

Message from the Mayor



Mayor Geoffrey Dawe

Dear Aurora Chamber of Commerce members,

Aurora Town Council and staff have started the 2018 Budget process. Recently, Council met with residents and community groups to receive suggestions on how to save money on Town processes and services and to hear funding requests to be considered in the upcoming budget. Staff are reviewing these requests in preparation for deliberations in the fall.

Aurora Town Council recently passed a motion to move forward with the demolition and procurement process for design services for Library Square. The motion includes a \$500,000 budget for the required demolition and design services. The Town will now proceed to the RFP stage of the project so the demolition and design services can be procured.

Council will be deliberating the site plan for the new hotel in Aurora on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Stay tuned for more details in my next column.

Recently, I was at the 2nd annual York Region Chairman's Luncheon hosted by the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce. I would like to share some facts from the presentation with our business community.

- York Region's operating budget is \$2.1 Billion, with approximately half coming from tax revenues.
- York Region is Ontario's third largest business community, with approximately 51,000 businesses and 600,000 jobs.
- York Region is Canada's largest Tech Hub, with 3.9 ICT employer businesses per 1,000 residents!
- More than 90 per cent of waste diversion from landfill was achieved last year.
- More than 5,000 people were helped by Social Services.
- 54,000 people were transported by York Region Paramedic Services and 58 babies were delivered.
- York Region is pursuing a broadband strategy bringing high speed service to the northern part of the Region.

Do you have any suggestions on how the Town can enhance its support for local businesses? Please send me an email anytime at mayor@aurora.ca or call my office at 905-726-4741.

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe
Town of Aurora