

TOWNSHIP OF NIPIGON
AGENDA FOR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Located at: Municipal Office Council Chambers – 52 Front Street



“In the spirit of reconciliation, the Corporation of the Township of Nipigon respectfully acknowledges it is located on the traditional lands of the Red Rock Indian Band – Signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850, and the Township further respectfully acknowledges the historic presence of other signatories on these lands.”

- 1) **Addendum to Agenda (if applicable):**
- 2) **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:**
- 3) **Approve Previous Council Minutes:**
 - a) February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
- 4) **Finance**
 - a) CAO Report 2026-02-24-01 Water Rates and Sewer Charges
 - b) Consideration of By-law 2018, a By-law to Set Rates Respecting Water and Sewer Services
- 5) **Council Business and Administration**
 - a) Correspondence re: Snow Machine Grooming of Nipigon River Trail
 - b) Correspondence re: Seniors Banquet
 - c) Correspondence re: RRIB River Hawks Sponsorship
- 6) **Fire Department**
 - a) January 21, 2026, Fire Department Meeting Minutes
- 7) **Recreation**
 - a) January 26, 2026, Recreation Committee Minutes
- 8) **Economic Development**
 - a) January 7, 2026, Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes
 - b) February 18, 2026, Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft)
- 9) **Any Other Business:**
- 10) **Closed/In-Camera Session**
 - a) Acquisition or disposition of land – s.239(2)(c) – proposed disposition of municipal land
 - b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual – s.239(2)(b) – Integrity Commissioner appointment
 - c) Labour relations or employee negotiations – s.239(2)(d) – collective bargaining update
- 11) **Rise and Report from Closed Session**
- 12) **Business Arising from Closed Session**
 - a) Consideration of By-law No. 2019, a By-Law to Appoint an Integrity Commissioner
- 13) **Confirmatory By-law**
- 14) **Motion to Adjourn – Next Meeting on March 10, 2026**

A regular meeting of Council was held electronically and in person at the Nipigon Municipal Office on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement:

In the spirit of reconciliation, The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the traditional lands of the Red Rock Indian Band – Signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850, and the Township further respectfully acknowledges the historic presence of other signatories on these lands.

ATTENDANCE:

Suzanne Kukko	Mayor
Anne Marie Cartwright	Councillor
Greg Harper	Councillor
Glenn Hart	Councillor
Gayle Westhaver	Councillor
Peyton Dumont-Saunders	Student Councillor
Sasha Barber	Student Councillor
Tim Cobban	CAO
Brianna Bell	EDO
Kristin Clearwater	CRM
Taylor Haskell	PWS (Via Zoom)

1. **ADDENDUM TO AGENDA** – None

2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Mayor Kukko declared a pecuniary interest in items 5a and 5b and removed herself from discussions of those items.

3. **APPROVE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES**

Resolution No. 2026-014

Hart, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council approves the regular meeting minutes from January 13, 2026, as presented.

4. **FINANCE**

- a) January 14, 2026, Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Minutes, Draft

Resolution 2026-015

Cartwright, Westhaver and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives January 14, 2026, Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Minutes for information.

- b) 2026 Interim Tax By-Law

Resolution 2026-16

Harper, Hart and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council gives three readings and approves By-Law No. 2016, being a By-Law to provide for an Interim Tax Levy and the Payment of Interim Taxes for the Year 2026.

- c) 2025-2026 Pothole Prevention and Repair Program (\$38,000)

Resolution 2026-017

Westhaver, Cartwright and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorizes Staff to accept the 2025-2026 Pothole Prevention and Repair Program funding in the amount of \$38,000, and directs Staff to complete the transfer payment agreement and fulfill all reporting requirements.

5. COUNCIL BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Superior Country MAT Annual Status Report and Annual Certificate

Resolution No. 2026-018

Westhaver, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives the Superior Country Annual Status Report and Annual Certificate for information, as presented.

- b) Township of Nipigon Five-Year Tourism Product Development and Marketing Plan, January 2026, Superior Country

Resolution No. 2026-019

Westhaver, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives the January 2026, Superior Country, Township of Nipigon Five-Year Tourism Development and Marketing Plan and adopts it, as presented.

- c) 2026 In-Kind Contributions Policy

Resolution No. 2026-020

Westhaver, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council approves the In-Kind Contributions Corporate Policy and Procedure, issued by the Office of the CAO, February 10, 2026, and delegates authority to the CAO/Clerk to approve requests for minor in-kind contributions as described in the Policy.

- d) Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, Support Resolution

Resolution No. 2026-021

Harper, Hart and carried:

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Lakehead Region established the Neebing Valley Conservation Authority in 1954 which enlarged to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide approximately 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 5%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers; AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of hectares of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Nipigon calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND THAT while the Township of Nipigon supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND THAT the Township of Nipigon supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives;

AND THAT the Township of Nipigon is opposed to the proposed “Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257;

AND THAT the Township of Nipigon recommends that the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority form the “Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority”;

AND THAT the Ministry engage directly with affected municipalities of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, before finalizing any consolidation boundaries or legislative amendments;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations and to:

- the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and his Opposition critics;
- local Members of Provincial Parliament;
- local Members of Parliament;
- the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
- Conservation Ontario;
- All local municipalities; and
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

- e) Mayor Kukko Report, ROMA 2026
- f) Correspondence re: Splake in Lofquist Lake
- g) Correspondence re: Nuclear Waste Management Organization

6. SUNDRIES

- a) December 9, 2025, Nipigon Public Library Board Minutes
- b) January 28, 2026, Quad Council OPP Detachment Board Meeting Minutes
- c) November 26, 2025, NOMA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- d) December 11, 2025, District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board Meeting Minutes
- e) November 13, 2025, Lake Superior Marine Conservation Area Interim Liaison Meeting Minutes
- f) September 20, 2025, Thunder Bay District Municipal League Meeting Minutes
- g) November 19, 2025, Thunder Bay District Municipal League Meeting Minutes

7. PUBLIC WORKS

- a) PWS Administrative Report 26-01-27-02

Resolution No. 2026-021.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives the Public Works Superintendent Report #26-01-27-02 for information and that Council receives, acknowledges, and re-endorses the Drinking Water Quality Management System Operational Plan Revision 13

8. FIRE DEPARTMENT

- a) January 21, 2026, Fire Department Meeting Minutes

9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a) Economic Development Report #26-01-03

Resolution No. 2026-022

Westhaver, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council receives the Economic Development Report #26-01-03 for information and THAT this Council authorizes Staff to release the remaining portion of the NextBridge/Rendezvous XC Ski Club Compensation Package, in the

amount of \$7,505.86, to the Rendezvous Cross Country Ski Club to complete the final phase of the Ski Trail Relocation Project, including trail signage and updated mapping.

Resolution No. 2026-023

Cartwright, Hart and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council supports the proposed Community Veterinary Wellness Clinic initiative and authorizes Staff to proceed with the required planning in collaboration with the Town of Schreiber and the Township of Red Rock, including issuing a formal invitation to the selected veterinary provider to deliver services within the region;

AND THAT this Council authorizes Staff to finalize and execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) required to secure flights, volunteers, and clinic logistics, including the proposed fee structure of \$90 per pet;

AND THAT this Council directs Staff to formally approach the Town of Schreiber and the Township of Red Rock for Council consideration and approval of participation and any required cost-sharing arrangements to address potential clinic operating shortfalls.

Resolution No. 2026-024

Westhaver, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorizes Staff to enter into the required funding agreement and contract with the Ontario Ministry of Infrastructure for the Reconstruction of Wastewater Infrastructure (Nipigon Hospital Gravity System via Hogan Road).

Resolution No. 2026-025

Westhaver, Cartwright and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council approves the Nipigon Historical Museum Strategic Plan, as presented; and THAT this Council approves the Nipigon Historical Museum Committee Terms of Reference with the addition of at least one Committee position being designated for a local First Nations member, and the addition of a Code of Conduct; and THAT this Council approves the addition of a Museum QR code to the lookout placard and two existing historical placards but does not approve the installation of an angling legacy information placard.

Resolution No. 2026-026

Harper, Cartwright and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council authorizes Staff to accept the OPG funding in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the approved 2026 events and directs Staff to complete all the associated reporting requirements.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Harper

- Sought confirmation that a picture had been returned from a local business that closed.
- Commented on the migration of sewer charges to water billing and how it enables more accurate comparisons of property taxes and user charges across communities, where the Township shows favourably.

Mayor Kukko:

- Congratulated EDO Bell on the successful launch of the Nipigon Market Collective, and suggested that Staff consider running a Township information booth at the next date for the Market to answer questions from residents.
- Provided a reminder of the Family Day activities planned at the Nipigon Community Centre.
- Inquired about information being included in the interim property tax billing about the migration of sewer charges from the property tax base to water billing.

Councillor Cartwright

- Inquired about landfill access being included in property tax billing and was informed that most residents had picked them up from the Township office.

11. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

Resolution No. 2026-027

Cartwright, Harper and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council gives three readings and approves By-law No. 2017, being a by-law to confirm the actions of the meetings held on and prior to February 10, 2026.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 2026-028

Harper, Cartwright and carried:

That this Council meeting adjourns at 8:42 p.m. to meet on February 24, 2026, for the next regular meeting or at the call of the Mayor.

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK

COUNCIL REPORT

Subject: Water Rates and Sewer Charges By-Law
Date: 24 February 2026
Report #: 26-02-24-01
From: CAO Cobban



Recommendations:

That Council receive CAO Report #26-02-24-01 for information;
That Council resolve to pass the Rates for Water and Sewer Services By-Law;

Water and Sewer Services By-Law

The proposed by-law is needed to set water rates for 2026 and to complete the transition of sanitary sewer and sewage charges from property taxes to water billing that began in 2025. Concerning water rates, Schedules A and B in the proposed by-law follow The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon Drinking Water System Financial Plan #233-301 that was approved and adopted by Council on July 15, 2025 (Resolution No. 2025-156). In accordance with that Financial Plan, the water rates have been increased by 4% in 2026 from 2025 rates.

The sewer charges are provided in Schedules C and D. They follow the option selected by Council at the regular meeting on September 9, 2025 (Resolution No. 2025-198), and incorporate feedback received at the subsequent Town Hall Meeting, Sewer Rate Transition and Information Session held on October 15, 2025.

For residents, the transition of sewer charges to water billing will be reflected in their quarterly water billing for 2026. As interim property tax billing is set at 50% of the previous year's property taxes as per the Ontario *Municipal Act*, s.317, the transition of sewer charges from the property tax base will be fully reflected in final property tax billing for 2026. A description of these changes was added to the interim property tax bills, and will also be added to the water and sewer bills and the final property tax bills.

Submitted by:

Tim Cobban (CAO)

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NIPIGON**By-Law No. 2018****Being a By-law to set rates
respecting water and sewer
services**

WHEREAS it is expedient that the schedule of rates charged for water and sewer service to customers of the Township of Nipigon Water and Wastewater Works Systems be revised;

AND WHEREAS the Township deems it in the best interest of all taxpayers to add a sewer service charge to water rates to pay for sewage/sanitation services that have otherwise been paid for through Special Area Sanitation Rate fees charged annually to property taxes by the Township of Nipigon;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon enacts as follows:

1. Commencing January 1, 2026, charges for water service (the “Water Rates”) shall be made in accordance with Schedule “A” for domestic services and in accordance with Schedule “B” for commercial and/or industrial services, which schedules are hereby declared to form part of this By-law.
2. In addition to the Water Rates outlined in Schedules “A” and “B”, charges for related sewer and sanitation services (the “Sewer Charges”) shall be charged in addition to Water Rates at the rates outlined in Schedule “C” for domestic services and Schedule “D” for commercial and/or industrial services. In addition to the rates set forth in Schedules “B” the following fees shall apply:
 - (a) Fifty dollars (\$50.00) against each premises for the purpose of connecting the water service. After hours (4:00 p.m.) full wage connection/disconnection work costs shall be additional;
 - (b) Fifty dollars (\$50.00) against each premises for the purpose of disconnecting the water service. After hours (4:00 p.m.) full wage connection/disconnection work costs shall be additional;
 - (c) Council may from time to time by resolution update and amend Schedule “B” with respect to changes of meter rates, occupancy and/or use of water.
4. Unless otherwise authorized by Council, accounts for water and sewer service shall be rendered quarterly at the end of each quarter (March 31, June 30,

September 30 and December 31). A penalty of ten percent (10%) shall be applied after the due date of each billing period. Metered accounts may be billed at a different frequency.

5. Where water service is started or terminated during a billing period, the applicable rates shall be pro-rated.
6. The water/sewer account shall remain in the name of the legal property owner unless the property is leased from the Township of Nipigon. Water and sewer charges, including arrears, form a lien on the property if not paid. If you are a landlord, you may request the water bills be mailed to the tenant, “C/O Occupant” at the property address and provide your residence mailing address to receive arrears notices if the account balance is overdue.
7. Accounts for such services shall be payable at the office of the Treasurer of the Township of Nipigon.
8. The said rates shall form a lien and charge against the land and shall be entered on the Collector’s Roll when outstanding past two quarters, to be collected in the same manner as municipal taxes.
9. This By-law shall be deemed to have come into force on January 1, 2026, and By-Law No. 1978 and any by-law inconsistent with the provisions of this By-law are hereby repealed.
10. The Chief Administrative Officer, in consultation with the Treasurer and Public Works Superintendent, may transfer a property or building to a different rate group as identified in Schedule “A” and “B” and “C” and “D”.
11. Schedules “A”, “B”, “C”, and “D” are attached hereto and form part of this By-law.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 24th day of February, 2026.

Mayor

Clerk

SCHEDULE “A”

Rates for Domestic Water Service per Household

Number of Persons per Household	Quarterly Rate
One (1) Person	\$211.00
Two (2) Persons	\$291.00
Three or Four (3 or 4) Persons	\$320.00
Five or Six (5 or 6) Persons	\$345.00
Seven (7) or more Persons	\$411.00
Vacant Apartment	\$90.00

SCHEDULE “B”

Rates for Commercial or Industrial Water Service

Customer Group	Quarterly Rate
Group A	\$240.00
Group A/B	\$250.00
Group B	\$385.00
Group C	\$400.00
Group D	\$438.00
Group E	\$570.00
Group F	\$915.00
Group G	\$510.00
Group H	\$1,060.00
Group I	\$1,675.00
Group J	\$2,580.00
Group K	\$4,255.00
Group L	\$5,220.00

Metered Rates:

\$1.58 per day

\$3.04 per cubic metre

SCHEDULE “C”

Charges for Domestic Sewage Service per Household

Number of Persons per Household	Quarterly Rate
One (1) Person	\$75.96
Two (2) Persons	\$104.76
Three or Four (3 or 4) Persons	\$115.20
Five or Six (5 or 6) Persons	\$124.20
Seven (7) or more Persons	\$147.96
Vacant Apartment	\$45.00

SCHEDULE “B”

Charges for Commercial or Industrial Sewage Service

Customer Group	Quarterly Rate
Group A	\$115.20
Group A/B	\$120.00
Group B	\$184.80
Group C	\$192.00
Group D	\$210.24
Group E	\$273.60
Group F	\$439.20
Group G	\$244.80
Group H	\$508.80
Group I	\$804.00
Group J	\$1,238.40
Group K	\$2,042.40
Group L	\$2,505.60

Metered Rates:

\$0.79 per day

\$1.52 per cubic metre

From: Marcia Mableson <marciamableson@gmail.com>

Date: February 3, 2026 at 11:09:02 AM EST

To: Suzanne Kukko <mayor@nipigon.net>, Greg Harper <gregharper@nipigon.net>, Anne-Marie Cartwright <annemari cartwright@nipigon.net>, Glenn Hart <glennhart@nipigon.net>, Gayle Westhaver <gaylewesthaver@nipigon.net>

Subject: Nipigon River trail

Hi Mayor Kukko and Councillors

Hugh and I along with other Nipigon residents are enjoying the trail walking during these cold months of winter. It is an escape from indoors, keeps us healthier mentally and physically (check out the benefits of forest bathing) and also the chickadees benefit greatly.

I noticed the snow machine trail expertly carved out alongside the walking trail and had an idea I hope you will consider.

The trail is a quite narrow footpath, very uneven and at times, a little hazardous as it can pull you over onto your ankle. The 'regulars' who walk aren't getting any younger so we find this a bit tricky.

Would Council consider enlisting the help of some community minded snow mobilers on your approval and request, to run over the trail to improve the walking conditions ?

We sure would appreciate this favour !

Warm regards
Marcia Mableson



Mayor and Council,
Township of Nipigon
52 Front St., Box 160
Nipigon, ON, P0T 2J0
807-887-3135

February 19, 2026.

Mayor and Council,

We are hosting our 53rd Seniors' Banquet in Nipigon. Planning has started to hold the event on Saturday, May 30th, 2026. It will be held at the Nipigon Legion with the symposium at 4:00 p.m. and dinner at 5:00 p.m., to be followed by speeches, presentations, and music.

Will the Township of Nipigon be presenting an *Ontario Senior of the Year Award* at the Nipigon Seniors Banquet?

If yes, please let me know by April 30, 2026 to assist with our event planning.

Sincerely,

Sumiye Sugawara,
Planning Committee,
Nipigon Seniors' Banquet
PO Box 158
Nipigon, ON, P0T 2J0
(cell) 807-887-4648

PROUD TO BE SENIOR!



RED ROCK INDIAN BAND

Strength. Tradition. Empowerment.

Lake Helen Reserve # 53A
P.O. Box 1030
Nipigon, Ontario P0T 2J0
Tel. (807) 887-2510
Fax (807) 887-3446
Toll Free (877) 887-2510

SPONSORSHIP FOR RRIB RIVER HAWKS U9, U11, U13 & U15 TEAMS

February 10, 2025

Greetings,

On behalf of the RRIB River Hawks Hockey Program, we are reaching out to request your support as we prepare our U9, U11, U13, and U15 teams for the upcoming All Native Goodwill Hockey Tournament, taking place April 30th – May 3rd, 2026, in Thunder Bay.

We are proud to have four teams representing our community this year. Participation in this event provides our young athletes with opportunities to build confidence, strengthen cultural connections, and develop teamwork and leadership skills—both on and off the ice.

To make this possible, we are seeking sponsorship to help cover essential team expenses, such as tournament entry fees, jerseys, socks, and other equipment needs. Your sponsorship would directly support our players and help ensure all youth are equipped and able to participate fully.

We welcome sponsorship contributions of any amount, and we are committed to acknowledging our sponsors through our team communications, social media, community newsletter, and at tournament events. If your organization has specific recognition preferences, we are happy to accommodate them. Sponsorship can be provided via cheque or EMT, whichever is most convenient.

We hope you will consider supporting the RRIB River Hawks as we give our youth the opportunity to proudly represent our community at this year's tournament. Thank you for your time, generosity, and continued partnership. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss sponsorship options further at (403) 681-9722 or email melissa.mcdonald@rrib.ca

Miigwech,

Melissa McDonald
Community Development Officer

Nipigon Fire Department

Attendance:

Meeting Date: JAN 21st, 2026

Fire Chief Ryan Petre	FF Matthew Blackman	FF Mike Blair
Deputy Chief Alex Pleson	FF Bill Cronmiller	FF Terri Dumont
Captain Gordie Walters	FF Cory Squire	FF Greg Latham
Captain Alan Koistinen	FF Joel Willan	FF Aaron Zuwala
Captain John Maedel	FF Ian Zechner	FF Jonah Roy
Captain Butch Kovacs	FF Colton McLeod	FF Alex Bearman
Captain Loretta Lemon	FF Troy Nicol	FF Dale Roy
FF Gary Thorsteinson	FF Brody Stenlund	Council – Greg Harper
FF Allan Clearwater	FF Jeremy Chalifoux	Secretary - Caroline Sugawara

CALL TO ORDER: 18:50

PREVIOUS MINUTES: John, & Al C

Electrical done in hall. New outlets by bunker gear

Ladder rack on #2 fixed (was electrical issue)

New application – Sterling Lesperance – All in favour

Training – next week ABC Fire will be in for training/testing either here or in Red Rock (Nipigon – Wednesday 7pm.....Red Rock –check with DC for date/time)

Chief has reached out to company to Proctor exam this spring. Attend trainings to make sure your modules are all covered. E-learning modules still not setup.

Colton picking up remaining bunker gear this week.

Chief requested additional smoke detectors from Enbridge. Extra batteries are in Snuffer if needed.

Pumper #4 is finished! Just waiting on pump test.

If you have a newer pager, please bring it back as they need reprogramming.

House fire on Front St went pretty well.

Township has wildfire protection guidelines. John has received it, but not a chance to finish reading it. In 2022/2023 there was an “MNR un-approved” assessment done, this may need to be redone.

Hydrants are all cleared of snow.

Duty Crews – SHOW UP

From Council Rep:

Town starting to save for fire truck.

Mayor just back from out of town mtg. asked FM for extension for training date/deadline

Town has some funds available for reimbursement towards training (\$750 per FF)

Town says “Thank You for your Service”.

HEALTH & SAFETY

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL: accept Sterling Lesperance’s FF application.

Meeting adjourned 19:11



Nipigon Recreation Committee Minutes

Monday January 26th, 2026 @ 6:30pm NCC

Front Office

Meeting Called to Order: 6:32pm

Present: Nikki Blackman, Celeste Mannila Lisa Squier, CRM Kristin Clearwater {Chair/Secretary}, Mayor Kukko

Regrets: John Zechner

1. **Addendum to the Agenda:** N/A
2. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:** N/A
3. **Adoption of Minutes: {previous meeting}** Adopted & Moved by Debbie Mahoney, Seconded by Celeste Mannila
4. **Public Presentations:** N/A
5. **Staff Reports:** N/A
6. **Unfinished Business:** N/A

7. **New Business:**

A} Parade of lights- Update- 19 floats in total this year, Enbridge donated 2 bags full of candy.

B} Member resignation- A thank you letter will be sent for members time on committee

C} Vending machine: owner has requested to run same months as hockey closing in the spring and summer due to not enough flow leaving food and drinks expire.

D} Candy machines {rink surface}- funds given to Township in 2025 were, \$789.

E} Family Day/Winter Carnival- February 16th, starting off with a breakfast from 8:00-11:00, then events will run from 10:00am-9:00pm, all located at the Nipigon Community Centre.

F} Jump Start Day {Canadian Tire}- conversation was had with owners from Nipigon Canadian Tire about potentially hosting a "Jumpstart Games" here at the Community Centre where 300+ local grade 4-5 kids come to play various sports for the day. The kids receive Jumpstart t-shirts, lunch, snacks & swag bags at the end of the day.

G} Fitness Equipment- We will be putting our old upright bike up for auction as it's been replaced with a new one.

H} Discipline Policy- discussion was had with current one and looking to revamp it to have it updated

8. Recommendations:

9. Member Comments:

1. Try again with the ODR in the tennis courts next season
2. Flag Football-trying to see if we can get someone to come out and coach for youth in the spring/summer/fall
3. Mayor was in contact with Melissa from NFDHT to try to get an Adventures in cooking going at the Edge Arts for; potentially during summer
4. Parade of Lights- comment to suggest other items than candy as so much is left behind on the streets afterwards. Some ideas that were mentioned were Frisbees & glow sticks.
5. Tower look out-how come not plowed for ppl to view this winter
6. Pool- ensure previous employees know about upcoming courses
7. Reach out regarding lift for potential use at the Curling Club

10. Closed Session: N/A

11. Adjournment: 7:32pm

12. Next meeting: February 23rd, 2026

X

Kristin Clearwater
Culture & Recreation Manager

X

Lisa Squier
Recreation Committee Chair

EDC Meeting Minutes

January 7th, 2026 @ 4:15pm
Municipal Office Board Room

EDC GOALS

- Investment readiness, business attraction, retention, and expansion
- Support business incubation in the community
- Encourage partnerships with organizations, municipalities & First Nations to promote the region
- Continue to promote and expand the trail systems through the Trails Committee
- Keep all seasons in mind when promoting, strategies, etc.
- Promote Nipigon to Thunder Bay for tourism, investment, and lifestyle

Attendance: Gary Gross (Chair), Councilor Glen Hart, Councilor Anne-Marie Cartwright, Jim McCullough, Brianna Bell (E.D.O.), Gord Ahl

Guests: Dan Bevilacqua (Superior Country)

Regrets: None

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at **4:15 p.m.** by the Chair.

2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Township's Land Acknowledgement as outlined in the agenda.

3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were brought forward.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. EDC-2026-01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adopts the agenda for the January 7, 2026 meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Review and approval of the December 10, 2025 minutes.

Resolution No. EDC-2026-02

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adopts the minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Reports

None Presented

7. Superior Country Updates

7.1 MAT (Municipal Accommodation Tax) Update

- The Committee received an update on Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) activities. The 2025 MAT reports have been submitted to the CAO.
- The Tourism Marketing and Development Strategy is nearing completion and is expected to be finalized in January 2026. Early implementation actions have already begun.
- Development of the new tourism website is underway. A temporary MAT budget is being explored to allow marketing activities to proceed while Q4 2025 revenue figures are finalized.

7.2 Superior Country News

Superior Country provided an overview of current and upcoming marketing initiatives.

8. Standing Agenda Items

8.1 Nipigon Market Collective

The Committee received an update on the Nipigon Market Collective. The first market of 2026 is scheduled for **January 25, 2026**, with approximately seven vendors confirmed.

Advertising will proceed through CFNO radio, local print, posters, and Township communication channels.

Future coordination with neighbouring communities was discussed to increase regional draw and marketing opportunities.

8.2 Mobile Veterinary Clinic Pilot

The Committee discussed continued exploration of a mobile veterinary clinic pilot in partnership with neighbouring communities.

A community survey will be distributed to assess demand, number of pets per household, and overall feasibility. The proposed model includes cost-sharing for travel and accommodation, with services paid directly by users through pre-booking.

Sustainability, emergency care access, and long-term viability will be evaluated following survey results.

8.3 Trails Subcommittee Update

No formal Trails Subcommittee meeting has been held since the previous update. Review of existing trail maintenance plans is ongoing.

9. Sundries

No sundries were brought forward.

10. New Business

10.1 Blueberry Blast Festival

Early planning for the 2026 Blueberry Blast Festival is underway. Community donations were confirmed in support of Indigenous education initiatives, local schools, and food banks.

It was noted that 2026 will be the final year of leadership by current organizers, and future volunteer succession will be required.

11. Member Comments

General discussion took place regarding volunteer capacity and long-term sustainability of major community events.

12. Next Meeting Date

Resolution No. EDC-2026-03

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee sets the next regular meeting for Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 4:50 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

13. Motion to Adjourn

Resolution No. EDC-2026-04

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adjourns the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Signatures

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

Date

EDC Meeting Minutes

February 18th, 2026 @ 4:15pm
Edge Arts Studio, 38 Front St, Nipigon, ON P0T 2J0

EDC GOALS

- Investment readiness, business attraction, retention, and expansion
- Support business incubation in the community
- Encourage partnerships with organizations, municipalities & First Nations to promote the region
- Continue to promote and expand the trail systems through the Trails Committee
- Keep all seasons in mind when promoting, strategies, etc.
- Promote Nipigon to Thunder Bay for tourism, investment, and lifestyle

Attendance: Gary Gross (Chair), Councilor Glen Hart, Jim McCullough, Brianna Bell (E.D.O.), Gord Ahl

Guests: None

Regrets: Councilor Anne-Marie Cartwright

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:26 p.m. by the Chair.

2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Township's Land Acknowledgement as outlined in the agenda.

3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were brought forward.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. EDC-2026-05

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adopts the agenda for the February 18, 2026 meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Review and approval of the January 7, 2026 minutes.

Resolution No. EDC-2026-06

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adopts the minutes of the January 7, 2026 meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Reports

6.1 Economic Development Officer (EDO) Report

The Committee received an update from the EDO on current funding and event planning initiatives, including the following:

- I. OPG Grant Approval: OPG funding was approved for 2026 events, including \$3,000 for Blueberry Blast, \$3,000 for the Winter Carnival/Family Day, and \$1,000 for the Nipigon 5K Run/Walk.
- II. Mobile Veterinary Clinic Pilot: Council has approved proceeding with a mobile veterinary clinic pilot, pending finalization of agreements. Schreiber has agreed to proceed, while Red Rock expressed concerns about cost-sharing but may support through in-kind assistance (volunteers/staff time). The Committee discussed opening bookings to neighbouring communities (and potentially the Thunder Bay area) to ensure sufficient client volume and to fully offset clinic costs. The EDO will prepare a business case for Council addressing pricing, demand targets, and how any surplus revenues may be managed for future clinics.
- III. Nipigon Market Collective: The Committee received an update on the upcoming market and vendor participation. As of the meeting date, 16 vendors were confirmed with additional vendors pending confirmation. Discussion included maximizing the current room layout (measuring and taping booth spaces), planning for outdoor spaces in warmer months, and potential future use of additional facility space as the market continues to grow.
- IV. Ice Fest Support Request: The Committee discussed a request from Nipigon Ice Fest for financial support to cover the Legion Hall rental cost for its March 2026 event. Ice Fest was noted as a recurring tourism draw with economic benefits to Nipigon through visitor accommodations and local business activity.

Resolution No. EDC-2026-07

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee recommends that Council provide support in the amount of up to \$900 to Nipigon Ice Fest to cover the Legion Hall rental fee for the March 2026 event.
MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Blueberry Blast Festival

The Committee reviewed updated draft promotional materials (including an entertainment schedule and vendor information). Next steps include finalizing the vendor application (fillable PDF), confirming any fee adjustments, and coordinating promotions through Township channels and Facebook. The EDO will support the organizing committee with document updates and page access to facilitate promotion.

7. New Business

No new business was brought forward.

8. Member Comments

General discussion took place regarding event promotion channels, volunteer capacity, and maintaining a focus on scheduling to avoid competing regional events.

9. Next Meeting Date

Resolution No. EDC-2026-08

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee sets the next regular meeting for Wednesday, March 12, 2026 at 4:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

10. Motion to Adjourn

Resolution No. EDC-2026-09

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Economic Development Committee adjourns the meeting at 5:08 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED

Signatures

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

Date

DRAFT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NIPIGON

By-law No. 2019

A By-law to Appoint an Integrity
Commissioner

WHEREAS section 223.3 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001 requires every municipality to appoint an Integrity Commissioner who reports to Council and performs the functions assigned by the Act;

AND WHEREAS section 223.3(1) of the Act authorizes a municipality to appoint an individual who is the Integrity Commissioner for another municipality;

AND WHEREAS the City of Thunder Bay has appointed Principles *Integrity* as its Integrity Commissioner;

AND WHEREAS Council of The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon deems it advisable to appoint Principles *Integrity* to act as Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Nipigon;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon hereby enacts as follows:

1. Appointment

1.1 Principles *Integrity* is hereby appointed as the Integrity Commissioner for The Corporation of the Township of Nipigon.

1.2 The Integrity Commissioner shall report directly to Council and shall perform the functions assigned under Part V.1 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001.

2. Duties

2.1 The Integrity Commissioner shall:

- a) Apply the Township's Code of Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards;
- b) Provide written and oral advice to Members of Council and Local Boards respecting their obligations under the Code of Conduct and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*;
- c) Conduct inquiries in accordance with the *Municipal Act*, 2001;
- d) Provide educational information and training as requested by Council;
- e) Perform such other duties as may be assigned by Council consistent with the Act.

3. **Term**

3.1 This appointment shall take effect on February 24, 2026.

3.2 The appointment shall continue until terminated by Council resolution or until Principles *Integrity* ceases to act as Integrity Commissioner for the City of Thunder Bay, whichever occurs first.

4. **Agreement and Authorization**

4.1 The Mayor and CAO/Clerk are hereby authorized to execute any agreement necessary to give effect to this appointment.

5. **Repeal**

5.1 By-law No.1895, being a by-law to appoint a previous Integrity Commissioner, is hereby repealed effective the date this by-law comes into force.

7. **Effective Date**

7.1 This By-law shall come into force and effect upon final passing.

Read three times and ENACTED this 24th day of February, 2026.

Mayor

Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NIPIGON
BY-LAW NO. 2020

TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING(S) OF COUNCIL

HELD prior to and on February 24, 2026

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, 2001, C.25, as amended, requires a municipal council to exercise its power by by-law except where otherwise provided;

AND WHEREAS in many cases, action which is taken or authorized to be taken, by a Council or a Committee of Council does not lend itself to an individual by-law;

THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NIPIGON ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the actions of the Council at its meeting held prior to and on February 24, 2026, in respect to each motion, resolution and other action passed and taken by the Council at its said meeting(s), except where prior approval of the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal is required (*formerly the Ontario Municipal Board*), are hereby adopted, ratified, and confirmed.
2. THAT the Mayor and/or proper officers of the Township are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect on the said action(s) or to obtain approvals where required, and to execute all documents as may be necessary and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents as required.

Read three times and passed in open Council on February 24, 2026.

MAYOR

CLERK