

Greetings from Mayor Narry Paquette and Council

As another year draws to a close, it is time to sit back and reflect on the happenings and progress within the township.

Council had a busy year. The Township tendered and appointed an Integrity Commissioner, Audit Firm, and Planning Consultants. There is an updated Procedural Bylaw, Donation Policy, Tax Policy and Unmaintained Roadway Policy. The Police Services Board was merged through Provincial legislation with the Boards from East Ferris and Chisholm. This creates a more streamlined service for the community.

The Bonfield Medical Center was renovated and welcomed two new doctors to our community. We also entered into an agreement with the Powassan and Family Health Team for affiliated services to support the doctors and the community. A new Board was also created that will continue to work on efficient operations and towards more health-related opportunities for Bonfield.

Our Community Garden was a great success this year and we thank the community for your help and support with this project! We are hoping to make some improvements for next year to grow the yields so more people will benefit.

The addition of new equipment to the Public Works department will help us continue to improve the roadways, with ditching and brushing. The gravel program will continue with more projects earmarked for 2025. The addition of a compactor will help prolong the lifespan of our landfill. Our Public Works department has been working very hard to make these improvements happen and it is noticeable! We are hopeful to learn we were successful on the Development Road funding by March 2025.

We are also hopeful for approved funding for better communication infrastructure for emergency response early in the new year. Our emergency responders are valuable to the community and having modern radios and response software will make their job easier. Council thanks our Volunteer Fire Department members for their continued commitment to the community of Bonfield.

Council is also proud of our new staff members in 2024 including our Chief Building Official Mike, Planning Administrator Simon, and our Public Works staff Courtney, Stephen, Paul and Richard.

2025 will continue to be ambitious with the finalization of the Short-Term Rental Bylaw, the Trailer Bylaw, and Asset Management and Level of Service reviews and a website redesign. The Official Plan is with the Ministry and should be ready for adoption by the end of 2025, then we can start on the full review of the comprehensive zoning bylaw. Council will be introducing an amending zoning bylaw to address some current trends including additional dwelling units, accessory uses and shipping container as well as permitting hunt camps. Council is also excited to release a Strategic Plan in 2025 that will guide decisions and budgeting for the next 5 to 10 years. Stay tuned for more information and on how you can help shape the future of Bonfield.

We want to thank all the staff as well as our volunteers for their hard work and dedication for another successful year. We look forward to 2025.

From our families to yours, Merry Christmas and all the best in 2025.

• Mayor Narry Paquette and Council



Township Office Hours

The Office Will be close
December 24th at noon and reopen
January 2nd, 2025.

Public Works

As 2024 ends, I'm grateful to be part of the Bonfield municipal team and community. It's been a productive year for the Public Works Department.

Looking ahead, we're planning projects such as Development Road rehabilitation, expanded gravel programs, roadside improvements, and a bridge replacement on Trunk Road. With new equipment in the Township fleet, staff remain committed to maintenance and ensuring long-term value.

On behalf of Public Works, I wish all Bonfield and Rutherglen residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Alex Hackenbrook
Public Works Manager

Kaibuskong Park Rink Schedule

The outdoor rink will be opened up as soon as possible by our Public Works team, weather permitting. The schedule and rules are posted at the rink as well as on our website. Be sure to check our website for updates on closures and new events.



Public Works Hours

Closed: December 25th and
December 26th.
Closed: January 1st, 2025.

Landfill Hours

Saturdays:
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Contact: 705-776-2659

Winter Tips

- **Overnight Parking:** Prohibited on all streets from November 1 to March 31 between 12:00 am and 9:00 am.
- **Snow on Roadways:** Depositing snow or ice on roads is strictly prohibited under the Highway Traffic Act to prevent hazards for vehicles and pedestrians.
- **Give Plows Space:** Keep streets clear of parked vehicles and maintain a safe distance from snowplows to allow crews to work safely and efficiently.
- **Plow Routes:** Plowing routes are planned according to road classifications, with priority given to heavily trafficked roads, steep hills, and key connectors to secondary roads. This ensures safe and clear access for emergency vehicles and residents. See the Winter Operations Policy for more details.



2025 Upcoming Events

Bonfield Arts Festival Friday February 7th	Bonfield Summer Camp Wk 1 Week 1: July 14th - July 18th
Family Day Monday February 17th	Bonfield Summer Camp Wk 2 Week 2: Aug 11th - Aug 15th
Bonfield Trade Show Saturday April 5th	Labour Day Celebration Saturday August 30th
Easter Egg Hunt Saturday April 19th	Halloween Parade Saturday October 25th
Canada Day Tuesday July 1st	Soup & Chili Cookoff Saturday November 29th

Medical Centre

The team at the Bonfield Medical Centre extends warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

The Medical Centre will be closed to the public from December 23rd, 2024, and will reopen January 6th, 2025. Staff will check voicemails and faxes during this time and pre-arranged virtual appointments will take place as scheduled.

Property Tax Payments

- Interim Tax Bills will be due on the last business day of March.

Did you know Bonfield Township offers a Pre-authorized Payment Plan?

Benefits of PAPP:

- ✓ Payments are automatically withdrawn from your bank on a schedule that works for you.
- ✓ Never miss a payment.
- ✓ Avoid interest charges.

Dog or Cat License Fees 2025

Before March 1st - \$20.00
Dog or Cat License after March 1st - \$30.00
Replacement tag - \$4.00



Website Redesign

We are excited to announce that we are in the process of designing a new website. The new site is expected to be live in the spring. The goal is to provide the community with a full, user-friendly website that will improve communications. We will be conducting a survey to get your input, the survey will be available on our website at: www.BonfieldTownship.com



Celebrate the Arts

The Recreation & Fitness Committee is thrilled to introduce Celebrate the Arts, a brand-new event celebrating Bonfield’s cultural diversity, heritage and historical significance. We are proud to acknowledge the support of the Ontario Arts Council and the Government of Ontario for making this event a reality. The event will begin Friday February 7th, 2025 at 7:00 pm with a 90 minute performance from Rendez-Vous, who will showcase traditional Métis fiddle tunes, Métis individual/group dances, as well as Métis, French and Irish lyrical songs.

While the event celebrates our rich heritage, it also looks ahead to the future with innovative art installations planned for Spring 2025 in Kaibuskong Park. Stay tuned for more details!

Fire Department



As the holiday season approaches, the Fire Department wants to remind you to prioritize fire safety to ensure a joyous and safe Christmas for you and your loved ones.

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns, and never leave them unattended.
- Inspect holiday lights each year before putting them up, and discard any with frayed or pinched wires.
- Water your Christmas tree daily to prevent it from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.
- Never leave cooking unattended, especially when preparing festive meals.
- Ensure working smoke alarms are installed on all levels of your home and test them weekly.

Bonfield Public Library

Happy Holidays! On behalf of the Bonfield Public Library Board and staff we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

December 20th - 23rd - Regular Hours
December 24th, 25th and 26th - **Closed**
December 27th - 30th - Regular Hours
December 31st and January 1st, 2025 - **Closed**

For updates, Follows us on Facebook and/or website: www.bonfieldpubliclibrary.ca



Expanding Your Horizons

Bonfield Food Bank

Open the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
Time: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
Location: 408 Gagnon Street

Contact: Denise Raymond for more information 705-776-1091.

Support those in need in our community, by donating food, toiletries and shelf stable items.

Family Life Centre

Open: Bi-weekly on Saturdays
Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
Location: 408 Gagnon Street

The Family Life Centre will be closed for the season starting December 15th, 2024 and will reopen Saturday March 15th, 2025. During this time the drop off port will be closed. To make arrangements for drop off please contact Denise Raymond at 705-776-1091.

Contacts Carol Snook 705-776-9720
Pauline Dion 705-776-7719



Funding provided by the Ontario Arts Council:



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CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

