

The Gravenhurst CONNECTION

The Town of Gravenhurst Quarterly Newsletter

June 2026



We're back at the Gravenhurst Farmers' Market

Town staff will be running a municipal information table at the market again this year. The market runs Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 3 to Oct. 7, at Gull Lake Rotary Park. Stop by and visit with the team.



Join the Gravenhurst Fire Department

Now recruiting for Station 2 in Kilworthy and Station 3 in Barkway. Do you have a desire to learn new skills and work with a great team? Learn more and apply: Gravenhurst.ca/JoinGFD

FREE! THINGS TO SEE & DO!



- Canda Day Celebrations**
July 1 | 11 am–3 pm
Muskoka Wharf
- Make a Splash**
August 1 | 10 am–3 pm
Gull Lake Rotary Park
- Civic Holiday Fireworks**
August 1 (at dusk)
Muskoka Wharf

Gull Lake Rotary Park

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS



TRIO \$110 per person

3 Great Shows! 1 Great Price!

The Bean
by Norm Foster
July 7–17

Forever Plaid
by Stuart Ross
August 11–19

Brass Transit
The Musical Legacy of Chicago
September 19

And so much more! Visit our website for a full show listing.

GravenhurstOperaHouse.com



Message from the Mayor

Thanks for checking out the latest edition of The Gravenhurst Connection.

Congratulations to Judy Humphries for receiving the Ontario Senior of the Year Award! Humphries received the award in recognition of her contributions to the Gravenhurst Municipal Heritage Committee and the Gravenhurst Archives.

For more frequent updates, visit Gravenhurst.ca or follow us on social media. I look forward to seeing you at community events over the summer.

Take care and talk again soon.

Heidi Lorenz, Mayor

Updates at a Glance

Donation of carbon monoxide alarms

On April 20, the Hawkins-Gignac Foundation for CO Education presented the Gravenhurst Fire Department with a donation of 90 carbon monoxide alarms. The department will distribute the alarms as needed in the community.

New street banners

The town has installed new street banners across the urban core. Designed in-house, the banners are welcoming, eye-catching, and show off Gravenhurst as a four-season destination.

Official Plan review

The town is reviewing its Official Plan. The Official Plan is a document outlining how land will be used in the municipality in the years ahead. Learn more about the exercise at EngageGravenhurst.ca.

Music On The Barge

Join us for live music at this unique waterfront setting starting June 28!

Visit the website for the complete schedule:
MusicOnTheBarge.com



Sunday Nights • Gull Lake Rotary Park



Senior of the Year Judy Humphries with Mayor Lorenz

Gravenhurst Votes now live on website



Gravenhurst Votes, the town's municipal election webpage, is now live at Gravenhurst.ca.

"The webpage is your primary source for all things related to the municipal election," Director of Legislative Services Kayla Thibeault said.

Election day in Gravenhurst, and all of Ontario, is October 26, 2026. Voters will be able to cast their ballot by telephone or

the internet. More information about the voting process will be available in the months ahead. Please watch the webpage and the town's social media channels for details.

The election webpage includes voter information and candidate information. If people can't find what they are looking for on the webpage, please e-mail the town at elections@gravenhurst.ca or telephone the Election Help Desk at 705-687-3412, ext. 2242.

The next council term will run from Nov. 15, 2026, until Nov. 14, 2030.

New accessibility service at municipal office



Mayor Heidi Lorenz, fellow council members, Accessibility Advisory Committee Chair Barbara McNeice-Stallard, and administrative clerk Bessie Steele check out the Blind Square app.

On May 21, the Town of Gravenhurst launched a new service that will help people with vision loss navigate the public areas at the municipal office.

Spearheaded by the town's Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC), the service involves using the free BlindSquare app, which provides real-time navigation for users through audio cues.

The service uses beacons placed around the inside of the municipal office, which communicate via Bluetooth with a user's phone to indicate their location in the building and provide navigational cues to the office's service desks.

The new service is a pilot project. Based on its success, the town will consider rolling out the service at other municipal facilities in the years ahead.



Palmeri's Your Independent Grocer in Gravenhurst hosted a grand reopening on May 8 following extensive store renovations. Council members were on hand to help celebrate. Mayor Heidi Lorenz congratulated the Palmeri team on the successful completion of the renovation project.

Council Highlights

APRIL: Council awards Musquash Road Drainage Improvements tender

Council awarded the project to the lowest compliant bidder, HLD Muskoka, at a cost of \$3,782,615.15 excluding HST. Phase one of the project will be completed by Oct. 30 2026. The second and final phase will finish by Oct. 29, 2027.

APRIL: Town finances in good shape

Council received for information the 2026 First Quarter Financial Update Report. Administration concludes that the 2026 First Quarter Financial Update is in line with expectations at the end of Q1 2026 and early projections for year end.

MAY: Reserves and reserve funds managed prudently: report

Council received the 2025 Annual Reserve and Reserve Funds Report for information. The town's reserves and reserve funds are being managed prudently with a focus on long-term sustainability, staff said.

Stay in Touch!

Visit our website for more Council highlights and all your Town of Gravenhurst updates.



You can watch Council meetings on our YouTube channel at [Gravenhurst.ca/Livestream](https://www.gravenhurst.ca/Livestream)

OPEN AIR BURNING REMINDER



NO DAYTIME BURNING

APRIL 1 TO OCT 31 from 8 am – 6 pm

- Follow the fire danger rating
- Watch your fire closely
- Have water nearby
- Sky Lanterns are NOT permitted at any time
- Fireworks prohibited during a Town declared Fire Ban

To view the map of permitted locations and fire sizes for recreational and non-recreational fires, please visit the website.

[Gravenhurst.ca/BurnByLaw](https://www.gravenhurst.ca/BurnByLaw)

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