire is most likely to get out of control on a hot, dry or windy day. Burn during the coolest dampest and calmest time of day. **Two hours before sunset, or**

Stay in control of your fire

Many injuries are caused by careless use of flammable materials and underestimating fire behavior. Never use gasoline to start your fire as it is highly explosive. A

later, and extinguish two hours after sunrise.

Don't even consider burning when it is windy. Be aware that in the spring after the snow melts and before the grass and buds have started to grow, it is extremely hazardous to burn.

Choose a safe site

If you are burning an area of grass or leaves, make sure the area is surrounded by a fireproof boundary. Roads, ditches, or ploughed ground provide good barriers against fire spread. Your fire should be at least 18 meters (50ft) away from any structure or forest debris that might catch fire.

Put that fire out

Remember, coals can smolder for hours and hot embers can be blown by the wind, easily setting fire to dry grass or twigs. Drown hot coals thoroughly, and then cover with sand or gravel.

responsible person must be available to tend the fire at all times, even if it is contained in an incinerator. You must have adequate tools (shovel, rake) and water on hand to control the fire if it begins to spread. Use caution around hydro poles and be aware of overhead and underground cables. Be sure your fire does not cause irritation or inconvenience to your neighbors.

Keep your fire small

Small fires can be controlled by one person using hand tools and water. When burning piles of wood, brush or wood by-products make sure it's less than 2m (6.5ft) high and 2m (6.5ft) in diameter. Keep your fires limited to one pile burning per acre. Burning an open field is not a good idea, but if it is necessary make sure you have the equipment and people available to do it safely.

DON'T BURN DURING THE DAY

It is your responsibility to be aware of the Rules, Regulations and By-laws pertaining to outdoor burning in this area. Your municipality follows the provisions of the Forest Fire Prevention Act. The O.P.P. and M.N.R. have the authority to lay charges if you are found negligent.

At any time, the M.N.R or Fire Department may ban or restrict outdoor burning in this area until further notice. Be aware that if a forest fire results because you have used fire improperly, you could be held responsible for the cost of putting out the fire and any property damage that may occur.

If you have any further questions or if you would like a description of an approved incinerator, please call the Calvin Municipal Office 705-744-2700. A copy of the Burning By-law is available upon request from the Municipal Office or on the website www.calvintownship.ca



2022 Municipal Election

Notice of Nomination for Office Closed on August 19, 2022

The nomination period for the next Municipal Election opened on May 2, 2022. It closed on Nomination Day August 19, 2022, at 2 pm. For more information on the upcoming election please contact: elections@calvintownship.ca.



COMMUNITY EVENT

Municipality of Calvin All Candidates Night
Tuesday September 20th, 7:00pm to 10:15 pm
Held at the Calvin Community Centre

On September 20, 2022 we have invited all candidates for the upcoming municipal election to the Calvin Community Centre. The following format will be followed and more detailed information on the course of the evening's agenda will be provided at the event. The following are some of the details:

Speech Format:

- Opening speeches will be in alphabetical order and reversed for closing remarks
- Mayoral Candidates will have 5 minutes to speak for opening speech and 3 minutes for closing remarks
- Council candidates and School Board Trustees will have 3 minutes for opening speeches and 2 minutes each for closing remarks
- There will be a 45-minute Question and Answer session following the candidate speeches (Specific rules and procedures will be followed for this session moderated by two convenors.
- There will also be time to meet the candidates after the session Q and A is over. We ask that all in attendance are courteous and respectful of both the process and candidates.

Convenors

Jed Gorham, (705) 358-0827, jedediahgorham@hotmail.com

Wannetta Sparks, (705) 744-4000, wannettas11@gmail.com





MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

INFORMATION ABOUT INTERNET/TELEPHONE VOTING

The Municipality of Calvin will be utilizing telephone and internet voting for the 2022 Municipal election. There will be no paper ballots.

During the Voting Period which commences at 9:30 a.m. on Friday October 14th, 2022 and continues until 8:00 p.m. on Monday October 24th, eligible voters will be able to vote from anywhere they can access the internet or telephone.

All eligible voters will receive a Voter Information Letter (VIL) by mail. This sealed personalized envelope will contain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) and a telephone access number, a secure Internet address for voting and instructions on how to cast your vote. You will be required to use a PIN, and, along with your date of birth, you will be able to access your ballot. The personalized Voter Information Letter (VIL) will be mailed to you prior to the Voting Period. The VIL with the PIN is to be kept in a safe place until voting opens and should be treated the same level of confidentiality as reserved for your bank card and PIN.

VOTING PERIOD

The Internet/Telephone Voting Period will commence on Friday, October 14th, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24th, 2022.

INTERNET AND TELEPHONE VOTING SOLUTIONS PROVIDES:

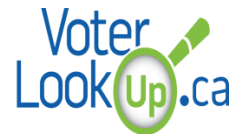
- ✓ Convenient and accessible voting,
- ✓ Fast and accurate election results,
- ✓ Does not require large gatherings at the polling stations as you can vote from comfort and safety of your home, and
- ✓ Utilizes the latest technological and security advances ensuring confidence in the integrity of the voting process

VOTERS' LIST

In order for eligible electors of the Municipality of Calvin to receive their personalized Voter Information Letter (VIL) they must be on the Municipality of Calvin Voters' List. Visit www.voterlookup.ca to confirm if you are on the Voters' List.



MUNICIPAL
PROPERTY
ASSESSMENT
CORPORATION



ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO VOTERS' LIST

Commencing September 1st a person may make application requesting that their name be added to or removed from the Voters' List or that information on the Voters' List relating to them be amended by completing and filing the *Application to Amend Voters' Lists* form which is available at the Municipal Office and the website www.calvintownship.ca





MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2022

NOTICE OF VOTERS' LIST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, the list of all persons entitled to be electors for the municipal election has been prepared by the Elections Clerk.

Commencing September 1, 2022, the Municipality of Calvin Administration office will accept revisions to the Voters' list.

You are encouraged to visit www.voterlookup.ca to confirm you are on the Voters' List. A person may make application requesting that their name be added to or removed from the Voters' List or that information on the Voters' List relating to them be amended by completing and filing the form which is available at the Municipal Office, as follows:

**Municipality of Calvin
1355 Peddlers Drive**

The application shall be in writing and shall be filed in person or by mail by the applicant or his/her agent. Proof of identity and residence as prescribed in *O. Reg 304/13* will be required of the applicant. If the applicant does not appear in person, a certified copy showing proof of identification and proof of residency/occupancy is required.

***** Please note that the Municipality of Calvin office is closed on Thursdays to the public and the telephone is not answered. Please do not leave messages.***

QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS

A person is entitled to vote in a municipal election if he or she on voting day,

- Is a Resident in the Municipality of Calvin, or is the owner or tenant of land in the Municipality or the spouse of such owner or tenant, and
- Is a Canadian citizen, and
- Is at least 18 years old, and
- Is not prohibited from voting by law.

**DATED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN
THIS 24TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.**





MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

NOTICE OF ELECTION INFORMATION

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s.40)

Municipal Elections for the Offices of:

MAYOR **1 TO BE ELECTED**

GOULD, Richard

PENNELL, Ian

COUNCILLOR **4 TO BE ELECTED**

ADAMS, Debbie

CASTELYN, Bart

CROSS, Sandy

DESJARDINS, Courtney

GRANT, Dean

LATIMER, Robert (Kim)

MORETON, Bill

OLMSTEAD, Heather

RODGERS, Jeremy

SHIPPAM, Christine

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE - ENGLISH PUBLIC (ZONE 2) **1 TO BE ELECTED**

GAGNE, Caren

LOUGHEED, Erika



RECYCLING BYLAW CHANGE



Due to covid measures the Municipality passed a temporary Bylaw allowing some divertible material to be included with garbage. This now has been rescinded and will no longer be allowed.

Sections 8 and 9 are expected to be followed. Please ask landfill staff for better information on recycling or and questions.

Thank for keeping Calvin's landfill lifespan in mind.

CHALLENGES IN EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT – 2022

It is no secret that Calvin Township has had its number of challenges finding capable, qualified, and dedicated staff to administer and manage the offices, as well as provide Mayor and Council with the bureaucratic support, leadership and guidance that is required to operate this community in an efficient and effective manner. BUT Calvin Township is not alone, and this is NOT a unique situation or challenge that only applies to this community but many across this province. In fact, it is becoming such a significant issue across so many small communities that anyone with any significant and base level skills in municipal administration could shop around for the best compensation, relocation, hyflex and operating package before committing to one specific community. Many small communities have to now invest, attract, and search out municipal professionals in a way that they would have never before. Communities with under 5,000 people are now hiring professional talent search companies to attract municipal administrators from other parts of the Province with lucrative contracts that involve relocation and other expenses. The days of overwhelming resume responses to search advertisements in publications is no longer the case. Small rural communities in Ontario are having many challenges attracting and retaining municipal staff and the choices to fill these positions are limited. Another option that small communities have turned to, is the hiring of less qualified individuals and significant time and money investment in “on-the-job training” activities that require professional trainers to come into the workplace on a contract basis to train while these employees work. Not cheap.

Regardless, the recruitment of trained and qualified individuals for Calvin Township was and will continue to be a significant challenge moving forward into the next Council term.



ROOTS AND BRANCHES OF CALVIN

Rick and Colleen Calhoun - Top of Algonquin Bed and Breakfast



Rick is originally from London, Ontario but has lived in the north since he was 24. He worked as a civil servant for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Environment for almost 40 years. **Colleen** is originally from Halifax, has lived in Ontario since she was 23, and has been a dietitian for the past 37 years. Married for 33 years they raised two children in North Bay, where they lived from 1996 until 2019, when they relocated to Calvin Township.

Colleen enjoys knitting, gardening, crafts, and horseback riding, while Rick enjoys time with his dogs, hiking and snowshoeing on his own trails and others in the area. He also enjoys lifting weights cooking and making music. As part of their plan to relocate to Calvin, they decided to open a bed and breakfast. They had searched for the perfect place to build a house for about three years and Calvin’s rural and undeveloped nature, the proximity to Mattawa and North Bay, the Trans-Canada Highway and the many parks and natural areas here made it the ideal spot. As a couple or together with their children they had stayed at many B and Bs across Canada, in the U.K. and in New Zealand and had many very positive and enriching experiences meeting people.

Moving to Calvin provided them with the opportunity to share what they had learned with others. **Top of Algonquin Bed and Breakfast** has operated for just over three years now and has been very successful to date. They provide their guests with a quiet comfortable stay and a big breakfast with a lot of variety that will last you well into the afternoon. “It’s a great way for guests to start their day before they head out on their excursions” says Rick. They say that meeting people from every continent and contributing to a successful and enjoyable trip brings them a lot of enjoyment.

In addition, through discussions with guests they learn about other parts of the world firsthand. “It’s like travelling around the world without leaving your dining room table”, says Colleen. In return, they share activity and recreation ideas and encourage all their guests to experience all there is to do here in Calvin Township and in the surrounding area as well as Algonquin Park and the Town of Mattawa. “We encourage all our guests to visit Maxwell Pottery, Eau Claire Gorge, Algonquin North Outfitters, Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park, Algonquin Park the Town of Mattawa and Antoine Mountain” says Rick. In addition, they encourage guests to make use of Nordic skiing and mountain biking and hiking trails in and around North Bay.

During our discussion, Rick mentioned that “a rising tide lifts all boats”. He believes that by working together, we can promote local business, attractions, and activities, and we bring more visitors to Calvin Township, and have them stay here longer. Tourists from near and far are anxious to experience the kind of rural lifestyle and activities that we all enjoy here, even if only for a few hours or a few days. What we consider common can be an entirely a new experience for a visitor. By sharing what we have here with others, Rick and Colleen believe we can all benefit.

Your View of Calvin!

Newsletter submission Section.

Do you have a beautiful or interesting photo of Calvin you would like to share? Perhaps it’s a view from your window, wildlife, a seasonal photo showcasing our amazing landscapes. Your image might be included in a future Newsletter. Click the link and send your photo and description to: administration@calvintownship.ca



Rent Calvin Town Hall and Fields for All Your Parties!



Hey Calvin Township!

We want you to know that Town Hall can be rented to all residents for a nominal fee. Think about holding your birthday parties, small weddings, baby showers or business conference at these facilities. Utilize the great kitchen and bar area for personal or catering needs.

Call or email us at Town Hall to reserve these facilities.

