

Richard Kidd elected 2019 Lanark County Warden

Councillor Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) was elected as Lanark County's 2019 warden at the inaugural meeting on Tuesday morning. This will be his third time in the position.

Mr. Kidd was nominated by Councillor Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith Deputy Reeve), who commented on his ability to get to the heart of issues quickly. "Richard is able to pull out the main point that we need to be focusing on and very often can find a compromise solution." She commended his leadership abilities and constructive and positive tone.

His seconder, Councillor Christa Lowry (Mississippi Mills Mayor), highlighted Mr. Kidd's work in the community and his leadership at the county and local levels.

Mr. Kidd served as warden in 2003 and 2013. He has chaired the community services and corporate services committees, as well as the agriculture advisory working group and many sub-committees, including the county's official plan and the task force for the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail. He has been involved in the community and in agriculture through many different groups and has coached many sports teams over the years.

"This is a unique year for county council with so many new members around the table," Mr. Kidd said. "My team-building ability will be an asset going forward."

Among the priorities he highlighted for 2019 are to keep lines of communication open between staff and council, and to work on building a progressive team over the next four years. "I'm honoured to be part of that, and with your support that's what I pledge to do," he said. "It's great to be able to create things and change things and make people's lives better. I look forward to that."

Mr. Kidd thanked his nominator, seconder and supporters, as well as Councillor Bill Dobson (Montague Reeve), who also put his name in for the position.

Past Warden John Fenik (Perth Mayor) said it was an honour and a pleasure to serve as warden in 2018 and offered some advice to his colleagues. "Understand there are times when we have divisive debate. Leave debate in chambers when you leave, so we can exit as friends as colleagues."

Committee chairpersons were selected at the meeting as well, including John Fenik (Perth Mayor) for corporate services, Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith Deputy Reeve) for community services, Klaas Van Der Meer (Montague Deputy Reeve) for economic development, and Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve) for public works. Mr. Kidd also named a striking committee, which appoints members to various committees and boards. Council reconvenes Wednesday at 5 p.m. for its regular meeting.

– 30 –

For more information, contact:
Leslie Drynan, Clerk
Lanark County
1-888-9-LANARK, ext. 1502

Photos of this event are available at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/n2jxomcyp5b2o1y/AACFEqe5fgSHcL90DSNndJlia?dl=0>

Captions:

1. Council Declaration: Lanark County Councillors for the new term read the oath of office.
2. Reading the Oath: 2019 Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) takes the oath of office from Clerk Leslie Drynan.
3. Signing the Oath: 2019 Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) signs the oath of office with Clerk Leslie Drynan.
4. Chains of Office: Outgoing Warden John Fenik (Perth Mayor), left, presents the chains of office to 2019 Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) while Clerk Leslie Drynan looks on.
5. Past Warden's Pin: Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve), right, presents Councillor John Fenik (Perth Mayor) with the Past Warden's Pin.
6. The 2019 Lanark County Council with Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve).