

Economic Development Strategic Plan

Adopted by Council at the November meeting, this comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan will help guide future decisions in economic and community development. The plan outlines relevant goals, objectives and priorities and presents realistic and doable actions.

The goals include:

- Review & Realign the Investment Attraction Program
- Support Local Business
- Foster Heritage, Arts, and Culture
- Build on the Tourism Sector
- Support the Retail Sector

The Strategic Plan sets the foundation for success in the Town of Gravenhurst by identifying aspects of economic development that need improvement and supporting staff in addressing those shortcomings.



GRAVENHURST WINTER CARNIVAL

FEB 14-17

Join Skokie for a weekend full of entertainment and activities for the whole family!

NEW: Brent & Sarah LAUGH OUT LOUD MAGIC
Feb 16 at 10 am

You "OTTER" be there!
GravenhurstWinterCarnival.ca

Recreation Programs

The Town of Gravenhurst is home to a wide range of recreational, arts and cultural programs for youth, adults and seniors.

- Archery Tag
- Community Gardens
- Cornhole & Dodgeball
- FitKids Challenge
- Gaming
- Get Your Bounce On! (Mini Trampoline Fitness)
- March Break
- Mini Chefs in Training & Kids' Kitchen Adventures
- Nordic Ski Pole Walking
- Public Skating
- Speed Meet & Mingle
- Swimming Lessons
- Winter Tracks

Sound interesting? Visit our website to see current programs and registration details.

Gravenhurst.ca/Recreation



What's On!



- FEB 01 Classic Troubadours Live
- FEB 07 Tommy Youngsteen presents "Rumours"
- FEB 11 CHOIR! CHOIR! CHOIR!
- FEB 16 Brent & Sarah Laugh Out Loud Magic
- FEB 21 Off the Rock: Tribute to Great Big Sea
- FEB 28 Susan Aglukark This Child 30th Anniversary

The Gravenhurst CONNECTION

The Town of Gravenhurst Quarterly Newsletter

January 2025



Updates at a Glance

Council Approves 2025 Budget

Gravenhurst council members approved the 2025 budget in December.

Included in the budget are key investments in infrastructure, programs, and services.

The 2025 budget for the Town of Gravenhurst means a tax rate increase of 4.6 per cent. For property owners, the budget means an increase of \$26.33 per \$100,000 of assessment on the town share of the Gravenhurst property tax bill.

When the estimated District of Muskoka and school board tax rates are factored in, the property tax bill increase is \$70 per \$100,000 of assessment on an urban property and \$55 per \$100,000 of assessment on a rural property.

Residents should expect to see a 5.4 per cent increase on their 2025 property tax bill.

See Gravenhurst.ca for full details.

Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the inaugural issue of The Gravenhurst Connection.

We're happy to bring you this update and we hope you find the information helpful.

Remember, you can access municipal information at any time by visiting Gravenhurst.ca.

On behalf of council and staff, I wish you a Happy New Year.

Heidi Lorenz,
Mayor.



Winter Tips, Info & Events



WINTER OPERATIONS

It's snow season Gravenhurst! Help our plows by not parking overnight on public roads, not pushing snow from your property onto sidewalks/street, & not blocking the sidewalk when you park in your driveway. A reminder that from November 1st to April 30th there is no overnight parking on roads from 12 am to 7 am.

For more tips visit: Gravenhurst.ca/WinterOperations



PUBLIC SKATING

There are two outdoor ice surfaces at the Muskoka Wharf. The rinks are open seasonally as weather and conditions permit. This facility is unsupervised, please use at your own risk and be respectful to all patrons with all skill levels.

For skating programs at the Graeme Murray Arena check out our event calendar: Gravenhurst.ca/Events



NAME THE PLOW!

Betty Whiteout (pictured) and *Clearopathra* are our two new snowplows. We named them last year through our 'Name the Plow' contest on Engage Gravenhurst. Watch for the plows on local roads this winter.



Council Highlights

OCTOBER: Council receives Housing Needs Assessment

The report identifies four needs and recommends a series of actions the town should focus on.

OCTOBER: Town looking at Wharf Sports Field's Future

Council authorized the relocation of the Gravenhurst Farmers' Market to Gull Lake Rotary Park and agreed to allocate funds to look at repurposing the sports field as an outdoor recreation hub.

SEPTEMBER: Council OKs user fees and charges for 2025

The purpose of the town's fees and charges is to recover some, or all, of the costs associated with a related service or enforcement.

Stay in touch with us!

Visit our website for more Council highlights and all your Town of Gravenhurst updates.



You can watch Council meetings on our YouTube channel. Visit our website: Gravenhurst.ca/Livestream



Parks Crew
Waterfront Instructor/Lifeguards & Beach Patrol

Infrastructure Office Assistant

Septic Re-Inspection Program

Summer Children's Program Coordinator (Gravenhurst Public Library)

Hey Students!

We have Jobs for you this summer!

APPLY NOW!





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