

Wishing you a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

TOWNSHIP OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note the Prince Township Office will be closed, Monday December 25th through to Monday January 1st, 2024. We are open again on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE

Garbage collection will be delayed one day because of the Christmas day and New Year's day holiday. Please have your cart out at the end of your driveway by 7 a.m.

BAG TAG LOCATIONS

Please remember to use bag tags when you have more than two bags of refuse to be collected. Each bag tag is \$2. Tags can be purchased at Airways General Store or at the Municipal Office.

RECYCLING COLLECTION

Your recycling will be picked up every two weeks.

Dec 7, 21 and Jan 5 – delayed one day because of the New Year's day holiday.

Please have your cart out at the end of your driveway by 7 a.m.

NEWSLETTER December 2023



The Council and staff of the Township of Prince wish you a very happy and peaceful holiday. Enjoy time with family and friends and stay protected, stay safe and stay healthy.

See you in the New Year!

THANK YOU

A big thank you to our Prince Township Volunteer Fire Department, Prince Township Women's Institute, Prince Twp. Library, Friends of the Library, Museum, Recreation Committee and all our volunteers for their dedication and support throughout 2023.

VULNERABLE CITIZENS

In the event of an extended power disruption or disruption to 911 service, volunteers will attend the homes of vulnerable citizens to ensure their safety. You **must** fill out a registration form to be put on the vulnerable list. You can drop by the Municipal Office, phone 705-779-2992 or email deputyclerk@twp.prince.on.ca to get the form.

SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER WINTER PARKING

Motorists are reminded that there is no parking of vehicles on Township streets between Nov. 1st and April 30th, during the winter months.



Pushing snow across roads and streets is not only a safety hazard; it is also against the law. The Ontario Traffic Act states:

No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 181

Prince Twp. By-law 2019-38 also prohibits this action.

RINK

Prince Twp. will be getting the rink ready, depending on the weather. When the rink is open, we will post it on our sign in front of the Municipal building and on our web site.

Although the rink will be open for public skating, you can rent the ice @ \$60/hour for private events or practice. For rental arrangements, contact the office @ 705-779-2992 Ext. 1. or email deputyclerk@twp.prince.on.ca. Rental information will be on our website, Princetownship.ca

There are washrooms and change rooms for your convenience.

Please be sure to put guards on your skates before entering the washrooms.

Just a reminder that the Provincial Laws do not permit smoking **anywhere** on the municipal property.

SMILE YOUR ON CAMERA

Cameras have been installed in various locations at the Pavilion and the back of the office to monitor the buildings and yard. We hope this will help to minimize or eliminate any vandalism or misuse of the facilities.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Appointments to Boards & Committees will be made at the council meeting January 9, 2024.

Library Board Museum Board Recreation Committee

Interested parties are requested to apply. Forms are found online or by calling the Township office. We would like to encourage everyone including youth/students to apply. This is a great opportunity to earn your volunteer hours.

Applications are available from the Township Office, online or if you would like one emailed, please call (705) 779-2992 Ext 1 or email deputyclerk@twp.prince.on.ca





Under by-law 2001-03, all residents who own a dog or dogs must register them by purchasing an annual dog licence. Dog licences are due **Jan. 2**, **2024**, and are available at the Municipal Office.

To avoid a \$15.00 late fee penalty, all dog licenses must be renewed annually before **February 15**th.

To purchase a dog tag, you MUST have confirmation of last rabies shot date.

The cost is \$7.50 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$15.00 otherwise.

There is a locked black mailbox next to the entrance door to the Community Centre. You can come into the office to get your tag or place your information and cheque in an envelope and put it in the mailbox and we will mail your tag to you.

If you no longer have your dog, please contact the office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Township Office at 705-779-2992 ext. 1 or deputyclerk@twp.prince.on.ca during office hours.

Purchasing an annual dog license will ensure that your dog is returned quickly should he/she ever stray and assist us in providing animal control services in our community.



Empower Women Entrepreneurs in Your Community!

We are excited to announce that applications are now open for the Start Now Incubator Program beginning February 6th! This free virtual business incubator is a 6-week program designed to give aspiring women entrepreneurs the skills they need to evaluate and launch their business idea. For those already with an existing business, it provides the dedicated space to connect with what's working in their business and what needs to be refined to take it to the next level.

We know the importance of collaboration when it comes to supporting Rural Entrepreneurs. You can play a vital role by helping us reach women in your community who would benefit from this opportunity. Interested applicants can submit their information by visiting: https://bit.ly/MashupLab14.

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday December 12th, 2023 6:45 p.m.

Agendas are posted on the website the day before the meeting. If you require a copy, please call ahead so it can be printed for pickup on Monday.

A fee of \$0.25/page applies.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Barbie Rudnicki (705)255-0419





EARLYON CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE

Prince Township EarlyON Child and Family Centre is open for in-person programming! All program and event information can be found at www.keyon.ca as well as on our Facebook page. Please call 705-779-3627 for more information.

Find us on Facebook: EarlyOn Child and Family Centre Prince, SSM & Sault North.



LIBRARY NEWS

CALENDARS: THANK YOU to all who supported the library in the purchase of a calendar, and to our sponsors who advertised. Please support them.

WINTER HOURS: We are closed when the Hall or EarlyOn is closed.

MON: 10:00 – NOON and 2:00 – 4:00

TUES 2:00 - 4:00

WED: 10:00 – NOON and 1:00 - 2:30 THURS. 1:00 – 3:00 AND 5:30- 7:00

p.m.

FRI: 10:00 – NOON and 1:00 - 3:00

CLOSED SATURDAY AND SUNDAY PLEASE CALL FIRST. 705-779-2992

ext. 5. If we are here, we will return your call.

STUDENTS NEEDING VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE WELCOME. CALL THE LIBRARY 705-779-2992 EXT 5 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.

OPAC:

YOU CAN USE OPAC TO SEARCH FOR ITEMS IN OUR LIBRARY AND WE CAN FILL YOUR ORDER FOR PICK UP DURING TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS 8:30 – 4:30 Mon.-Fri.

If you need your OPAC Information OR want to use Libby/Overdrive and need your PIN /Password, call the library.

BROWN TABLE has current titles and NEWLY CATALOGUED BOOKS, purchased with funds from THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY, donations, magazines, and book club titles. which we highly recommend.

BOOK CLUB: This is held the THIRD WEDNESDAY of the month at 1:00 p.m. JANUARY 17, 2024 we will be reading UNSOLVED by James Patterson and David Ellis.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS: These are from our McNaughton selection, which are found on the bookcase at the back of the room.

THE RAGING STORM by Ann Cleeves is a Detective Matthew Venn novel. When celebrity Jem Rosco's body is found in a dinghy anchored off Scully Cove, it becomes an uncomfortable case for DI Venn, as superstition and rumor mix with fact...

NIGHT WATCH by Jayne Anne Phillips. A novel about a mother who has not spoken in one year, her twelve-year-old daughter seeking refuge in the chaotic aftermath of the American Civil War at the Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum in West Virginia, where they get swept up in the life of the facility- the mysterious man they call the Night Watch...

THE RIVER WE REMEMBER by William Kent Krueger. A mystery novel begins at a Memorial Day service in 1958 in Jewel Minnesota, after the body of wealthy landowner Jimmy Quinn's

body is found floating in the Alabaster River. Suspicions and accusations mount and the town teeters on the edge of more violence. Krueger looks at the wounds left by past wars, and how we seek to heal.

DROP OFF BOX

Bring your library books inside the foyer and put them in the box that is on the chair.

****ON GOING BOOK SALE DURING LIBRARY HOURS FOR ALL AGES****

WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS THE SAME AS THE TOWNSHIP. WE WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 2024 AT 2:00 P.M.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY 2024 FROM THE LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS.



FRIENDS OF THE PRINCE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

The Friends of the Prince Township Library held the 2023 Annual General Meeting on Nov. 4, and concluded that the group needs more active volunteers.

In the election of officers for 2024, Brittany Agliani was acclaimed as treasurer and Marguerite La Haye as secretary; however, Margaret Christenson, the past president, and Dorothy MacNaughton, the vice-president said they could not continue serving in these roles for the coming year.

The Friends will instead adopt a model in which executive members chair meetings on a rotational basis, so that responsibilities are shared more evenly.

This model has been used successfully by several church-based groups and service clubs with charitable status.

Memberships: Membership in the Friends is open to any resident of Prince Township and Sault Ste. Marie who wants to see our library to thrive in the years ahead. The annual fee is \$5.00/individual or \$10.00/family.

To join the Friends, contact Brittany at friendsofptpl@gmail.com.

The Friends of the Prince Township Library began in 1999 with Lucy Konkin as the first president. Over the years, the group has donated goods and services to the library valued at \$114,341.

New Logo: The Friends recently voted to adopted the logo depicted above this month's announcements. We wish to thank our treasurer,

Brittany Agliani for creating this graceful design.

Joyce Kasch Award: The Friends will announce the recipient of the 2023 Joyce Kasch Award at the library's Christmas gettogether on Friday, Dec. 8, at 11:00 a.m. The award is presented each year to a volunteer whose service to the Prince Township Public Library has been outstanding.

It is named after the late Joyce Kasch, who campaigned during the early 1980s to bring the township its own rural library, staffed by volunteers. Joyce Kasch died in 1985, a year before the library opened in the basement of the Prince Township Community Centre.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year:

The Friends wish all readers a peaceful holiday season and a healthy year in 2024. Safe travels to all who take to the roads or the air to visit distant loved one.

Finally, remember that a new or gently-used book makes a good gift anytime, not just at Christmas. The Friends have a well-stocked table of gently-used items for sale in the library near the front door. Drop in and browse for hidden treasures whenever the library is open.



Our Prince Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept. use green flashing lights in their personal vehicles when they are responding to the fire hall for an emergency. If you see a vehicle with a green flashing light, please yield the right of way.

Thanks for your co-operation!



Slips, Trips and Falls

As winter is upon us, we want to share with everyone the reminder for preventing slips, trips and falls.

As you race through the door seconds before work starts, your foot slips in an area of melted snow inside the entrance. Flat on your back, you wonder what happened. A puddle on the floor, or snow on the sidewalk can put you down. Use extra caution to stay on your feet this winter. Weather conditions may change quickly

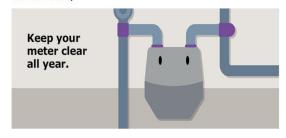
so please use extra caution to avoid a fall or accident.

911 SIGNS

Residents are requested to make sure that 911 civic number signs are clear of trees, snow etc. The sign should be visible by emergency personnel from 100 ft.

GAS METER SAFETY

Gas Meter Safety



It's important to keep your natural gas meter and exhaust vents free of ice and snow in winter, and clear of storage boxes, garden tools and vegetation in summer. This helps ensure that gas-fired equipment functions safely and efficiently and allows Union Gas easy access for accurate meter readings or emergency response.

Indoor heating equipment – your furnace, water heater and thermostat – needs to be accessible too. Please ensure that storage boxes and household supplies are kept well away

from indoor appliances so Union Gas or your heating contractor can get at them for emergency service or repairs.

Be sure your pets are secured and not blocking access to your gas meter or equipment during meter reading and service calls. A visiting Union Gas representative can surprise even the friendliest dog and lead to aggressive behavior and bites.



Preparing for a Winter Storm

During extremely cold weather or winter storms, staying warm and safe can be a challenge. Winter storms can bring cold temperatures, power failures, loss of communication services, and icy roads. To keep yourself and your loved ones safe, you should know how to prepare your home and your car before a winter storm hits.

Make a Plan

Be prepared before a winter storm hits by planning ahead. If you are in an area prone to winter weather, be sure to **create a communication and disaster plan** for your family ahead of time.

Prepare Your Home and Car

Weatherproof your home.

- Insulate any water lines that run along exterior walls so your water supply will be less likely to freeze.
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.
- Insulate walls and attic.
- Install storm or thermal-pane windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside.
- Repair roof leaks and cut away tree branches that could fall on your home or other structure during a storm.

Have your chimney or flue inspected each year.

If you plan to use a fireplace or wood stove for emergency heating, have your chimney or flue inspected each year. Ask your local fire department to recommend an inspector or find one online.

Install a smoke detector and a batteryoperated carbon monoxide detector.

- If you will be using a fireplace, wood stove, or kerosene heater, install a smoke detector and a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector near the area to be heated. Test them monthly and replace batteries twice a year.
- Keep a multipurpose, dry- chemical fire extinguisher nearby.
- All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside.
- Each winter season have your furnace system and vent checked by a qualified

technician to ensure they are functioning properly.

For older adults, keep an easy-toread thermometer inside your home.

If you or a loved one are over 65 years old, place an easy-to-read thermometer in an indoor location where you will see it frequently. Our ability to feel a change in temperature decreases with age. Older adults are more susceptible to health problems caused by cold. Check the temperature of your home often during the winter months.

Create an emergency car kit.

It is best to avoid traveling, but if travel is necessary to keep the following in your car.

- Cell phone, portable charger, and extra batteries
- Items to stay warm such as extra hats, coats, mittens, and blankets
- Windshield scraper
- Shovel
- Battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Water and snack food
- First aid kit with any necessary medications and a pocketknife
- Tow chains or rope
- · Tire chains

- Canned compressed air with sealant for emergency tire repair
- Cat litter or sand to help tires get traction, or road salt to melt ice
- Booster cables with fully charged battery or jumper cables
- Hazard or other reflectors
- Bright colored flag or help signs, emergency distress flag, and/or emergency flares
- Road maps
- Waterproof matches and a can to melt snow for water

Steps to Take Before the Storm Hits

Listen to weather forecasts and check your supplies.

Listen to weather forecasts regularly and check your **emergency supplies**, including your **emergency food and water supply**, whenever you are expecting a winter storm or extreme cold. Even though we can't always predict extreme cold in advance, weather forecasts can sometimes give you several days of notice to prepare.

Bring your pets indoors.

If you have pets, bring them indoors. If you cannot bring them inside, provide adequate shelter to keep them warm and make sure they have access to unfrozen water.

Get your car ready.

Have maintenance service on your vehicle as often as the manufacturer recommends. In addition, every fall, do the following:

- Have the radiator system serviced or check the antifreeze level yourself with an antifreeze tester. Add antifreeze as needed.
- Replace windshield-wiper fluid with a wintertime mixture.
- Make sure the tires on your car have adequate tread and air pressure.
 Replace any worn tires and fill low tires with air to the proper pressure recommended for your car (typically between 30-35 psi).
- Keep the gas tank near full to help avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Keep your car in good working order. Be sure to check the following: heater, defroster, brakes, brake fluid, ignition, emergency flashers, exhaust, oil, and battery.



Are You Feeding Wildlife?

Issues of residents feeding wildlife have been reported to the Municipal Office. We do take this very seriously.

You may be doing more harm than good. People who feed wildlife usually do so with the best intentions. However, feeding wild animals

almost always results in negative consequences for both humans and wildlife involved.

What are the consequences of feeding wildlife?

Threats to wildlife

- Animals can become dependent on artificial food sources.
- Animals can lose their natural fear of humans and pets, becoming more prone to conflict.
- Artificial feed is not healthy for wildlife.
- Wildlife can congregate in unnaturally high densities at feeders. This spreads parasites and disease (such as Chronic Wasting Disease, bovine tuberculosis, and brain worm) and can cause destruction of natural habitat.
- Feeding animals near roads increases their risk of being hit by vehicles.

Threats to people

- Feeding wildlife may attract "unwanted" animals to your property.
- Animals will learn to associate humans with food and can become a problem to neighbours.
- Habituated animals can become aggressive.
- Feeding animals near roads increases the risk of motor vehicle accidents, resulting in

property damage, injury, or death.

<u>Do</u>

Appreciate wildlife from a distance.

Keep household waste, compost and pet food out-of-reach from wild animals.

Attract wildlife to your property by improving natural habitat.

Work together in your neighbourhood to help keep wild animals wild.

Don't

Do not put out food to attract wildlife.

Do not try to approach or touch wild animals.

Do not feed pets outdoors or allow pets to roam free.

Do not put garbage out until the morning of collection.

For more information, please contact the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources at 1-800-667-1940.



Ontario Expands Online Tool to Keep Drivers Safe During Winter

Ontario's 511 App adds Track My Plow and Other Winter Safety Features

TORONTO — The Ontario government is expanding the 511 app to include new winter driving features that will provide drivers and the trucking industry with additional information to support safer route planning when travelling on provincial highways.

"Driving during the winter months can be a challenge in every part of the province, and our government remains committed to keeping Ontario's roads and highways safe," said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation. "That's why we are enhancing the Ontario 511 app with winter safety features that will provide drivers with even more information, so they navigate the best route."

The Ontario 511 app is now available to all drivers and includes these additional features:

- Track My Plow which will allow drivers to track the location of snowplows and salt trucks on provincial highways in Ontario
- Information on winter road conditions so drivers can see which roads are bare or covered with snow
- Weather warnings from Environment Canada to alert drivers of upcoming storms
- Up-to-date information on rest areas across the province

The app also provides images from over 600 cameras and includes up-to-date highway information on construction, collisions and road closures. The Ontario 511 app is available for free on the App Store and Google Play.

The winter driving features on the Ontario 511 app build on the province's actions to improve winter maintenance this year, including an additional 24 Road Weather Information Stations that provide forecasts to help winter maintenance crews prepare for a storm, and improving and expanding rest area infrastructure in Northern Ontario.

"Through enhancements to the Ontario 511 app, we're empowering Ontario drivers with up-to-date,

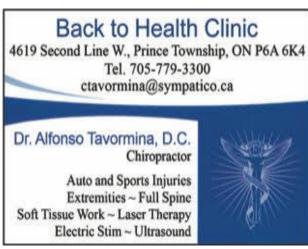
accessible and intuitive information at their fingertips to help them stay safe on the roads through the winter months," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board and Minister Responsible for Digital and Data Transformation. "As one of the initiatives outlined in the Ontario Onwards Action Plan, this is another way we're making vital programs and services more convenient, more reliable and more accessible."

QUICK FACTS

- The Ontario 511 app was released earlier this year to support truck drivers to plan their routes and travel safely and efficiently across the province. Access has now been expanded to road users across the province.
- Ontario has among the highest winter maintenance standards in North America. <u>Learn more about</u> <u>how Ontario clears highways in</u> <u>winter.</u>
- The Ontario 511 app is also part
 of Ontario Onwards: Ontario's
 COVID-19 Action Plan for a

 People-Focused Government, and
 is one of the more than 30 projects
 that will change the way people
 and businesses interact with
 government.







If you choose not to find joy in the snow, you will have less joy in your life but still the same amount of snow.

