

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

Department: Economic Development

Month: December 2024/January 2025

Funding Opportunities

- The EDO, Supervisor of Community and Recreation, and Library CEO applied to the Seniors Community Grant on behalf of the Age-Friendly Committee.
- With assistance with the PW Administrative Coordinator, an application was submitted to Canada Summer Jobs in December for funds to help offset the summer student positions.
- Some 2025 deadlines for Ontario Trillium Foundation Grants are coming up:
 - Capital Grant: Application period is from February 5 to March 5, 2025
 - Seed Grant: Application period is from July 23 to August 20, 2025
 - Grow Grant: Application period is from October 8 to November 5, 2025
 - Youth Opportunities Fund
 - **System Innovations Grant**
 - Application period November 5, 2024 to March 12, 2025
 - Deadline for lead organizations to complete the required pre-application coaching call: February 19, 2025
 - Deadline for lead organizations to submit the Organization Information: February 26, 2025
 - **Youth Innovations and Family Innovations Grant:**
 - Application period January 6, 2025 to July 9, 2025
 - Expression of interest deadline: April 9, 2025
- Conversations with NOHFC & FedNor representatives regarding additional recreation projects and potential funding models.
- Circulated the Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants to Fire & Environmental Services departments.

Community Improvement Plan

- Council made the decision in November/December meetings to pause the Tax Increment Grant portion of the CIP.
- The final Improvement Stream rebate payment for 2024 expenses will be paid out by the end of January.
- Economic Development had collaborated with the Building Department to develop information guides to assist those interested in building Additional Residential Units (ARUs) on their properties. The four guides are currently under

their final reviews and will be available very shortly: Building a Legal Basement Apartment, Building an Above Garage Apartment, Building an Accessory Dwelling, and breaking down the changes to the 2025 Ontario Building Code.

Business Development

- The EDO continues to encourage all new and existing business owners to ensure their listing information is up to date. Radio ad campaign is continuing to run on an ongoing basis around other special event campaigns to advertise the directory and to bring local businesses into compliance with the Business Registration By-law 1816.
- Administrative Assistant and Deputy Clerk assisted with responding to inquiries about previous business registrations and the business registry By-law.
- Responded to inquiries from out-of-town developers regarding commercial property identification, community demographics, and market potential.

Community Development

- The EDO continues to work with the Recreation Department and Public Library to implement funding projects relating to the Age-Friendly Plan and increasing accessibility in rec and leisure spaces.
- The EDO assisted the Library CEO and Archives Intern with community history research projects.

Marketing

- Social Media
 - December Highlights:
 - Shared reminder of Winter Parking Bylaw in advance of first large snowfall of the winter.
 - Shared winter driving preparation tips.
 - Circulated Regional & Espanola Care Van holiday hours.
 - Advertised the annual *Light Up the Night* residential decorating contest & posted winners.
 - Promoted holiday sale on recreation passes and memberships.
 - Shared holiday swim, skate, and department hour schedules.
 - January Highlights
 - Announced the dates of the annual Winter Carnival for February.
 - Two notices of watermain breaks, and fixes posted.
 - Shared post from Minister Lisa Thompson about her visit to Espanola and the OMPF funding announcement.
 - Shared job posting for Deputy Treasurer.
 - Shared the opening of the 2025 Starter Company Plus program through the Sudbury Regional Business Centre.
- The tourism swag line added some new items in December. Thanks to some avid holiday shoppers, some colours/sizes sold out before the holiday break!
 - Swag continues to make its round through prizes/giveaways and donations to community events made by various departments.

Department Manager: L. Nadeau

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