



# Maurice Smith

Councillor Ward 2  
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

## July 2015

Well it seems like only yesterday I was knocking on your door and asking for your support in the ‘upcoming’ election.

Looking back, I would be hard pressed to tell you where the time went. All I know is that this part-time job you elected me to has seemed like the most full time career I have ever had. Mind you, I must admit that I have enjoyed ‘almost’ every bit of this new challenge.

As you know, the current W-S Town Council is comprised of six Councillors and the Mayor. Four of the Councillors are new to the position including myself - and Mayor Altmann is also a newcomer. So this initial period has been a time of accelerated learning for Council.

Although we have benefitted from experienced staff, you will have noted that we recently appointed a new Chief Administrative Officer. Fortunately we were able to promote a superbly qualified candidate from within to fill this important role.

Having said all that, it seems that Council has been up to the task and that the Town’s business has been conducted in an orderly and efficient manner.



Shortly after taking office, we passed a responsible, carefully crafted budget to serve the communities needs in 2015. Like others in the past, this budget was unable to rationally accommodate all requests for service expansion.

The task of operating within the realistic disciplines of anticipated revenue forecasts imposes obvious restrictions that demands prioritization of suggested enhancements.



**If you have not as yet joined my email list and wish to receive future notices and updates please forward your name and email address to:**

**maurice.smith@townofws.ca**

### *EMS Service in Ballantrae*

Serious consideration was given to the expansion of firefighting staff and facility at the Ballantrae station. Upon examination, it was determined that the real need here is for a 24/7 EMS presence.

Therefore an agreement was signed with York Region to extend for a further five years the 24 hour EMS presence at the Ballantrae Fire Station on Highway #48.

Several other topics of interest have surfaced in recent months and I will attempt to update you on a few of them as briefly as possible.

## ***Rumours of the Highway 48 Dumpsite Reopening.***

The dumpsite property in question is known as 14301 Highway 48 and is located on the east side of 48, south of Bloomington Road.

This site was an old Waste Management dump site which closed in 1983. As part of their agreement with the Ministry of the Environment, Waste Management are required to maintain the grading elevations and drainage patterns agreed upon when the site was closed.

Over the years, as the garbage has decomposed, *the elevations and drainage patterns have changed. The maintenance to be undertaken shortly involves placement of soil on the landfill cap and footprint to maintain the MOE approved site contours.*

Please be assured, the dumpsite is NOT being reopened and the owners are NOT creating a soil fill site.



## ***Coultice Park***

For many years, a family by the name of Coultice farmed over 132 acres on the south side of Musselman's Lake. When Mr. Coultice passed away a few years ago his family decided to honour one of his wishes that the farm property be donated to the community to be used as a public park.

After many months of negotiation, his request will become a reality later this year. Consultation with residents has taken place and a consultant has provided renderings of a 5 acre area to be used exclusively as a park by the town. The remaining portion of 127 acres will be under the control of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority and will be opened to the public.

The public are invited to attend a presentation that will take place in the Cedar Beach Pavilion on July 15. Sketches and concept drawings of the 5 acre area will be presented during the hours of 7 and 8:30 PM. All residents of the area are encouraged to attend.



## ***Sidewalks and Street Lights in Ballantrae.***

This project represents the first phase of the construction of sidewalks and street lights in the Ballantrae core.

The current scope of work to be undertaken this summer consists of the construction of a sidewalk on the north side of Aurora Road from McMullen Drive to McFarland Street. The eastern limit of construction at McFarland Street will link the new sidewalk with the existing one that continues over past the Ballantrae Community Centre and Ballantrae School. Work is scheduled to start late July and with the weather co-operating, be completed before students return to school in September.

## ***Intersection - Aurora Road & Ninth Line***

Many people have voiced opinion about speeding trucks and volume of vehicles through this intersection. Having heard those concerns I recently presented a motion at town council that would have staff petition York Region authorities to complete a traffic study at this intersection. Town approved my motion and the Region have confirmed the study is to be undertaken in the near future.



## ***The Ballantrae Fall Fair***

Mark your calendars so you will not miss attending the Ballantrae Fall Fair on Sunday September 13.

This family oriented event will feature the familiar country atmosphere with local growers offering fresh from the farm produce. There will be Jam and Pie contests, a childrens' fun area supported by Tiny Seedlings, food trucks and the Ballantrae Scouts will be offering a Pancake Breakfast.

This traditional event will be at the Ballantrae Park and Community Centre on Aurora Road between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM.

## ***Winter Carnival***

Some of you have already asked about the Winter Carnival. Well – I can give you the date for this event but will leave the details for my next newsletter. Organizers are planning this event to be held at Cedar Beach at Musselman's Lake on Saturday February 6, 2016.

## Interested in Getting Involved in Your Community?

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville is currently seeking applications from community members for appointments to the following Advisory Committees for the 2015-2018 Term:

- BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- LEMONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The deadline for receiving applications from interested parties is July 10, 2015.

*The mandate for members of these committees is similar to the following example:*

*The mandate of the Ballantrae Community Centre Advisory Committee is to act as community liaison to the Ballantrae community and area residents and, with respect to the Ballantrae Community Centre; provide input in the provision of programs and activities; promote local community activities; co-ordinate promotion of the facility; provide input regarding policies related to the use and operation of the community centre; evaluate user satisfaction and activities provided at the facility; and provide input on capital improvements to the Ballantrae Community Centre.*

Past agendas and minutes if people are interested in learning more about the committee:

<http://www.townofws.ca/en/town-hall/committee-bccac.asp>

## In The Future...

I do not plan on distributing newsletters via post and/or email on a regular basis but will use this method of information distribution when I feel there is a need.

I would urge you to visit my website <http://www.mauricesmith.ca> frequently.

I will make every effort to communicate with you on these pages.

Also, you are reminded that the town of Whitchurch-Stouffville maintains an excellent website <http://www.townofws.ca> which provides a wealth of information regarding community services and events.

Of course I can always be reached via telephone 905-640-1910 or 1-855-642-8697 ext. 2102.

Or email me at [maurice.smith@townofws.ca](mailto:maurice.smith@townofws.ca).

Although my main focus is to service and be the representative of you, the constituents of Ward 2, you should know that I have also accepted appointment to Committees of the Town. I continue to serve on the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library Board of Trustees, the Ballantrae Community Centre Board and will serve on the expansion committee for the facility at Memorial Park. I have also agreed to serve for a period of time commencing in September as the Vice/Deputy Mayor.

In the recent past I have also represented the town to interview and appoint members to the boards of 19 on The Park and the Library.

It is anticipated that several new residential and commercial developments will be proposed within the Ballantrae core area. I have held several preliminary although informal meetings with developers in this regard and will continue to monitor these activities closely on your behalf.