Renfrew Celebrates Canada’s 150th Birthday

June 14–24
Rocky Mountain House Art Contest sponsored by the Renfrew Art Guild & Rocky Mountain House Artwork displayed at Rocky Mountain House Restaurant, 409 Stewart Street Applications: therockymountainhouse.com Judging: June 24th; prizes June 23 & 24
Canada 150 Scavenger Hunt Hosted by NHA/NHL Birthplace Museum Over $300 in prizes! Info: 613-432-2155
June 23–25
Saw Tech Log Expo: Ma-te-way Activity Centre. Celebrate Canada’s heritage!

Tuesday, June 27
Spaghetti Night hosted by the Renfrew Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. Renfrew Legion, 30 Raglan St.S. Cost $10/person. Advance tickets at Legion

Tuesday, June 27 and Thursday, June 29
Live entertainment at the Renfrew Royal Canadian Legion 6 p.m.–10 p.m. Renfrew Legion Patio 30 Raglan St.S. Adults
Renfrew Public Library’s Film Group celebrates Canada’s birthday by hosting two Canadian film nights 5 p.m. renfrew.library.ca

Wednesday, June 28
Bridge Tournament hosted by the Renfrew Duplicate Club 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Ma-te-way Activity Centre 1 Ma-te-way Park Dr. Advance tickets: $15.00 includes refreshments

Wednesday, June 28

Thursday, June 29
150 Knowledge and Skills Street Hockey Challenge hosted by NHA/NHL Birthplace Museum For elementary students Downtown Raglan Street will be blocked off (Opeongo Rd. to Munroe Ave.) from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 29 and Friday, June 30
Peggy’s Paints Downtown Sidewalk, Artist and Craft Sale hosted by the Renfrew BIA 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 29
Barbecue hosted by Trinity St. Andrews United Church Noon–5:30 p.m. Church grounds, 291 Plaunt St.S. All ages, Advance tickets at the church office. Rain or shine, outdoor seating.

Friday, June 30

June 29
Canada Day Celebrations sponsored by the Town of Renfrew Free admission, bring your lawn chair.
Children’s Parade—A family favourite! 4:30 p.m.
Children dress in their red and white, bike, walk, scooter etc. to make their way from the Henry Eady Building to the flag pole at Ma-te-way Activity Centre.
Opening Ceremonies and Birthday Cake 4:45 p.m.
Family games and activities 5 p.m.–10 p.m.
Family games include badminton, soccer, boce, giant jenga, lawn games and a scavenger hunt.

Friday, June 30
Explore Renfrew’s Rich Past hosted by Town Hall Photos, paintings and displays; refreshments and reminiscing! 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Town Hall Boardroom

Downtown Street Dance featuring the Algonquins’ Bear Nation Drum & Dance Group and new country rock hits Downtown Street Dance hosted by Town of Renfrew at Town Hall, 127 Raglan St.S. 9:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m. Downtown Raglan Street will be blocked off (Opeongo Rd. to Munroe Ave.)
Bring your lawn chairs.
Rain? Event moved to Ma-te-way Activity Centre

Midnight Fireworks hosted by the Town of Renfrew Town Hall roof top

June through August
What did Renfrew look like in 1867? Interactive display at McDougall Mill Museum O’Brien Park, 65 Albert St. 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. daily.

June through August
To celebrate Canada’s 150th, Renfrew Public Library is introducing Renfrew Reads 150 Canadian Books.
Vote for your favourite Canadian titles starting July 1st. renfrew.library.ca 613-432-8151.

July
Art Exhibition and Music for Seniors hosted by Barbara Tomasini Time: afternoon Groves Park Lodge, 470 Raglan St.N. Limited seating and parking

July 15–16
Art in the Park hosted by the Renfrew Art Guild
Haramian Park, O’Brien Rd. Rain or shine Sat. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

July 22
Wow! A ceremony of celebration, hosted by the Golden Age Activity Centre, and sponsored by the Government of Ontario.
Algonquins’ Bear Nation Drum & Dance traditional First Nations celebration! 2:00 p.m. O’Brien Park

Plaunt Street Phase II gets the green light
The second phase of infrastructure renewal on Plaunt Street starts in August and finishes in 2017. The small diameter cast iron watermains that are causing water quality problems will be replaced, so existing customers will be repaired, and the road surface and sidewalk will be replaced. Funding comes from the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund: $517,331 Federal and $528,666 Provincial, Federal Gas Tax $284,842; Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund: $402,042; and the Town of Renfrew: $402,042.
It is timely because traffic on Plaunt Street will increase in 2018 during the downtown reconstruction of Highway 60, from Hall Avenue to the Bonnerche River Bridge. Plaunt Street and Argyle Street will help move traffic through the downtown core.

Barnet Boulevard funding approved
The Town has secured $1.024 million from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to complete the Barnet Boulevard road, curb and sidewalk construction from Raglan Street South to Eighth Street. The Town will provide $1.396 million. Design work will be completed in 2017 with construction in 2018.

Adding years to the Swinging Bridge
Repairs to Renfrew’s historic Swinging Bridge, scheduled for late fall, will ensure it can be used for the next 10 to 15 years. The Swinging Bridge, used by residents to walk to and from the Arthur Street area to the downtown, is also a unique Canadian landmark enjoyed by tourists.

What’s in your sewage?
Wastewater treatment plants remove most of the natural waste from humans but have trouble removing chemicals, solvents, fuels, other manmade chemicals, and drugs that are making their way into sewer systems. That’s why it is really important not to dump drugs and household chemicals down drains or toilets. Putting them in the garbage is not a good idea either because can eventually leach into the ground and find their way into a water table affecting water quality. Dumping them on the ground is also not a good idea. Eventually, contaminants find their way to streams and rivers, the source of our drinking water. And there is always someone living downstream.

Please use the Town of Renfrew’s household hazardous waste (HHW) depot to dispose of the products listed below. Located at 376 Bruce Street, it’s open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from May 1 to August 31.

• Oil filters
• Empty lubricating oil containers
• Fertilizers and pesticides
• Pressurized cylinders (propane, oxygen, helium or other gases)
• Fertilizers and pesticides
• Vehicle engine antifreeze/coolant
• Empty lubricating oil containers
• Oil filters

Stay away from downed power lines!
Heavy rains and high winds can damage power lines. If you see a power line hanging from a pole, stay at least 10 metres or 33 feet away from it. Assume the downed power line and anything touching it including trees are energized. Keep your children and pets as far away as possible. Never drive over a downed wire. Please call Renfrew Hydro at 613-432-4884 to report problems.

Take it Back
Drug stores will take back expired medication, old needles and sharps. Local hardware stores don’t take back paint so the best option is the HHW depot. For more information, visit renfrew.ca
An Expanded Ma-te-way Activity Centre: What Will Work Best?

Get informed, get involved, have your say!
If you have a question or want to make a comment, here’s how:
• E-mail: community@renfrew.ca
• Telephone: 613.432.3131
• Drop your question or comment off at Town Hall or the Renfrew Recreation Centre.

Visit www.renfrew.ca for details.
A decision has not been made and funds have not been committed.
The first stage of Council’s consultation is letting residents know about the proposals. About 200 residents participated in public meetings at the end of May and expressed support for specific options; others had concerns about the costs. We encourage your participation because your views will help us shape the decision; we hope these discussions and the emerging plan will bring people together.

Why is an expanded Ma-te-way Activity Centre being proposed?
Renfrew Town Council is looking at repurposing its downtown Recreation Centre at 67 Argyle St.S. rather than spending a lot of money to bring it up to today’s standards. Council is also evaluating whether or not to add a gymnasium, a fitness centre, and either an arena or an aquatic facility, or an arena and an aquatic facility to the Ma-te-way Activity Centre. At the core is deciding what will provide value, and best meet the needs of Renfrew’s citizens.

Background
In February 2016, the Parks and Recreation Committee asked staff to explore recreation facility options based on the Parks, Recreation, & Culture Master Plan. The Plan’s strategic recommendations on programs, services, parks, open spaces, and facilities are implemented based on Council’s financial priorities and include:
• Reaffirming Ma-te-way Park as the hub for major, accessible recreational facilities;
• Constructing a modest pool, and second ice surface;
• Repurposing Renfrew Recreation Centre (RRC), in operation since 1949; and
• Approving a 1% tax increase, and encouraging fundraisers.

While RRC is fully utilized, a 2013 Morris and Hershfield audit and building assessment identified major repairs to this 1897 building (foundation, windows, floors, and exterior/interior work); parking is insufficient, and accessibility for the disabled is inadequate (entrance, reception, and access to each of the three floors); Fire code updates are also needed. Funds set aside haven’t been spent pending the decision on its future.

In November 2016, the Parks and Recreation Committee directed staff to determine the interest in a second ice pad—the users committed to using in binding agreements with the Town.
Staff commissioned a modest conceptual plan for each option and engaged a cost consultant.

What is being proposed?
The three options are based on adding to the Ma-te-way Activity Centre which now has an ice pad, a lobby, and community hall.
Option 1: A new recreation centre and second ice pad
• Ground floor: 4,034 sq. meters/43,421 sq. feet to house a second ice pad, a gymnasium, four new change rooms, offices, Hall of fame, meeting room, and retail space.
• Upper floor: 663 sq. meters/7,136 sq. feet to house 4 multi-purpose rooms, a fitness centre, gymnasium upper viewing area, and storage.
• Cost: $8,610,000 of which $7,897,800 would be funded by a debenture payable over 30 years.
• Impact on municipal taxes: 1% tax increase over 2016 taxes or an increase of $240.3*.

Option 2: A new recreation centre and pool
• Ground floor: 2,257 sq. meters/25,270 sq. feet for a 5-lane pool, 2 change rooms, a family change room, a lifeguard station, and pool mechanical room; offices; reception; the Hall of Fame; a meeting room; a gymnasium, retail area and storage.
• Upper floor: 600 sq. meters/6,458 sq. feet for 4 multi-purpose rooms; a fitness centre; gymnasium upper viewing area; and storage.
• Cost: $7,332,000 of which $6,665,400 would be funded by a debenture payable over 30 years.
• Impact on municipal taxes: 5.6% tax increase over 2016 taxes or an increase of $134.57*.

Option 3: A new recreation centre, pool, and second ice pad
• Ground floor: 4,879 sq. meters/52,517 sq. feet for a second ice pad; a new gymnasium; four change rooms; offices; the Hall of Fame; a meeting room; retail space; a 5-lane pool, 2 change rooms, a family change room, a lifeguard station, and pool mechanical room.
• Upper floor: 663 sq. meters/7,136 sq. feet housing 4 multi-purpose rooms; a fitness centre; gymnasium upper viewing area; and storage.
• Cost: $12,779,000 of which $11,863,400 would be funded by a debenture payable over 30 years.
• Impact on municipal taxes: 6.8% or an increase of $163.40.*

Casting
Go to www.renfrew.ca for a description of the options.
Revenues raised by the Second Ice Pad Committee ($140,000) and the Pool Committee ($342,000), and funds in the Town’s Recreation Major Capital Reserve ($300,000) would be applied to the capital costs.
Naming rights, leased space, user fees, savings from the RRC and an annual commitment from the tax base of $75,000 are included in the annual operating revenues. Casting doesn’t include federal and provincial funding, partnerships or other fundraising.
*for the average property assessed at $170,000

Plaunt Street Phase II gets the green light
See inside for more!

An Expanded Ma-te-way Activity Centre: What Will Work Best?
See the back cover for details.

How do I keep in touch with Renfrew Town Council?
Mayor Don Eady
deady@renfrew.ca
Reeve Peter Emon
pemon@renfrew.ca
Councillor Arlene Jamieson
ajamieson@renfrew.ca
Councillor Tom Sidney
tsidney@renfrew.ca
Councillor Kate Windle
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Councillor Andrew Evans
aevans@renfrew.ca
Councillor Mike Coulas
mcoulas@renfrew.ca
Call 613.432.4848 ext. 104 and indicate which member(s) of Council should receive your message.

Need to reach us?
Town of Renfrew 127 Raglan Street South, Renfrew, Ontario K7V 1P8
Telephone: (613) 432-4948 ~ Fax: (613) 432-7245 info@renfrew.ca www.renfrew.ca

Dear Residents,
It’s been a busy spring and the summer holds the same promise.
The Town of Renfrew has received some welcome news about funding from the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund which will allow us to proceed with the first phase of infrastructure renewal on Plaunt Street later this summer. You can read about this and other important investments we are making to support health, safety and accessibility in this edition.

Sustainability is important to this Council which strives to balance financial, social and environmental responsibilities in its decision-making without compromising future generations. Keeping an eye on budget, investing in the community, managing risks, and making decisions within our spending limits are responsibilities you have entrusted us with. Your views are important in shaping those decisions—and a good example of that is how citizens’ participation in the Downtown Streetscape Master Plan helped create a better designed downtown.

In the days ahead, we will be marking Canada’s 150th celebration. Please, join us at the many special events organized by countless enthusiastic Renfrew volunteers, organizations and businesses. Councillor Tom Sidney and I, as Co-Chairs of Renfrew’s 150th Committee, want to extend a heartfelt thanks to the many who have spent hours planning a host of family activities.

Whether it is music, art, dance, enjoying a church barbecue, celebrating Renfrew’s legacy as a lumber town at the McDougall Museum, enjoying a First Nation’s pow wow at O’Brien Park, or flying the Canadian flag, get out and enjoy your town. There’s a list of 150 activities, for the young and the young at heart on page 2 and on www.renfrew.ca.

Make memories you can share! When you are asked where will you be on Canada’s 150th, you can say, Renfrew, it’s the place to be!

Kindest regards,
Mayor Don Eady

Swing into Summer Safety Campaign: Get your set of Blue Jays safety cards!

Drop into the Renfrew Fire Department and ask for a set of Toronto Blue Jays Player safety cards. Take them home and challenge your family to a contest. Test their knowledge about fire safety!

Whether you want to promote safety to our children than the boys of summer, the Toronto Blue Jays and our Fire Department was one of five departments in Ontario chosen to launch the Swing into Summer Safety Campaign. We invited Grade 1 children to help us, and they had a lot of fun learning about campfire safety, touring the Fire Department and enjoying the junior firefighter obstacle course!

Firefighters headed out to Ma-Te-Way Park to talk about fire safety with some young baseball players, and at the end of the game, one lucky ball player won the draw for an autographed baseball, signed by Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Jason Grilli.

Our Fire Department is continuously spreading the word about fire safety, and these events will assist us in doing our part to keep Renfrew residents safe, both young and old. The Swing into Safety Campaign is sponsored by the Toronto Blue Jays, the Fire Marshal’s Public Safety Council and its sponsors, and the Renfrew Fire Department, and the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management.

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