




 City of
Elliot Lake

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Message from Mayor Rick Hamilton

Local hotels and restaurants were kept busy again last weekend. The Elliot Lake Aquatic Club hosted the North Eastern Ontario Regional Swim Meet featuring over 180 participants representing 10 teams travelling from Timmins, North Bay, Sault Ste Marie and Sudbury. Congratulations to ELAC, city pool staff and all the volunteers and participants for a successful event.



Rick Hamilton

Another congratulations to our Elliot Lake Bobcats. With their 12 to 2 win last Friday over Oro-Medonte, they clinched their first-ever regular season first place spot and secured home ice advantage for the entire upcoming playoffs. This is a major accomplishment for just their 3rd season in the Greater Metro Hockey League.

Last week, the Algoma District Services Administration Board (ADSAB) budget was approved. There was an overall reduction in levies to all member municipalities. However, Elliot Lake's decrease was a somewhat less than others since recent assessment shifts raised our portion compared to the other communities in the Algoma region. Our 2009 levy was \$2,372,317 and the 2010 levy will be \$2,228,012, a decrease of approx \$144,000. This was very close to the estimate used when we were drafting our 2010 municipal budget.

On that note, we anticipate presenting the final 2010 municipal budget at the March 8th Council meeting. Appropriate notice will be provided on Page 2 and our website soon.

This week, Councillor Patrie, our CAO Mr. Bauthus and I, are attending the annual Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference in Toronto. We've had delegations with the Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Also, the East Algoma Chiefs, Mayors and Reeves Council had a delegation with key Ministry of Health and Long Term Care staff at the conference regarding the Algoma Manor funding issue. I will provide an update in my message next week and at our next Council meeting.

I recently received a response from Greyhound Canada on their east - west service schedule. The fairly detailed letter reminded me that they are a private company that is heavily regulated by both the federal and provincial levels of government, but who also compete against subsidized or non-profit corporations. As a private carrier, they need to make business decisions based on profit or loss and have repeatedly requested subsidies to cover losses for small rural / regional routes that consistently lose money across Canada. The answer by both levels has been no so they have had to make the decisions to abandon, where possible, routes and schedules that lose money. That should come as no surprise.

The senior levels of government need to make a decision to ensure that rural Canada has appropriate levels of transportation linkages. I will leave it up to them to decide whether subsidizing a private carrier or using a non profit Crown corporation like Ontario Northland is the route, but something must be done soon to address the transportation problems that continue to plague rural and Northern Ontario.

As always, I am open to hearing any comments or concerns on issues important to Elliot Laker by calling 848-2287 extension 2129 or by emailing info@city.elliottlake.on.ca.

February IS FRIENDSHIP MONTH.....

"Take your friend out to the gym, pool or arena" - two for the price of one ! This encourages physical activity and togetherness/ friendship.

Bring a friend along to the Walking Program at the Collins Hall. Get out on the cross-country ski trails or snowshoeing with a friend. This is a good way to spend time with your friend while being physically active.

If non-motorized isn't your cup of tea, hop on your snowmobile and ride out to one of our many lodges where you can have a cozy dinner and catch up on old times.

March Break Programs - Elliot Lake Public Library

Princesses and Knights

Come join the fun as we make a magnificent tiara or a mighty jeweled sword and shield.

When: Tuesday March 16th

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Reference Area of the Library

Ages: 4 to 7 yrs. old (younger than 4 yrs. must be accompanied by an adult)

Free Space is limited to 15 children

St. Patrick's Day

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with stories and a craft that is sure to bring you good luck.

When: Wednesday March 17

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Reference Area of the Library

Ages: 4 to 7 yrs. old (younger than 4 yrs. must be accompanied by an adult)

Free Space is limited to 15 children.

Beading for Beginners

Come out and make a beautiful piece of jewelry to take home. We will supply all the material.

When: Thursday March 18th

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Reference Area of the Library

Ages: 7 to 10 yrs. old

Free Space is limited to 10 children.

REGISTRATION:

Children must meet the min. age requirement at the start of the program.

Register in person at the Library.

Programs may be cancelled if insufficient interest is shown.

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE

LESTER B. PEARSON CIVIC CENTRE

"Where arts and culture come to life"

UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTERFEST • February 26 - 28

Come out and enjoy the great family fun of WINTERFEST!

Lots of outdoor activities will be held at Mount Dufour Ski Hill, plus other events around the community. Don't miss the Winterfest Community Dance, featuring the music of The Eagles with live band **HOTEL CALIFORNIA**, February 27th at the Collins Hall. Dance starts at 9pm (doors open at 8pm). Tickets \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Available at the Welcome Centre.

Watch for more information on all the Winterfest activities in The Standard, February 24th and you can pick up a schedule at City Hall, the Welcome Centre and at any corner store. Information is also on our website at www.cityofelliottlake.com

PARENTS ASSOCIATION FOR DANCE

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION – Spring Dance Recital

Parents Association for Dance regrets to announce that the Spring Dance Recital that was to be held at the Lester B. Pearson Civic Centre February 27th has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. The Association is unable to reschedule the event due to upcoming scheduled competitions. THANK YOU to all our sponsors and advertisers for the valued support.

ELATE presents The Dining Room

March 5 & 6th at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$15 or Students \$10

Available at Alpine Flowers & Gifts

It's a theatrical experience of exceptional range, compassionate humor and abundant humanity. ELATE will be presenting this production at the QUONTA Drama Festival.

For further details on community arts events and activities, contact: Kate Matuszewski, Co-ordinator of Arts & Culture 848-2287 ext 2400

The City of Elliot Lake
45 Hillside Drive, North
Elliot Lake, ON P5A 1X5

(705) 848-2287
(800) 661-6192

www.cityofelliottlake.com
 email: info@city.elliottlake.on.ca