

**For Immediate Release**

**Monday, November 1, 2021**

## Tecumseh Launches Holiday Programs

The Town of Tecumseh is getting into the holiday spirit with its modified Christmas in Tecumseh programming, including:

Holiday Lights  
Virtual Visit with Santa  
Painted Tile Class  
Christmas Craft Classes  
Cookie Decorating with Mrs. Claus

Tecumseh property owners – residents and businesses – are encouraged to brighten the holiday spirit this year with the return of Holiday Lights. Once again, those who decorate their property with a light display may submit their address to be added to a map of areas with lighted displays. In turn, anyone can download the map showing areas of display to take a stroll, bike ride or drive through to see the displays.

“We are excited to see the return of Holiday Lights,” said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. “I think everyone spent some time as a child marvelling at the lights on buildings during the holidays. We want as many people as possible to participate and create areas for people to visit to see the displays. It’s a great way to celebrate while continuing to follow public health guidelines.”

The Christmas in Tecumseh webpage ([www.Tecumseh.ca/Christmas-in-Tecumseh](http://www.Tecumseh.ca/Christmas-in-Tecumseh)) includes details for all the scheduled holiday activities including the Holiday Lights map that will show areas for the lighted displays. Everyone is encouraged to use the map to take a trip through Town to view the lights. Anyone interested in sharing their property address for the Holiday Lights map can do so by submitting their address using the link on the Christmas in Tecumseh webpage and will be eligible for a chance to win some great prizes.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (Town of Tecumseh).

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### Media Contact

Kerri Rice

Manager Recreation Special Projects

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For Immediate Release  
Monday, November 8, 2021

## Remembrance Day Holiday

### Town Hall

Tecumseh Town Hall will be closed Thursday, November 11, 2021 in honour of Remembrance Day.

Payments may be dropped in the secure drop box located beside the main entrance at 917 Lesperance Road. Please include your contact information (name, address, tax roll number, application and/or other identifying details) and make sure it is clearly written or printed.

### Tecumseh Transit Service

There will be no transit service on Thursday, November 11, 2021. Information on the transit bus schedule and route map can be found on the [Town's website](#).

### Recycling and Yard Waste Collection

There are no changes to the regularly scheduled yard waste collection or recycling collection. Please refer to your 2021 Waste Collection Calendar for more information.

### Tecumseh Arena

The arena office will be closed on Remembrance Day and all drop-in skate times are cancelled. The arena will be open for all other scheduled rentals.

Find more information about this and other Tecumseh news and events on the [Town's website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#).

### Media Contact:

Laura Moy  
Director Legislative Services and Clerk  
Phone: 519-735-2184, ext. 116

For Immediate Release  
Monday, November 8, 2021

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### \*Tecumseh Transit Service

Tecumseh Transit is running on Thursday, November 11, 2021. Information on the transit bus schedule and route map can be found on the [Town's website](#).

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\*A previous version of this release incorrectly stated Tecumseh Transit Service would not be operating.

For Immediate Release  
Tuesday, November 9, 2021

## **Council Connect: Highlights from the November 9, 2021 meetings of Council**

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights:

### **Personnel Committee**

**Health and Safety Policy Unchanged:** The Town's Health and Safety Policy has been reviewed by the Joint Health and Safety Advisory Committee and its health and safety consultant, Dunk & Associates. No changes were recommended, and Council approved the posting of the policy in all municipal buildings.

### **Public Council Meeting**

**Oldcastle Heights Draft Subdivision Plan Supported:** After hearing from delegations at a public meeting, Council supported the draft plan of subdivision for a residential development on 20.7 hectares (51.3 acres) of land northeast of the intersection of North Talbot Road and Concession Road 8. Old Castle Heights Inc. has applied to develop a fully-serviced subdivision for 220 dwellings, including 132 detached homes, 12 semi-detached homes and 76 townhouse units. The plan also includes a 10 blocks of buffer areas that will incorporate pathways, stormwater corridors and a stormwater pond. Owner Abdul Habib, partner Zak Habib and planner Tiziano Zaghi appeared at the public meeting to answer questions about the plan. Resident Judy Wellwood-Robson spoke and submitted a letter supporting the development, but also raised concerns about traffic and the density of the proposed housing. A planner for CN Rail, which has a branch line adjacent to the proposed subdivision, submitted a letter requesting conditions such as setbacks, fencing and warnings to home buyers. The County of Essex is the approving authority for the plan of subdivision, which is also subject to conditions set by the Town.

### **Court of Revision**

**Cyr Drain Report Appeals Heard:** A public meeting was held to hear from landowners along the Cyr Drain and its extension who wish to appeal increases to their assessments for work set out in an engineer's report. The work includes \$43,000 the Town has spent on improvements recently and another \$25,000 for future brushing and excavating along the drain, which is located east of Lesperance Road and along County Road 22.

**McLean-Hergott Drain Appeals Heard:** A public meeting was held to hear from landowners who wish to appeal their assessments for construction on the McLean-Hergott Drain, which is located on the south side of County Road 46 east of Concession 10 (County Road 17). The plan is to construct a fire hydrant access bridge over the drain. This will involve installing a culvert.

## Regular Meeting of Council

**Police Costs Projected to Decrease in 2022:** The proposed budget for the Town's police services projects costs will decrease slightly compared to this year. The cost of the service provided by the OPP for 2022 is expected to be \$3.4 million, a decrease of 3.35 per cent (\$119,054) compared to 2021, Insp. Glenn Miller and Tecumseh Police Services Board chair Christopher Hales said in a presentation to Council. Revenues are expected to decrease \$98,927 due to the loss of a grant and a \$3,000 drop in parking fines. The per capita cost of policing in Tecumseh was \$163 in 2020, the second lowest in Windsor and Essex County. The transition to detachment boards is expected to happen in 2022 to comply with the Community Safety and Policing Act, passed in 2019. Regulations for the new act are still being developed.

**Proposed Budget Presented:** Tecumseh's municipal tax levy increase, net of growth, will be 3.1 per cent in 2022 if a proposed budget presented to Council is passed without changes. The highlights were presented to Council by Chief Administrative Officer Margaret Misek-Evans, Director Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer Tom Kitsos and Deputy Treasurer Zora Visekruna. The levy increase would result in an additional \$79 for a home assessed at \$250,000. Three key expenditures affecting the budget are an organizational review, several operational process reviews and the return to normal, full capacity operations – reversing budgeted 2021 COVID-19 impacts. The proposed budget also includes a water and wastewater rate increase of 3.3 per cent. That translates into \$33 a month for a household that consumes 20 cubic metres of water a month. The proposed budget will be posted on the Town's website on November 10. Council will hold its budget deliberations meeting on November 16 starting at 4 p.m. and vote to approve the final budget at its December 14 regular council meeting.

**CUPE Calling for Review of Pension Plan:** Council has asked administration to prepare a report recommending how it should respond to a call by CUPE Ontario for an independent review of the investment performance of the Ontario Municipal Employees' Retirement System (OMERS). The union is asking municipal councils to back its request, which is based on CUPE Ontario concern the pension plan's returns are below those of comparable funds. The union has 125,000 active members enrolled in OMERS, which also covers non-unionized municipal employees.

**Tecumseh Centennial Celebration Plans Approved:** Fireworks, historical exhibits, musical performances and a parade are some of the events being planned for the July 2-4, 2022 weekend by the Mayor's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force. Council approved a proposed schedule of events for Tecumseh's centennial celebration, which it is estimated will cost \$191,500 and bring in revenues of \$127,500, including grants and sponsorships.

**Council to Consider Rodent Control Subsidy:** Council will decide during 2022 budget deliberations whether to spend at least \$10,000 on a pilot project to subsidize residents who want to eliminate rodents. It has been presented with three options for getting rid of rodents after regular complaints by residents about rats over the last five years. The first is to maintain an enhanced education campaign for residents which began in 2018. The second is to launch a pilot project under which the Town would pay up to 50 per cent of the cost of getting rid of rodents once a year per property. The third is to focus the pilot project on defined neighbourhoods where rodents have been a problem.

**Lakewood Park Food Concession Contract Awarded:** Keith Rajsigl has been awarded a five-year contract to open a food and beverage concession at Lakewood Park. Rajsigl, who operates the concession at a Lakeshore's West Beach in Belle River, was one of four contractors to submit proposals. His proposal includes updating the interior and exterior of the building off Riverside Drive. Under the agreement with the Town he will pay \$1,750 plus HST a month in rent from April 1 to October 31 when the concession is open and \$300 plus HST a month for the remaining months when it is closed.

**Cost of Emergency Replacement of HVAC Approved:** The unexpected replacement of an HVAC unit at the Town's Public Works and Water divisions' administrative building cost \$20,000. The work was done in late October after it was discovered the unit wasn't providing heat. Council voted to take the money for the emergency HVAC unit replacement from the Buildings Lifecycle Reserve.

**Consent Agreement Allows Time for Driveway Culvert Construction:** A consent agreement with the Town will allow the owners of 11945 Intersection Road to meet the conditions set out by the Committee of Adjustment for them to sever a residential lot from their farm property. The committee's approval required Clement and Jeannette Lachance to meet the conditions by November 27, 2021. However, one of the conditions is to provide an access culvert and driveway to the new lot across the Lachance Drain. Ontario Drainage Act provisions make it impossible for the owners to meet the deadline. The consent agreement allows the severance to go ahead and obligates them to build the driveway and culvert before any building permit is issued for the new lot.

**Next Regular Meeting:** The next regular meeting of Council is November 23, 2021. The meeting is scheduled to be held electronically. The agenda and livestream will be available on the Town's website. Follow the Town of Tecumseh on Facebook and Twitter for news and the latest information.

For Immediate Release  
Friday, November 12, 2021

## **Public Input Sought for Strategy to Boost Tecumseh's Commercial Areas**

The public is being invited to provide input for an economic development strategy aimed at boosting the success of key business areas in Tecumseh.

The Tecumseh-Lakeshore Area Specific Economic Development Strategy is a joint effort with the Municipality of Lakeshore. The business area along Manning Road north of County Road 22 crosses the boundary between the two municipalities. The strategy also incorporates commercial areas along Lesperance Road and Tecumseh Road in Tecumseh.

"The goal is to help businesses in these areas flourish and attract new investment," said Chad Jeffery, the Town's Manager Planning Services and Local Economic Development.

Input from residents and business representatives will help those working on the focused economic development strategy to better understand the potential of the area, he said.

A map and more details are available on the **Tecumseh-Lakeshore Area Specific Economic Development Strategy PlaceSpeak [web page](#)**, where public can provide input by completing an online survey before November 29, 2021.

Find more information about this and other Tecumseh news and events on the Town's website, Facebook page and Twitter feed.

### **Media Contact:**

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For Immediate Release  
Wednesday, November 17, 2021

## **Tecumseh Council Approves Tax Increase for 2022**

Tecumseh's municipal levy will increase by 2.95 per cent, net of growth, to allow the Town to balance its 2022 budget.

The increase in the tax levy approved by Council on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, — as part of the 2022 budget — translates into \$76 for the average residential property assessed at \$250,000.

The three main themes of the budget are:

- a return to normal, full-capacity operations after almost two years of interruptions by the pandemic;
- implementing the first phase of an organizational review of the Town's operations; and
- ongoing reviews of operating processes and implementing related recommendations.

"This status quo budget allows us to refocus our energy and resources on enhancing our services to the residents and businesses of Tecumseh," said Mayor Gary McNamara. "The Town has weathered almost two years of COVID-19 in good financial shape and with plans to improve flood protection, repair roads and increase recreation amenities. We also look forward to a community celebration of the Town's centennial in 2022."

The Town has budgeted total expenditures of \$28.7 million for 2022.

Tecumseh's assessment grew \$250,000 due to new development last year, without which the Town would have had to increase its tax levy by another one per cent to cover expenditures budgeted for 2022.



Town of Tecumseh taxes comprise 54 per cent of a typical residential tax bill, with the remainder made up of the education and County of Essex tax levies.

Find more information about this and other Tecumseh news and events on the Town's website, Facebook page and Twitter feed.

**Media Contact:**

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**For Immediate Release**  
**Tuesday, November 23, 2021**

## **Council Connect: Highlights from the November 23, 2021 meetings of Council**

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights:

### **Public Council Meetings**

**2022 Board and Committee Appointments:** At a special meeting, Council considered applications to fill vacancies on the Tecumseh Business Improvement Area board of management, the Heritage Committee and the Tecumseh Accessibility Advisory Committee. All applicants will be notified of Council's decision on the appointments to the board and committees, which will be confirmed by by-law at the next meeting of Council when the names of the new appointees will be released.

**Call for Award Nominations Being Put Out Again:** Also at the special meeting, Council received a report that indicated there were no nominations received for the Town's 2021 Donald "Donny" Massender Memorial Volunteer Award, 2021 Dr. Henri Breault Community Excellence Award and the 2022 Youth of the Year and Senior of the Year Awards. Administration was directed to issue a further call for nominations for all of the awards. It is anticipated to be issued early in the new year following the holiday season.

### **Regular Meeting of Council**

**Plan for Organic Waste Processing Explained:** A regional approach involving Windsor and all Essex County municipalities is the recommended approach for reducing organic and biosolids waste going to the landfill, representatives of the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) said in a presentation to Council. General manager Michelle Bishop, manager of finance and administration Steffan Brisebois and manager of waste diversion Cathy Copot-Nepszy gave an update on the options the authority has investigated to meet a provincial deadline. Ontario's Organics Provincial Policy Statement sets targets for many municipalities to reduce in an environmentally sustainable way the amount of food and organic waste going to landfills by 2025. Tecumseh's target, mandated by provincial legislation, is 50 per cent. As well, a provincial regulation is being drafted that is expected to ban the disposal of organic waste in landfills as early as 2030. The EWSWA board approved a Regional Food and Organic Waste Management Plan in 2020. A consultant, GHD Limited, was hired to study the alternatives and worked with a committee to come up with recommendations. Its report, which recommended a regional approach, was reviewed and found to be sound by a second consultant, Tetra Tech Canada Inc. A composting operation and an anaerobic digestion plant were the two options considered most feasible, with the more expensive anaerobic digestion process meeting more of the environmental requirements. Essex County Council has committed to deciding whether to pursue a regional approach by December 31, 2021.

**Goodfellows Holiday Drive Supported:** The Town will donate \$1,500 that had been budgeted for an employee dinner and recognition event to the Tecumseh Goodfellows Holiday Drive. Council approved the donation for the second year in a row after the employee event again had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 safety precautions. Last year, the Town's donation assisted the Goodfellows in preparing and delivering 100 Christmas food baskets to Tecumseh families. The in-person holiday dinner and recognition event for employees has been put off until next year.

**Additional Residential Unit Guidelines Coming:** Council passed a by-law which will have the effect of allowing the owners of 12305 County Road 34 to build an additional residential unit on their property. The by-law rezones the property, which is 600 metres east of Malden Road, from hamlet residential (RH) to hamlet residential (RH-6). As well, Council was presented with draft guidelines for property owners who wish to build additional residential units or create them in existing dwellings. A future report to council will provide more details about the proposed regulations. The public will have an opportunity for input before the Town's zoning by-law can be amended to incorporate the regulations.

**Yard Waste Collection Extended:** Tecumseh residents are getting an additional day to put their yard waste at the curb for collection. Council adopted a motion by Councillor Andrew Dowie to extend yard waste collection to Monday, December 6, due to the warm fall weather.

**Next Regular Meeting:** The next regular meeting of Council is December 14, 2021. The meeting is scheduled to be held electronically. The agenda and livestream will be available on the Town's website. Follow the Town of Tecumseh on Facebook and Twitter for news and the latest information.



November 30, 2021

**MAYOR MCNAMARA'S ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**KNOCKS IT "OUT OF THE PARK!"**

The organizing committee for Mayor Gary McNamara's Annual Charity Golf Tournament is pleased to announce that fundraising efforts from the 12<sup>th</sup> annual event have far exceeded fundraising efforts from its last tournament by more than \$10,000. Proceeds this year will benefit 20 organizations within Windsor/Essex,

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament, held at Beach Grove Golf & Country Club on September 13, generated record proceeds to support a number of non-profit organizations that make Windsor-Essex a better place to live. Tecumseh Mayor Gary McNamara takes pride in the fact that the tournament continues to be a catalyst for driving positive change through the charities that it supports. "Through the years, we have seen the results of the tournament's impact. It is inspiring to see the many programs that contribute to the well-being of our community being strengthened by this event," says McNamara.

This year, the Farrow Riverside Miracle Park is main benefactor of proceeds with the tournament's donation directed towards supporting the mental, physical, cognitive and sensory challenges experienced by participants who are able to enjoy playing – sometimes for the first time – and improving the quality of life for all of the children and young adults who utilize the facility.

In addition to the Miracle Park, a total of 19 groups within Windsor/Essex will receive proceeds from the tournament.

Please join Mayor Gary McNamara and members of the Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament Planning Committee on Tuesday, November 30 at 5:00 pm in Council Chambers at the Town of Tecumseh, 917 Lesperance Road, as they present proceeds from the tournament to these very worthy organizations.

For more information, please contact:

Gary McNamara, Mayor  
Town of Tecumseh  
Phone: 519-735-2184, ext. 115

Julie Bortolotti  
Tournament Coordinator  
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