

Message from the Mayor – March 3/19

At the last regularly scheduled Council meeting we reviewed the draft financial statements for the fiscal year 2017. I'm happy to report that in 2016 the Township of Johnson recorded a very healthy financial position, and this improved slightly with 2017. Many thanks to Mayor Ted Hicks, councilors and staff for making that happen. Good job! We expect to have the 2018 Financial Statements completed by the September deadline.

I have to say that some parts of the financial statements are difficult to interpret - especially with regards to the segmented information in the notes to the financial statements. Provincial regulations mandate a certain method of allocating Revenues from Taxation over all government service areas including environmental services such as the hamlet's Water and Sewer. Over the years, a number of ratepayers who are not using the water and sewer services voiced their concerns regarding subsidizing the wa-

ter and sewer operations. I have reviewed the data and assure you that in reality this is not the case.

In February the Township of Johnson advertised for a Part Time Office Administration position and received several well qualified applications for this position. We have however, decided to delay filling this position until late April. We also expect to have a new full time Clerk in the office by April and this person will have a significant role in selecting a candidate for that position.

On a final note I have met with a number of residents who are concerned about By-Law infractions in the municipality. On this topic I would like to remind residents that the enforcement of many of the townships By-Laws is by way of a formal complaint. You can find this complaint form on the website at [www.johnsontownship.ca](http://www.johnsontownship.ca). The township could chose to adopt a "proactive" enforcement policy and may be considering this during the budget process. - **Mayor Blaine Mersereau**

NEWS FROM COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Notes from the January 16 and February 20 Council Meeting Minutes:

Council accepts:

- ◆ A presentation on "Assessment Base Management" including information on governing legislation, property classification, MPAC monitoring, and a summary of the current review.
- ◆ the 2017 Draft Financial Statements as presented by Anthony Rossi, Township Auditor
- ◆ Recreation Coordinators report on Public Skating, including info about \$4200 of free skating provided over the last 3 years through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge Initiative
- ◆ Recreation Coordinators update on the proposed Natural Playground design. A presentation on the design to be made at the March 20 Council meeting.
- ◆ The proposal from "Expertise for Municipalities" for "Integrity Commissioner Services " as per recent provincial legislation.

Council approves:

- ◆ An addition to the Procedural By-law of the scheduling of a monthly Special Council Meeting for the 4th Tuesday at 5:30pm
- ◆ a) preparing JTCC capital items to a grant ready stage;
- ◆ b) bridge maintenance of \$35000 in 2019 plus inspec-

tion of B4; and c) the gathering of information on Septic Bed Inspections for inland lakes re: 72 cottages in 2019

Council defers:

- ◆ The decision about the allocation of the funds from the "Main Street Revitalization Initiative Grant" to a later date.

Council requests (for the next meeting, March 20):

- ◆ A report by the Volunteer Fire Chief reviewing the Fire Departments services in the area
- ◆ Representation from the OPP to report on their services to the township

**NOTE: Visit [johnsontownship.ca](http://johnsontownship.ca) for the latest news and information as well as full council minutes and agendas.**

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 5:30pm, Johnson Township Council Chambers (Portable)**



1 Johnson Drive, Box 160  
Desbarats, ON  
P0R 1E0

Telephone: 705-782-6601  
Fax: 705-782-6780  
E-mail: [people@johnsontownship.ca](mailto:people@johnsontownship.ca)  
Website: [www.johnsontownship.ca](http://www.johnsontownship.ca)

**Hours of Operation**  
Monday to Friday  
8:30am to 4:30pm  
Saturday and Sunday  
Closed

# Township of Johnson



Township of Johnson Recreation Committee Presents:



**JOHNSON TOWNSHIP/CU-JO MEMORIAL FAMILY HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**  
**MARCH 22-23, DESBARATS**



- 2 Divisions: Competitive and Recreational
- Non-competitive teams must have 5 members Female AND/OR under 16 AND/OR over 65, (one of these on ice at all times, not including goalie)
- \$425/Team (players should be 13yrs or older)
- 3-games guaranteed; all games at Johnson Township Community Centre Arena
- JTCC Hall will be open during Tournament and for after-Tournament Festivities
- Bar Service will be provided Friday night 7PM to Midnight and Saturday 1PM to 1AM by the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 211
- The Arena canteen will be open during the tournament
- Proceeds to support the Johnson Township Recreation Volunteer Scholarship for graduating CASS student.

Registering Teams should contact Pat at 782 6601, ext 1-205  
[johnsontownship.ca](http://johnsontownship.ca) or on Facebook @ "Johnson Township Recreation"

**WINTER LANDFILL HOURS—until April 1**

Wednesdays -  
**NOON to 5PM**  
(changes to Noon to 7pm on April 1)

Saturdays -  
**9AM to 5PM**

Please note that tires are no longer accepted at the landfill site. See Page 3 for more information or [johnsontownship.ca](http://johnsontownship.ca)

INFORMATION FOR THESE EVENTS AND MORE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2 OR AT [JOHNSONTOWNSHIP.CA](http://JOHNSONTOWNSHIP.CA)

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A THEME FOR COMMUNITY NIGHT 2019- CALL 705 782 6601 x1205 IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA!!

**EVERYTHING COUNTRY FUR AND FEATHER SALE**  
JTCC Desbarats Arena  
Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> 9-2

PAVILLION & ARENA - Artisans, Crafters, Jewellery, Local meat, syrup, baking, more.  
TAILGATE - Small livestock - chickens, turkeys, goats, rabbits, +++

Desbarats Remembers Photo Booth  
Johnson FD - Activities for the Kids  
Youth Algoma Poultry Association

Also find us on Facebook!

Vendors and Artisans Still a few Tables available!  
Contact: Teri Winter [winterpoultry@gmail.com](mailto:winterpoultry@gmail.com)

Sponsored By:  
  

IMPORTANT:  
Hamlet residents are asked to ensure water meters are accessible for readings at the end of the month.  
Thank you!

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## RECREATION

- **Johnson Township Cu-Jo Memorial Family Hockey Tournament - March 22-23.** Open for registration! Teams should register by March 11. 2 Divisions: Competitive and Recreational. Non-competitive teams must have 5 Female members and/or under 16 and/or over 65 (one of these on ice at all times). Cost is **\$425/team** (players should be 13yrs or over). 3 games guaranteed, all at the JTCC. Hall will be open during tournament and for after-tournament festivities. Bar service will be provided Friday night 7pm to midnight and Saturday 1pm to 1am by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 211. The arena canteen will also be open during the tournament. Proceeds to support the Johnson Township Recreation Volunteer Scholarship for a graduating CASS student. To register, contact Pat O’Gorman at **782-6601 ext. 1-205**.

### **MARCH BREAK FREE SKATES - All free skate times are 50 minutes**

Monday, March 11, Tuesday, March 13, Thursday, March 15, **3pm**

Wednesday, March 14, Friday, March 16, **6:00pm**

Friday evening public skating is from **6:30-7:20pm**. \$3/person or \$6/family.

- ♦ **BASEBALL AND SOCCER REGISTRATION FORMS** - will be available in schools March 18, after the March Break. They will be due by **Friday, April 6**. **Late registrations will be charged an additional \$5.**
- ♦ **EVERYTHING COUNTRY “FUR AND FEATHER” SALE, MAY 4-** Now taking table bookings for this Youth Algoma Poultry Association fundraiser event to occur at the JTCC on Saturday, May 4. To pre-register contact [winterpoultry@gmail.com](mailto:winterpoultry@gmail.com). **See the poster on the front page for more info, or check out the Township website at [johnsontownship.ca](http://johnsontownship.ca).**
- ♦ **OUTDOOR SHOW, MAY 5-** The St. Joseph Island Hunters and Anglers Association **in collaboration** with the Johnson Township Recreation Committee will be hosting a Gun and Outdoor Show, on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm at the Johnson Township Community Centre in Desbarats. This show is focused on products and services for outdoor activities related primarily to hunting, fishing, ATV's, trailers, boats and conservation organizations. Beside indoor and outdoor vendors, there will be seminars, food and interactive archery available throughout the day. Anyone interested in having tables, booths or an outdoor space at this show can contact Jane Perry at **705-206-6454 by phone or text** for information and a booking.
- **GORDON LAKE HALL CARD PARTY - Friday, April 5, 7:30-10pm.** Card parties held on the first Friday of every month with last Party ending in May.
- **DESBARATS WOMEN’S INSTITUTE MEETING** - Every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Call Marlee at **705-782-4236** for more info.
- **50+ CLUB** meets every Wednesday from 1-3pm at the JTCC Hall.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department would like to remind everyone to PLEASE clear the area around your 911 Emergency Number and make sure your sign is in a state of good repair to be seen by Emergency Responders..that’s the little green sign at the end of your driveway that tells us where you live. In a Fire Emergency, a matter of seconds can mean a lot for saving lives and property.

For more information call the **Johnson Township Fire Department** at **705-782-6802**.

## LOCAL AREA EVENTS

**Central Algoma Seedy Saturday - Saturday, March 9, 10am-3pm** at CASS.

- ♦ Seed swap - Seed sales - H4 Presentations - Vendors & Exhibitors - Kids’ activities - Greenhouse tour \*Soil lab \*and more - Great day or the whole family
- ♦ Admission by donation. Nutritious lunches available.
- ♦ Contact: [seedysat@gmail.com](mailto:seedysat@gmail.com); 705 782-0732; find us on Facebook
- ♦ Watch for details in March 6th Sentinel!

**“Life on the Farm” Arch Fundraiser - March 15, 16, Bruce Station Hall.** Performances by Vernon Bailey, John McClenaghan, and Charlie Smith. Tickets \$15

**Algomatrad Family Dance, Irish music session, and potluck - March 30, Richards Landing Legion Hall -** Called dance with members of the O’Schraives, all welcome, no experience necessary, by donation. [Www.algomatrad.ca](http://www.algomatrad.ca)

**50th Annual Maple Syrup Festival - Saturday & Sunday, April 6 -7, 13-14** from 8am-3pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 374. All you can eat pancakes, sausages, and St. Joseph Island maple syrup. Local crafts, maple candy and maple syrup for sale. Local sugar bushes open for tours. Adults \$9.50, Seniors \$8.50, 10 & Under \$5.00. For more information call 705-246-2494.

## TOWNSHIP NEWS

- **Landfill Site—No more used tires please!** - As of December 31, 2018, due to changes in Ontario legislation, the introduction of a Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority, and subsequent regulation changes, tires will no longer be accepted at the Johnson/Tarbutt Landfill Site. Tires are accepted at several area businesses that are designated as PRO-Producer Responsibility Organization. A list of PRO's is available on the township website, and include Canadian Tire, Kal Tire, Wal-Mart, Total Tire, Bickell Auto Parts, Midas Auto Service, Frankie’s Automotive, Classic Automotive, Fountain Tire, WM King Salvage, Chris’ Tire and Auto, Goulais Disposals, Smyl’s Highland Ford, and Alfie’s Automotive. The list with addresses can also download for your convenience.
- **Johnson Township Community Hall** is available for bookings. Call **705-782-6723** for availability. Rental agreements are available at the arena or the township office or online. **The Gordon Lake Hall** is also available to rent for family gatherings, birthday parties, showers, etc. Call or text 705-989-5612 or 705-971 3167 to book. More info at: [johnsontownship.ca/facility-booking](http://johnsontownship.ca/facility-booking)
- **Ice Rentals** – Non Prime Time (Monday to Friday 7am-4pm) - \$103.00/hr. Prime Time (Monday to Friday 4-10pm, Saturday & Sunday 7am-10pm) 123.00/hr (contract), \$129.00/hr (no contract). Prices include GST. Call **705-782-6723** or visit [johnsontownship.ca/facility-booking](http://johnsontownship.ca/facility-booking) for more info.

**NOTE:** The Ice Surface at the Arena is slated to close for the season on April 1.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Winter Road maintenance continues, with the crew dealing with the crazy amount of snow this year. They have been winging snow banks over many ditches so please be careful on the road edges, it is easy with this kind of snow to get sucked into a ditch.

**PLEASE DON’T PUSH SNOW ACROSS THE ROAD!** It’s against the law and creates problems for the roads crew, and can cause severe equipment damage, as they try to deal with all the snow. If you hire a contractor to clear the snow, please let them know!