

Lord Mayor's Message to NOTL ~ for 10 Jun 09

Bats in your belfry? Squirrels in the attic? Skunks under the porch? Coyotes roaming the property?

You'll find lots of information on ways to deal with these problems and more on the Town's web site at www.notl.org. Click on the "Wildlife Info" button.

We're linking up with the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre (OCWC) at www.wildlifeinfo.ca. The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre has been around for over 20 years. The website has been developed because the group was hearing the same questions year after year.

I clicked on "Wildlife Close-up" and "Human/Wildlife Conflicts" and found loads of useful information. The OCWC believes wild animals come around our homes because there's a food source and/or potential shelter.

Remember, animals are still giving birth in June and separating an adult from the young could create a new set of problems.

*

It seems that for Council, summer really begins with the annual Niagara-on-the-Lake Senior Citizens' Strawberry Social hosted by the Lord Mayor and members of Council. Once again, we're looking forward to spending some time with you.

This year's event takes place on Wednesday June 24th at the NOTL Community Centre at 29 Platoff Street. The doors open at 5pm and dinner will be served at 5:30pm. There will be entertainment and of course, fresh local strawberries.

Please RSVP by calling Vicki at 905.468.3266 or VButters@notl.org

*

This is the last part of the "com·mú·ni·cá·tion Report Card" report. I'd like to review the Recommendations. You'll find a complete version at www.notl.org.

There were several conclusions that came out of the responses we received. From those, the Communications Committee made the following recommendations to Council:

- #1 Continue to use *The Niagara Advance* for information and public notices.
- #2 Use *The Town Crier* as much as possible for information and public notices. Encourage Town-related editorial content in *The Town Crier*.

- #3 Increase the focus of the Lord Mayor's Message on an annual look ahead with coming activities and an annual report card on the past year.
- #4 Consider distribution of an abridged version of the Town Budget with departmental plans and objectives.
- #5 Review the deputation process to improve communications.
- #6 Consider innovative ways to improve communications to be seen as more open and transparent in providing information to residents.

Council has accepted these recommendations. Now it's time to study how to apply them and improve the Town's communications process.

Thank you again to all for participating in this process. If you have any comments, please call me at 905.468.3266 or email me at GBurroughs@notl.org