# January 2024 Newsletter News from the Municipality of Markstay-Warren



# Still seeking new members for committees! UPDATED

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren is seeking new members for their Committees. The important work of these committees supports our municipal involvement across multiple sectors.

We are still recruiting members for the following committees:

- Economic Development 2 more members
- Recreation, Warren Branch 2 more members
- Finance 1 member from Awrey, Hagar and Warren



For detailed information on these committees, please visit our website at: <u>Council Committees | Your Government |</u> Municipality of Markstay-Warren

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La municipalité de Markstay-Warren recrute des nouveaux membres pour leurs comités. Le travail important de ces comités soutien notre implication dans de nombreux secteurs.

Nous recrutons encore des membres pour les comités suivants:

- Développement économique 2 autres membres
- Services de santé et de loisirs 2 autres membres
- Finances 1 membre de chacune des régions de Awrey, Hagar et Warren

Pour les détails sur ces comités, SVP visiter notre site web au <u>Council Committees | Your Government | Municipality of Markstay-Warren.</u>

# **Enbridge donation helps Firefighters**

Gas company Enbridge made a donation to the Markstay-Warren Fire Department on Tuesday to help pay for critical educational materials to help with training. To read more about it, click on the link below. You'll be taken to the CTV News channel website.

Enbridge donation Boosts Firefighters in Markstay story



La société gazière Enbridge a fait un don au service d'incendie de Markstay-Warren mardi pour l'aider à payer du matériel pédagogique essentiel pour faciliter la formation. Pour en savoir plus, cliquez sur le lien ci-dessous. Vous serez redirigé vers le site Web de la CTV News.

Les dons D'Enbridge aide contre les incendies à Markstay

# eCommerce is no longer accepted

As of January 10th, the Municipality of Markstay-Warren will no longer accept payments through e-commerce (epayment) on our website.

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À compter du 10 janvier, la municipalité de Markstay-Warren n'acceptera plus les paiements par commerce électronique (e-paiement) sur notre site web.



# Feature of the Month - January 2024

# Mayor Steven Olsen's Year in Review

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren saw a lot happen over the past 12 months. Some of the major projects included resurfacing Sunset Road, developing a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, becoming an officially bilingual municipality, and implementing a Livestream system for Council meetings. We also acquired new pieces of equipment, such as two new graders and a new pumpertanker truck. We recruited three new councillors, as well as new administration personnel such as a new CAO/Clerk, a new Manager of Public Works, and a new Finance Team.

Having these elements in place will help to set us up for success in the year to come, make our community safer, our council more transparent, and enable growth.



While the past year saw many positive highlights, we acknowledge some challenges as well. Municipal finances are not as robust as we had hoped, many government reports were outstanding (resulting in some grants being rescinded completely,) and infrastructure needs greatly exceeded the budgets due to lack of regular maintenance in past years. Records Management is non-existent, and most of the policies have not been updated in many years and therefore do not reflect today's realities.

These are challenges that this council is ready and willing to take on, and do the work necessary to get our community headed in the right direction once again. As a council, we are pulling together, and we are committed to transparency in how we do it.

These challenges aside, we're looking forward to 2024 with optimism and are quite excited about the year ahead. Some of the planned projects include the addition of new accessible playground equipment to the parks in Hagar and Warren, improvements to Warren drinking water, as well as the much-anticipated revitalization of Markstay streets. In addition, we will be commencing our building of affordable housing stock for families and providing options for older adults looking to downsize.

Finally, 2024 is the year we will prioritize economic development and opening of new businesses, creating both employment and new opportunities.

To quote the great Frank Sinatra: The best is yet to come!

Happy 2024 to all the residents of Markstay-Warren!

Mayor Steve

### Reminders

February's edition of the Newsletter's deadline to receive articles and ads is Wednesday, January 24th.

If you would like a hard copy of the newsletter, you can visit the following;

- Warren Library
- Markstay Library
- Rustic Café
- Bertrand's Confectionary
- Hagar General Store
- Kukagami General Store
- Warren Univi Health Centre
- St-Charles' Food Market
- Senior's Golden Age Citizen's Club.

# **Public Notices - January 2024 Newsletter**

# **Tipping Fees Permits**

Receipts for Tipping fees can be purchased at the Municipal Office during regular hours, at the Hagar General store, 7147 Hwy 17 East in Hagar and at the Rustic Café at 15 Rutland Ave in Warren. Please make sure you purchase your tipping fees prior to dumping as the Landfill Site attendant will not allow you in the landfill to dump.

### **Watch for Tax Bills**

Please watch for your interim tax bill which will be out the first week of February. The interim tax bill is based on 50% of the 2023 annualized taxes for your property. It does not reflect any changes in assessment for the 2024 taxation year and may not reflect 50% of what your overall 2024 taxes will be. Your final tax bill will reflect any increase/decrease in



your assessment for this year. Due dates for taxes will be February 29th and March 29th.

Please note that utility accounts that are outstanding on January 26th, 2024 will be transferred to taxes and appear in the Past Due Taxes amount of the bill.

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren offers a Pre-authorized Payment Plan (PAP). The PAP plan offers flexibility, consistency with paying on a monthly basis with no interest. You can choose to have your payment on the 10th or the 20th of each month or on due dates. To sign up by either getting the form on our website by clicking here, Permits & Information or by going to the office. All you need is a signed form and a VOID cheque.

# **Dog Tags**

The 2024 Dog Tags are available at the Municipal Office during regular business hours. They are also available at the Rustic Café in Warren and at the Kukagami Store on Hwy 17 East, Wahnapitae.

## **Treasury (Pre-authorized Payment)**

Effective November 8th, 2023 your agreed amount will not change without your expressed authorization. This means that if you have a balance or a credit on your water or property tax bill, it is your responsibility to contact the office to make the appropriate arrangements.

### **COMING SOON - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program 2024**

If you have a modest income, we have a trained volunteer who will complete your taxes for free at the Library. For more information, please call the Library. You can view the Library hours by clicking here, Library Information.

### **Garbage Collection**

It is the responsibility of the homeowner or tenant to place household garbage only at the roadway by 8 am on the morning of your scheduled pick-up and to make sure that the garbage is secure until such time the pick-up occurs. Please note there is a 5 bag limit weighing no more than 35 lbs each.





markstay-warren.ca