



Annual Achievements Report 2024



Strong Communities



Civic Projects in 2024



Loyalist Township Community Grants

In 2024, Loyalist Township Council adopted a new Community Grant Policy. The new policy incorporated the Renewable Energy Vibrancy Policy as well as other existing public funding opportunities. The new policy also stipulated parameters for contributor recognition.

In 2024, 24 different organizations received Community Grant funding via Loyalist Township Community Grants.



Civic Awards

Our new Civic Awards program was established in 2024 to honour the meaningful contributions and roles that volunteering and community service have in making Loyalist Township a thriving, innovative, and sustainable place to live, work and grow.

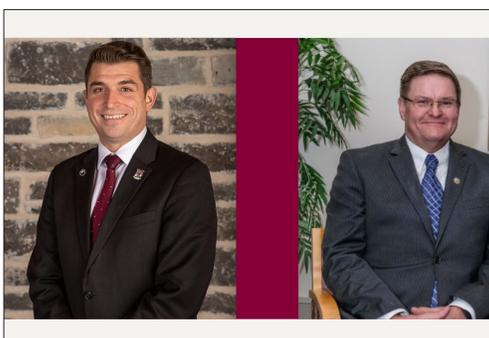
The 2024 Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Terri Austin.



Community Town Hall Meetings

In the interest of transparency and accountability, Loyalist has introduced Community Town Hall meetings. These informal meetings provide community members with updates on municipal programs and projects and an opportunity to suggest new ideas, and ask questions of Council.

In 2024, meetings were held in May and October in five separate communities in the Township.



Deputy Warden and Warden

Loyalist Township Deputy Mayor Nathan Townend was elected as Warden for Lennox and Addington County for the year 2025.

Warden Townend was honored with this esteemed position at the Inaugural Meeting of the County of Lennox and Addington Council in December 2024.

Loyalist Township Mayor Jim Hegadorn was elected to serve as Deputy Warden for 2025, marking another exciting milestone for our community.

Strong Communities



Communications, Heritage, Culture and Tourism in 2024



Engagement Platform

In September of 2024, Loyalist Township launched Engage Loyalist; the Township's online engagement platform. Engage Loyalist was developed to help create a more informed, active, and connected community, allowing for better decision-making and stronger relationships between local governments and residents.

www.engage.loyalist.ca



Developed and Implemented Exploration Days at the Bath Museum and Babcock Mill

Exploration Days brought history to life at the Bath Museum and the historic Babcock Mill, offering hands-on activities in partnership with local artists, artisans, and community groups. Running weekly throughout July and August, Thursdays at Babcock Mill and Fridays at the Bath Museum, the program featured 16 unique events and welcomed 713 participants.



Entered into an Agreement with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund for Creation and Implementation of the new Legacy Space

In 2024, Loyalist Township entered a five-year agreement with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund to introduce a Legacy Space at the W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre. This space will be a safe, welcoming place where conversations and education about Indigenous history – and our collective journey towards reconciliation – are encouraged and supported.



Expanded Cultural and Indigenous Programming and Events

In recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, Loyalist Township provided an in-school educational opportunity that educated students on Indigenous history, and cultural traditions. Activities included Anishinaabe songs, teachings about traditional medicines, and traditional crafts in partnership with a local Anishinaabe Elder.

Sustainable Infrastructure & Services



Construction Completed in 2024



Babcock Mill Reading Garden

The grand opening of the Babcock Mill Reading Garden was held on October 23, 2024. This event celebrated the completion of the student-inspired project, inviting local partners, students, and community members to experience this new sustainable green space. The opening marked a significant milestone in the Township's commitment to sustainable community development and creating inclusive public spaces for all residents to enjoy.



Roundabout at CR33 and CR6

In 2024 the County of Lennox and Addington completed an upgrade of the intersection at County Road 6 and County Road 23 (Taylor-Kidd Boulevard). Work included the conversion of the intersection from a four-way stop controlled intersection alignment to a roundabout configuration. The Township partnered on the project to install multi-use pathways to further the active transportation link to the residential area.



Redeveloped the floorplan at the Bath Museum

The Heritage, Culture, and Tourism Division with the support of dedicated volunteers, redeveloped the floor plan of the Bath Museum to enhance accessibility, increase visitor capacity, and update all exhibitions. The redeveloped floorplan includes a new hands-on educational space for families. This revitalization ensures a more inclusive and engaging experience while preserving the Township's rich history.



Opened two additional floors for tours at the Babcock Mill (first time in over 30 years)

The beautiful and historic Babcock Mill is located on the banks of the Millhaven Creek in the village of Odessa. The mill is an important part of Loyalist Township's rich history. The stone mill was built in 1856 on land deeded by the British Government to Joshua Booth in 1803.

Sustainable Infrastructure & Services



Construction Opening in 2025

Fairfield Gutzeit House

2024 marked a significant year of restoration work at the Fairfield Gutzeit House, with careful attention given to preserving this cherished heritage site. Repairs were completed on key structural and exterior features, helping to protect the building's integrity and character. The preservation of the Fairfield Gutzeit House is vital for its educational and commemorative value, and to safeguard its collection for generations to come. This ongoing project supports the municipality by protecting our local history and creating new opportunities for community activities and visitor experiences.

Odessa Infrastructure Upgrades

Loyalist Township and the County of Lennox & Addington are upgrading infrastructure on the original sections of Potter Drive and Creighton Drive, and the western portion of South Street, as well as Main Street - Odessa between Creighton Drive and West Street. This is a multi-year project, beginning with the Main Street section in 2024.

The work includes:

- Replacement/repair of watermains and sanitary sewers, right-of-way drainage improvements,
- Upgrading Potter Drive to a collector road, including the addition of sidewalks from Main Street - Odessa to the new development areas; a turn lane on Main Street; and upgrades to the intersection of Main Street and Creighton Drive. These items are funded by Bayhill Development and Golden Falcon, the developers responsible for the Babcock Mills and Millcreek subdivisions,
- Installing a multi-use pathway along the south side of Main Street - Odessa from Creighton Drive to West Street, and
- Installing a signalized pedestrian crosswalk of Main Street - Odessa at West Street.



W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre Renewal

Growth projections developed as part of several studies commissioned in recent years estimate that Loyalist Township's population will increase to almost 26,000 residents by the year 2046. This projected growth, combined with aging infrastructure, has prompted the need to renovate and expand existing recreation facilities to meet the levels of service that are expected by the community. During the Special Council Meeting on November 9, 2023, Council endorsed the revitalization of the W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre which will include the construction of a new aquatic facility. Construction began in March 2024 with construction expected to be completed in 2026.

Balanced Growth



Community Planning in 2024



Amherstview West Secondary Plan

The Amherstview West Secondary Plan, which was first introduced to Council in February 2021, will provide a policy and implementation framework to guide the future growth and development of Amherstview West for the next 25 years. The final phase of public consultation regarding the Secondary Plan was completed in late 2024, with the Secondary Plan approved by Council in February, 11th, 2025.

The Secondary Plan Area, as is approximately 144 hectares. It is bound by Taylor-Kidd Boulevard to the north, Bath Road to the south, Parrott's Bay Conservation Area to the west, and County Road 6 and the existing built-up area in Amherstview to the east.



Infrastructure Master Plan

In 2024, Loyalist Township published the Infrastructure Masterplan. The purpose of the Township's Infrastructure Master Plan (IMP) is to provide a foundation for infrastructure development from the beginning of the study period through 2046. The plan ensures Township infrastructure supports vibrant, healthy and complete neighbourhoods across the municipality while ensuring long-term affordability for both the municipality and residents.



1st Annual Housing Development Forum

In June 2024, the Township hosted the first annual Developers' Forum. The forum brought Township planning and engineering staff together with the local development community to discuss new initiatives and provide progress reports on ongoing projects. It also allowed guests to share feedback on how the Township could support and remove barriers to development. The second annual forum is planned for spring 2025.

Balanced Growth



Transportation in 2024



Loyalist Township is excited to introduce a new pilot program for transit connectivity!

Loyalist Link

Program Start Date: November 4th, 2024
Set to Run Until: December 31st, 2025

Learn More ➔ www.loyalist.ca/loyalistlink

This initiative aims to enhance public transportation options for residents of additional communities in the Township including Bath, Odessa, and the Amherst Island Ferry Terminal in Millhaven. The service will also provide a vital public transportation link to workplaces in the Taylor-Kidd Industrial Park and the Loyalist East Business Park.

Service Provided by: Stock Transportation




Loyalist Link

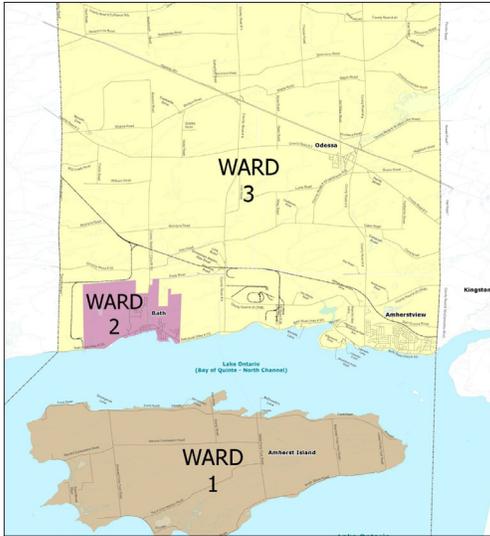
In November 2024, Loyalist Township launched a new transit service pilot aimed at connecting public transportation to Bath, Odessa, and the Amherst Island Ferry Terminal in Millhaven. The service also provides a vital link to workplaces in the Taylor-Kidd Industrial Park and the Loyalist East Business Park. So far the service has been positively received with approximately 900 to 1000 rides a month.



Amherst Islander II

On July 2, 2024, the Amherst Islander II boarded passengers for the first time to complete the trip from Stella to Millhaven. Among the passengers for this historic sailing were eight community members who were on the dock when the Amherst Islander I arrived in Stella 69 years earlier.

Organizational Effectiveness



Ward Boundary Review

Loyalist Township began conducting a ward boundary review in the fall of 2024. The purpose of the ward boundary review is to review the existing electoral arrangements to develop an effective and equitable system of representation.

The goal of the review is to assess the current Council composition and establish a ward structure that will accommodate growth and population shifts for at least the next three municipal elections.

The initial phase of public consultation was completed in the fall of 2024 and further consultations took place in early 2025 regarding the proposed options. Council will decide on the final option this spring 2025.



School Board Partnerships

In June 2024, Council approved a new Reciprocal Use Agreement with Limestone District School Board, to promote and share recreational use of Township facilities and sports fields and School Board facilities. Additionally, Council approved a lease agreement with the Limestone District School Board for use of the Amherst Island Public School as a community hall when it is not being used during the regular instructional hours for students. These agreements will support the sharing of publicly funded facilities to benefit students and the Loyalist community.

