



Downtown revitalization gets boost from grant

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BY EMC NEWS

EMC News - Thanks to a downtown revitalization grant from the Valley Heartland Community Futures Development Corporation, the Downtown Heritage Perth Business Improvement Area will be hiring a youth intern this summer.

At a regular meeting of town council May 19, Councillor Judy Brown reported that the intern will start in June and will help market and promote the downtown.

As well, a "gap analysis" of the downtown will be carried out free of charge with the help of the Queen's University school of business. "The cost to the town for them doing this is absolutely nothing," said Brown.

SENIORS MONTH

In other business May 19, Mayor John Fenik officially proclaimed May Seniors Month in the town of Perth. "Your Worship, I'd like to say that for me, every month is seniors' month," commented Councillor Eric Devlin.

Reporting on the recent activities of the town water board, Councillor Ed McPherson said "active and aggressive" measures to reduce water use in Perth have been underway since 2006. In one initiative, 34 manhole covers were sealed to prevent leakage into the sanitary sewer system.

TAY 175TH A HIT

Mayor Fenik told council members that having MP Scott Reid, MPP Randy Hillier and Drummond/North Elmsley Township Reeve Aubrey Churchill in Perth for the official launch of the Tay Canal 175th anniversary celebrations May 16 "puts on the map a little bit more.

"That was an amazing day," added the mayor, "even though we had a hurricane roll through just as the canoes were coming into the basin."

GRASS POLICY EXPLAINED

Implementation of a new policy setting out standards for grass maintenance in Perth does not reflect any lowering of grass cutting standards, Director of Community Services Shellee Evans told councillors.

Evans, who was at a conference when the policy was initially brought before council's Committee of the Whole, had been asked to provide a detailed explanation of how frequently grass in various areas of the town will be cut.

"The intent is to document our current mowing practices," said Evans, noting that any perception of a lowering of standards was a misconception.

The policy documents current practices as a guide for future reference in the event of staff turnover.

The town of Perth is responsible for mowing approximately 93 acres of land.