

Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, October 12, 2024

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedule

THANKSGIVING DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City of Stratford administration offices and the Landfill will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2024, for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday.

There will be no change in the Recycling or Garbage Collection programs on Monday, October 14, 2024. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00 a.m. on collection dates. For further information, please call 519-271-0250 extension 5279.

RETAIL CLOSINGS ON THANKSGIVING DAY

Shoppers and merchants are reminded that under the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, Thanksgiving, October 14, 2024 is among the holidays when most stores must be closed unless City Council has granted an exemption in order to open for business.

Stratford's designated tourism season is May 1 to November 12 each year and includes the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Stratford City By-law 149-92 permits certain retail establishments in Stratford that meet the tourism criteria established by the Province and that provides goods and services primarily to tourists in Stratford, may open for business on Thanksgiving under the following provisions:

- The retail business establishment does not open prior to 10:00 a.m. and does not remain open after 4:00 p.m.
- The number of persons engaged in the serving of the public does not at any time, exceed four (4)
- The total area used for serving, selling or displaying goods or services to the public inside the establishment is less than 278.71m² (3000 square feet).
- Certain larger retail business establishments listed in Schedule "A" to By-law 149-92 as amended, may also open on Thanksgiving between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Enforcement of the *Retail Business Holidays Act* in Stratford is through Stratford Police Services.

To find out which retail operations are exempted by the Act, call the Ministry of Consumer Services toll-free at 1-800-889-9768. For more information, visit www.sse.gov.on.ca.

STRATFORD TRANSIT ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION SESSION

You are invited to attend an information session on Stratford Transit Accessibility Plan.

This will be an in-person session, with a presentation at 6:00 p.m. on the City's Accessibility Plan for Transit and Parallel Transit. This is an annual opportunity for members of the public to attend to provide comments and feedback on the Accessibility Plan which is a requirement of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

DATE AND TIME:

Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Tim Taylor Lounge, located on the second floor of the Rotary Complex, at 353 McCarthy Road, Stratford.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For more information, please contact the Transit Office at 519-271-0250 extension 347.

NOTICE OF NOISE BY-LAW EXEMPTION

An exemption from Noise Control By-law 113-79 has been approved for the Light's On Exhibit in Market Square at 1 Wellington Street, Stratford.

- For the Loading, unloading or otherwise handling of any containers, products, or materials [Schedule 2 Clause 4] from Thursday, December 5, 2024, until Friday, January 24, 2025.
- For the operation of loudspeakers and amplification of sound [Schedule 2 Clause 2], and from the unreasonable noise provision [Schedule 1 clause 8] Thursdays through Sunday's, between December 13, 2024, through to and including January 19, 2025, between the hours of 5:00p.m. and 10:00p.m.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS – FINAL REMINDER

The City of Stratford is looking for a diverse range of volunteers to lend their unique voices and perspectives to help guide the City's decision-making by joining various advisory committees and boards. Community members serving on an advisory committee provide advice and feedback to City Council in a variety of areas, including but not limited to the environment, accessibility, active transportation, heritage and safe communities. Boards have the autonomy to make decisions for the good of their organizations.

These opportunities are open to Stratford residents and eligible electors who are at least 18 years of age (with the exception of the Youth representatives who can be under 18 years). Additional qualifications may apply depending on the advisory committee or board you are interested in. Experienced and new members are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in volunteering on one of the City's advisory committees or local boards listed below, please complete and return no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 18, 2024, an application to the attention of the City Clerk through the following:

Email: clerks@stratford.ca

In-person or mail to:

The Corporation of the City of Stratford,
Attention City Clerk,
Clerk's Office, Ground Floor, Stratford City Hall
P.O. Box 818,
Stratford, ON N5A 6W1

The application form is available through the City's website at www.stratford.ca/advisory or by pick-up at the City Clerk's Office.

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. The purpose of this Committee is to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities and to provide for involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to full participation in the community. Five (5) citizens positions are available for appointment for 2-year terms.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ATAC)

Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the ATAC is to serve as a forum for the public to raise their viewpoints on particular active transportation issues and/or other findings and to bring these interests to the attention of the appropriate staff, departments or standing committees. The ATAC also acts to educate, promote and enhance active transportation in the City of Stratford. There are three (3) citizen representative positions and one (1) Cycle Stratford representative position available for 2-year terms.

AD-HOC GRAND TRUNK RENEWAL COMMITTEE

The Ad-Hoc Grand Trunk Renewal Committee provides support and a forum for input and exchange of ideas on the renewal of the Grand Trunk building. The Ad-Hoc Committee meets on the third Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m. The City is looking for one (1) youth representative aged 13-25 to serve on the committee for the remainder of the term to September 30, 2025.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 12:00 p.m. The mandate of the Communities in Bloom Committee is:

- foster civic pride, environmental protection and beautification, through community participation;
- to improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces and streets;
- to focus on environmental awareness and preservation of heritage and culture;
- to co-ordinate a host program as required;
- to be financially sustainable.

There are two (2) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. This Committee provides advice to Council on matters relating to waste reduction initiatives, water and energy conservation and preservation of natural areas. There are four (4) citizen representative positions, one (1) Civic Beautification and Environmental Awareness (CBEAC) representative position, and one (1) Avon River Environment Association (AREA) representative position available for 2-year terms.

HERITAGE STRATFORD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Heritage Stratford deals with matters relating to the promotion of architectural designing and conserving of heritage architecture and heritage designations. There are three (3) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

STRATFORDS OF THE WORLD - ONTARIO COMMITTEE

Meets periodically throughout the year at the call of the Chair. The mandate of the Stratfords of the World Committee is:

- to encourage community partnerships which provide additional opportunities;
- to assist with the recurring reunion program with other Stratfords every two years;
- to ensure that the annual Friendship Flower Bed is updated;
- to be financially sustainable.

There are six (6) citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Additional information regarding these committees is available on the City's website or upon request from the City Clerk's Office, 519-271-0250, extension 5237.

ATTENTION STRATFORD PROPERTY OWNERS

PROPERTY TAX – 2024 FINAL LEVY DUE DATE OCTOBER 29, 2024

Property tax payments may be made through your financial institution via on-line banking, telephone banking, in person at your bank. Debit is accepted at City Hall, or Cash or Cheque payable to the "City of Stratford" are accepted in person at City Hall, deposited in the mailbox Rear Entrance or mailed to P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1.

FALL FLUSHING OF FIRE HYDRANTS - REMINDER

Continuing for approximately the next four weeks, preventative maintenance flushing of fire hydrants will take place within the City of Stratford. Customers may temporarily experience discoloured water. Water quality is not affected by this colouration, and the water is safe to use and consume. Discoloured water will clear, but before doing laundry, please check to see that water has cleared. If you have any questions, please visit <https://www.stratford.ca/discoloured>, or call the City Water Division at 519-271-0250 extension 5222 during business hours.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Oct 15	Committee of the Whole In-camera Session	5:00 p.m.	Council Chamber
Oct 15	Regular Council and Standing Committees	7:00 p.m.	Council Chamber
Oct 17	Community Services Sub-committee	4:30 p.m.	Council Chamber

Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-camera sessions (please note the adjournment into the In-camera Session is open to the public to attend and observe). Agendas can be accessed from the City's website. Please check the City's website for the Sub-committee, Committee, Council and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedules as these schedules are subject to change.

The Town Crier is available on the City of Stratford's website.

www.stratford.ca