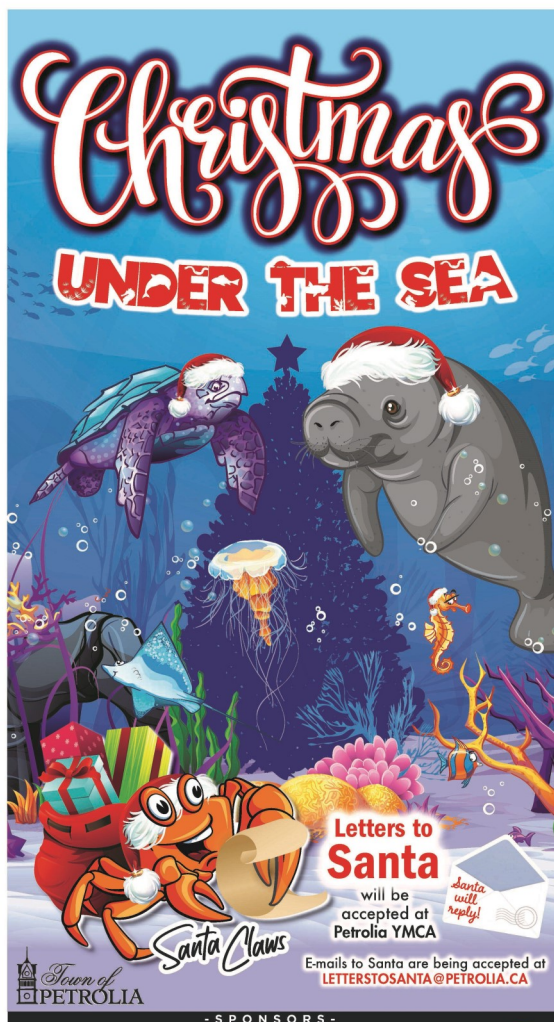


# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

A monthly publication of all things Petrolia!



**FRI DEC 2**

JOIN US FOR  
**Christmas in the Park**

Victoria Park  
• 6PM-8PM •  
**LIGHTING OF THE LIGHTS**  
6 PM  
**CHILI**  
6 PM  
**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE**  
bring a homemade/non-returnable ornament to hang on the tree  
**NEW LIFE ASSEMBLY BAND MUSIC**  
**NATIVITY PHOTO BOOTH**  
Bring Your Camera  
LAMBTON CENTRAL PETROLIA OPTIMIST  
**ANGEL TREE**  
**HOT DRINKS AND FREE COOKIES**  
**WAGON RIDES**  
Bring the whole family!  
**FUN FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**  
Sponsored by Town of Petrolia, Community Services Committee and your Local Service Clubs.

**SAT DEC 3**

• 10AM-3PM •  
**CHRISTMAS OUTDOOR MARKET**  
AT PETROLIA FARMERS MARKET  
396 Fletcher Street  
• 2:00PM •  
**SANTA CLAUS PARADE**  
THEME: UNDER THE SEA  
Immediately after the Parade  
**SANTA AT PETROLIA YMCA**  
360 Tank Street  
Get your picture taken with Santa  
The Petrolia Camera Club will be there to take photos!  
Sponsored by Lambton Central Petrolia Optimist Club



## BY-LAW CONTACTS

Water related Emergency, call 1-888-522-0117  
Public Works Emergency (non water), call 519-882-2351  
General By-Law Enforcement, call 519-845-5420  
Parking Enforcement, call 519-312-1238  
Animal Control, call 519-287-2974  
or reach us through our online portal <https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/CitizenEngagement.aspx>

**We are always here to answer your questions!** Please call us at (519)882-2350 from Monday—Friday, reach out to us on Facebook or Twitter or send an e-mail to [petrolia@petrolia.ca](mailto:petrolia@petrolia.ca)

Do you want the monthly Petrolia Connection delivered to your e-mail inbox? Send an e-mail to [petrolia@petrolia.ca](mailto:petrolia@petrolia.ca)

## IODE MEETINGS:

2nd Monday of Each Month—December through June Please contact Wendy Loosley for more information! (519)882-2073 Or visit [www.iodemargaretstokespetrolia.ca](http://www.iodemargaretstokespetrolia.ca) or find us on Facebook!



**REMINDER: OVERNIGHT STREET PARKING ENDED October 31.**



Thank you!



# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

A monthly publication of all things Petrolia!

## DECEMBER EVENTS

Nov. 25—Dec. 10—"Starbright Christmas" on stage at Victoria Hall

Dec. 16-18—Victoria Playhouse Petrolia presents "The VPP Christmas Jamboree"

2—Christmas in the Park, Victoria Park

3—Petrolia Christmas Market—10am-3pm, Petrolia Farmers' Market Site

3—Petrolia Santa Claus Parade, downtown, 2pm

3—Santa at the Y, after the parade—Lambton Central Petrolia Optimist Club

3—Letters to Santa accepted at Petrolia YMCA

6—YMCA Living & Active Program starts and runs for 12 weeks—free—sign up at the Y

6 & 7—All Service Clubs Christmas for Everyone Luncheon

8—Lambton Central Petrolia Optimist Club Christmas Meat Raffle at Crabby Joe's

9—Petrolia Lions Annual Christmas Draw takes place—tickets on sale now

16—Last day for leaf collection weather permitting

16-18—Victoria Playhouse Petrolia presents "The VPP Christmas Jamboree" on stage at Victoria Hall—tickets at the Victoria Hall Box Office, online at [www.thevpp.ca](http://www.thevpp.ca) or by phone at (519)882-1221

23 @ 4:30 p.m.—Municipal Office Closed for the Holidays and facility carpet and deep cleaning—Municipal Office will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

January 3—Residents can place real Christmas trees at the curb free of decorations for collection—please do not wrap trees



## RECURRING EVENTS

Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Planner Hours at Town Hall

Every Thursday – Lambton Central Optimist Meat Raffles at Crabby Joe's Petrolia 6-8pm

Every Thursday – Petrolia Lions Club Meat Raffles at Haywood's Tap & Grill 6-8pm

Every Saturday – Royal Canadian Legion Lunches – 12pm

Every Saturday – Royal Canadian Legion Meat Raffles – 2pm

Third Wednesday – Royal Canadian Legion – Jamboree's – 12-4pm

Third Sunday – Royal Canadian Legion Breakfast – 9am

# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

A monthly publication of all things Petrolia!

Hi Petrolia!

Welcome to my new communication corner in the Petrolia Connection! I'm excited to use this opportunity to stay in touch with you. As you know, the role of Mayor in a small community is a busy one! Some key items that I look after are defined as:

1. To be head of the municipal council and to act as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
2. To preside over council meetings.
3. To provide leadership to council.
4. To represent the municipality at official functions.

This keeps me busy, but I also have the opportunity to hold a seat on County Council and hold a seat on the Board for the St. Clair Conservation Authority.



Mayor R. Brad Loosley

If you don't know me, I have been married to my wonderful (and patient!) wife Wendy for 48 years, we have two sons, both of which I am immensely proud of. Jay, our oldest, has an exceptional career as a Superintendent of Paramedic Education in London/Middlesex, where he lives with his wife Tina and our precious three grandchildren. Adam, our youngest, has an incredibly successful career with Disney on Ice as their Creative Director and Performance Director and is the author of an amazing and colourful children's book "You Are a Great Story!"

I look forward to connecting with you through this monthly update and sharing the monthly excitement of Council's activities! See you downtown December 2 for the Lighting of the Lights, and December 3 for the Market and the Parade!

Do you know what is acceptable to recycle in Petrolia? Have you ever wondered if something you are recycling is supposed to be recycled or thrown away?

Check out [www.RORR.com](http://www.RORR.com) and find out all about it! PS—You can even recycle this newsletter when you're finished reading and sharing it!



## FREE services for job seekers!

[lambtoncollege.ca/CES](http://lambtoncollege.ca/CES)

» 519-882-4333



Community  
Employment  
Services





# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

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**Greenwood Rec Centre**

## 2022 Fall Skating Schedule

<b>Mon &amp; Thurs</b> 11am-12pm \$3 - Adults FREE - Children	<b>Learn To Skate</b> Starts Thurs., Oct. 13 (formerly Moms, Pops & Tots) An opportunity for parents to teach children to skate, and for open skating. Skate aids are permitted, and CSA approved helmets are strongly recommended. No sticks permitted.	<b>Snow Day and Holiday Public Skating</b> Watch the Town of Petrolia Facebook page or visit <a href="http://www.town.petrolia.on.ca">www.town.petrolia.on.ca</a> for Snow Day Updates!
<b>Mon &amp; Thurs</b> 12pm-1pm \$3 - Adults	<b>Adult Lunch Time Skate</b> Starts Thurs., Oct. 13 For adults only. No sticks permitted. CSA approved helmets are strongly recommended.	Additional sponsored Public Skates during Christmas Break and otherwise will be promoted at a later date.
<b>Friday</b> 12pm-1pm Not available during Christmas Holidays \$3 - Adults FREE - Children	<b>Learn To Play</b> Starts Fri., Oct. 14 Provides an opportunity for adults to teach children hockey skills. No aggressive playing or slap shots are permitted. CSA approved helmets and a mask and gloves are mandatory. Players must bring sticks and pucks.	
<b>Every Sunday</b> 1:50pm-2:50pm \$3 Per Person \$6 Per Family	<b>Public Skating</b> Starts Sun., Oct. 16 CSA approved helmets are strongly recommended. Children must be supervised by an adult, and no sticks are permitted.	

Dates & times are subject to change, please contact Town Hall for more information and bookings at 519-882-2350 or by email to [lbelan@petrolia.ca](mailto:lbelan@petrolia.ca)



## Autumn LEAF COLLECTION

**WEATHER PERMITTING**  
**OCTOBER 17**  
through  
**DECEMBER 16**  
ON YOUR REGULAR WASTE COLLECTION DAY  
BETWEEN 9AM-3PM

**NEW** LEAF BAG

**NEW** Leaves must be in brown paper bags and placed at curb for collection. - ONLY LEAVES WILL BE ACCEPTED -



## Charlotte's Corner

- ADVERTORIAL -

  
CHARLOTTE ELEANOR  
ENGLEHART HOSPITAL  
OF BLUEWATER HEALTH

### Behind-the-Scenes Rural Physician Recruitment

Did you know there is a group of dedicated community volunteers and health care administration professionals that focus on recruiting and retaining primary care physicians for Petrolia and Central Lambton?

The committee operates out of the Central Lambton Family Health Team and is funded by small grants from the eight municipalities that make up Central Lambton. The group was first started in 2011 by the members of Charlotte's Task Force – and was formed in response to staffing concerns in maintaining daily operations of Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH) of Bluewater Health's Emergency Department.

Working in partnership with the CEEH Foundation, the committee has successfully signed eight primary care physicians to the Central Lambton Family Health Team, including Dr. Ahmed Hijazi (pictured here) who was successfully recruited in the summer of 2021.

Members of the Central Lambton Recruitment Committee include Rosanne Orcutt (Chair), Sarah Milner, Owen Byers, Debbie Freeman, Alison Mahon, Mark Braet, Judi McCallum, Lonny Napper, Nick Salaris, and Jill Edwards.



Members of the Central Lambton Recruitment Committee

The work of this group is helping to maintain rural access to primary and emergency care for the residents of Petrolia and Central Lambton. Thank you for your dedication to your community!



#PetroliaProud





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**jingle jingle jingle**  
**jingle jingle jingle**  
**jingle jingle jingle**

**Petrolia Jingle bucks \$10**

**2022 Petrolia Jingle bucks on sale now**

Accepted at participating merchants only!  
Excluding LCBO, the Beer Store, St. Vincent de Paul, Tim Hortons & Circle K.

• great stocking stuffers • perfect for that hard-to-buy-for person •

**buy 9 get the 10<sup>th</sup> free!**

Sold at **Town Hall**

Limited Quantities Available

AUTHENTIC DOLLARS will be stamped with the Town Crest

 **PETROLIA LIONS CLUB**  
**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAW**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO**  
*Christmas* **FOR EVERYONE**  
A CARING COMMUNITY PROJECT

<b>1st Prize</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>2nd Prize</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>3rd Prize</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>

**Tickets**  
\$5.00 each  
or  
5 for \$20.00


**Draw Date**  
December 9th - 7:00 p.m.

Watch for Lions  
Selling Tickets at  
Heidi's Independent

**Merry Christmas**

**SUPPORT**  
**Our Friends & Neighbours**


**SHOP**  
*Petrolia*



411 Greenfield Street  
Petrolia Ontario N0N 1R0  
519-882-2350  
town.petrolia.on.ca

 *Town of*  
**PETROLIA**  
*you'll be surprised!*

**Optimist Club of**  
**Lambton Central - Petrolia**



**Christmas Meat Raffle**

**Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Crabby Joe's, Petrolia**

**6pm ~ 6 Rounds ~ \$1 per ticket**  
1st ticket drawn: Turkey or Ham or Gift Card  
2nd ticket drawn: \$5 Crabby Joe's Gift Card

**Plus 'Second Chance' Draws!**  
For every ticket you purchase, you will receive

**Proceeds to benefit the youth of our community!**



**Thank you for your  
continued support!**





# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

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## Fundraiser Lunch

Cost: Donations Welcome!

Donations can be made by:  
**CASH or CHEQUE only**  
(made payable to Christmas For Everyone)

### DECEMBER 6th & 7th, 2022

**11am - 1pm**

**Scheduled Curbside Pick-up at Petrolia Lions Hall**  
451 Huggard Street

**CHOOSE YOUR SOUP**

Beef Barley  
Italian Wedding  
Cream of Broccoli  
Turkey Vegetable



**CHOOSE YOUR SANDWICH**

Turkey  
Egg Salad  
Roast Beef  
Salmon Salad

**DESSERT INCLUDED**

**Please contact Connie 519-312-8815 (10am to 7pm)**  
Orders must be received by Wed., Nov. 30th







## WE'RE BACK!



## PETROLIA LIONS CLUB



## BINGO

### COME & JOIN US

at the Lions Hall

**Wednesday, December 14, 2022**

**DOORS OPEN 6:00 p.m.**

**BINGO 7:00 p.m.**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

**INFORMATION 519 882-8728**

*Proceeds to Local Projects*



## DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

LET US HELP YOU!

**THIS IS THE FIRST STEP TO FINDING AN ANSWER FOR YOUR QUESTIONS!**

Please ask your question to our friendly administrative staff.



**Call Town Hall • 519.882.2350**

or visit [www.town.petrolia.on.ca](http://www.town.petrolia.on.ca) or find us on Facebook

If you have further questions:



**Ask for the Department Director or the Clerk**

If you don't know the department you need,  
our friendly staff can help direct you.



Do you still need more information?

**Please ask for the  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)**



**Contact Your Members of Council**

Their contact information is available by visiting  
[www.town.petrolia.on.ca/town-hall/mayor-council/](http://www.town.petrolia.on.ca/town-hall/mayor-council/)



**Town Hall Business Hours**  
Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

If you are still not pleased with  
the response you are welcome to  
**Attend a Town Council  
Meeting**

## Let's get back to the basics of recycling.

**Remember these three rules  
each time you recycle:**

- 1**



Recycle all empty plastic bottles,  
cans, paper and cardboard.

**2**



Keep food and liquids  
out of the recycling.

**3**



Empty recyclables  
directly into your cart  
- NO bagged recyclables.

A helpful guide to keep in mind:

- Please flatten your cardboard and keep it smaller than 36" x 12".
- Rinse your recyclables.
- No masks or gloves.
- Waxed cardboard is not accepted.
- No plastic bags.
- No diapers, or household wipes.
- Styrofoam is not recyclable.
- Any paper items are recyclable but remember to remove personal information prior to recycling.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.wm.com/us/en/recycle-right/recycling-101>



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Optimist Club of Lambton Central-Petrolia



## SANTA at Petrolia YMCA

360 Tank St

**Sat. Dec. 3rd**

Immediately following the parade

- F**  **Keepsake Photo with Santa**  
Special thank you to Petrolia Cameral Club & Petrolia Community Theatre
- R**  **DIY Take-home Craft**  
Special thank you to Petrolia YMCA
- E**  **Candy Bags**  
Merrily filled by Lambton Central Petrolia Optimists
- E**  **Door Prize Draws**  
Cheerfully created by Lambton Central Petrolia Optimists

**The best way to see Christmas is through the eyes of a child**



## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS

### WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

**There will be NO CHANGE to the Waste Collection Schedule over the Holidays.**

Please remember to flatten all cardboard to no larger than 32" by 32", and to be mindful of the three-bag, and the 50lb. weight limit.

We ask that Christmas trees be placed at the curb, with all ornaments and tinsel removed and staff will be around to collect them beginning Tuesday, January 3.

From Mayor Loosley, Council and Staff  
we wish you all the best this holiday season,  
and send warm wishes to you and yours  
for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

411 Greenfield Street  
Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0  
519-882-2350  
town.petrolia.on.ca



*you'll be surprised!*

The Municipal Office will be Closed at noon, Dec. 24 and will re-open on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023.

**SHOP LIKE**

# Santa

**FOR ALL YOUR**

**Christmas Gifts!**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD**

**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN**

**Jingle Bucks**

Visit participating merchants on Dec. 3rd and with every purchase you can fill out a ballot to win!

1st - \$250 Jingle Bucks  
2nd - \$150 Jingle Bucks  
3rd - \$100 Jingle Bucks

**11AM-1PM**

**Victorian Christmas Carollers**

WILL BE STROLLING DOWNTOWN PETROLIA

**Thank You** PETROLIA COMMUNITY THEATRE

**Sisters of Choice**

Sister's of Choice will be singing on the steps of St Paul's Church from 11:30am-1:30pm

## Christ Church Anglican Christmas Schedule

2022/2023

- Blue Christmas - Wed. Dec. 21 at 6:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve - Sat. Dec. 24 at 6:00 p.m.
- Christmas Day - Sun. Dec. 25 at 10:00 a.m.
- New Years Day - Sun. Jan. 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Christ Church Anglican  
414 Oil St., Petrolia  
**All are welcome!**



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## DID YOU KNOW?

You can sign up to...

### Receive Notices Directly to your E-mail Inbox!

It's easy to **Sign Up!**

**Notices Include:**

- Public Meetings
- Council Meetings
- Public Open Houses
- and more!

1. Visit: <https://petrolia.civicweb.net/Portal/Subscribe.aspx>
2. Select Your Interests
3. Enter Your E-mail

Questions? Please contact the Clerk's Office



411 Greenfield Street  
Petrolia | ON | N0N 1R0  
519-882-2350  
[town.petrolia.on.ca](http://town.petrolia.on.ca)

### Winter Weather Tips

Winter weather causes challenges for residents and waste collection crews. Please follow these guidelines to make collection safe, easy, and efficient for all.



**Collection crews begin curbside collection at 7 a.m.** Please have all items at the curb before 7 a.m. on your service day. Winter weather may require collection routes to change, resulting in earlier pickup times.



**During snow events,** make sure your blue boxes and items are visible to drivers and safe to access - place all items in a shoveled area on your driveway or on the ground, NOT on snowbanks. Drivers do their best to complete their routes, although there may be delays due to road and weather conditions. Please check with your municipal website for updates during severe weather.



**Keep your drivers safe.** Collection crews are not permitted to climb snowbanks to retrieve blue boxes or waste bags. Place items at the end of your shoveled driveway or shovel a shelf for your blue boxes and waste containers.

#### Follow these tips to keep materials in your blue boxes and not litter the streets:

- Stack the blue bin containing heavier recyclable materials like glass bottles and jars on top of your blue box filled with loose papers/fibers.
- Don't fill your blue box above the rim - fill a second and third box with recyclable materials.
- On really windy days, wait to put your blue boxes out for collection until the following week to prevent litter.
- Blue boxes may blow away when empty, so please take a look around your neighborhood if your blue box is missing on a windy day.



**Broken Blue Box** - If your box freezes to the ground or the plastic cracks due to the cold, please replace and keep it free from ice to ensure collection.

Write your address on your blue boxes, green bin, and garbage can in permanent marker so they can be returned if blown away during winter weather. This makes it easier for them to be returned.

Thank you for keeping our community clean and drivers safe.



### WINTER MAINTENANCE NOTICE

#### Snow Removal

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 181 - Deposit of snow on Roadway, states that "No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry of Transportation or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road."
- This generally applies to the snow that accumulates in laneways from precipitation and from private or municipal snow plowing operations, those who insist on plowing snow from private property onto public roads can be fined

#### Overnight Parking

- Residents are reminded there is no overnight parking on Town streets between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- This allows for the Town's Road Crews to plow the roads safely and efficiently, we ask that you please abide by the by-law and be considerate of the road crews when they are out doing their best to keep our roads open and in safe condition

#### Parking on roadway

- Under the Highway Traffic Act Section 170.

#### Vehicles interfering with traffic

(12) Despite the other provisions of this section, no person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.3, s. 170 (12).

#### Sidewalks

- Under By-Law Business owners are required to maintain the front area of their storefront, this includes the removal of snow
- The Sidewalk Plow will make its way through Town once permissible, Roads are the priority for Works Crew once they are clear Sidewalks

#### Sporting Equipment

- Please ensure all sporting equipment ie: hockey nets, basketball nets are removed from the curb & roadway

Your co-operation is appreciated

Mike Thompson  
Director of Operations

## Prevent



# FOG

(FATS, OIL & GREASE)

## in Our Sewers



- With your help we can prevent FOG from clogging the sewer
- Protect your pipes
- Don't let your sewer turn on you and your neighbours
- Never pour FOG down the drain! FOG clogs!

**PREVENT FOG**  
(FATS, OIL & GREASE)  
in our sewers

### What is FOG?

FOG (Fats, Oil and Grease) is the most common cause of sewer back-ups.

FOG is a by-product of cooking and can be found in butter, margarine, salad dressing, gravies, sauces, lard, shortening, baking goods, meat fats and dairy.

## THREE P's

Did you know the sewer system is only designed for the 3 P's?

1. Pee
2. Poo
3. Paper (toilet paper)

ATTENTION: Restaurants, Industry or Commercial premises where food is cooked, processed or prepared: Necessary measures are required to ensure oil and grease are prevented from discharging to a sanitary sewer more than the limits.

### What can you do to help?

## do:

- collect used grease and cooking oil in a container and dispose of it in the garbage
- wipe out visible fats, oil, grease and food residue from dishes, pots and pans with disposable paper towels
- put solid waste and food scraps in the garbage
- be aware of hidden FOG's in salad dressing, sauces, gravies, cheese and desserts
- use a strainer in the sink to remove excess food debris
- encourage neighbours to keep FOG's out of the sewer system

## do not:

- pour oil and grease down the sink, drain or toilet
- scrape food scraps down the sink, drain or toilet
- pour liquid food down the sink, drain or toilet
- run hot water over greasy dishes or pans - the FOG will cool and stick to the inside of the pipes
- use a food waste grinder to get rid of food and grease
- use washable cloths to wipe greasy dishes clean



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## Living Healthy & Active

**12-week FREE program, Tuesdays 12 - 2pm**  
starts the week of December 6

- Fitness classes & workshops
- Healthy food discussion & nutrition guidance
- Activities to promote mental wellbeing & socialization
- Out-trips to learn about other community programs
- Light snack provided



Ontario 



## VICTORIA PLAYHOUSE PETROLIA RECIPIENT OF GENEROUS DONATION FROM PETROLIA RESIDENT JOYCE HAMILTON

The Victoria Playhouse Petrolia was a humbled and grateful recipient of \$10,875.00 from Joyce Hamilton, a long-time Petrolia resident and patrons of the arts.

During a cheque presentation at Victoria Hall this morning, Mrs. Hamilton was joined by Mike Barron, Executive Director of the Sarnia Community Foundation and Petrolia Community Fund Administrator, Ginny Newman, a Board Member for the Sarnia Community Foundation, Town of Petrolia Chief Administrative Officer/Treasurer Rick Charlebois, and Co-Artistic

Director for the Victoria Playhouse, David Hogan.

Mrs. Hamilton talked about the wonderful life she has enjoyed in Petrolia and added "...this theatre is a very important place to me. I remember the Lion's Frolics in the parking area, and dancing in the ballroom upstairs as a teen." She added that she is "...so glad we have the theatre in town, and that she already has her tickets for next year."

Barron said, "it is an honor to take part in Mrs. Hamilton's fund direction to the Victoria Playhouse; hearing about her passion for the Victoria Playhouse and the Town of Petrolia is inspiring!"

Director of Marketing Arts and Communications, Laurissa Ellsworth thanked Mrs. Hamilton for her kindness, and for her "...vision for the future of the theatre and for the town that she loves so very much."

Co-Artistic Director David Hogan, touched by Mrs. Hamilton's generosity said, "knowing part of Mrs. Hamilton's life has been so impacted by the arts and the VPP is extraordinary. It is with gratitude and love that we accept this generous gift." The Sarnia Community Foundation hosts a Fund, called the Petrolia Community Fund where financial gifts can be shared with Petrolia in either a specific way, or in a non-specific way to better the community. These financial gifts are provided to various organizations throughout the year, and through a micro-grant program each winter. For those interested in learning more about the Fund, or how you can support Petrolia please visit <https://sarniacommunityfoundation.ca/kinds-of-funds/>.

## Sustainable Holiday Recycling Tips

When it comes to recycling, it's easier than you think to 'be nice' rather than 'naughty.' Here are some tips to help make your holidays sustainable.

### RECYCLING NICE



**Sustainability** - Purchase wrapping paper or gift bags made with recycled materials - or skip the wrapping! Purchase gifts from brands that use recycled materials to close the sustainability loop.



**Recycle** - Put a recycling bin next to the waste can during parties. Make it easy for guests to recycle glass bottles and cans.



**Rinse and Toss** - Take that last sip of eggnog and give the container a quick rinse before tossing into your blue bin.



**Recycle Cardboard** - Once the gifts have been opened, break down, flatten, bundle, and tie cardboard boxes so they fit inside your blue boxes.



**Gift an Experience** - Choose gifts that create lasting memories rather than more waste. Consider giving concert tickets, museum visits, a long weekend out of town, or a donation to a charity of choice.



**Bring your own Shopping Bag** - Plastic bags are not recyclable and wrap around the sorting equipment at recycling facilities creating safety hazards for workers.



**Tech Recycling** - If Santa gifted you with a new computer or phone, recycle your old ones responsibly or donate them to a local charity looking for used electronics.

### RECYCLING NAUGHTIES



**Tanglers** - Holiday lights and tinsel look beautiful on your tree but are NOT recyclable. Donate or toss them into the waste bin.



**Batteries** - What would the holidays be without batteries? Unfortunately, batteries are not recyclable and cause fires in collection trucks and recycling facilities. Check with your city for safe battery disposal.



**Metals and Glitter** - Wrapping papers made with metallic or glittery materials are not recyclable and don't look nice blowing around the neighborhood.



**Foam and Bubble Wrap** - These packing materials are not recyclable and belong in the trash.



**Holiday Stuff** - Keep these items out of your blue bin during the holiday season.



• Ribbon and bows



• Plastic Toys



• Artificial Trees



• Decorations for the tree



• Fruit boxes made from wood

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# THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

A monthly publication of all things Petrolia!

## CAO's Corner

### Municipal Property Taxes – Part 1

Hello everyone! I hope you are finding my CAO's Corner articles interesting and informative. I know that municipal government plays many important aspects in our daily lives and that municipal affairs can sometimes seem complicated and foreign which can lead to misunderstandings. The purpose of my articles is to help demystify municipal government and reduce confusion.

Today, I will explain how municipal property taxes work. Property taxes are simply **Property Assessment multiplied by the Property Tax Rate equals Taxes Payable**. To fully comprehend how it works, you need to understand the following key points:

Property assessments are provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC for short). MPAC is a provincial organization that provides the current value assessment of over 5 million properties in our province to Ontario municipalities. The assessed value of these properties is over \$3 trillion.

Your municipal taxes are comprised of an Education portion (we have 4 School Boards); a Lambton County portion; and a portion for the Town of Petrolia. Annually, the province sets the province-wide Education rate. Town staff calculate the amount payable for school taxes for each property. Staff send the taxes collected on their behalf to our four School Boards throughout the year. Lambton County Council sets its property tax rate annually. Town staff calculate the amount payable to the County for each property. Staff pay our County throughout the year. Petrolia Town Council sets the annual (lower tier) tax rate which is used to fund our local municipal services, excluding water and sewer.

There are many unique and complicated aspects to our provincial property tax system which I will not cover in my CAO's Corner articles, but I am glad to discuss and/or suggest where you can get more information. For example, you may wish to Google MPAC and browse through their website. MPAC has greatly improved the readability of their website over the past few years. MPAC's website has some great online property assessment videos. They also offer a free online service that is password protected that provides residential property owners with comparative assessment data for your neighbourhood. Their system is called "AboutMyProperty".

Part II of Municipal Property Taxes will explain the current freeze on property assessments and what will happen when the province lifts this freeze.

**As mentioned before, I welcome any feedback including suggestions for topics. Have a great day.**



Rick Charlebois, Chief Administrative Officer/Treasurer—Town of Petrolia