



Renfrew

INC • 1858
Bridging Charm and Convenience

Town of Renfrew Council Summary

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

Full Agenda can be found [here](#).

**** To watch meeting discussions, please click on the link and you will be directed to the YouTube recording for the listed agenda item. Discussions for highlighted items take place at both Council and Committee of the Whole. ****

The following items were discussed at *Committee of the Whole (COW)*

- **[Heritage Renfrew and the Town of Renfrew:](#)** Council received a report on the Town's past communications and collaborations with Heritage Renfrew, with a recommendation to establish a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to further develop the partnership. Council requested this item be postponed until the July 8th, 2025 meeting of Council where it will come back for further discussion. Members of the local community group attended as a delegation to talk about their history, services, and assistance they are hoping to receive from the Town in regards to supporting their day-to-day operations.
- **[Building Assessment for the McDougall Mill Museum:](#)** Council was presented with an update on the McDougall Mill Museum's building condition, with a recommendation that staff obtain a quote for the 2026 Capital Budget to develop a concept plan before addressing major items from the 2017 assessment. Minor repairs will proceed in 2025 within existing budgets.
- **[Grants to Community Partners Policy Review:](#)** Council received a report on proposed updates to the Grants to Community Partners Policy, with recommended amendments to improve clarity, accountability, and alignment with best practices across Ontario municipalities. The revised policy will be brought back for final approval to the July 8, 2025 Council meeting.
- **[Refund and Cancellation Policy:](#)** Council reviewed a draft policy designed to establish clear and consistent guidelines for managing program and facility booking cancellations within the Recreation & Community Services Department. The policy will return to Council for final approval on July 8, 2025.

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- **Bonnechere Manor Proposed Modular Housing Development:** Council reviewed a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County of Renfrew to support a proposed 40-unit affordable modular housing project at Bonnechere Manor. The MOU outlines collaboration on planning and funding, including the waiving of municipal fees, and supports the Town's housing initiatives. Final approval will be considered at the July 8, 2025 Council meeting.
- **Old Wastewater Treatment Plant Demolition:** Council received an update on the old Wastewater Treatment Plant demolition, which included engineering services to update environmental assessments, designs, and tender documents. Council deferred this decision until a future Council meeting to clarify more information.
- **Results of Non-Eligible Source Recycling Survey:** Council received an update on the Non-Eligible Source Recycling Survey and for future service levels. The survey revealed many small businesses rely on curbside recycling and would be impacted by fee-based services or depot-only options. Council put forward consideration to maintain current levels of service and potential partnerships and cost sharing options which will be brought back to Council for final consideration at the July 8, 2025 Council meeting.
- **Tender Award for Ma-te-Way Park Drive Watermain Replacement Project:** Council approved the construction award for the Ma-te-Way Park Drive Watermain Replacement Project to Bonnechere Excavating Inc. for \$1,387,938.03 (excluding HST). The project addresses frequent watermain breaks near the myFM Centre and is funded through the OCIF, coming in under the approved \$1.59 million budget.
- **2025 Asset Management Plan:** Council received and accepted updates to the 2025 Asset Management Plan, ensuring compliance with Ontario Regulation 588/17 ahead of the July 1, 2025 deadline. The plan supports long-term capital planning and funding eligibility, with no immediate financial impact.



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- **Commemorative Naming Request – Renfrew Tennis Courts:** Council received a request from the Renfrew Tennis Club to name Tennis Court 1 “Garry Irving Court” and Court 2 “Robert Pelletier Court” in recognition of their contributions to the club and community. The proposal aligns with the Town’s Commemorative Naming Policy, and following a public notice period with only positive feedback, it will return to Council for final approval on July 8, 2025.
- **Social Media Policy:** Council reviewed a new Social Media Policy to ensure appropriate, transparent, and legally compliant use of social media by staff and Council. The policy sets clear standards for online engagement and public interaction. The final policy will return to Council on July 8, 2025 for adoption.
- **Municipal Complaint Policy:** A review of the Town’s Municipal Complaint Policy was conducted, and amendments were put forward for Council’s consideration. The final policy will come back to Council on July 8, 2025, for adoption.
- **Government Business Corporation:** Council was presented with options for consideration on establishing a Government Building Corporation for town-owned facilities. Staff were directed to begin working on a business plan, which will be brought back to council for further discussion.

Motion of Which Notice Has Previously Been Given:

- **Councillor Dick:** Directed staff to assess sign locations for the BIA Attraction Boards and report back on installation and legal requirements.
- **Councillor Dick:** Directed staff to review Mr. Groenewoud’s water bill reimbursement request and report back with recommendations and any required by-law considerations before a final decision is made.
- **Councillor Dick:** Directed staff to investigate concerns related to the property at 356 Haig Street, including relevant correspondence, and report back with findings and recommendations.
- **Councillor McDonald:** Directed staff to explore the feasibility of restoring the Fitness Centre’s original hours (6 a.m. to 10 p.m.) and report back with any concerns or limitations by July 8, 2025.

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The following items were discussed at Council:

- **Public Meeting - Property at 436 Lisgar Avenue:** A public meeting was held to consider amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law for 436 Lisgar Avenue, proposing to redesignate the vacant property from Industrial to Residential and rezone it to Residential Two (R2) to support future housing development. Final approval on the amendments will come forward at the July 8, 2025, Council meeting.
- **Asset Management Plan (AMP) Update:** Council was presented with an update on the 2025 AMP which included key details on requirements, town growth and future development plans, Town equipment updates, water, storm, and sewer infrastructure projects, and more. The full presentation is available [here](#).

Council adopted the following Resolutions and By-Laws:

- Council approved the noted improvements to the myFM Centre and Ma-te-way Park, funded through contributions from the Recreation Fundraising Committee.
- Council passed By-Law 57-2025 to adopt the 2025 Business Improvement Area (BIA) tax rate.
- Council approved the temporary road closures on Railway Avenue as presented.
- Council approved and passed By-Law 56-2025 to adopt the recommended changes to the Council-Staff Relations Policy.

For more information, please contact:

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