

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Message from Mayor LaValley

2024 was a busy year for the Township, and we look forward to a successful and prosperous 2025. Here are a few achievements the Township made in 2024 and continue to focus on in 2025.

- The new financial, building, and planning software is now up and running, offering improved efficiency and enabling residents to set up e-services accounts. Staff are continuing to familiarize themselves with the system's functionalities. We appreciate your patience during this process.
- The Draft Official Plan has been forwarded to the Ministry for approval, and we are waiting for their decision.
- A Waste Task Force was created that included three local business owners, three residential owners, three Councillors and staff. The task force met twice and worked together to develop recommendations for the Waste Management Committee regarding waste services.
- The Township had two Economic and Development Committee workshops for the creation of our very first Tourism and Economic Development Master Plan. This document will guide the Township with future strategic directions, actions, and more. The plan will also align with the Township's Strategic Plan. The draft plan will be presented to the Economic Development Committee at the February 19, 2025 meeting.
- The Township hosted an open house to get public feedback on the Draft Short-Term Rental Licencing By-Law. Input from the open house will be shared with committee in the coming months.
- Council remains dedicated to working on and advocating for housing development and other goals and objectives in the Strategic Plan.

I'd like to express my gratitude to everyone who took part in our open houses and workshops. I also want to thank Council and Township staff for their hard work and dedication.

Should you wish to meet with me, please email mayor@southalgonquin.ca or call 613-332-8357.

WASTE/DISPOSAL NEWS

For more information regarding waste collection and disposal please see your waste collection calendar. The Spring/Summer calendar will be included with your Interim Tax Billing mailed the first week of March. Calendars are also posted on our website.

Tax Billing

The interim tax bills will be mailed the first week of March. Installment due dates are March 31st and May 31st.

Payment Options:

- Telephone banking
- e-services web portal
- Internet banking
- Your financial institution
- Mail
- In person – cash, cheque, money order, Interac, or credit card

Please note:

- E-Transfers are no longer accepted.
- Credit card payments are subject to a 2.4% transaction fee

Interest Penalties

A 1.25% penalty will be added on the 1st day of each and every month. Remember to allow sufficient time for payments to be received by the 1st day of each month to avoid penalty.

Appointments

If you wish to speak to a specific staff member, we recommend you make an appointment ahead of time.

Administration News:

The Township of South Algonquin has implemented e-services for our residents. Many of you have already signed up.

We encourage you to set up your e-services account and encourage you to get your billing notifications electronically if possible as this will help reduce the high cost of delivery via Canada Post and will also ensure you receive your bills in a timely manner.

You can find our e-services website at <https://eservices.southalgonquin.ca/>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the municipal office.

Water Sample Testing Bottles

Are available, free of charge, at the Township office. Please carefully follow the instructions with the bottle when taking your sample. The test samples can be dropped off at Lorraine's Pharmacy in Barry's Bay. It is recommended you contact the Pharmacy to confirm hours and days water samples are accepted.

Dog Pound

Now the public can take found dogs directly to the pound in Bancroft. Located at 326 Monck Rd, Bancroft. Phone 613-332-2755. Website: municipaldogpound.com The Municipal Dog Pound is Open to the Public from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Monday to Saturday and is Closed Sunday to the Public).

Winter Parking on Township Roads

Within South Algonquin plow truck routes are approximately 260 km per round trip, this means that our drivers do their best, often in terrible weather to clean roads as quickly as possible so that residents can get where they need to go. Vehicles parked in the roadway not only impede their

efficiency but also pose safety risks in navigating a large truck, plow and wing around the vehicles. During the designated winter season: November 1st to April 15th any vehicle parked within the road allowance will be towed by the nearest available towing company at the owner's expense.

Residents should make arrangements to have their driveways cleared of snow to ensure that parking in the roadway is not necessary and that emergency services can access the property.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Ambulance, Police and Fire: 9-1-1

Township of South Algonquin Fire Department—Whitney Station (Airy and Sabine Wards and the West side of Lyell Ward, North McKenzie Lake Road)

Non-Emergency

Fire Chief, Aurel Thom
613-334-9697

Non-Emergency

Deputy Fire Chief,
Marvin Siydock 705-457-7699

Hospitals

St Francis Memorial Hospital (Barry's Bay): 613-756-3044
 North Hastings District Hospital (Bancroft): 613-332-2825
 Whitney Medical Centre: 613-637-2170

COUNCIL

MAYOR

Ethel LaValley: 613-332-8357

mayor@southalgonquin.ca

COUNCILLORS

AIRY WARD (01)

Joan Kuiack: 613-637-5479

jkuiaack@southalgonquin.ca

AIRY WARD (01)

Laurie Siydock: 613-334-1780

laurie@southalgonquin.ca

DICKENS WARD (02)

Bill Rodnick: 613-756-7016

wrodnick@southalgonquin.ca

LYELL WARD (03)

Sandra Collins: 613-334-0478

sandracollins@southalgonquin.ca

MURCHISON WARD (04)

Joe Florent: 613-334-2637

joe@southalgonquin.ca

SABINE WARD (05)

Shawn Pigeon: 613-318-8375

shawnpigeon@southalgonquin.ca

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, toxic gas that enters the body through the lungs during the normal breathing process. It replaces oxygen in the blood and prevents the flow of oxygen to the heart, brain and other vital organs.
- The updates to the fire code put a number of key measures into effect, including making CO alarms a requirement for every household in Ontario with a CO risk.

Causes of CO Leaks

- CO is produced when carbon-based fuels are incompletely burned such as: wood, propane, natural gas, heating oil, coal, kerosene, charcoal, and gasoline.
- Leaks can be caused by wood burning/gas stoves, gas refrigerators, gasoline engines, kerosene heaters and others.

Signs of CO Leak

- Headache, nausea, burning eyes, fainting, confusion, drowsiness.
- Often mistaken for common ailments like the flu.
- Symptoms improve when away from the home for a period of time.
- Symptoms experienced by more than one member of the household.
- Air feels stale/stuffy.
- Excessive moisture on windows or walls.
- Sharp penetrating odor or smell of gas when furnace or other fuel burning appliance turns on.
- Burning and pilot light flames are yellow/orange, not blue.
- Pilot light on the furnace or water heater goes out.
- Chalky white powder or soot build up occurs around exhaust vent or chimney.
- Continued exposure to higher levels may result in unconsciousness, brain damage and death. The elderly, children and people with heart or respiratory conditions may be particularly sensitive to carbon monoxide.

Dogs

We would like to remind owners per By-Law #12-430 no person who owns or harbours a dog within the township shall permit such dog to become a nuisance.

A dog shall be deemed a nuisance in the following circumstances:

- i) if the dog persistently cries, howls or barks.
 - ii) if the dog causes damage to municipal property or private property.
 - iii) if the dog interferes with dumps or scatters garbage or trash.
 - iv) if the dog persistently chases or intimidates pedestrians using public or private paths, roads or sidewalks adjacent to the property where the dog is kept or harboured.
- Furthermore, no owner shall permit his dog to go onto or be on private property, other than the owner's property, even when on a leash, except with the consent of the owner or occupant of that private property. Residents of the Township who own or harbour dogs are required to

purchase a DOG TAG for each dog they are responsible for. Valid for the lifetime of your dog. Tags are available at the municipal office for \$10. Replacement tags are \$5. NOTE: If a captured dog is wearing a dog tag, one attempt will be made to return the dog to its owner before the dog(s) is taken to the Municipal Dog Pound in Bancroft. If the dog is not wearing a tag, it will be taken to the Municipal Dog Pound in Bancroft immediately. Fees apply to release the animal.

WHITNEY RECREATION

Calling all community members. We are looking for new ideas and volunteers. If you would like to join an amazing group of community minded people, please reach out. We would love to hear from you. We are thrilled to announce a jam-packed schedule of exciting events for 2025! Here's a sneak peek at what's coming up:

- Feb 16 - Festival of Outdoor Rinks
- Mar 15 - St. Patrick's Day Dance
- Apr 19 - Easter Egg Hunt & Bake Sale
- May 24 - ATV Poker Run
- Movie Nights - Join us for a free movie! Grab a blanket and enjoy family-friendly films, with the canteen open for snack and drink purchases.

For more information and updates, be sure to like and follow our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/whitneyrec>), and watch for event posters at local businesses. Stay tuned and see you at the events! ~ The Whitney Recreation Committee

MADAWASKA RECREATION

Happy New Year to everyone! Christmas Angel Fundraiser raised a total of \$770.00 this year with the help of Giving Tuesday and the businesses that matched all donations given on that day. All proceeds went to the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation for local healthcare needs.

On Sunday, February 16th at the Madawaska Rink from noon to 3 pm we are having a Winter Fun Day.

There will be all kinds of fun games. You will be placed on a team of all ages, so everyone has a fun time! All are welcome!

Our Trivia Night fundraiser for the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation will be on Monday April 28th at 7 pm. Call or text Sharon @ 613-334-2520 to book your table.

Sunday May 4th St. Matthews Church will be having their afternoon of Bingo at the Community Hall. Please watch for posters regarding these and other future events.

We are searching for volunteers to add to our M & L Recreation Committee, in Madawaska. If you have some fresh ideas and want to have fun and help your community, please contact the Township directly @ 613-637-2650 ext 200 or call or text Sharon Florent @ 613-334-2520 or Terry Levean @ 613-633-9386. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Madawaska Community Hall. If you would like to attend a meeting please let us know one week in advance.

SOUTH ALGONQUIN SENIORS

Schedule of Events

January 6th – May 30th, 2025.

Mondays:

9:30 am – 10:30 am - Aerobic Exercises @ Lester Smith

Tuesdays:

10:30 am – 2:00 pm – Seniors Social gathering @ Madawaska Complex (Fitness classes, lunch, Games and great chats)

Wednesdays:

9:30 am – 10:30 am - Aerobic Exercises @ Lester Smith 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm – Chair & Standing Yoga @ Whitney Seniors Centre

Thursdays:

10:30 am – 11:30 am - Meditation to reduce stress & Anxiety @ Lester Smith

Fridays:

9:30 am – 10:30 am - Aerobic Exercises @ Lester Smith

WHITNEY SENIORS NEW OUTLOOK

We welcome all South Algonquin residents 50+ to join.

Like us, follow and share on Facebook @ whitneyseniorsnewoutlook

Monday

1:00 p.m. – Darts

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. – Euchre Progressive

Thursday

1:00 p.m. – Darts, Euchre, Cribbage

Sunday

1:00 Rumoli, Scrabble, Rummikub, Sequence, Play 9

Save the Date:

March 3rd 6:30 pm - Annual General Meeting

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Ontario Parks Day Passes: Free passes for entry into Ontario Provincial Parks, ideal for outdoor adventures.

Canadian Museum of Nature

Passes: Free general admission passes to explore exhibits at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa.

Virtual Author Talks: Attend free virtual author talks and interact with authors from home. Visit the website for upcoming events and archived talks. To see upcoming events and browse archived sessions, visit library.org/southalgonquinlibrary.

Student Volunteers: Students in need of volunteer hours can speak with a librarian for opportunities.

Madawaska Branch

Wi-Fi 24/7
madawaskalibrary@southalgonquin.ca
613-637-1099

Tuesdays: 10 am to 3 pm
Thursdays: 12 noon to 7 pm
Saturdays: 10 am to 2 pm

Whitney Branch

Wi-Fi 24/7
whitneylibrary@southalgonquin.ca
613-637-5471

Wednesdays: 10 am to 3 pm
Thursdays: 12 noon to 7 pm
Saturdays: 10 am to 2 pm

www.southalgonquin.ca/library