



**Media Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 7, 2024

Here are the highlights from the South Dundas Council meeting held March 6, 2024.

*For more information, contact **Tia Fraser-Dupuis, Acting Economic Development & Communications Officer** at 613-543-2673 ext. 4772*

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**Integrity Commissioner**

Council approved the reappointment of Tony Fleming as Integrity Commissioner. Tony Fleming, of Cunningham Swan Carty Little & Bonham LLP, has served as the South Dundas Integrity Commissioner since March 5, 2019. The Municipal Act, 2001, requires every municipality in Ontario to have a formally appointed Integrity Commissioner. The role of the Integrity Commissioner is to provide ethics-related education to elected officials as requested, as well as determine compliance with Council's Code of Conduct or other ethics-related policies or procedures.

"We need to have an Integrity Commissioner...Mr. Fleming, his office is excellent...I certainly appreciate all of the work they do for us", noted Mayor Broad.

For more information, contact Crystal Lebrun, Clerk at 613-543-2673 ext. 4766

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**April 8<sup>th</sup> Total Solar Eclipse**

On April 8, 2024, at approximately 3:24 p.m. South Dundas and the surrounding region (SDG Counties) will experience a once-in-a-lifetime event, a total solar eclipse. A narrow band, known as the 'path of totality' will transit across our region, as the Moon completely blocks the sun and turns day into night for a little more than two minutes. Municipalities in Ontario that are within this narrow band of totality are bracing for a mass migration of eclipse enthusiasts that are expected to travel to view the spectacle.

"Tens of thousands of people could visit our region and we wanted to get plans in place for emergency response", mentioned Mayor Broad.

Staff anticipate the potential for significant traffic impediments on key thoroughfares, including CR2, CR31, CR43, and Highway 401. Staff have engaged SLPC representatives, who indicate that there is on-site parking for only a few hundred vehicles. A nearby landing strip, located across CR2, is expected to open to allow for additional parking. Likewise, the Upper Canada Golf Course could be used for parking spillover as well. South Dundas welcomes visitors to our region, and we encourage residents to enjoy the spectacle safely and responsibly. To that end, residents will be urged to stay home, if they can, to enjoy the eclipse from the sanctity of their backyard or balcony. This is being done to mitigate traffic congestion as much as possible. SDG Counties and South Dundas will prepare a communications campaign that will include



regular social media posts, traditional media engagement and web updates. Communications will begin the first week of March and last until eclipse day.

Approved eclipse glasses will be provided to all staff working out in the field. South Dundas Fire and Emergency Services will staff a minimum of 5 personnel (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.) at each station to ensure emergency responses. Should there be a need for fire staff to stay later, SDFES will be prepared to keep staff longer. Staff have been identified in Parks, Recreation, Facilities, Roads, Water/wastewater, and some administrative staff to work outside of their regular scheduled hours to ensure availability to the public if an emergency does occur. All Municipal vehicles will be fueled in advance of April 8th and strategically parked so they can respond to calls, if needed. Additionally, the Fire Chief in collaboration with Brockville dispatch will be completing testing on the backup systems for 911 dispatch in the event of a communication network failure.

“With the potential of emergencies during a gridlock, we need to be ready”, stated Deputy Mayor St. Pierre.

For more information, contact Jeremy Alldred-Hughes, Fire Chief at 613-543-2673 ext. 4760

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### **Recommendation from the Economic & Community Development Committee**

The Economic & Community Development Committee is looking to float two of the existing Pop-Up Shops to the Iroquois Plaza, issue an RFP for the painting of the shops, and begin to market their use. Additionally, the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail passes through South Dundas, which means there are thousands of cyclists utilizing these trails each year. Currently, the trail is not well marked or advertised. The Committee wishes for staff to initiate conversations and develop a plan moving forward to facilitate road painting, signage, and the general enhancement of these trails.

“I think it is great we are moving forward with cycling”, noted Councillor Ward.

For more information, contact Tia Fraser-Dupuis, Acting Economic Development & Communications Officer at 613-543-2673 ext. 4772

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### **Upcoming Meetings**



The Municipality of  
**SOUTH DUNDAS**

34 Ottawa Street P.O. Box 740  
Morrisburg, ON K0C1X0  
613-543-2673 | southdundas.com

Regular Council Meetings: March 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
April 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
April 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.