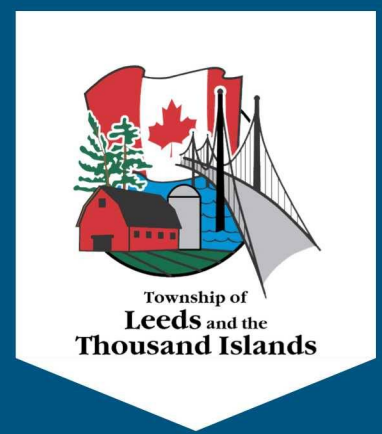


# Township Times Publication

January to March 2024



## FoodCycler™ On-Site Organics Diversion Program Pilot Project update

With support from Impact Canada's Food Waste Reduction Challenge, 100 households from the Township of Leeds & Thousand Islands were enrolled in a pilot program from July to October 2023.

### Pilot Program survey results:

- Equivalent of 26.6 metric tons of food waste diverted annually from landfill from the 100 FoodCyclers in the pilot program.
- Residents reported a 0.2 bag reduction per week, which equals 10.9 bags/household/per year of food waste diverted from landfills.
- 95% of participants will continue using the FoodCycler.

### We also heard from participants. Here are some testimonials:

- "Thank you for providing the opportunity to try the FoodCycler and for your efforts to improve and implement a better waste disposal program."
- "We absolutely loved the Foodcycler! We truly couldn't get over it. It was incredibly efficient, quiet, and useful. We feel so grateful to have participated in this program and hope it can be rolled out to all the other households in this community."
- I loved it. It's amazing how a whole pail is reduced to almost nothing. I will definitely continue to use it!"



## 2024 Budget

The 2024 capital and operating budgets will be presented to Council at a Special Council meeting on December 14, 2023. Staff have been working on the 2024 budget since the summer. Consideration has been given to strategic priorities and maintaining or enhancing service levels. Staff have attempted to mitigate budget increases due to inflation, rising insurance costs, and general operating cost increases. The revenue needed to be raised through property taxes is determined through the operating budget process. The total budget, less other revenues received (user charges, government grants, draws from reserve funds, etc.), equals the net levy requirement – the amount needed from property tax revenue to balance the operating budget. The property tax rate is set at the rate required to raise the revenue needed based on the property assessment values of the properties in the Township (property tax rate X property assessment = property tax revenue). The capital budget is based on the Township's asset management program.

Staff have developed a comprehensive asset management system that includes all Township owned assets and condition and risk data. The system provides the estimated asset replacement dates and replacement costs. This information forms the basis of the capital budget. Staff will also be presenting a financial plan that outlines strategies with respect to funding capital investment requirements over the next several years. The budget process is a complex process of balancing increasing demands for municipal service levels, ensuring adequate investment in capital infrastructure while mitigating property tax rate increases.

# Local Happenings

## Lansdowne & Area

- **Public Skating**
  - When: Monday's 3:30 to 5 p.m., Tuesday's 2:30 to 4 p.m., Wednesday's 2:30 to 4 p.m., Sunday's 2 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Location: Lou Jeffries, Gananoque & T.L.T.I Recreation Centre (600 King St., Gananoque).
- **Lansdowne Seniors**
  - When: Wednesday's at 1 p.m.
  - Location: Lansdowne Community Building (1 Jessie St.).
  - Contact: Marilyn Dwyre at 613-659-3860
  - Details: The fourth Wednesday is a potluck at noon with a short meeting and euchre to follow.
- **Leeds and the Thousand Islands Historical Society - History of Canadian Rug Hooking Presentation**
  - When: March 18, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
  - Location: Lansdowne Community Building (1 Jesse St.).
  - Contact: [www.ltihistoricalsociety.org](http://www.ltihistoricalsociety.org).
  - Stay up to date by reading their newsletters found on their website: [www.ltihistoricalsociety.org](http://www.ltihistoricalsociety.org).
- **Lansdowne Association For Revitalization  
Lansdowne Plant Sale**
  - When: May 18, 2024.
  - Please call 613-659-3836 if you have plants to donate.

## Lyndhurst & Area

- **Stone Bridge Quilters**
  - When: Every Tuesday.
  - Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
  - Location: Lyndhurst Legion (306 Lyndhurst Rd.)
  - Contact: Marilyn Crawford 613-928-2563.

## TLTI Outdoor Rinks

Plans are underway to build outdoor rinks in Lansdowne and Lyndhurst. It is important to note the plans are subject to weather conditions. Visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca), follow on social media or call 613-659-2415 for rink progress and updates.

## Rockport & Area

- **Winter Food Drive**
  - When: January 20, 2024.
  - Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Location: Church of the Redeemer (2 Front St.).
  - Details: Non-perishable food items, toiletries, cash and/or cheque donations.
- **Winter Carnival**
  - When: February 7 to 11, 2024.
  - Location: Rockport Recreation Hall (115 Escott Rockport Rd.) and the Rockport Barn (28 Old River Rd.)
  - Contact: [www.rockportrechall.com](http://www.rockportrechall.com).
- **Winter Walking Challenge**
  - When: February 17 to 19, 2024.
  - Location: Thousand Islands Parkway between Jones Creek Trailhead and Mallorytown Landing.
  - Details: The walk is followed by a campfire, hot chocolate and storytelling at Brown's Bay at 2 p.m.

## Seeley's Bay & Area

- **Seeley's Bay Seniors**
  - When: 3rd Wednesday of each month.
  - Time: 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.
  - Location: Seeley's Bay Legion (116 Bay St.).
  - Contact: 613-387-3750.
- **Seeley's Bay Frost Fest - 30th Anniversary!**
  - When: February 2 to 4, 2024.
  - Location: Seeley's Bay.
  - Contact: [www.facebook.com/SeeleysBayFrostFest](http://www.facebook.com/SeeleysBayFrostFest).

THE NEW G. TACKABERRY AND FAMILY HOME, ATHENS:  
EXCELLENCE IN LONG TERM CARE

Do you have **ROOM TO DONATE?**

SPONSOR A ROOM / GET A TAX RECEIPT  
BE PART OF THE LEGACY!

A \$5,000 donation will name a room in your honour (or your designate) and provide much needed funds to enhance the quality of life our residents deserve.

A wonderful **YEAR-END or HOLIDAY GIFT!**

Partial, multi-year, group and Corporate donations welcomed.

Call or email Lesley Todd at:

613-340-6038

[lesley.todd@uclg.on.ca](mailto:lesley.todd@uclg.on.ca)

or make a donation at [www.mvldonate.ca](http://www.mvldonate.ca)





# News and Events

## UCDSB & CDSBEO School Year Calendar

January 2024						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Happy New Year
- Winter Holiday Break
- Back to School
- Secondary Exams

February 2024						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- P.A. Day
- Family Day

March 2024						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- March Break
- Good Friday
- Easter

### St. Lawrence Parks Commission

To enhance safety on the Thousand Islands Parkway Multi-Use Recreational Trail in winter months, St. Lawrence Parks Commission is continuing a pilot project partnership with the Elizabethtown Snowmobile Club, a member of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC), to create an OFSC snowmobile trail along the Thousand Islands Parkway Trail. This pilot project provides structure, regulation, increased safety and enhanced enforcement to snowmobile use along the Thousand Islands Parkway, which has been permitted since 2014. Under the partnership, the OFSC will require all snowmobilers to hold an OFSC permit and that they follow OFSC rules. As an OFSC trail, ESC will provide trail marking and maintenance on the Thousand Islands Parkway Trail, as well as trail wardening. Users will see that junctions are marked with “stop” and “stop ahead” signage to improve safety for all users of the path. Additionally, the ESC will provide grooming services during the winter months, once conditions are favourable for grooming, creating a packed snow trail that is safe for walking pedestrians and other sport and recreation users. Questions and feedback can be directed to: <https://www.parks.on.ca/contact>.

### Free Ice Skates Giveaway!

Embrace the winter wonderland. We're delighted to offer FREE ice skates to our community. Lace up and glide into the joy of winter sports. Thanks to a generous community member, we have the following sizes available.

- Men – size 8 (two pairs), size 9
- Youth – size 4 (two pairs), sizes 5, 6, 9
- Junior – size 11

If you are interested in acquiring a pair of free skates contact: 613 659-2415 ext. 228 or email [businessadmin@townshipleeds.on.ca](mailto:businessadmin@townshipleeds.on.ca).

### Volunteer Opportunity

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Leeds and Grenville are looking for Volunteer Mentors in local schools. Whether you're a senior, retiree, or just have time during the school day! You can build a child's self-esteem and confidence while having fun playing games, making crafts or just chatting. BBBSLG provides the activity box; you provide the guidance and support. ONLY 1 hour per week commitment is needed! Sign up to be an In-School Mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters today! For more details, visit [www.leeds.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](http://www.leeds.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca) or email [vanessa.martin@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](mailto:vanessa.martin@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca).

# Recreation Programs January to March

Lansdowne Community Building, 1 Jessie Street

## Fit & Fab 1 | Fit & Fab 2

Fit & Fab 1 is designed for adults to improve aerobic capacity, strength, flexibility, balance and coordination. Fit & Fab 2 is designed for older adults to improve endurance, strength, balance, posture and coordination. Fit & Fab 1 is from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Fit & Fab 2 is from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Bring your own mat and exercise ball.

Sessions Dates: January 3 to March 22, 2024 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Details or to Register: [www.leeds1000islands.ca](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca) or call 613-659-2415 ext. 246.

Cost: \$72 for once a week, \$121 for twice a week, \$175 for three times a week

## Chisel & Tone | Just Burn It

Chisel & Tone (Monday's) is strength training and sculpting using hand weights, your body weight while toning and applying concentrated core moves. Just Burn It (Tuesday's) uses your bodyweight to get you into an optimal training zone and boost fitness levels in a cardio driven class followed by a core segment. Both classes are co-ed and for all fitness levels. Just Burn It is a more intense class. Please bring hand weights, mat and water.

Session Dates: January 9 to March 18, 2024 (no class on February 19)

Details or to Register: [www.leeds1000islands.ca](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca) or call 613-659-2415 ext. 246.

Cost: \$60 for one class or \$100 for both, \$7 Drop In Rate

## Seniors Exercise Classes

Free Seniors Exercise Class on Thursday's includes chair yoga, gentle exercises and more from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Session Dates: January 4 to June 27, 2024

Contact: 613-342-3693 ext. 2303

## Tai Chi

This gentle exercise is taught as a sequence of flowing movements and balanced stretches on Tuesday's.

Session Dates: January 2 to February 27, 2024

Contact: [LansdowneTaiChi@gmail.com](mailto:LansdowneTaiChi@gmail.com)

Seeley's Bay Community Building, 151 Main Street

## Yoga with Michelle

Combination of hatha yoga, breathwork, sound healing, meditation and journaling. Suitable for all levels, bring a yoga mat, blanket and small pillow.

Session Dates: January 18, February 13, March 21, 2024, Thursday's from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Contact: [michelleMillar333@gmail.com](mailto:michelleMillar333@gmail.com)

Cost: \$40 a class or \$100 for all three.

## Yoga with Jodi

Practice at your own pace with instruction provided for all levels of experience. Mats, yoga props, and chairs are available.

Session Dates: January 9 to March 26, 2024, Tuesday's from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Details or to Register: [www.leeds1000islands.ca](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca) or call 613-659-2415 ext. 246.

Cost: \$120 for the whole session or \$15 for drop-in

Visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca/RecreationAndLeisure](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/RecreationAndLeisure) for more Sports and Leisure Programs!



# Township Insight

## 2024 Council & Committee Schedule

The 2024 Council and Committee schedule can be found on our website: [www.leeds1000islands.ca/CouncilMeetings](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/CouncilMeetings). Please note that March 18 and June 17 include both Library Board and Council meetings. There are no meetings scheduled for the month of August, except for Committee of Adjustment. In-Camera and Public meetings may be called at any time. Special Council meetings may be called by the Mayor at any time.

## New Municipal Heritage Committee Member Appointed

Council appointed Councillor Mark Jamison as Deputy Mayor to the Municipal Heritage Committee to fill a vacancy on the Committee. Jamison is a longstanding resident of Ward 2 and has served on Council since 2018.

## Upcoming Meetings

### January

- Committee of the Whole on January 8, 2024
- Council on January 16, 2024
- Heritage Committee on January 19, 2024
- Committee of Adjustment on January 30, 2024

### February

- Committee of the Whole on February 5, 2024
- Council on February 12, 2024
- Committee of Adjustment on February 27, 2024

### March

- Committee of the Whole on March 4, 2024
- Council on March 18, 2024
- Committee of Adjustment on March 26, 2024

## Interim Property Tax Bills

Interim property tax bills will be issued in February 2024. If you do not receive an interim property tax bill by March 1, 2024, please contact the Township Office at 613-659-2415 ext. 202 or by email at [taxutilities@townshipleeds.on.ca](mailto:taxutilities@townshipleeds.on.ca) to confirm your mailing address and to receive your bill. Please note that interim property tax bill payments are due March 15, 2024.

## Community Garden Public Meeting

Join us to discuss the plans for the Lansdowne Community Garden in Jerry Park. Your input and interest are crucial in the plans of this established garden.

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time: 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.

Location: Lansdowne Community Meeting Room, 1 Jessie Street

## Community Grant

TLTI recognizes the valuable contributions that volunteer and community-focused groups provide for our residents. This grant provides modest levels of financial support to community, not-for-profit and charitable organizations. Deadline to apply is April 5, 2024. For more details, please visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca/CommunityGrants](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/CommunityGrants).

## Holiday Closures for the Township

The Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Office will be closed for the holidays on the following dates:

- Friday, December 22, 2023 closed at 12 p.m.
- Monday, December 25, 2023.
- Tuesday, December 26, 2023.
- Friday, December 29, 2023 closed at 12 p.m.
- Monday, January 1, 2024.

Please visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca) or social media for waste site and library hours.

December 2023						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1					

# Township Insight

## Leeds 1000 Islands Fire Service

As the temperature drops, it's important to take some steps to keep your home safe and warm. Here's what you need to do:

- Get your heating system checked and change the filters. This will ensure that it's working efficiently and safely.
- Install Carbon Monoxide alarms outside all sleeping areas. If you have combustion appliances such as wood-burning stoves oil or gas-fired heaters, make sure to install a Carbon Monoxide alarm nearby.
- Check the exhaust vents to prevent snow or ice build-up that could block them. This will help your heating system run smoothly and avoid dangerous carbon monoxide leaks.
- Never use extension cords to run electric heaters. Always plug them directly into an outlet to avoid the risk of fire.

It has been a legal requirement to have functioning smoke alarms installed in buildings since March 1, 2006, and carbon monoxide alarms have been mandatory since October 15, 2014. Despite these laws being in place for many years, Fire Services still frequently encounters homes in the Township that lack working alarms. It is unfortunate that in 2022, 133 residents of Ontario lost their lives due to fire incidents. The reason behind most of these fatalities was the lack of functional smoke alarms. As a responsible fire department, Fire Services is fully committed to ensuring the safety of all the Township residents. It does not matter whether you are a tenant, a landlord, or a homeowner; everyone needs to know their obligations regarding fire safety. If you are unsure about anything or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fire Services at [fireprevention@townshipleeds.on.ca](mailto:fireprevention@townshipleeds.on.ca).

### Burn Permits

All burn permits for 2023 are expired on December 31, 2023. Renew or apply for a burn permit for 2024 by completing the online form at [lti.burnpermits.com](http://lti.burnpermits.com).

### Ice Safety

No ice is safe ice! Did you know ice thickness should be 15 cm for walking or skating individually, 20 cm for skating parties or games and 25 cm for snowmobiles? Also, the colour of the ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque or snow ice is half as strong as blue ice. Opaque ice is formed by wet snow freezing on the ice. Grey ice is unsafe. The grayness indicates the presence of water. Check with local authorities before heading out. Avoid going out on ice at night.



## The Future Firefighters in Training Program

In collaboration with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Leeds and Grenville and the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Island Fire Administration



Youth Ages: 12-17  
Mondays 5:30pm-7:00pm  
Fire Station 1 (1233 Prince St.  
Lansdowne, ON)  
Start Date: January 15th  
End Date: March 25th  
\*Excluding Family Day and March 11th

The primary goal of the FFIT Program is to increase connectedness, community engagement, volunteerism and employability for youth through mentoring, hands-on training and skill building opportunities. The program aims to instill mentees with a stronger commitment to learning and volunteerism and an increased curiosity in developing new skills with a particular focus on emergency first responders and careers related to this field.

With the support of:



**For more information on the FFIT Program:**  
 [vanessa.martin@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](mailto:vanessa.martin@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca)  
 613-345-0281 ext. 202  
 [fireprevention@townshipleeds.on.ca](mailto:fireprevention@townshipleeds.on.ca)



# Township Insight

## Parking By-Law | Winter Parking

On October 10th, 2023 Council approved By-law 23-064, a new Parking By-law, for the Township. Starting December 1st to March 31, no parking is permitted on Township roads between 12 a.m. to 7 a.m. Any car parked on the road during this time may be subject to a fine of up to \$40.00.

## Community Improvement Plan

A public meeting will be held December 4 at 5:45 p.m. to present the draft Community Improvement Plan to Council and gather public input regarding the proposed plan. The draft of the plan is available at [www.leeds1000islands.ca/CIP](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/CIP) with a summary of draft initiatives.

## Building Permit Renewals

A reminder to check the expiry date on your building permits. Permits have a one year expiry date, but can be renewed. The renewal request form is available at [www.leeds1000islands.ca/BuildingPermits](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/BuildingPermits).

## Septic Permits

Septic permits are now handled by Township Building Staff. If you have recently received notification of your permit being revoked by the Leeds Grenville Health Unit a new application is required to be submitted to the Township.

## Dog Tags

All dog owners in the Township are required to purchase a dog tag annually. You can purchase a dog tag, using cash, cheque or debit, at the Township office Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca/dogtags](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/dogtags).

## In an Emergency, Call 911:

### After-Hours Noise Complaint/Lost/Injured Dogs

- 613-541-3213 (Frontenac Municipal By-Law)

### After-Hours Emergency (Roads/Facilities)

- 1-855-961-7018

### TLTI By-Law Enforcement Officer

- 613-659-2415 ext. 218 (Weekdays)

## Civic Addressing

All developed properties are required to have a civic blade and post installed at their driveway to assist emergency services with locating your property. The Township can issue civic addresses to vacant land and recommends a civic address for any property being farmed or with a recreational type use. An approved entrance permit from the applicable road authority is required prior to the issuance of a civic address. If you have not been issued a blade and post, or your blade or post has gone missing or is damaged, please contact Amanda Werner-Mackeler, Planning Technician at [planningtechnician@townshipleeds.on.ca](mailto:planningtechnician@townshipleeds.on.ca) or 613-659-2415 x 203. The fee for a blade is \$25 and the fee for the post is \$20.

## Private Road Grant

Deadline for submissions is June 7, 2024 for the Capital Improvements Grant. Private Road Associations may want to get a head start on their application by visiting [www.leeds1000islands.ca/privateroadgrants](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/privateroadgrants) and reviewing standards and conditions. For details, contact Director of Operations & Infrastructure, at 613-659-2415 ext. 211.

## Youth Bursary Program

TLTI would like to recognize youth for their successes and to support them in achieving their future goals. The Youth Bursary Program is meant to give recognition to youth for their academics, volunteerism, leadership and extra-curriculars while giving them a modest bursary to go towards their post-secondary endeavors. Deadline is March 31, 2024. Please visit [www.leeds1000islands.ca/youthbursary](http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/youthbursary) for more details.

## Stay Up To Date

Follow TLTI on social media to stay up to date with programs, news, projects and more!



# Leeds and the Thousand Islands Public Library



**Don't hibernate this Winter, explore the beauty of the Thousand Islands via Snow Shoes and Park Passes... These are just some of the Library's FREE resources which you can check out with your Library Card.**

## Art Hour

Drop-in for a fun hour of art. Suitable for ages 4 and up, no experience necessary!

- **Lansdowne & Seeley's Bay Library Branches**
  - When: 2nd and 4th Thursday each month
  - Time: 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- **Lyndhurst Library Branch**
  - When: 2nd and 4th Monday each month
  - Time: 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## Storytime

Stimulating stories, songs, toys, puppets and more! Bring a friend! Registration appreciated but not required.

- **Seeley's Bay Library Branch**
  - When: Weekly on Thursdays
  - Time: 2:30 p.m.

## Knit and Crochet Group

Love to knit and/or crochet? New or experienced to the craft? Join our knit & crochet circle! Bring your own materials or use ours.

- **Lansdowne Library Branch**
  - When: 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
  - Time: 10:30 a.m.

## Join Us at Frost Fest

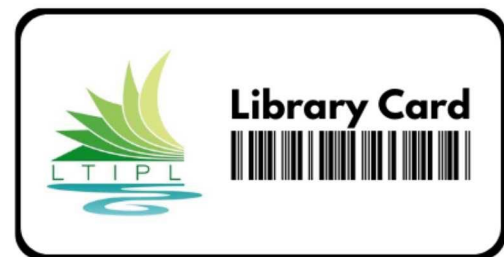
The Seeley's Bay Branch is looking forward to representing the Library during Frost Fest 2024! Frost Fest is February 2 to 4. Visit the Seeley's Bay Branch for Crafts and Activities.

## March Break 2024

March Break is March 11 to 15, 2024. Details to be revealed on our website [www.ltipl.net](http://www.ltipl.net).

## Spice Club

Spice Club - Coming soon! Full details will be found on our website [www.ltipl.net](http://www.ltipl.net) and Facebook [www.facebook.com/1000islandspubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/1000islandspubliclibrary).



**Visit [www.ltipl.net/programming](http://www.ltipl.net/programming) for an update of Library Programs!**

## Volunteersw

Volunteers are being welcomed back to the Library. Applications are available at all branches. Students looking to fulfill their required volunteer hours can visit [www.ltipl.net/volunteering](http://www.ltipl.net/volunteering) for details.