



United Counties of
Leeds and Grenville
25 Central Ave. W., Suite 100
Brockville, ON K6V 4N6
T 613-342-3840
800-770-2170
TTY 800-539-8685
F 613-342-2101
www.leedsgrenville.com

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2018

The highlights of the regular United Counties of Leeds and Grenville Council Meeting held on Thursday, May 24th and Committee of the Whole and Joint Services Committee meetings held earlier in the month, are listed below.

Counties commit funds to area hospital projects: Counties Council unanimously passed a resolution May 24th committing funds to the three area hospital projects.

Members of the Brockville General Hospital Foundation and the Kingston University Hospitals Foundation were in the gallery for the vote and applauded the decision. The United Counties will provide \$2.125-million over 10 years for the Brockville hospital's major redevelopment project. The funds for will go toward the \$10-million community contribution of the project. The Province is funding 90% of the \$131-million Phase 2 redevelopment.

The Counties resolution also includes a request from Kemptville District Hospital Foundation for \$75,000 this year for an Ophthalmology Clinic Project. The Kingston University Hospital's request is for \$600,000 over five years.

The Counties adopted a new Hospital Capital Funding Policy in January of this year. The intent is to provide financial assistance for new development, redevelopment or expansion, and other capital projects at hospitals providing services to the residents of Leeds and Grenville.

A dedicated reserve fund has been established. Currently, one-half of a percent of the annual levy, which totals \$186,000 in 2018, will be used to disburse to hospitals. The resolution passed by Council also asks staff to review financial options for funding hospital projects. For more information, contact Counties CAO, Andy Brown at 613-342-3840, ext. 2301.

Counties makes contribution in honour of late MP Gord Brown: Counties Council has passed a resolution to contribute \$2,000 to a GoFundMe campaign in memory of the late Gord Brown, Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville - 1000 Islands and Rideau Lakes.

May 24, 2018

The 'Help Gord Brown's Gan Ice Pad Vision' campaign has reached more than \$36,000 with a goal of \$100,000. The campaign was launched following Mr. Brown's death on May 2nd. At that time, Mr. Brown's family asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the fund.

Mr. Brown, who grew up in Gananoque, helped found the not-for-profit Thousand Islands Accommodation Partners (TIAP). Last July, the partnership announced it would take part in a community enhancement project and determined it would follow Mr. Brown's suggestion to build an outdoor refrigerated ice pad in Gananoque. The surface will now be named in his memory. Learn more by visiting the GoFundMe site: <https://ca.gofundme.com/help-gord-browns-gan-ice-pad-vision>. For more information, contact Counties CAO Andy Brown at 613-342-3840, ext. 2301.

Funeral and burial assistance program revised: An updated Assistance for Funeral and Burial Policy has been approved by the Joint Services Committee.

The revised policy returns the income/asset testing only to the household of the deceased and not the extended family. At the current rate of applications, it is anticipated the policy may result in 15-20 more funerals being funded each year. The Counties funded 25 funerals last year.

"The revised policy will enable access to funeral assistance for more families in financial need," said Alison Tutak, Director of Community and Social Services. "It achieves the balance of offering a funeral assistance benefit for those most in need in our community, while being accountable to the taxpayers of Leeds and Grenville."

The Counties have a policy in place to meet legislative requirements for burials of deceased indigent persons and unclaimed bodies. It is committed to providing financial resources to pay for basic funeral and burial services. The policy establishes income and asset limits for determining eligibility for such assistance. For more information, contact Director of Community and Social Services Alison Tutak at 613-342-3840, ext. 2305.

Upcoming meetings: Committee of the Whole Tuesday, June 5; Joint Services Committee Wednesday, June 6, and regular Counties Council on Thursday, June 21. All regular meetings begin at 9 a.m. in the Council Chambers at 25 Central Avenue, Brockville. For more information, contact County Clerk Lesley Todd at 613-342-3840, ext. 2454.



May 24, 2018

Media inquiries:

Deanna Clark, Economic Development Officer/media releases,
United Counties of Leeds Grenville
32 Wall Street, Suite 300, Brockville, ON, K6V 4R9
613-342-3840, ext. 5360 or deanna.clark@uclg.on.ca
Cell: 613-803-0249