

# Town of Pelham | Regional Councilor Report

September 3, 2019

## Niagara Region joins Built for Zero

- Built for Zero is a national initiative to end chronic homelessness in Canada. It offers a structured and supportive approach to help municipalities address homelessness.
- Niagara Region was announced as one of nine successful applicants to participate in the BFZ-C Collaborative and is currently in the signing process of the Community Agreement. Built for Zero is a Canadian movement, led by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, which supports participating communities to work toward an end to chronic and high-acuity homelessness.

## Automated Speed Enforcement

- On May 30, 2017, the Province passed Bill 65, the Safer School Zones Act that authorized Municipalities to use photo radar as a tool to address vehicle speed concerns and collision patterns involving speeding.
- Speeding is a primary crash factor and a leading road safety problem
- In 2016, fatal and serious injury collisions on Niagara Regional roads increased by 9.31% over 2015 recorded statistics.
- Statistical analysis of 2016 ranked Niagara Region 20% higher in the number of collisions than similar jurisdictions within Ontario.
- There were approximately 2,648 traffic collisions on Niagara Regional roads in 2017, of which, approximately 17 collisions resulted in traffic fatalities and 324 in serious injuries.
- Passed at Regional Council July 18.

## Updated Smoking and Vaping By-law

- Following public consultation and approval from both regional and municipal councils, an updated Smoke and Vape-Free Outdoor Spaces Bylaw is now in effect for the Niagara region.
- The updated bylaw now prohibits tobacco, cannabis and vaping products from being smoked or vaped in several public spaces in the Niagara region, including:
  - Beaches **(new)**
  - Recreation trails **(new)**
  - Within nine metres of an entrance or exit of a publicly accessible place, building or workplace **(new)**
  - Parks, playgrounds and sports fields
  - Splash pads and outdoor pools
  - Arenas and recreation centres
  - Outdoor areas of municipal and regional buildings
  - Bus shelters

## Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority - Updates

- Full Board will assemble in October.
- Niagara Region decided it needed greater political representation on the Board of Directors. As such three Regional Councilors were added to the committee effective July 18.
- The Interim CAO Gayle Wood was granted an extension of her contract and made permanent CAO up to December 31, 2019. The CAO selection committee will continue to meet and secure a replacement for 2020.
- On July 22<sup>nd</sup> the Board declared a climate emergency. This will allow the staff to develop a climate change vision and charter.
- A 2019 Flood Plan has been put forward by staff for adoption of the Board. This mapping has the potential to significantly impact homeowners residing along the Welland River.

## Tourism Partnership of Niagara

- July Planning and Economic Development Committee heard a presentation by the Tourism Partnership of Niagara
- TPN is a non-profit organization funded by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- One of 13 Regional Tourism Organization in Ontario
- Partner with economic development departments and officers to assist municipalities with unique needs
- Pelham is not currently engaging with the organization or using their services
- Opportunity in developing a tourism strategy for Pelham that can empower our local business and tap into tourism activities in neighboring communities