



Renfrew

INC • 1858

Bridging Charm and Convenience

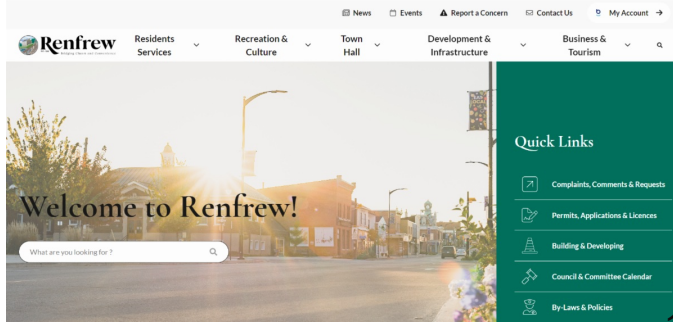
March 2024

TOWN OF RENFREW NEWSLETTER



Renfrew Launches New Municipal Website

The Town of Renfrew is excited to announce the launch of its newly redesigned municipal website, aimed at enhancing accessibility and providing an intuitive digital platform for residents and visitors alike. The revamped website offers



a sleek and modern interface, making it easier than ever for individuals to navigate essential services, access information, and engage with local government resources. Key features of the new website include:

1. Streamlined Navigation: Users can effortlessly find what they need with intuitive navigation menus and search functionality.
2. Mobile Responsiveness: The website is optimized for mobile devices, ensuring a seamless experience across all screens and devices.
3. Interactive Maps: Residents can explore interactive maps to locate parks, facilities, and other points of interest within the town.
4. Online Services: Convenient online services enable residents to pay bills, submit forms, and access municipal resources from the comfort of their homes.
5. Community Engagement: The website includes features for community engagement, such as event calendars, news updates, and feedback forms, fostering greater interaction between residents and the local government.

[Check out the new municipal website](#)



Mural at Visitor Information Centre Complete



The new mural inside Renfrew's Visitor Information Centre is now complete. Councillor Andrew Dick, Chair of the Community Services and Economic Development Committee and Renfrew Mayor Tom Sidney joined artist Jimmy Baptist on Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, to view the progress of the mural project. Community members were invited to help paint the mural on March 5th and 6th, 2024.

The project is being led by the Town of Renfrew in partnership with Kate Monahan from The Quiet Guiding Company and Becky Wright from Milestone Consulting. The cost of this mural is included as part of the grant funding received through Heritage Canada to undertake the Community Support, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Initiatives Project. As a part of this project, the Town of Renfrew hosted a Cultural Exchange Event, conducted all staff training, and a three-year plan will be created to guide the Town and create awareness around anti-racism, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

As part of a grand unveiling, members of the community will be invited out to see the completed project. Council has also directed staff to look at options for renaming the Visitor Information Centre with a further report expected.

[Read more about the New Mural](#)

Tree Planting Project to Proceed in 2024



The Town of Renfrew is partnering with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and the Scouts organization on a tree planting project. The project by the Town, OPG and Scouts will see 120 trees planted at Ma-teWay Park in 2024 with the planting tentatively scheduled for the end of May.

Amanda Springer, Manager of Environmental Services for the Town of Renfrew, says, “The Town was approached by OPG to provide public land for the planting project late in 2023 and after a few planning meetings, Ma-teWay Park was selected as the ideal location.” Springer adds, “A few larger shade trees will be planted around the new play structure with many smaller trees planted along the Millenium Trail.”

As part of the tree planting partnership, OPG will provide 120 trees and shrubs, the Scouts organization will help with planting and the Town of Renfrew will provide planting support, mulch, and a commitment to care for the trees after they’re planted.

A social media announcement and more details regarding the tree planting partnership will be shared once available.

[Read more about the project](#)

Events in Renfrew



APRIL SKATE SCHEDULE



myFM Centre, 1 Ma-te-Way Park Dr. Renfrew

All skates are FREE - Registration is not required
BEI Ice Pad #2 is located in the new section of myFM Centre

- **Tuesday, April 2, 2024 10:30am-12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Friday, April 5, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - Deslaurier (Pad 1)
- **Sunday, April 7, 2024 2:00pm-3:00pm** Public Skate - Deslaurier (Pad 1)
- **Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:30am-12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Friday, April 12, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Saturday, April 13, 2024 5:30pm - 6:30pm** Public Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Sunday, April 14, 2024 2:00pm - 3:00pm** Public Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Friday, April 19, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)
- **Tuesday, April 30, 2024 10:30am - 12:00pm** Senior & Tot Skate - BEI (Pad 2)

Healthy Eating Workshop
Renfrew
Dive into delicious and nutritious eating habits with our Healthy Eating Workshop, led by Registered Dietitian Melissa Verch!
Sunday, April 21
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Kitchen in Community Hall at myFM Centre, 1-Ma-te-Way Dr. Renfrew
\$30 + HST Participants will learn how to make Chicken/Black Bean Stir Fry - a tasty and balanced meal packed with protein, fiber, and essential nutrients.
Questions? Contact the Programs Team | Programs@renfrew.ca | 613-432-4848 x118

Healthy Eating Workshop

Dive into delicious and nutritious eating habits with our Healthy Eating Workshop, led by Registered Dietitian Melissa Verch!

Click [HERE](#) to register online.

Renfrew
EMPOWERING ATHLETES with Meghan Cahill
\$60 5-week session
Unlock your full potential!
For children ages 8-13
Beginning **Wednesday, April 10**
3:30 pm - 4:20 pm
Home Hardware Gymnasium - myFM Centre
Questions? Contact the Programs Team | programs@renfrew.ca | 613-432-4848 x118

Empowering Athletes

Calling all young athletes aged 8-13! Are you ready to take your skills to the next level? Join us for an intensive 5-week session focused on athletic development!

Click [HERE](#) to register online.

You can also register in person at the myFM Centre. Or call 613-432-4848 x 118 or email programs@renfrew.ca

You can also register in person at the myFM Centre. Or call 613-432-4848 x 118 or email programs@renfrew.ca



DRAMA LAB

Instructed by:
Meaghan and Lucas of
Ottawa Valley Theatre Kids!

This program is designed to introduce participants to a broad range of topics in the dramatic arts!

\$90
8-week session

Thursdays
April 11-June 6
6-8 years 5:30-6:30pm
9-12 years 6:30-7:30pm

St. Thomas School - 41 Bolger Ln. Renfrew

Questions? Contact the Programs Team programs@renfrew.ca 613-432-4848 x118

Drama Lab

In this dynamic and interactive program, children will embark on an exciting journey exploring the world of drama, storytelling, and performance.

Click [HERE](#) to register online.

You can also register in person at the myFM Centre. Or call 613-432-4848 x 118 or email programs@renfrew.ca



Stretch Class for Men

3:00 - 3:45 pm
Wednesday, April 3 -
Wednesday, May 1

Designed specifically for men, this class offers a dynamic and invigorating experience aimed at improving flexibility, mobility, and overall well-being.

\$50 + HST/ 5-Week Class
\$15 + HST/ 1 Class

Ontario Power Generation Dance Studio
myFM Centre, 1 Ma-te-Way Dr.

Questions? Contact the Programs Team programs@renfrew.ca 613-432-4848 x 118

Stretch Class for Men

Flexibility meets strength in our Men's Stretching Class! Join us on Wednesday afternoons for Stretch Class for Men with certified personal trainer Jason Nowlan.

Click [HERE](#) to register online.

You can also register in person at the myFM Centre. Or call 613-432-4848 x 118 or email programs@renfrew.ca

SPRING 2024

PROGRAM



GUIDE



MARCH  APRIL  MAY

Locations



- **myFM Centre**, 1 Ma-te-Way Dr.
- **Renfrew Public Library**, 13 Railway Ave.
- **Visitor Information Centre**, 190 Mask Rd.

***Resident fee applies to those that live in:**

Town of Renfrew, Township of Admaston/Bromley, Horton Township,
Township of Greater Madawaska, Township of McNab/Braeside

Sign up for Monthly Pre-Authorized
Payments

The Town of Renfrew offers pre-authorized payment plans for

TAX TIME



taxes and water/wastewater charges.

- Residents can sign up for monthly tax installments which will be split into 11 equal payments and processed each month on the 15th with the exception of December.
- Water/wastewater payments are based on actual billing and will be withdrawn on due dates shown on your bill.

[Sign Up for Pre-Authorized Payments Here](#)

Strategic Organizational Restructuring at Town Hall



The Town of Renfrew is strategically restructuring the organization to improve efficiency and maximize cost savings for the community.

Part of the changes will see the Facilities, Maintenance and Operations Department merged with the Department of Library, Community and Recreation Services and the Department of Development, Environment, and Infrastructure. Acting Director Michel Asselin retired March 8th, 2024, after working 19-years with the Town of Renfrew. Acting Director Janet Collins has agreed to stay on with the Corporation on a part-time basis until December 2024 to assist with the implementation of a winter and summer maintenance operations review.

Director Eric Withers has also been appointed the Deputy CAO.

Council adopted the revised organizational chart on March 12th, 2024, through a by-law amending the Organizational Structure Policy.

Public Information Centre



The Town of Renfrew is excited to share highlights from the recent Public Information Centre held at the myFM Centre, where updates were shared on two significant projects shaping our community's future. On Wednesday, March 27th, 2024, residents had the opportunity to engage directly and gain insights into the ongoing developments.

[Learn more about the projects here](#)

Purchase Your 2024 Pet Tags

The Town of Renfrew, requires that all dogs and cats must be licensed and wearing a tag. By licensing your dog or cat, Animal Control services will make every effort to reunite you with your lost pet. Tags are valid from January 1st to December 31st.

[Purchase Pet Tags Here](#)

Purchase Your 2024 Burn Permits

Burn permits are issued under the recreational open air burning by-law. The annual permits expire on December 31 of each year. Homeowners can apply for burn permits online by following the link below or by calling the Renfrew Fire Department at 613-432-2811 to set up an appointment during regular office hours (Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) when the Fire Chief or designate is available.

[Purchase Burn Permits Here](#)



S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
28	29	30	31											31						
APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	1	2	3	4

To report a missed garbage or recycling collection please contact
Topps Environmental Solutions at
 613-257-1195
 help@toppsenv.com

For Town Departments please call:

Town Hall (613) 432-4848
 Public Works (613) 432-8166
 Parks & Rec. (613) 432-3131
 Fire Dept. (613) 432-2811
 Library (613) 432-8151
 Landfill (613) 432-0731
 After Hours Emergency (613) 432-6446

Garbage and Co-mingled Recycling
Garbage and Fibre Recycling
Leaf & Yard Waste Weeks of: Apr. 15, Apr. 29 & May 13 Weeks of: Oct. 7, Oct. 21 & Nov. 11 Leaf and Yard Waste pick up will occur throughout the scheduled week and may not correspond with your garbage/recycling collection day.
Household Hazardous Waste Depot OPENS: May 4, 2024 CLOSES: August 31, 2024

2 bag limit for residential properties.

Please have waste curbside by 7 am on the day of collection.

Please visit renfrew.ca for additional waste collection information.

Wednesday Dec. 25, 2024 pick up will occur on Tuesday Dec. 24, 2024

Thursday Dec. 26, 2024 pick up will occur on Saturday Dec. 28, 2024

Wednesday Jan. 1, 2025 pick up will occur on Saturday Jan. 4, 2025

Council Corner

February/March Council Meeting Summaries

During the months of February and March the Town of Renfrew denied a request to waive development charges, entered into a tree planting partnership, approved and amended corporate policies, amended the organizational structure, authorized the closure of Town Hall on May 9th, 2024, for an all staff training day and approved a request to fly the National Flag of Ireland to recognize St. Patrick's Day.



Read Recent Council Meeting Summaries

Renfrew TOWN HALL CLOSED

Friday March 29, 2024 &
Monday April 1, 2024

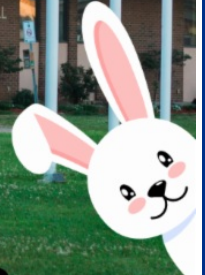
FOR
EASTER

Town Hall Re-Opens Tuesday,
April 2, 2024,
at 8:00 a.m.

HAPPY
Easter



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Bridging Change and Convenience



A Message from the Renfrew Fire Department



Known as the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible odorless, colourless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards.

Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.

If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door.

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.



Only **YOU** can prevent cooking fires



COOKING IS THE #1 CAUSE OF HOME FIRES

What's the Risk?

Cooking fires account for **22%** of all home fires. Cooking **left unattended** is the cause of **52%** of all cooking fires. The average dollar loss per cooking fire is over **\$27,000**.

Fire Injuries and Deaths

32% of all home fire injuries occur in cooking fires.
14% of all cooking fires result in an injury or death.
11% of all home fire fatalities are caused by cooking.

How to Prevent a Cooking Fire

Always stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you must leave, turn off the stove.
Keep anything that burns – cooking utensils, dishcloths, paper towels and potholders a safe distance from the stove.

Statistics for Ontario between 2010-2014. Provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management

Solar Eclipse Safety



An eclipse occurs when the light of a body outside Earth's atmosphere (Sun, Moon, planets, etc.) is temporarily blocked by another body. Eclipses don't just happen on Earth: they also take place on other planets, like Jupiter and Neptune.

To prevent serious eye damage, always avoid direct eye contact with the Sun, especially during a solar eclipse. Use special glasses with eclipse filters, as regular sunglasses won't offer sufficient protection. Prioritize your eye health while enjoying the beautiful spectacle of a solar eclipse.

The next **total solar eclipse to be visible in Canada** will occur on April 8, 2024.

PHOTO: Artist's rendition of a total solar eclipse. (Credit: Canadian Space Agency)

Solar Eclipse Safety

April 8, 2024

As the moon aligns perfectly between Earth and the Sun, parts of Ontario will experience temporary darkness. Use the advice below to stay safe during the eclipse.



Warning!

Looking directly at the uncovered Sun without protection can cause retinal burns, blurred vision, or loss of eyesight. There are no pain sensors in your retinas to tell you that your eyes are being damaged. Once symptoms begin, the damage is usually too late to reverse.

Quick facts

- 1** The eclipse is expected to start just after 2:00 p.m. EDT with a full eclipse from approximately 3:20 p.m. and move eastward. The specific time and duration of the eclipse will depend on your location. Areas outside the path of totality will observe a partial solar eclipse.
- 2** Historically, eclipses have prompted mass movements of people to prime viewing areas.
- 3** Check your municipality's website for service changes and local closures.
- 4** For more information about viewing the eclipse in Ontario, visit [Destination Ontario's website](#).

Travel tips

- 1** While driving, avoid looking at the eclipse. Keep your eyes on the road to safely operate your vehicle and avoid collisions.
- 2** Follow local directives and road signage as you travel on April 8. While travelling on highways, do not stop, take pictures, or get out of your car to view the eclipse.
- 3** Stay updated on road conditions before, during, and after the eclipse by visiting [511on.ca](https://www.511on.ca).
- 4** Expect increases in traffic and road congestion. Plan ahead, fill your gas tank, and have snacks, water, entertainment, and first-aid supplies on hand.
- 5** If travelling to view the eclipse, plan to arrive at your destination 24 to 48 hours ahead of time.

Eye safety



- 1** **It is not safe to look at the Sun without eye protection.** Looking at even a small sliver before or after the eclipse without eye protection can be harmful to your vision. Health impacts may include retinal burns, blurred vision, and loss of eyesight (immediate or delayed onset).
- 2** Glasses with specialized filters adhering to the **ISO 12312-2** international standard can be worn to prevent eye damage. Glasses should be inspected for wrinkles or scratches ahead of use and should not be used if damaged.
- 3** If appropriate eye protection is not available, alternative viewing strategies should be considered, such as an [eclipse box](#) or a live stream.

Visit the [Canadian Space Agency's website](#) for more information.



Ontario

April with the Renfrew Public Library



Memory Circle - Wednesday April 3rd 1 - 2 PM

Come chat about the "good old days" and share your memories about parenting styles. Thoughts about yours, your parents', or modern parenting are all welcome!

Adult D&D - Tuesday April 2nd 5 - 8 PM

Join our Dungeon Master for an introduction to the world of D&D. Participate in a short mini-campaign to get the basics down and have fun! No experience necessary.

Web Developer Coding Bootcamp - Thursday April 4th 6:30 - 7:45

RPL will take you from knowing nothing about coding to being able to apply for an entry level web developer position. In fact, you'll become able to create a website from the ground up! With only a few (2-3) hours per week at home, and a one-hour library meeting once a month, you will cover the content and learn the skills needed to begin applying for web developer jobs, with an average salary of \$75000! Free to you with a library membership.

BIAK Indigenous Drumming & Teachings for Adults - Monday April 8th 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Learn about Algonquin drums, then participate in the drumming! Follow that up with cultural teachings and storytelling about an important part of Algonquin culture. This season, we will learn about the medicine wheel and its teachings.

Indian Cooking Class - Saturday April 13th 11 AM - 2 PM

Divya from Nala's Kitchen will be here to guide us through cooking a delicious 2-dish Indian lunch!

National Canadian Film Day - Wednesday April 17th ALL DAY FILM FEST

9:00-10:40 : Queen of my Dreams (1 hour, 37 mins)

10:45-12:26 : The Body Remembers when the World Broke Open (1 hour 45 mins)

12:30-2:00 : Beans (1 hour 32 mins)

2:05-3:25 :Tia & Puijiuk (1 hour 20 mins)

3:30-5:00 : Eternal Spring (1 hour 26 mins)

Children

Celebrate our Earth - Drop in April 15th

Get planting! Drop in on April 15th to pick up your Earth Day Planting Kit! Join us Saturday, April 20th 9:30 - 11 AM for hands-on Earth Day activities!

Kid Librarian - All Month

Kid librarians will be chosen each month to curate a display within the Children's library showing some of their favourite library books.

Author Visit: Graham Folkema! - Friday May 17th 1PM

Graham Folkema, author of "Unicorns Really Love Cupcakes" will be joining us to share his book writing experiences!

Book Dragon Buffet - Wednesdays 4 - 4:30 PM

Let's talk about literacy! Share your latest library book find and entice us with a read aloud of your favourite parts. Discover the Forest of Reading books - Need some reading practice? Let us know and we can organize a reading buddy!

BIAK Indigenous Teachings & Drumming - Thursday April 18th 10:30 - 11 AM

Enjoy songs and stories through drumming. Brought to you by BIAK EarlyON Mobile Unit.

Meet & Greet with EarlyON - Monday April 29th 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Barb & Madison from EarlyON will be joining Susan for a fun, social morning of exploring the library, hands-on activities and stories. Drop in and say, "Hello!"

Easter Scavenger Hunt - Monday March 25th - Monday April 1st

Get hopping! Find the bunnies hidden within the library to find the answer to our Easter question and enter your answer into the prize draw!

Hands-On-Tuesdays - Tuesdays 6 - 7 PM

From artwork to S.T.E.M. challenges, perfect for those who like to be creative and use their imagination.

Fiero Code Club - Friday Afternoons 4 - 5 PM

Learn to code using a variety of coding scripts in a fun and interactive way! Sign up and you can also play at home! Library card is required.

Teens

Saturday Switch Tournaments - April 6th 1 - 3 PM

Switch up your Saturday by competing against others in the chosen game of the week!

Interview Practice - Friday May 10th 3 - 5 PM

Nervous about interviewing for a summer job? Sign up for a time slot and have a mock interview to get feedback and gain confidence for the real thing!

Register for library programs at <https://bookwhen.com/renfrewpl>, see you there!

Register for Renfrew Public Library

Updates from Community Partners

**IT'S
BACK!!**

The Great Downtown Renfrew GARAGE SALE



RENFREW, ONTARIO - SATURDAY, MAY 4TH, 2024

Rain date Saturday, May 11th, 2024



**GARAGE
SALE**



Registration Per Space

\$20 per household

\$40 per home based
business

**Take part in the Annual
"Great Downtown Garage Sale"
brought to you by the Renfrew BIA**

BOOK YOUR SPACE FOR THIS EVENT

**For more information and to book your space call
613 432 4848 ext #185 or
email info@downtownrenfrew.ca**



Come find your treasure!

on or before April 26th 2024.



Affordable Housing Summit

April 4, 2024
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

myFM Centre
1 Ma-Te-Way Park Drive
Renfrew, ON



mesa
[mey-suh]

A collaborative approach
to compassionate care



Cheer on the Renfrew Wolves in the 2024 playoffs!!



Upcoming Schedule:

- Mar. 28 @ 7:30 pm **Renfrew-Rockland** -Rockland Arena - Pad 1
- Mar. 30 @ 7:30 pm **Rockland-Renfrew** -myFM Centre - Deslaurier Pad 1
- Mar. 31 @ 7:00 pm **Renfrew-Rockland**- Rockland Arena - Pad 1

AGM & Tourism Conference



Tourism Tomorrow:
Cultivating Growth & Navigating Change



Presented by:
Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation



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