



County Council

Meeting Date: **October 24, 2023**
Submitted by: **Cathy Burghardt-Jesson, Warden**
Subject: **Middlesex County Warden's Activity Report**

BACKGROUND:

The Municipal Act, 2001, generally outlines the role of Warden to:

- Act as chief executive officer of the municipality;
- Preside over council meetings;
- Provide leadership to the council;
- Represent the municipality at official functions; and,
- Carry out the duties of the head of council under this or any other Act.

The purpose of the Warden's Activity Report is to formally provide an overview of the Warden's government and community relations activities, achievements, projects and engagements on behalf of Middlesex County.

During this reporting period, the Warden activities consisted of a mix of political, community, and internal organizational engagements. The activities range from meetings with elected representatives and various levels of governance, to participation in community-centric events such as the Strathroy and Thorndale Pride Events and the Middlesex Plowman's Association Annual Plowing Match. The schedule also includes regular communication and planning meetings internally with the County staff, the CAO, and different committees.

These activities emphasize collaborative governance, with meetings across different governmental tiers underlining a whole-of-government approach to policy-making and solutions to complex challenges.

Community engagement stands out as a dominant theme, given the array of community events and social interactions. Events related to Health, Accessibility, and Reconciliation showcase Middlesex County's holistic commitment to the well-being, inclusivity, and acknowledgment of historical contexts within our communities.

ANALYSIS:

The activities of the Warden are conducted in accordance with the broad direction of Council and in alignment with the Middlesex County Strategic Plan and its Guiding Principles:

- Balancing the rural-urban qualities of the County
- Building relationships and working in a collaborative and supportive way

- Leading through innovation, evaluation, and continuous improvement
- Recognizing the uniqueness of our local municipal partners
- Maintaining financial sustainability
- Focusing on diversity and inclusion
- Being flexible and responsive

Date	Activity
June	
June 6, 2023	Hon. Associate Minister Tangri & MMAH Meeting
June 7, 2023	AORS Tradeshow Strathroy
June 8, 2023	Western Ontario Warden's Caucus
June 13, 2023	Tales & Trails Social Media
June 14, 2023	Past Warden Visitation
June 19, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
June 19, 2023	CAO Meeting
June 20, 2023	County Council
June 22, 2023	Golf Tournament
June 24, 2023	Strathroy Pride Event
June 25, 2023	County Council Social
June 26, 2023	MLHU Strathroy Dental Office
June 26, 2023	MLPS Retirement
June 26, 2023	CAO Phone Meeting
June 27, 2023	Western University Meeting & Dinner
June 29, 2023	Middlesex County Connect Bus Ride and Social Media
June 29, 2023	Human Resources/Legislative Services Summer Social

Date	Activity
July	
July 1, 2023	Canada Day
July 5, 2023	Staff/CAO Middlesex County Meeting
July 8, 2023	Strathroy Pride Event
July 9, 2023	Thorndale Pride Event
July 10, 2023	Building Committee Meeting
July 12, 2023	County Summer Social
July 12, 2023	CAO Meeting
July 13, 2023	Past Warden's BBQ
July 17, 2023	Middlesex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting
July 17, 2023	MLPS Meeting re Long Service
July 17, 2023	Meeting with Adelaide Metcalfe
July 18, 2023	Building Committee Meeting
July 18, 2023	County Council
July 21, 2023	MLPS Summer Camp
July 25, 2023	Councillor Lunch
July 26, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
July 26, 2023	Middlesex Centre Energy Monitoring Project Kick-Off
July 27, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
July 28, 2023	County of Huron Housing Announcement

Date	Activity
August	
August 4, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
August 10, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
August 10, 2023	Building Committee Meeting
August 11, 2023	Conference Call Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
August 15, 2023	Warden's Banquet Discussion
August 15, 2023	County Council
August 16, 2023	WOWC: AMO Preparation Meeting
August 16, 2023	Middlesex County AMO Preparation Meeting
August 17, 2023	County AMO Supply
August 17, 2023	FCM Virtual Meeting
August 17, 2023	Western Fair Programming Council
August 20-23, 2023	AMO Conference
August 24, 2023	Brian Hill N'Amerind Friendship Centre Phone Meeting
August 28, 2023	MP Peter Fragiskotas and Legislative Services Virtual Meeting
August 30, 2023	Budget Review Preparation Meeting
August 30, 2023	Brian Hill N'Amerind Friendship Centre Meeting
August 31, 2023	FCM Meeting




Date	Activity
September	
September 4, 2023	Middlesex Plowman's Association Annual Plowing Match
September 6, 2023	Assistant Prof Huron College BMOS Meeting
September 7, 2023	Groundbreaking Event Strathroy
September 7, 2023	Local CAO Meeting
September 7, 2023	MFA/OFA Annual Meeting Dorchester
September 8, 2023	Virtual CMSM Discussion
September 9, 2023	Middlesex County Softball Tournament
September 9, 2023	Middlesex Centre Celebration
September 11, 2023	Senior Mgmt. Team Meeting
September 11, 2023	FCM Meeting
September 12, 2023	Breakfast Meeting w/MP the Hon. Gudie Hutchings, the Federal Minister of Rural Economic Development
September 12, 2023	County Council
September 14, 2023	Meeting w/MPP Rob Flack
September 15, 2023	WOWC—Economic Development Stratford
September 19, 2023	Taping for Truth and Reconciliation
September 20, 2023	County Staff Meeting
September 20, 2023	LHSC-UH 50 th Anniversary
September 20, 2023	St. Thomas CAO Meeting
September 21, 2023	Building Committee Meeting
September 25, 2023	Virtual Staff Discussion
September 26, 2023	Library Board Meeting
September 26, 2023	County Council

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

This report aligns with the following Strategic Focus, Goals, or Objectives:

Strategic Focus	Goals	Objectives
<p>Cultivating Community Vitality</p> 	<p>Advance a diverse, healthy, and engaged community across Middlesex County</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote and support community wellness• Innovate social and community services• Attract, retain, and engage youth in our community• Champion and encourage active transportation and public transit opportunities
<p>Connecting Through Infrastructure</p> 	<p>Ensure communities are built on a sustainable foundation that is connected and thriving</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage and advocate, through partnerships, the construction of scalable, equitable broadband infrastructure, recognizing our unserved and underserved areas• Commit to a sound asset management strategy to maintain and fund critical infrastructure• Use County infrastructure in an innovative way to provide a seamless service experience for residents
<p>Strengthening Our Economy</p> 	<p>Encourage a diverse and robust economic base throughout the county</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support opportunities to create a stronger and sustainable agricultural sector• Create an environment that enables the attraction and retention of businesses, talent, and investments• Attract visitors to Middlesex County• Support the development and prosperity of downtown core areas in Middlesex County
<p>Promoting Service Excellence</p> 	<p>Innovate and transform municipal service delivery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anticipate and align municipal service delivery to emerging needs and expectations• Engage, educate and inform residents, businesses, and visitors of county services and community activities• Strengthen our advocacy and lobbying efforts with other government bodies• Collaborate with strategic partners to leverage available resources and opportunities• Build organizational capacity and capabilities

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Middlesex County Warden's Activity Report be received for information.