Grey Highlands
2015 in Review
Welcome to the 2015 In Review, highlighting key accomplishments in 2015. We’ve created this summary to keep you informed on the ways we work for you.

How we conduct municipal business continues to evolve. As we move forward we will continue to deliver quality services and effective local leadership.
The Municipality of Grey Highlands is situated in one of the most beautiful parts of Grey County. The municipality was created in 2001 by the amalgamation of the historic Townships of Artemesia, Euphrasia, Osprey and the Villages of Markdale and Flesherton. The corporation uses your tax dollars wisely to:

- Provide maintenance and construction to 672 km of roads, 957 culverts, 1,165 road signs, 66 bridge structures and 585 street lights, and operate 3 waste disposal sites
- Maintain municipally owned facilities: 4 community halls and 4 arena complexes
- Maintain and operate 2 water systems and 3 waste water systems
- Support a three-branch library system and museum
- Manage a busy building department, processing 400+ permits per year
- Respond to 200+ fire calls annually
- Support the services of the Ontario Provincial Police to keep our community safe
2015 Corporate Achievements

The **Official Plan** was submitted to the County for approval in December 2015. In 2016 the zoning By-law will be under review.

The municipality established a **Communications Policy** in 2015. The implementation plan for this policy will be developed by council in early 2016.

The **2016 budget** went to a public meeting and was adopted in February. The budget is a “status quo” budget based on existing service levels.

In 2015 the municipality continued to coordinate with Grey County & Grey Bruce Health Services to advocate for a new **Centre Grey Hospital** and will continue to do this into 2016.

In 2016 the municipality will be working with DFA Financial on a new **six-year water/wastewater financial plan**. The municipality has also been working with Ainley & Associates on a localized solution for water/wastewater services in Beaver Valley.

In November 2015 a **Tourism Advisory Committee** was established to work in consultation with council, stakeholders and Brain Trust Marketing to develop a Tourism Destination Management Plan which will be finalized in April 2016.

[Images of road and people]
In partnership with the Ministry of Transportation, the **Flesherton sidewalk** was extended from Campbell Street to the south end of Flesherton. This extension improved community safety and traffic calming measures.

**LED streetlight conversion** was approved for all municipally-owned streetlights. This will provide better lighting at a lower cost. The conversion will start in February 2016.

In 2015, 39 entrance permits were issued, 33 civic addresses were assigned and 21 culverts were replaced.

Some of the major capital road projects completed include:
- 7th Line asphalt resurfaced from Sideroad 4 A to Grey Rd 30
- 35 Sideroad reconstructed and surfaced in asphalt from Grey Rd 4 to 8th Concession
- East Backline asphalt resurfaced from Grey Road 32 to Road 132
- Both Graham’s Bridge and Epping Bridge were replaced
Investing for the Future: The Markdale Lagoon Rapid Infiltration Beds were winterized and optimized to increase capacity for future development.

A reconstruction of Queen Street’s water, sewer and storm water lines, including road upgrades, were completed in the summer.

In the summer of 2015 the water main and services up-grade on Toronto St. S. in Markdale was completed. This work included the removal of the Centennial Gates and the extension of the sidewalks.

Capital Projects for 2016 include replacement of the Kimberley Amik Talisman generator.
Building a Sustainable Municipality

Capital Upgrades at the Osprey Arena included:

- A new 60-horse-power compressor room
- A new arena surface dehumidifier
- New roof over the lobby and change rooms
- Re-purposed Flesheron Arena ice resurfacer to Osprey Arena
- Upgraded arena food both
- Installed new sound system in arena
- Installed new water heater and supplied heat to the lobby
- Installed new lobby commercial key system

Capital upgrades for other Facilities included:

- A new front entrance at Kimberley Hall
- Re-purposed storage container and new concrete pad at Station 2 Markdale Fire Hall
- At the Feversham Park the gates were re-pointed and the flag pole and concrete pad at the pavilion were replaced
- Two windows were replaced at the Centre Grey Complex and a new sound system was installed in hall.
- Rocklyn Arena received new puck boards and the roof and front wall were repaired.
- In 2016 work for Stothart Hall in Priceville and Maxwell Hall is scheduled.
2015 Service Achievements

Investing for our Future

Developed and posted a **joint municipal request for proposal for the curbside collection** of waste and recycling with Chatsworth and West Grey.

Implemented a new **diversion program** for collecting Christmas lights and power cords.

116 loads of hazardous waste were received at the Owen Sound facility from Grey Highlands residents.

Implemented changes to the **bale wrap collection** program including ongoing support to residents for the direct collection by a contractor at their farms.
GPS Tracking System
Purchased GPS tracking system for fleet maintenance equipment to ensure organizational compliance and road maintenance. The picture above is a GIS map layer representing snow plow routes (coloured lines) and the patrol route (dotted line).

Capital Purchases
• 2007 Grader from County Surplus Inventory
• 2015 Pay Loader for the Artemesia landfill
• 2016 Plow Truck

Joint Building Services
In July 2015 the building departments of Chatsworth, Grey Highlands and West Grey amalgamated and moved into a new location. Negotiations are underway to bring in a fourth partner and harmonize building fees in 2016.

2015 Builders Forum
In February 2015 the Building Department hosted another successful Builders Forum, welcoming over 40 contractors. We will be hosting our 5th Builders Forum in February 2016, welcoming over 60 contractors this year.
Summer Students

The South Grey Museum continues to welcome summer students through the Canada Summer Jobs, Summer Experience and Young Canada Works in Heritage programs.

Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF)

A second grant was received by the museum and library as partners (Library is the project lead) from the OTF to create a Grey Highlands cultural (Markdale communications channel 251) channel and provide equipment and training on video content development for community members interested in feeding the cultural cable channel.

Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee

This group successfully completed the Headstone Pavilion Project in 2015 with an official unveiling on September 20th at the historic site.
Kids Programs
• 170 programs with 1448 attendees
• 74 school visits to Beavercrest, Macphail and Holland Chatsworth, meeting 1521 students
• Early Dismissal and PA Day programs

Community Programs
• Author Readings, including Dan Needles & David Phillips
• Senior Driving Session
• Fraud Prevention Seminar with OPP

Community Events
• Armchair Travel Series, featuring a Botswana Safari
• Split Rail Artists Collective art show
• Olympic Torch at the Flesherton Library
• MAFY Music in the Library performances
Smoke Alarm Compliance An Alarming Concern

A recent survey conducted by the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Ontario (OFMEM) reflects an alarming concern. When it comes to smoke alarm installation, most residences are not in compliance. Despite legislation effective March 1, 2006 requiring all Ontario homes to have a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas, a recent survey of Ontario Smoke Alarm Status in Residential Fire Loss reports that smoke alarms were only present and operational in 44% of residential fires from 2009 to 2013. That means a whopping 64% did not have working smoke alarms, or a complete lack thereof.

During a residential fire, there is no time to spare. Fires can spread (doubling in size) in as little as thirty seconds. Every second counts. Smoke alarms are designed to provide early detection and warning, often activating within fifteen seconds after the presence of smoke or heat. Installing working smoke alarms in your home can double your chances of survival in a residential fire. Most importantly, it’s the LAW.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

As of October 15, 2014, all residences with an attached garage or fuel burning appliances require a carbon monoxide alarm installed near all sleeping areas in and in the service rooms, and adjacent sleeping areas in multi-residential units. Carbon monoxide alarms can be hardwired, battery-operated or plugged into the wall.

Reminder: As required by the Ontario Fire Code (article 2.6.3.4.) open air burning is only permitted with approval from the Fire Chief, which is granted in the form of an authorized burn permit obtained from the Municipality of Grey Highlands. Two types of permits are available:

- Campfire
- Open Air Burn
Municipality of Grey Highlands Office

1  (888) 342-4059
206 Toronto St. South
Unit 1, P.O. Box 409
Markdale ON
N0C 1H0
http://www.greyhighlands.ca/

Departments include:

Office of the CAO
- (519) 986-1216 Ext. 235
  - Human Resources
  - Accessibility
  - Communications
  - Economic Development
- By-law
  - (519) 986-1216 Ext. 191

Council & Legislative Services
- (519) 986-2811
  - Council and Government
  - Birthdays, Marriage Licences, Birth Certificates & Passports
  - Dog Tags
  - Animal Control
  - Cemeteries
- Planning
  - Zoning
  - Severance
  - Planning Applications

Transportation & Environmental Services
- (519) 986-1216 Ext. 196
  - Environmental Services
    - Recycling & Waste Collection
    - Waste Disposal Sites
    - Other Recycling Programs
    - Household Hazardous Waste
  - Transportation
    - Entrance Permits
    - Civic Address Request
    - Oversize Load Permits
    - Adopt A Road
    - Municipal Road & Sidewalk Maintenance
    - Street Names & Regulatory Warning Signs
    - Street Lighting

Public Utilities
- (519) 986-4784
  - Municipal Water Systems
  - Municipal Waste Water Systems
  - Locates
  - Water Meter Installs
  - Termination of Services

Parks & Facilities
- (519) 986-1216 Ext. 192
  - Facility Rentals
Directory & Services

- Finance
  - (519) 986 1216 ext. 197
  - Property Taxes
  - Parking Tickets
  - Budget
  - Fees and Charges
  - Surplus Properties
  - Tenders
  - Financial Reports

- Fire and Emergency Services
  - (519) 986-1216 Ext. 192
  - Public Education
  - Fire Prevention
    - Inspections
    - Code Enforcement
    - Plan Review
  - Suppression
  - Tiered Medical Response
  - Open Air Burn Permits
  - Emergency Preparedness

- South Grey Museum
  - P.O. Box 299
  - 40 Sydenham St.
  - Flesherton, ON
  - N0C 1E0
  - (519) 924-2843
    - Community Programs

- Grey Highlands Public Library
  - Community Programs
  - Ebranch
  - Operates out of 3 different locations
    - Flesherton
      - 101 Highland Dr.
      - Flesherton, ON
      - N0C 1E0
      - (519) 924-2241
    - Walter Harris Memorial
      - 75 Walker St.
      - Markdale, ON
      - N0C 1H0
      - (519) 986-3436
    - Kimberley
      - 235309 Grey Rd. 13
      - Kimberley, ON
      - N0C 1G0
      - (519) 599-6990

Joint Building Services
- 50 Lorne St.
  - Markdale, ON
  - N0C 1H0
- (226) 909-0668
  - Building Permits
  - Building Inspections
  - Plans Review
Contact Us:
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206 Toronto St. South
Unit 1, P.O. Box 409
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