

Meeting Date: January 16, 2024
Submitted by: Cathy Burghardt-Jesson, Deputy 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 various community engagements. This included meetings with local Indigenous communities, the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC) and London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC). The schedule also includes regular communication and planning meetings internally with County staff, the CAO and different committees.

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
October	
October 5, 2023	County Road Safety Committee
October 10, 2023	County Council
October 12, 2023	WOWC – Dinner w/Committees, CAO's, Expert Panels Stonebridge Inn
October 13, 2023	WOWC – MP & MPP Presentation October Meeting Stonebridge Inn
October 14, 2023	Newcomer Day - London
October 16, 2023	Middlesex County CEMC
October 17, 2023	Chippewa of the Thames Meeting
October 18, 2023	Media Interview
October 18, 2023	MLHU Meeting
October 18, 2023	MLHU Follow-Up
October 19, 2023	Western Fair AGM
October 23, 2023	Premier's Office MLPS Dispatch Follow-Up
October 23, 2023	Lunch with Councillor
October 24, 2023	Library Board
October 24, 2023	County Council
October 26, 2023	Warden's Banquet Planning Visit
October 26, 2023	Woodstock Lunch with neighbouring Head of Council
October 30, 2023	Flu Shot Photo-OP MLPS
October 30, 2023	MLPS Recognition at Parkwood
October 31, 2023	Halloween Staff Social County Building
October 31, 2023	MLPS Presentation City of London

Date	Activity
November	
November 1, 2023	Lieutenant Governor Retirement Dinner Toronto
November 2, 2023	Mayor's Breakfast Middlesex Centre
November 2, 2023	River Heights Opening
November 3, 2023	Planning Meeting MLPS/LHSC (Virtual)
November 3, 2023	Councillor Lunch
November 6, 2023	Meeting with MPP Rob Flack River Heights F/U St. Thomas
November 7, 2023	LHSC Meeting re: MLPS Offload Delays
November 7, 2023	County Council
November 9, 2023	Provincial Pre-Budget Consultation – St. Thomas
November 10, 2023	Warden's Banquet Planning County Building
November 14, 2023	Councillor Breakfast
November 15, 2023	CAO Meeting @ County Building
November 16, 2023	Western Fair Programming Meeting – Virtual
November 17, 2023	Warden Banquet Preparation
November 17, 2023	Warden's Banquet – Elgin County
November 18, 2023	North Middlesex Fire Hall/Ambulance Station Opening – Parkhill

November 18, 2023	Strathroy-Caradoc Santa Claus Parade
November 18, 2023	Warden's Banquet
November 21, 2023	Library Board
November 21, 2023	County Council
November 27, 2023	County Staff Lunch
November 28, 2023	County Inaugural
November 29, 2023	Meeting with New Warden DeViet

Date	Activity
December	
December 15, 2023	Lunch with MLHU Chair
December 19, 2023	LHSC Meeting re: MLPS Offload Delays
December 21, 2023	Media Interview: The Year in Review

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

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

Strategic Focus	Goals	Objectives
Cultivating Community Vitality 	Advance a diverse, healthy, and engaged community across Middlesex County	<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
Connecting Through Infrastructure 	Ensure communities are built on a sustainable foundation that is connected and thriving	<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
Strengthening Our Economy 	Encourage a diverse and robust economic base throughout the county	<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
Promoting Service Excellence 	Innovate and transform municipal service delivery	<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.