

Spring 2011

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# Leamington on the Grow

## Municipality of Leamington

### Mark Your Calendar!

**Feb. 17-Success Strategies that Work. Great Lakes Industrial Sales Consortium with acclaimed speaker Michael Jefferies. Caboto Club. 8:00am-10:00am. FREE.. Register at 519-737-7447 ext 27.**

**Feb 21-Family Day. Check out the recreation pages on our web site for great things to do [www.leamington.ca](http://www.leamington.ca)**

**March 4-6. Home and Garden Tradeshow. Kinsmen Complex. Interested vendors contact [bfischer@leamington.ca](mailto:bfischer@leamington.ca).**

**Mid April: Mark Your Calendars-Beyond the City Lights Rural Tourism Conference . Middlesex County. More details to follow.**

## Mayor Paterson Discusses Economic Future

Mayor John Paterson addressed an attentive audience interested in hearing his thoughts on Leamington's economic future. The annual event, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce was the newly-elected Mayor's first opportunity to speak with the membership.

In his talk, Mayor Paterson reviewed the \$52 million in infrastructure projects the Municipality is undertaking. These include the renovation of Seacliff Park, upgrades to the pollution control plant, an expanded urban trail system, the completion of the East Side Arterial Road and marina improvements. He also explained how the implementation of Public Sector Accounting Board principles (PSAB) will provide the municipality with a clear understanding of what we own allowing us to develop a comprehensive Asset Management plan for infrastructure replacement.

Mayor Paterson stressed that in 2011 it will be important that we continue to focus our resources toward building a community that meets the needs of its ratepayers, but at the same time focuses on affordability. He stressed the need to attract new commercial and industrial businesses and assist our local businesses in growing. As such, he has changed the makeup and direction of the Economic Development Committee who will assist in reaching these goals.



Mayor John Paterson

Looking ahead, the Mayor, council and administration will focus on developing strong fiscal policies, reviewing the strategic plan and developing new directions and priorities.

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## 2011 Canada Summer Jobs Program Accepting Applications

Employers will be able to tap into more than \$107 million in grants available nationwide to put young people to work this summer. Applications for the 2011 Canada Summer Jobs program will be accepted from Feb 1st–Feb. 28th. Application information can be found at [www.servicecanada.gc.ca/csj2011](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/csj2011).



## Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers to Build New Offices

The OGVG has selected a 1.5 acre site on Seneca Drive in Leamington for their administration offices. The move will provide more space for their board meetings, product demonstrations and staffing needs. Completion is expected in the early spring.

## Market Insight Working Session for the Food and Beverage Sector

The Ontario Canadian Environmental Advancement Centre (OCETA) will be collaborating with stakeholders in South-Western Ontario's food and beverage industry to conduct a Market Insight Working Session. The objective is to develop a clear understanding of the major business issues facing food and beverage processors around energy, water and waste, and to identify technical experts with the capacity to implement cost-effective solutions.

Following the Working Session, select event participant teams who are motivated and have the capacity to move forward to implement solutions, will have the opportunity to discuss access to available resources.

The overall goals are to:

- \* Expose food and beverage companies to solutions to address their business issues around energy, water and environmental sustainability;
- \* Provide solution providers with insights into the energy, water and resource management issues facing food and beverage companies and to assist them in defining a service offering to meet the needs of the market;
- \* Create opportunities to develop collaborative connections
- \* Facilitate and "kick-start" the creation of solution teams interested in resolving issues.

The Insight Working Session would be of interest to food and beverage companies, product vendors, consultants, engineers, municipalities and utilities who provide critical services in terms of energy/water supply, and wastewater management to the food and beverage industry.

The Session is planned for:

Feb. 23, 2011

Roma Club, Leamington

8:30-1:30pm.

For more information contact: Fabio Tonto at 905-822-4133 3xt 251 or email [ftonto@oceta.on.ca](mailto:ftonto@oceta.on.ca).

## Community Celebrates Expansion of Leamington Trail

The Municipality recently marked the expansion of the Leamington Trail. Completion of the trail network expansion, from Ellison to Talbot Road West now creates a direct trail linkage between two secondary schools, two elementary schools, the Leamington Kinsmen Recreation Complex and the Marina. Work on the project included the construction of a drainage system and granular trail as well as new rest areas with benches, landscaping, fencing and signage.



The Governments of Canada and Ontario have each committed \$250,000 to the project while the Municipality contributed the balance of the total project cost of \$750,000.

Looking north behind the Kinsmen Recreation Complex

### Tourism Marketing Partnership Opportunities

If you are involved in tourism or hospitality, Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island now has partnership opportunities available for their web site, Visitors' Guide and other promotional activities. This is the main method to promote your business locally and beyond. To find out more call 519-255-6530 or email: [partners@tourismwindsor.essex.com](mailto:partners@tourismwindsor.essex.com)

### Region Makes it to the Top Seven!

Windsor and Essex County have been named one of the top seven most intelligent communities in the world. This recognizes the region's ability to adapt to the demands of the Broadband Economy. The region moves into the final rounds to award the top ranking in June 2011. The region's broadband efficiency builds on the previous successes of the Connecting Windsor -Essex™ Smart Community initiatives, which is making our community one of the most connected regions connecting individuals and organizations "at the speed of life".

## Land Use Planning Guide For Business

The Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has created a guide to assist new and existing businesses work through the land use planning and development process in Ontario. It is written for businesses of all sizes and all types that may need a land use planning and development approval (such as a rezoning or minor variance). It provides general information about the land use planning and development process in Ontario and can help businesses determine if they should hire professional staff or consultants to assist them with their approvals, or decide if they can work through the process independently.

Land use planning affects all communities and properties in Ontario. It helps decide how our communities will be built and how development will take place. The province sets the ground rules for land use planning through the Planning Act, and the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005 (PPS) provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest relating to land use planning development.

A municipal official plan contains local land use planning and development policies. Municipal land use planning and development decisions, including new and updated official plans, shall be consistent with the PPS.

The Land Use Planning Guide for Business contains information on:

- \* Official plans
- \* Zoning by-laws
- \* Consent
- \* Site plan approval
- \* Building permits
- \* Related initiatives and programs like Business Improvement Areas, Community Improvement Plans and Brownfield Redevelopment
- \* Planning approvals and provincial regulations such as heritage conservation, green energy and the green economy act, accessibility and conservation authorities.

A copy of the guide can be found on the Municipalities web site: [http://www.leamington.ca/municipal/edo\\_smallbusiness.asp](http://www.leamington.ca/municipal/edo_smallbusiness.asp)

## University Announces Plans for Environmental Research Station in Leamington

The Municipality recently donated a 22.3 acre parcel of land to become the site of the University of Windsor's Pelee Environmental Research Station. The Centre will provide field-based laboratory, meeting and teaching facilities, and a staging site for environmental research and education. Once completed the site will attract researchers from around the world intent of studying the unique habitats of Lake Erie and the Carolinian forest.

### Development Around the Municipality



HWY 77 Gas Bar



Reid's Funeral Home Reception Centre



Tony's Fine Jewellery

### Value of Building Permits 2010 (\$Million)

Total Permits Issued	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Institutional	Agricultural	Total \$
360	11.0	3.4	1.2	13.2	10.0	36.7



## Municipality of Leamington

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**Leamington: "Building on the past...Preparing for future prosperity."**

WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[www.leamington.ca](http://www.leamington.ca)

*This publication is presented to you by: The Municipality of Leamington, Economic Development Department. The Economic Development Department was established to "create an economic development environment in the Municipality through the promotion, cooperation and communication between the public and private sector, enabling an increased standard of living for its residents while maintaining and enriching their quality of life". Services provided by the Economic Development Office include:*

- \* *Business development information*
- \* *Marketing and promotion*
- \* *Network development*
- \* *Project development and small business consulting*
- \* *Relocation information for residential and business purposes*

## It's Official! Seacliff Energy Supplying Power to the Grid

After years of hard work, on January 27, 2011 there was cause to celebrate at Seacliff Energy. The "switch" was officially flipped and the green-energy company began supplying electricity to the power grid.

Seacliff Energy was established in 2007 to invest in the construction of an anaerobic digestion facility that transforms vegetable waste from local farms, greenhouses and local food processing companies into electricity for the Ontario Power grid; heat for the greenhouse; and organic, natural fertilizer for the farm market.

The project began with Seacliff looking for an alternative heating source, but as it turns out heat is now a by-product and electricity has become the major revenue source. Seacliff collects waste such as cucumbers and prunings, and vegetable and local food processing waste which is fed into the digester. The digester is a first in Canada. Unlike the single-stage digester that is currently used in some Canadian landfills, which works slowly and only breaks down one type of waste at a time, Seacliff is using a two stage digester. The technology has been proven in Europe and, working similarly to a cow's stomach, is able to break down up to 80,0000 metric tonnes of waste, consisting of up to 50 types of material.

Despite the technology being used successfully in Europe, the owners had to prove that it would work in the Canadian environment. The Federal Government provided a repayable contribution of up to \$2.9 million to help prove the success of the technology. OMAFRA, through the Ontario Bio-gas Assistance Program, contributed \$400,000.

The system leaves nothing to waste and is helping Ontario in its quest for renewable fuels for electricity.

Company President, Dennis Dick thanked the dozens of people and contractors involved in the project for taking the initial idea and making it a reality.

**Engines ON!** From left to right: Dennis Dick (Seacliff Energy), Robb Seegmiller (Conestoga Rovers), Reda Rafia (Tormont Cat), Tom Zhu (Tormont), Rob Tremblay (Conestoga), Roger Tiessen (Seacliff Energy)

