

Here are the highlights from the special Lanark County Council meeting held Wednesday, June 27.

- **Five-Year Operating Plan for Community Forests Approved:** Council has approved the Community Forest Five-Year Operating Plan for 2018-2022, which is a working document that is part of the 20-year forest management plan approved by council in 2011 after a public review process. The most recent operating plan expired in 2017, and during the past year the county's forest management advisors collaborated with the Community Forest Working Group to develop the new plan. The Lanark County Community Forest consists of 40 properties comprising almost 4,600 hectares throughout the county. The properties were purchased by the county between 1938 and 1987 and are made up of tracts of natural forest, treed plantations in former farmland, and lakes and wetlands. The new operating plan describes activities carried out by the forest manager, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, from 2013-2017 and provides a detailed schedule for the current period. To ensure long-term forest and financial sustainability, there is a 20-year forecast of thinning and harvesting activities (to 2037), which is reviewed and extended a further five years with each new operating plan. The plan is key to ensuring forestry and property administration activities are carried out in an organized fashion. For more information, contact Jonathan Allen, Facilities Coordinator, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3170.
- **Speed Limit Reduction Adopted for Lally Road:** Council has approved a by-law authorizing the reduction of the speed limit on County Road 21 for the entire portion known as Lally Road from 60 kilometres per hour to 50. The portion runs from County Road 14 (Narrows Lock Road) to Lally Lake Drive, part of which is through Murphys Point Provincial Park. This follows discussion with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), Species at Risk (SAR) Division, regarding the rehabilitation project currently taking place on the road. To obtain necessary permits for the project, county staff participated in SAR training, conducted an inventory of identified SAR, and committed to putting measures in place to reduce their mortality. The speed limit reduction is one of the measures, as well as installing three seasonal speed bumps from April 1 to November 1 each year and posting a cautionary message on the Municipal 511 Website advising motorists this section of road is not suitable for camping trailers due to its narrow, winding nature. The message has been posted and the speed bumps will consist of rubber mats affixed by spikes that will be removed prior to winter maintenance activities. Some of the identified species at risk include Gray rat snakes and Blanding's turtles. The speed reduction will take place as soon as necessary signs are installed. For more information, contact Janet Tysick, Business Manager, at 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 3110.
- **Upcoming Meetings: Please note there are no meetings in July. County Council, Wednesday, Aug. 8, 5 p.m.;** Community Services, Aug. 8 (following County Council); Corporate Services, Aug. 8 (following Community Services). **County Council, Wednesday, Aug. 29, 5 p.m.;** Public Works, Aug. 29 (following County Council); Economic Development, Aug. 29 (following Public Works). All meetings are in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact 1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502. Like "LanarkCounty1" on Facebook and follow "@LanarkCounty1" on Twitter!