

April 23rd, 2023



AN ORGANIZED HAMLET

Collingwood Lakeshore Estates

April Newsletter

A Winter Storm Watch in April. 🙄

The volunteer Collingwood Hamlet Board, Lana Dwernychuk, Randy Birchard & June LeDrew hope this newsletter finds you and your family well.

Listed below are a few Hamlet tidbits. If you have any questions please contact us at collingwoodboard3@gmail.com

- * Spring road restrictions are on. These road bans reduce heavy vehicle weights (with the exception of garbage trucks). This action can reduce road damage and taxpayer road maintenance costs. Road bans typically last for six weeks.
- * FREE LANDFILL DAY—Spring cleaning is going to be a little bit easier for Collingwood thanks to a FREE day at the [regional landfill](#). Yard waste (e.g., branches, leaves, grass and dry seaweed) can be deposited for FREE on **Saturday May 20th** Anything not yard waste will be assessed at regular [Landfill Fees](#).
- * Reports have reached the Hamlet Board regarding, what appear to be, aggressive dogs running loose in the community. Although the RM does not have a bylaw to this effect, keeping dogs leashed, or confined to their owner's property by other means, is the safest for Collingwood residents and their dogs and maintains neighbourly relations.



- * With the advice of the Strabourg Fire Chief, Greg Yung on April 16th, Collingwood has designated the grid road, east of the north hamlet entrance to Barber Road, as a safe landing site for the STARS (Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service) helicopter. Everyone please play & work safe so we don't require a visit.
- * Collingwood is on Facebook at **Collingwood Lakeshore Estates.**

facebook

Register with the RM of McKillop to stay up to date with all the latest RM news.

You can be added to the All-Net Connect system by either contacting the RM office by phone (306-725-3230), emailing rm220general@rm220.ca or using the All-Net Connect portal on their website <https://rmofmckillop220.com>.

Or click on the Connect link below.

Connect By all-net

Spring Hamlet Meeting—Saturday May 27th

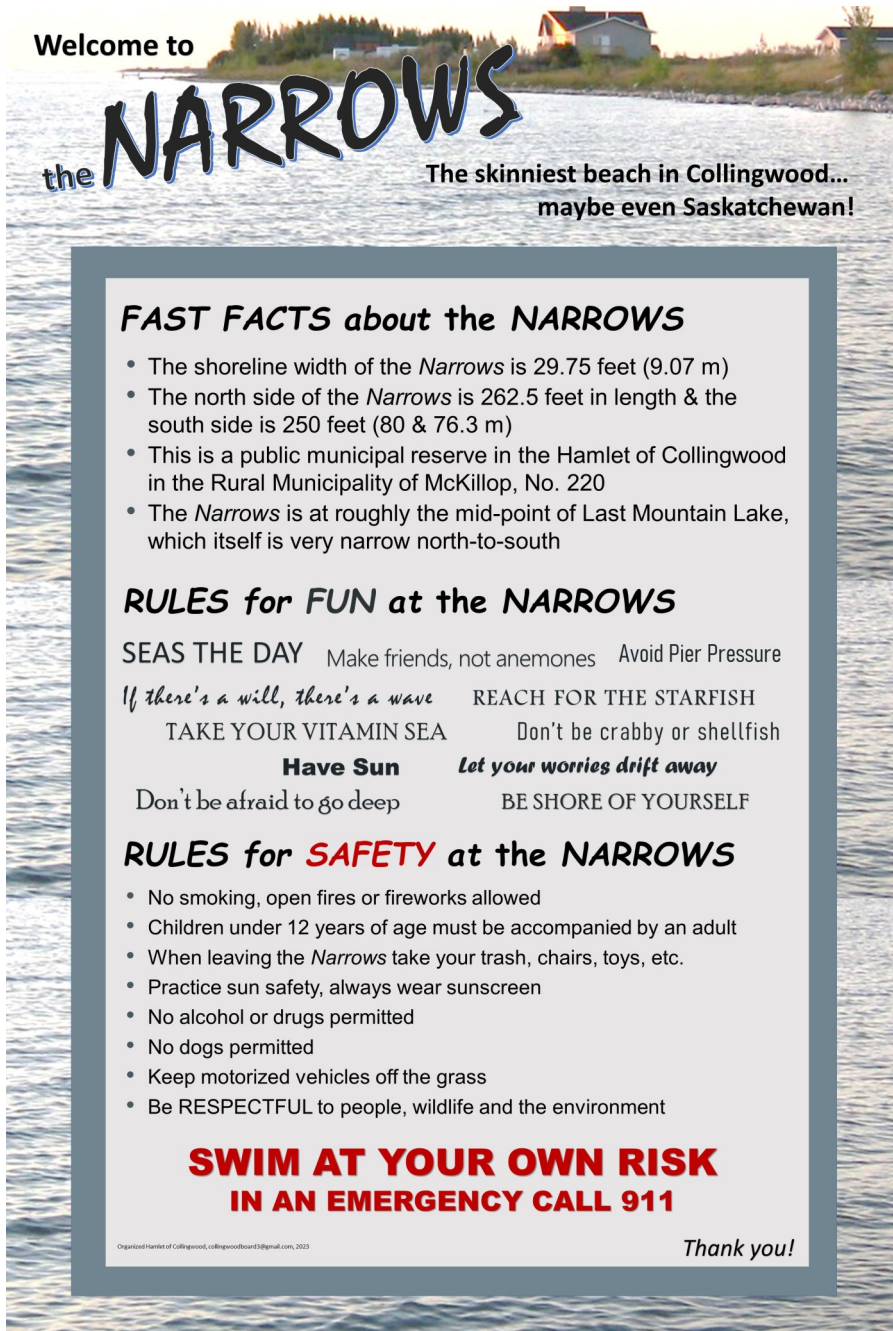
Save the date for our spring 2023 Hamlet meeting: Saturday May 27th, 10 a.m.—Noon, and not 1 second longer (It's a Rider game day May 27th people!). Location 20 Collingwood Road. A call for agenda items will be sent the first week of May.

The Board is considering a Zoom option for community members to engage if not in Collingwood on the morning of the Hamlet meeting.



Renovating a Collingwood Municipal Reserve for More Family-Friendly Use—the *NARROWS*

Welcome to



the *NARROWS*

The skinniest beach in Collingwood...
maybe even Saskatchewan!

FAST FACTS about the *NARROWS*

- The shoreline width of the *Narrows* is 29.75 feet (9.07 m)
- The north side of the *Narrows* is 262.5 feet in length & the south side is 250 feet (80 & 76.3 m)
- This is a public municipal reserve in the Hamlet of Collingwood in the Rural Municipality of McKillop, No. 220
- The *Narrows* is at roughly the mid-point of Last Mountain Lake, which itself is very narrow north-to-south

RULES for FUN at the *NARROWS*

SEAS THE DAY Make friends, not anemones Avoid Pier Pressure

If there's a will, there's a wave REACH FOR THE STARFISH

TAKE YOUR VITAMIN SEA Don't be crabby or shellfish

Have Sun *Let your worries drift away*

Don't be afraid to go deep BE SHORE OF YOURSELF

RULES for SAFETY at the *NARROWS*

- No smoking, open fires or fireworks allowed
- Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult
- When leaving the *Narrows* take your trash, chairs, toys, etc.
- Practice sun safety, always wear sunscreen
- No alcohol or drugs permitted
- No dogs permitted
- Keep motorized vehicles off the grass
- Be RESPECTFUL to people, wildlife and the environment

SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK
IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

Organized Hamlet of Collingwood, collingwoodboard@gmail.com, 2023

Thank you!

There has been a request that the lakefront public Municipal Reserve (MR) in the middle of Collingwood (between 100 & 102 Gordon Drive) be renovated to be safer and more family-friendly. Currently, aside from mowing the grass, Collingwood has 1-2 picnic tables placed on this lakefront MR.

At the May 27th Hamlet meeting a motion will be presented to temporarily (pending data from the SaskPolyTech Capstone Project) adapt this public area for greater use by Collingwood families wanting to play on the public shore and swim in Last Mountain Lake.

Proposed transferrable hard structures for this area include:

- Additional picnic tables
- Wood sandbox with foldable benches as lid
- Bike racks
- Kayak & canoe storage structures
- Golf cart & ATV parking pad with 3ft high, 6x6inch diameter wood posts with chain link fence
- Swimming & safety buoys
- Signage
- Estimated Cost: \$30,000

Collingwood Road Maintenance Plan 2023—Rent a Packer

The plan this summer is to continue to maintain dust-controlled gravel roads. Aside from the regular maintenance applied annually (see steps 1-3 on right), it is suggested Collingwood rent a packer to compress the materials after the dustproofing has been applied. The result would be roads that have the appearance of a hard surface road, such as asphalt. If this method is approved at the Hamlet meeting on May 27th, we can reassess it's effectiveness after this season.

- 1) Grade
- 2) Gravel
- 3) Dustproof
- 4) **PACK THE MATERIALS**



New Campground at Rowan's Ravine & Thinking into the Future at Collingwood

Recently there have been rumours floating around concerning a new Collingwood 'subdivision' being approved by RM Council. Yes. RM Council did approve a 'subdivision' in Collingwood but it's not an addition of more lots but rather a *subdivision* of the lot at 15 Gordon Drive (See graphic right). BTW—This graphic and lots of other public information about lot assessment and property ownership can be found at [SAMAView](#) and [Information Services Corporation \(ISC\)](#).

While we're on the topic of potential development in the Collingwood area, on March 30th June LeDrew attended an RM Economic Planning and Development Committee (EPDC) meeting in Bulyea. This committee is advisory to the RM Council.

One of the agenda items at this meeting was from the Sask. Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS). It was a request for proposals (RFP) for a new section of campsites in the southern area of Rowan's Ravine Park. The [SaskTenders](#) proposal closes on May 4th.



Why are we including this information for our Collingwood community?

Rowan's currently has 350 campsites. This proposal is for another 225 campsites for a total of 575. June's daughter Erin has worked at the G&S Marina at Rowan's in the summer for the last 7 years. She tells stories about how crowded the boat launch can be, particularly during poor weather. Stressed boaters have almost come to blows trying to get their families and boats off the water when the wind and waves become dangerous.

South of Rowan's the closest boat launch is in the Resort Village of Island View. However, although technically it should not be, sometimes this boat launch is locked to the public. Further south, within our RM, the hamlet of Colesdale North has a small boat launch with no parking.

North of Rowan's, Collingwood has the closest boat launch.

The addition of another 225 campsites WILL increase traffic at the Collingwood public boat launch and we need to prepare for this in our future. As suggested in the Ministry's RFP:



Be sure to think about the type of amenities and recreation opportunities that occupants would look for in addition to campsites that will make their stay just a little more comfortable. Be sure to capture all creative ideas, out of the box thinking is highly encouraged.

Collingwood has approved monies in our budget to repair/renovate the current boat launch. Given the feedback from the [RM boat launch survey](#) and now this new information about Rowan's expansion and the likely increase of boaters on the lake in our area, Collingwood needs to brainstorm our boat launch's future.

As reported in the Collingwood newsletter of [January 24th, 2023](#), the Collingwood Hamlet Board decided it would be a wonderful opportunity to partner with Dean Massier (a Collingwood property owner & instructor at SaskPolyTech) and the SaskPolyTech Civil Engineering Program students in a Capstone Project. This would involve students mapping and collecting data in Collingwood this spring. The students would then research the various project (e.g. summer water irrigation system, boat launch usage, family public swim area, and municipal green space usage) challenges and feasibility and present a final report on the project options and costs in December 2023. There is no cost to Collingwood to engage in this capstone partnership.



Last Mountain Lake and the public reserves and shoreline are what have drawn Collingwood members to the area. And while Collingwood is a relatively 'young' hamlet, and the largest (by number of lots) in the RM of McKillop, we can continue to be a welcoming community moving into the future with purpose.

Collingwood Motion for Special Tax Mill Rate in 2023

Provincial legislation permits organized hamlets to request a special mill rate adjustment for RM taxes. To provide a bit of financial relief for Collingwood members the Hamlet Board has been in discussion with the RM exploring this possibility for 2023.

Collingwood’s reserve balance as of December 31, 2022 was \$399,050. There are several capital expenditures we have approved (e.g., picnic shelter & boat launch repair) and several proposed capital projects moving forward (e.g., public swimming area, active living asphalt pad, summer water irrigation system).



It is the Board’s understanding that we can request that our annual revenue be decreased as long as there’s enough money to cover operating costs (e.g., road maintenance & snow moving, grass mowing of green spaces & easements, electrical costs of street lights, etc.). We also need to acknowledge that we are a young community and we should prepare for future capital expenditures for additional amenities as approved by the community and RM Council.

Collingwood’s 2023 tax revenue share is projected to be \$118,255. Collingwood currently has 13 municipal reserves, 64 vacant lots and 109 lots with an improvement (e.g., dwelling, garage &/or boathouse). As more dwellings and garages are built our annual revenue will go up. It is proposed that we apply for a reduced 2023 tax revenue share of ~\$98,000. This revenue reduction proposal would result in a tax savings ONLY for community members paying for improvements. Vacant properties will pay the usual minimum land tax and provincial school tax.

Below 2022 & 2023 *estimated* tax comparisons are presented for 4 sample Collingwood properties with improvements. In 2022 the municipal mill rate was 7.765 with a mill rate factor of 0.92. The 2023 proposed special mill rate would be 6.677 (no mill rate factor). Your tax savings would be relative to the assessed value of your property with improvements.

Address	202 Barber Rd		82 Gordon Dr	
Assessed Value	\$225,100		\$313,700	
Taxable Assessment	\$180,080		\$250,960	
Year	2022	2023	2022	2023
RM Tax	\$1,286.46	\$1,201.13	\$1,792.81	\$1,673.90
Prov. School Tax	\$817.56	\$817.56	\$1,139.36	\$1,139.36
Total Payable	\$2,104.02	\$2,018.70	\$2,932.17	\$2,813.26
RM Tax Reduction	\$85.33		\$118.91	

Address	46 Gordon Dr		123 Gordon Dr	
Assessed Value	\$440,600		\$527,000	
Taxable Assessment	\$352,480		\$421,600	
Year	2022	2023	2022	2023
RM Tax	\$2,518.05	\$2,351.04	\$3,011.83	\$2,812.07
Prov. School Tax	\$1,600.26	\$1,600.26	\$1,914.06	\$1,914.06
Total Payable	\$4,118.31	\$3,951.30	\$4,925.89	\$4,726.14
RM Tax Reduction	\$167.01		\$199.76	

Caveat—Numbers presented in this table are estimates and several factors could change the totals presented.

The first step is for the Collingwood community to support a motion at our Spring Hamlet meeting on May 27th requesting that RM Council approve this 2023 special mill rate.

Concerns, comments &/or compliments on this tax reduction proposal can be sent to the Hamlet Board at collingwoodboard3@gmail.com

Notes:

1. A cross-sample of Collingwood properties was selected (e.g. 2 lakeview & 2 lakefront) with a range of assessed property values. Assessed property values are public and can be found at [Information Services Corporation \(ISC\)](#) or [SAMAVIEW](#).
2. The proposed numbers presented in the tables below assume a 2023 zero tax increase from RM Council. If RM Council raises the 2023 mill rate higher than 7.765 the *RM Tax Reduction* amounts will be less.
3. This tax relief proposal for Collingwood members does NOT apply to the provincial school tax which is not determined by RM Council.