



Committee of the Whole

Meeting Date: July 8, 2025

Submitted by: Brian Ropp, Warden

Subject: Middlesex County Warden's Activity Report – Q2

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's activities consisted of a mix of political, community, and internal organizational engagements. These activities included meetings with elected representatives and various levels of governance and participation in events, such as the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Meeting, Middlesex-London Health Unit/County of Middlesex Touchbase and LDCSB Planning Collaboration Meeting. These activities provided important opportunities to advance Middlesex County's interests on topics such as health care, education, and regional economic development. The schedule also includes regular communication and planning meetings internally with the County staff, the Interim CAO, and different committees.

Warden Ropp met with the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to discuss a range of important issues including community transportation and rural mobility, land use planning and Ontario Land Tribunal reform, local housing leadership initiatives, the Housing Accelerator Fund, the Housing Advocate position, coordination with the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (CMSM), and proposed legislative changes under Bill 17 (Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025).

The Warden's schedule also incorporated commitment to local partnerships and public engagement. Highlights included Middlesex Municipal Day hosted by Strathroy-Caradoc, the Tourism Symposium at the Lucan Community Centre, the Strathroy & District Chamber of Commerce Awards, and the Warden's Charity Golf Tournament.

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
April 2025	
April 4, 2025	County City Liaison Committee Meeting – City of London
April 7, 2025	Spring EMPC Meeting
April 8, 2025	County Council
April 10, 2025	Staff Meeting at Middlesex County Admin. Offices
April 17, 2025	Warden's Association Annual Spring Dinner
April 22, 2025	County Council
April 24, 2025	Planning Advisory Committee Meeting
April 25, 2025	Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus Meeting
April 29, 2025	Special Meeting of County Council

Date	Activity
May 2025	
May 6, 2025	Middlesex Municipal Day hosted by Strathroy-Caradoc
May 8, 2025	Middlesex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting
May 12, 2025	Tourism Symposium at the Lucan Community Centre
May 13, 2025	Special Meeting of County Council / County Council
May 14, 2025	Planning Advisory Committee Meeting
May 16, 2025	Middlesex-London Health Unit/County of Middlesex Touchbase and Meeting with Minister Flack (St. Thomas)
May 21, 2025	Waterloo St. Ambulance Station Site Visit
May 22, 2025	LDCSB Planning Collaboration Meeting
May 24, 2025	Grand Opening of Van Osch Farm Store
May 27, 2025	Library Board Meeting / County Council
May 29, 2025	Strathroy & District Chamber of Commerce Awards



Date	Activity
June 2025	
June 6, 2025	County Road & Bridge Assumption Study Technical Steering Committee Meeting
June 13, 2025	Special Meeting of Middlesex County Council
June 17, 2025	Warden's Charity Golf Tournament
June 19, 2025	225 th Anniversary of Middlesex County Tree Planting at Big Swamp Tract
June 23, 2025	Special Meeting of County Council
June 24, 2025	Special Meeting of County Council / County Council
June 26, 2025	Planning Advisory Committee Meeting

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

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

Strategic Priority	Goal	Objectives
Economic Development 	Enhance overall economic well-being and community prosperity by fostering a sustainable and thriving local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement an Economic Development approach for the County, focusing on key priorities, actions, and areas of growth while providing strong support for small businesses and entrepreneurs, including agriculture-related businesses.
Collaboration & Partnerships 	Strengthen collaboration with local municipalities and regional partners to improve economic efficiency, enhance service delivery, and support regional development in alignment with community priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimize service delivery through inter-municipal collaboration and shared services to improve efficiency and seamless operations. Build and enhance relationships with municipal, regional, First Nations, community, and private sector partners to align priorities, share resources, and implement joint initiatives that improve community well-being and economic growth. Improve communication and transparency through open engagement, accessible information, and informed decision-making.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Middlesex County Warden's Activity Report – Q2 be received for information.