

Progress Report

4. Partnerships and Communications

Goal: To form strong partnerships with external agencies such as the Region of Durham, volunteer groups and other municipalities.

In 2007:

- Launched a new refreshed, reorganized and accessible website, and developed additional ways to communicate the work of the Township through "Council Highlights" and "Budget Highlights" Newsletters.
- Facilitated the addition of broadband to the Industrial Area in partnership with the Province, the Region and a local Independent Service Provider.
- Celebrated the fall harvest with a Gates Open event including a Farmer's Market and a pancake breakfast, featuring local ingredients, hosted by the Scugog Chamber of Commerce.
- Hosted a Tri-Council meeting with Uxbridge and Brock which resulted in influencing Regional Transit to develop the 950 Uxbridge/Port Perry/UOIT route.
- Initiated an Adopt a Road and Adopt a Park program to help keep the Township cleaner and more scenic - 6 local volunteer groups have already signed up.
- The Mayor's Youth Council, in partnership with the Durham District School Board, has increased communication with the youth in the Township.
- Supported the Scout Hall Restoration Committee in securing funding for further improvements to this youth facility through Phase II of the project.

5. Excellence in Public Administration

Goal: To excel in effective delivery of municipal services to the Township residents

In 2007:

- Reorganized the Planning and Public Works department in line with our current growth projections.
- Maintained a strong fiscal position substantiated through the 2006 Financial Audit.
- Completion and approval of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan that will guide future departmental decisions.
- Introduced Farm Tax Deferral Pilot Program to assist with timing of paying taxes for agricultural lands.
- Appointed an Investigator to look into all requests for an investigation on whether the municipality or local board has complied with the new open and closed meeting requirements in the Municipal Act and Procedural By-Law.
- Ensured the transparency and accountability objectives of the Municipal Act, 2001 were met by adopting a new Procedural By-Law and policies to address Delegation of Authority, Notice requirements, Accountability and Transparency and the Procurement of Goods and Services.

6. Land Use Planning and Growth Management

Goal: To ensure that land use and growth decisions are consistent with approved plans and desired outcomes for the community.

In 2007:

- In cooperation with KRCA, Scugog developed its first Conservation Easement in the vicinity of St. Christopher's Beach – this is an agreement on private lands to provide for the conservation and restoration of important natural areas.
- Commenced a statutory review of the 1998 Official Plan to ensure consistency with current Regional and Provincial land use policies.

- As part of the Official Plan Review, conducted 3 day planning charrette involving both public and agency input to develop concepts for Downtown Strategy.
- Processed 321 building permit applications with a value of \$19,282,748.
- Approved the new commercial development at the west-end in keeping with the Township Official Plan.
- Approved the development of 100 new seniors apartments at Community Life Care and 49 new condos on Shanley Street.
- Conducted an Accommodation Study which provided guidelines for improvements to the existing supply as well as recommendations for new accommodation facilities.

