

ORONO WEEKLY TIMES

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Council to review their role in emergencies

Issues with communications during last week's flooding at Cedar Crest Beach in Bowmanville, prompted a call for further action at Monday's committee meeting.

Councillor Steven Cooke, Local Councillor for Ward 1, asked that an information session be provided for council members on their roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

"It is obvious to me, as a council we were not quite sure what we were supposed to do," Cooke stated," adding, "I am not picking on any particular councillor. Clarington's emergency management act has not been reviewed since 1999 according to Cooke. He feels it is time for council members to educate themselves and review the act.

Councillor Corinna Traill said she felt it was her role as local councillor for the area affected by flooding to report and bring forward concerns of

the local residents. "If our policy needs to be amended to stop that, I think that is ridiculous," she stated.

We tend to forget what our roles are in an emergency, Local Councillor for Ward 2, Ron Hooper said. He then asked what councillors are supposed to do if residents contact them?

Chief Gord Weir, head of Clarington's Emergency Services told councillors that the emergency plan lays out that the mayor, as head of council, and himself, are the two official spokespersons for the municipality. "Councillors are supposed to relay concerns to the mayor, and he can follow up with news releases and interviews," Weir stated. "Doing it that way eliminates confusion," he said.

Clarington's communications department sent out 11 Cedar Crest Beach flooding updates between 10 a.m. Friday, May 5 and 4:30 p.m. Monday, **COMMUNICATIONS see page 3**



Sammi Rice (L) and her brother Sully (R) were at the Orono Horticulture Club spring plant sale on Saturday. Sully was disappointed that he was unable to buy a Venus Fly Trap at the sale. The sale was held at the Dickinson home on Irwin Road and raised \$1,200.

Cedar Crest Beach properties flooded

Clarington council are looking for a number of staff reports as a result of flooding at the lake last week

According to Clarington's Fire Chief, Gord Wier, "We are not out of the woods yet." While the rains have stopped Wier told councillors, homes at Cedar Crest Beach in Bowmanville could still be under threat of further flooding until mid June. Water levels in the lake which are possibly at a 50 year high, will not recede until mid June according to Weir. He is recommending residents

along the beach keep sandbags in place until water levels in the lake recede.

High winds and lake surges rather than rainfall are still a potential threat to residents along the waterfront according to Weir. Flooding became a concern on Sunday, April 30 when high winds off Lake Ontario created a lake surge. After considerable rainfall in the latter part of last week, the marsh on the north side of Cedar Crest Beach overflowed on Friday morning which caused the flooding.

Ward 3 Councillor Corinna Traill, the local councillor for the Cedar Crest Beach area requested a number of reports at Monday's committee meeting dealing with the flooding.

One of Traill's motions was requesting Weir come back to councillors at the end of May with a full report outlining actions taken with respect to flooding at Cedar Crest Beach.

She also asked for staff to create a comprehensive waterfront emergency plan. Clarington has 35 kilometers of waterfront, with no plan to deal with

emergencies caused by flooding, according to Traill.

Weir explained his first and foremost responsibility in the event of an emergency is for the safety of residents and their pets. At no time during the flooding event which peaked last Friday, was the safety and security of the residents in the 40 homes at Cedar Crest Beach at risk, Weir told councillors. If there had been a safety risk, he would have ordered an evacuation of the area. "Evacuation is the easiest call to mitigate risk to life," Weir stated. While

some flooding did occur in crawl spaces in homes along the beach, nobody had to evacuate their home, according to Chief Weir.

Clarington's Emergency and Fire Services worked throughout the day on Sunday, April 30 helping residents at the beach who experienced flooding due to a lake surge, according to a news release issued by the municipality.

On Thursday, May 4, bracing for more rain and high levels of water in the marsh on the north

FLOODING see page 4

Tired of sitting at home looking out the window?

Read the Happenings on Page 3 every week for entertainment ideas



Climate change costs

For those of us anxious to get the winter coat put away, spring temperatures can't come soon enough. Here we are, well into May, and the furnace is still on. The Spring Equinox, heralding the beginning of the season, we in the northern climes anticipate with eager longing, began on March 20. That was over six weeks ago. Let us hope it takes just as long for fall to transition into winter.

We have now gone from drought conditions last summer, which lasted into early winter, to flooding. We experienced a significant amount of rain in the area last week, which caused flooding in many areas of the province and Quebec. Locally, of course we had flooding at Cedar Crest Beach in Bowmanville. Water levels in Lake Ontario which are at a 50 year high are not expected to go down until mid June. While the water levels are high, it is the wind that is the problem. Strong winds off Lake Ontario could cause another surge, causing water to breach the breakwaters and cause damage to private property along the waterfront.

Durham Region recently embarked on an exercise to try and understand the effects of climate change and how to mitigate those effects. Mayor Adrian Foster mentioned at last week's council meeting, that climate change adaptation plan for the region deals with flooding from rivers and creeks. It makes no mention of flooding from the lake. Most of Durham's population is along the Lake Ontario shore, so one would think the risk of flooding from the large body of water should be understood.

The situation down at the lake and the dust storm in north Bowmanville earlier this year, are conditions we never thought we would have to deal with. The dust storm was caused in large part by the drought conditions, combined with removal of vegetation from a great swath of land under development. We seem to be experiencing wind conditions greater than we remember experiencing in the past, causing conditions we attribute to climate change. Land development practices could be changed so neighbouring residents are not impacted by dust blowing off big swaths of cleared land. But what can we do about lake levels combined with high winds damaging private property?

Mayor Adrian Foster raised a good point when he expressed concern with raising expectations of residents that the municipality will step in to protect private property.

As councillor for the area residents, Councillor Corinna Traill wanted to make sure as much was done for Cedar Crest Beach as possible. This extended to safe drinking water and access to washroom facilities. At Monday's meeting, council approved providing potable water and portable washrooms for Cedar Crest Beach residents in the interim, until they have access to their own water and septic systems again. To Traill this was providing the necessities of life to residents. It should not go unmentioned that the Red Cross and Salvation Army were providing relief to affected residents throughout the flooding event.

Where is the line drawn in municipal resources being expended to protect residents in an emergency, the mayor asked fellow councillors. It is not unusual, Foster said, to get calls from people expecting the municipality to remove dead trees from back yards. While that might seem to be an extreme example, if a dead tree falls on a home with the potential of putting lives at risk, is it so very different than what took place at Cedar Crest Beach last week?

Conservation authorities have strict rules now about building in flood planes for this very reason. We should also recognize that many of the homes at Cedar Crest Beach started out as cottages. Over the years they have been converted into homes. Presumably a building permit was issued by the municipality to allow the conversion. While that is all water under the bridge, or over the breakwater, we are now left with the after math of a situation never anticipated.

We are charting some unknown territory dealing with climate change, and we all know it is going to cost us a lot of money.



Senator Removal

LOOKING BACK

GLEANED FROM PAST EDITIONS OF THE ORONO WEEKLY TIMES, BY DORIS FALLS

25 Years Ago...

After 12 years of planning and construction, Memorial Hospital cut the ribbon for a modern hospital in the community on Saturday afternoon. During the course of the official opening ceremonies, much praise was directed to the hospital board, staff and all those associated with the project. The modernization project has seen bed capacity increase from 89 to 121 to serve the growing community. The plan has added a new four storey east wing and modernized the north and south wings. It started as a result of a fire in the early 1980's. The Minister of Health told the audience that 75 per cent of surgery was on a day surgery basis, which was far beyond most hospitals in the province. She further stated that the new emergency room is now equipped with an X-ray system that is a first

in all of Canada.

50 Years Ago...

A group of boys who have played ball and hockey together for many years past, accompanied by parents, lady friends and a few staunch supporters, gathered in the basement of the Orono United Church on Saturday evening for a very delicious pot-luck supper. Rev. Long, a guest of the evening was asked for a few comments. He asked the boys to consider the fellowship they had with one another; the knocks they had taken; the way they had learned to lose, but not give up and the need for discipline, which was so necessary in gaining respect for themselves and others. Rev. Long paid tribute to the young people of the area and hoped they would become involved in doing things for others as their leaders and coaches had done for them in

the past. Rev. Long received a hearty round of applause for his well spoken words.

75 Years Ago...

Behind the barbed wire of German and Italian prison camps thousands of British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand prisoners of war look forward to the weekly food parcels they receive through the International Red Cross at Geneva. The Canadian Red Cross is now packing these parcels at the rate of 2 million per year and hope to increase this to 4 million by the end of 1942. It all costs money. The Canadian Red Cross Society has not campaigned nationally for funds since October, 1940. It now asks urgently for \$9 million in the only national campaign for war service funds to be authorized by the government this year.

ORONO
WEEKLY TIMES

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HAPPENINGS

A VIEW OF EVENTS AROUND THE AREA

May 13th - “Be Lifted Up” Classical Music Evening gala fundraiser, 7 p.m. at Rehoboth CRC, 130 Scugog St Bowmanville. Tickets \$20.

May 13th - Newcastle Horticultural Society Plant Sale, 9 a.m. to noon, Newcastle Community Hall

May 13th - The Garden Path spring open house, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., free gift for every customer

May 14th - Kendal Lions Club Mother’s Day pancake breakfast, 9 a.m. to noon, Kendal Community Centre

May 17th - Clarington East Food Bank AGM, 7 p.m. at the Newcastle & District Recreation Centre - all welcome.

May 27th - Terrens Wellness Centre 17th year of business celebration, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Stop in for samples & more.

May 27th - Durham Region Public Works open house, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., 101 Consumers Drive, Whitby. Tours, games & more. www.durham.ca/npww

COMMUNICATIONS from PAGE 1

May 8.

Councillors should not be interfering, Ward 4 Councillor Wendy Partner said. “As councillors we have to respond, we don’t have to jump in and take control,” she stated.

“Are we going to put a muzzle on councillors?” Councillor Joe Neal, Regional Councillor for Ward 1 & 2 asked. Will councillors have to tell residents to go through the mayor when they call their councillor with concerns? he asked.

Chief Weir explained while he was working out the emergency plan last Friday morning, he received close to 200 emails. His focus was on trying to get things set up at Cedar Crest Beach trying to mitigate further flooding, he was not responding to emails. Weir said, had there been a real emergency, council members would have been able to get in touch with him.

Though the flood was a big event for residents in the affected area, at no point in time was their safety at risk,

according to Mayor Adrian Foster. Had this been an emergency where safety and security of residents were at risk, some of the communications going on back and forth would have been hugely distracting to the chief, Foster told councillors. “If you are dealing with safety, you don’t want the chief distracted,” Foster said.

“I don’t appreciate being told I don’t know what I am talking about, that is not helpful,” Foster stated. Foster reiterated the need for the municipality to send out one message, not multiple messages.

While Partner said she appreciated updates she received from Traill, she did not appreciate the tone of the emails sent to the mayor and fellow councillors. “Maybe you need to tone down your rhetoric and just state the facts,” Partner told Traill.

In an email to the Orono Times on Tuesday afternoon, Traill said she felt she did nothing wrong, she was doing what she was elected to

do, being responsive to residents during the flood. “I will oppose any motion that has the intent to prevent elected representatives from doing their jobs,” she stated.

Cooke’s motion to update councillors on Clarington’s emergency management plan was approved by committee in a recorded vote. Councillors Traill and Neal did not support the motion.

When Traill asked why a review of staff and council responsibilities during an emergency is necessary? Mayor Foster, responded with, “You are, to a degree.” In her email Traill said she felt under attack by her colleagues who supported Cooke’s motion.

She also felt the emergency response was not as seamless as some councillors liked to portray.

“I did not feel my actions are worthy of reprimand or ‘review’,” Traill stated in her email. “My role is to represent residents, that is what I did.”



‘Be Lifted Up’



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Piano



Maureen Batt
Soprano

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Saturday, May 13
7:30 pm

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Anthony Thompson
Clarinet

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for additional information

All proceeds for the elevator replacement

FLOODING from PAGE 1

side of the Cedar Crest Beach Road, municipal crews opened the outflow from the marsh to ease water levels. Weir told council members on Monday, if the Cedar Crest Beach Road had become flooded he would have ordered an evacuation. Staff also left large piles of sand and sandbags for residents to help themselves to, to protect their properties. By Thursday morning, the area was closed to the public and municipal staff were helping residents fill and place sandbags.

The Newcastle and District Recreation Centre was opened as an evacuation centre on Thursday morning, however, it was not used.

On Friday staff were assisting residents in the 40 homes at the beach with pumping water from their crawl spaces. According to Weir, he began receiving emergency calls from residents at the beach experiencing flooding at 8 a.m. Firefighters were then deployed to the beach to assist with sandbagging to protect homes in the area. Sandbagging

is outside the core duties of fire fighters, Weir reminded councillors.

Traill also asked that residents be provided with potable water and portable washrooms as an interim measure. A number of wells and sewage systems were compromised by flooding. “Forty homes potentially do not have access to clean water and sewage,” Traill stated, adding, “This is not a third world country and if we can help them access clean water we should.”

The operations department will be providing water and washroom facilities to the area. A number of relief organizations were in the area providing bottled water to residents once wells were compromised. Two portable washrooms had already been deployed to the area.

At several times throughout the discussion on the plight of the east beach residents, Mayor Adrian Foster raised the issue of where the municipality’s responsibility begins and ends in dealing with private property. “The chief feels he went above



Photo Supplied

Bob Campbell, a volunteer from Bowmanville assisted West Beach residents put sandbags around their homes on Saturday. Cedar Crest Beach was not the only lakefront area in the municipality under threat of flooding from the high water levels in Lake Ontario.

and beyond,” Foster stated.

The municipality needs to figure out where their responsibility lies according to Foster, because in the future more people could be looking for help from the municipality in a number of ways.

Traill said she had heard the question several times during the weekend as to why homes were built in the area in the first place. She reminded councillors that the municipality issued building permits for the homes along Cedar Crest Beach.

Mayor Foster reminded councillors that they should get used to incidents such as the flooding at Cedar Crest Beach and the wind storm earlier this year in north Bowmanville, all results of climate change, according to Foster.

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A VIEW FROM TOWN HALL

BY WILLIE WOO, REGIONAL COUNCILLOR WARDS 3 AND 4

Acts of kindness near and far

I don't know if this would be called a spiritual awakening or renaissance; since the Sunrise Service at Bond Head Waterfront on Easter Sunday, I haven't missed a Sunday church service albeit at different churches. I attended on the following week St. George's Anglican Church which hosted the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 178's Colour Guard in honour of St. George's Day. St. George's holds fond memories as my 3 children were baptized here. The next Sunday, I attended the service at the church I was baptized in, Newcastle United Church. I was hoping to hear the new Minister, Rev. Mary-Jane Hobden, however due to Pulpit Exchange, Rev. Sandra Farrow, of Northminster United Church was the guest minister and gave the service. I always enjoy listening to the Newcastle United Church choir under the direction of Joanne McLennan. After the service, we gathered to fellowship in the Sunday School room where a birthday cake was provided to celebrate Glenn Ewart Allin's 90th Birthday. It was an honour and privilege to be in attendance to celebrate Glenn's milestone year and the friendship between the Woo and Allin families! This past Sunday,

Donna and I were pleased to attend the joint Sunday service at Maple Grove United Church to celebrate the retirement of Ross Metcalf as organist and choir director having served in our community for 67 years. As a second cousin to Donna, it was nice to see such a wonderful turnout of family and friends to not only celebrate Ross's retirement but to also celebrate in music and song.

In my quiet reflection, I say a prayer for those who are suffering from the damage caused by flooding especially those in Bowmanville along Cedar Crest Beach Rd. and West Beach Rd. It so happened that after the 90th birthday celebration for Glenn Allin, mayor and members of council were notified of fire crews at the scene on Cedar Crest Beach Rd. where the lake was unsettled and the lake surge caused flooding. As I was nearby, I attended to find the lake level up to the protective rock wall and with strong winds causing waves to top the wall and causing the flooding. Clarington Emergency & Fire Service's firefighters were pumping out lake water that was filling the crawl space of a resident's home. Operations Staff also attended bringing in supplies to make sand bags.

Along with the firefighters and operations staff, many area residents came to help fill sandbags and place them in areas to create a barrier to protect properties and homes which were being flooded. Durham Regional Police were going door-to-door checking on residents and advising them to evacuate if the situation were to get worse. Red Cross was also at the ready. Despite the short timeline, I would say everyone worked seamlessly in a coordinated fashion to try and mitigate the increasing infiltration of water.

I was witness to many acts of kindness with people and groups stepping forward to volunteer their services. In fact 20 of my Brethren from the Masonic Lodge I belong to showed up Saturday morning and filled sandbags and also delivered them to fortify areas that were experiencing flooding. A local businessman brought his Bobcat and moved sandbags to where they were needed. Many random acts of kindness shows the character of our community. Unlike some areas in eastern Ontario and Quebec where an evacuation order is in place, I am only aware of one family that had to leave their home.

Over this past week since the call came in, Clarington Fire Chief Gord Weir, as the Community Emergency Management Co-ordinator, along with other agencies have been on scene and monitoring and assessing the situation. Mayor Adrian Foster and members of council have received communication updates as have the public through the news media and the Municipality of Clarington's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Area residents have also received information delivered door-to-door about flood preparedness containing advice for residents on what to do and what actions to take to protect their properties. When Mother Nature calms down and the situation subsides, all those involved will sit down and have a de-brief. I look forward to learning of the findings.

Continuing on with the subject of water, at Monday's General Government Committee meeting, a delegation was made by Simon Walker, teacher at Bowmanville High School, and 3 students. In mid March, Mr. Walker and 23 students from BHS travelled to Namelok, Tanzania on a "ME to We" trip to discover and explore a new culture and

also to meet those people to get a better understanding of their lifestyle and culture. The students helped build a classroom starting with digging the foundation. I am sure there was great pride in being part of something that will benefit the community for generations to come.

The students took part in a water walk where they learned about some of the challenges the mamas face in accessing clean water. The students said it was an eye opening experience to see the mamas walk 2km to access water 3 times a day, every day. The 3 students said this trip was a life-changing experience and the social change they were going to champion is to make BHS a plastic water bottle free zone and to be aware of the amounts of waste we create and the amounts of water we waste. The Municipality of Clarington has been challenged to participate in their endeavours to make a sustainable and livable planet as global citizens. I am encouraged by these students as our future leaders.

I hope that you are able to get outdoors and enjoy the freshness of the air and the warmth of the sunshine! Until next time!

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Dilon Rosseau photo
The concrete bridge slabs for the 407 Highway were recently installed over Highway 115/35, the end point of the new highway. The photo was taken from the south side of the overpasses.

CLARKE COMMENTARY

BY STUDENTS AT CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL

Javelin wins first place

Suzanne Souch takes 1st place for the second time in a row this time besting the competition at the Durham Track Classic May 4th. Suzanne, a rookie javelin thrower has now won first place in back to back invitationals and is an Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association contender for this year’s meet in Belleville June 1-3rd.

2016 PONTYPOOL MEN’S LOB BALL LEAGUE

RESULTS FOR: MAY 7, 2017

1	Renegades	over	Blackjacks	8	:	7
2	Outlaws	over	K.C. Rams	8	:	6
3	Pita Pit	over	Generals	14	:	13
4	Slime	over	Blazers	10	:	8

LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF MAY 8, 2017

#	Team	GP	Win	Loss	Tie	RF	RA	+/-	PTS
1	Slime	1	1	0	-	10	8	2	2
2	Outlaws	1	1	0	-	8	6	2	2
3	Renegades	1	1	0	-	8	7	1	2
4	Pita Pit	1	1	0	-	14	13	1	2
5	Generals	1	0	1	-	13	14	-1	0
6	Blackjacks	1	0	1	-	7	8	-1	0
7	Blazers	1	0	1	-	8	10	-2	0
8	K.C. Rams	1	0	1	-	6	8	-2	0

NEXT WEEKS GAMES: MAY 14, 2017

2:30 pm - Blackjacks vs. Generals
4:00 pm - Outlaws vs. Blazers ~ 5:30 pm - Renegades vs. Slime
7:00 pm - Pita Pit vs. K.C. Rams

Canadian Criss Cross

by: Walter D. Feener

ACROSS

1. Pocket watch chain
4. Key: Fr.
7. Remove secret microphones from
9. Apartment
11. Over: It.
12. Ran away to get married
14. Calculate the total of
15. ____-fatty acid
17. 20th letter of the alphabet
18. One-on-one fight
20. First prime minister of Senegal
21. Worshipped ones
22. Leading up to something more important
25. Francis Ford Coppola’s granddaughter
26. An amount of money
27. Variety of green-skinned apple
32. Founder of Manitoba
33. Parrot of New Zealand
34. Ark builder
36. Baseball abbreviation
37. Foolish
39. Two musicians playing together
40. Definitely but regrettably
42. Having tufts of hair
44. Go off at an angle
45. Related through the mother
46. Answer that agrees
47. Look at

DOWN

1. Protection for a ship’s side against piers
2. Kimono sash
3. Ram with the head
4. Mountain passes
5. British bathroom
6. Caveat ____
7. Fastened
8. Very difficult problem
9. A new birth
10. Run-down
11. Fashion that lasts a short time
13. French article
16. Direct toward
19. Allowed by law
21. Homeless boy who roams the streets
23. He plays for the Nets
24. ____ lock (computer key)
27. Daughters
28. Exclamation of surprise
29. Shout used in cheering for a team
30. Until now
31. High Fr.
32. Mens ____
35. Gardening tool
37. Electrically charged atoms
38. Immeasurably long periods of time
41. ____ kwon do
43. Canadian singer Ria

May 3 Answers

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And whisper so you can hear
We will always love and miss you
And wish that you were here
For all that life has given us
And all that's left to do
We know no greater treasure
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We miss you Thomas and you are
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Celebrating Clarington's beautiful gardens!

Clarington
BLOOMS

Nominate Your Favourite Front Garden!

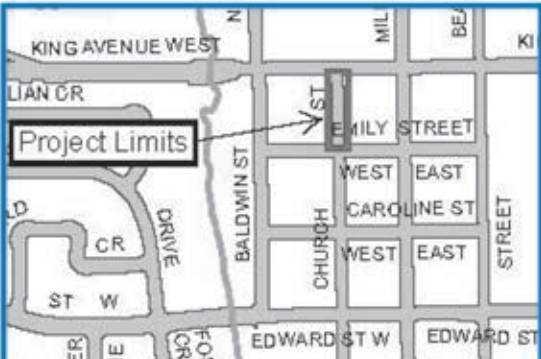
Nomination forms will be available starting May 1, 2017 at participating Garden Centres, Municipal Administrative Centre Municipal Recreation Facilities, the Clarington Visitor's Centre and on our website. You can nominate friends, neighbours, schools, churches, businesses, even yourself! Container/balcony gardens visible from the curb, are welcome.

For more information, call 905-435-1061 ext. 2563 or visit www.claringtonblooms.net.

Public Information Centre
Church Street Reconstruction
Newcastle

The Municipality of Clarington will be reconstructing Church Street, from King Avenue to Emily Street starting in June 2017. The work includes construction of concrete curbs and gutters, storm sewers, new granular road base and asphalt.

A Public Information Centre will be held on **Thursday, May 11, 2017 from 6 to 8 p.m.** at the Newcastle Public Library, 150 King Avenue East, Newcastle.



Preliminary design drawings will be available for viewing and staff will be on hand to answer questions. Local knowledge of the area and input can provide valuable information for finalizing the design plans

All drawings and displays will be posted on the Municipality of Clarington website following the meeting, www.clarington.net.

For more information, or if you cannot attend and would like to provide comments, contact:
Ron Albright, P. Eng., Assistant Director Engineering Services at 905-623-3379 or Steve May, C.Tech., Project Manager, CIMA+ at 905-697-4464.

We've Moved

The By-law Division has moved to office space at Fire Station 4, located at 2611 Trulls Road in Courtice.

All by-law services including parking ticket payments and disputes will be handled at this location.

For more information, visit www.clarington.net/bylaw

Community Events online at www.clarington.net

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