

A Message From The Mayor

November 2018

What's new in the Town of Erin?

Welcome to the first edition of the Mayor's Message! I would like to begin by congratulating all the candidates who came forward and let their name stand to run for Municipal Council. It is excellent to see so many people willing to step-up and work towards making a better future in Erin!



Over the past year we have been working diligently on different ways to enhance the level of communication with residents. We have adopted a Citizen Engagement Charter - with the help of the many residents who provided their opinions in our Citizen Engagement Survey. We have improved our social media platforms, launched Erin Connection (a monthly e-newsletter) and are in the process of re-designing our website to provide an easier way to stay connected. On the back of this newsletter you will find a list of how you can stay involved in Council decisions and how you can voice your opinions on upcoming and current projects.

The next four years will be an exciting time in the Town - as we work on our Growth Strategy; develop a Strategic Plan, a Parks and Recreation Master Plan and an Economic Development Plan. In addition to these initiatives we will be working towards the next stages of our efforts to secure a wastewater system - which will result in successful growth of our town!

I look forward to working with you all on the future of the Town of Erin!

Mayor Allan Alls

WASTEWATER *and how it affects you*

We have received several questions regarding the cost of wastewater and how it will affect homeowners. In short, homeowners in the urbanized area will be expected to connect to the wastewater mechanical system, when it is constructed. Urban homeowners will be expected to contribute to a portion of the construction costs + connection costs. The total amount has yet to be determined - estimated amounts are available at www.erin.ca/town-hall/wastewater-ea.

Residents living in the rural areas will not be connecting to the system, meaning they are not required to contribute to the infrastructure costs - but will benefit from having a near by waste drop off centre for their septage.

To Date:

We have completed the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for wastewater and are currently awaiting the decisions from the Ministry of Environment, Conservations and Parks on appeals on the wastewater EA. We're optimistic that we will receive funding from the Provincial/ Federal government.

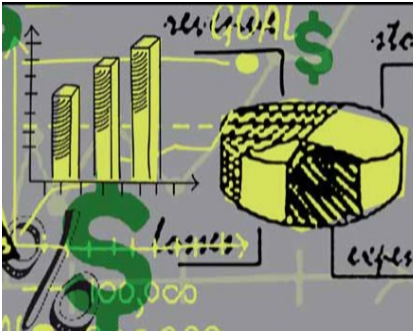
For more information please watch an informational video at: www.erin.ca/town-hall/wastewater-ea.

Water Rates

I would like to address the recent talk of water rates for the Town of Erin. The Town's Water consumption rates and monthly base charges have been locked in place since 2015 and is set to remain in place until 2020. Prior to 2015 the water rate was \$4.29 per cubic metre. The water rate for 2018 and 2019 is \$3.99 per cubic metre. The next water rate study is set to take place in February - this will allow us to review our current rates and adjust accordingly. I look forward to working with the public as we establish the water rates for the next five years.

Water rates cover the cost of the day-to-day operations and maintenance to ensure safe drinking water and reserve funds to maintain, replace and build water infrastructure. Our current water rates are set based on the number of users we have connected to municipal water. Stated simply - the more users connected to the system the more likely rates are to be reduce.

Up Coming Meetings



2019 Budget Process

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the 2019 budget public consultation period. By participating in the budget and offering your input to staff and Council, it allows us to create a budget that works for taxpayers and the corporation. To view the budget documents and survey results please visit, www.erin.ca/2019BudgetConsultation.



Bi-Annual Mayor's Breakfast

The Bi-Annual Mayor's Breakfast is back! Join me at the Erin Legion, on Thursday, January 31, 2019 from 7:00AM-9:00AM for the next Mayor's Breakfast. We will discuss current Town projects, the future of our Town and the status of our Wastewater project. To confirm your attendance please contact communications@erin.ca or 519.855.4407.

How do you receive information?

We offer many ways for you to get the latest Town news! Connect with us and stay involved in your community!



Erin Connection!

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter and receive news directly to your inbox!

Council Meetings:

Can't make it out to one of our council meetings? Not to worry, we livestream every council meeting - just visit www.erin.ca/town-hall/agenda-minutes

Connect with us 24/7 at communications@erin.ca or by phone at 519.855.4407!



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