



## Municipality of Wawa

### MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2025

#### Department of Community Services and Tourism

<b>Prepared By: Alex Patterson</b>	<b>Report No: AP 2025-03</b>
<b>Agenda Date: February 18, 2025</b>	<b>File No: C11</b>

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of the Department of Community Services and Tourism's work completed during the month of January 2025, and activities planned for the following month.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Key activities in January:

- Completed re-start after holiday break
- Completed claims for MMCC Capital Projects
- Prepared work plans for 2025

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

- 2024 MMCC Modernization NOHFC Grant
  - Awaiting electrical transformer for outdoor sign
  - Final claim and reporting completed and under review
- 2024 MMCC HVAC NOHFC Grant
  - Completed final claim and report – project is now fully complete
- Olympia Batteries (2025)
  - Staff continue to work with the supplier to negotiate pro-rating on batteries and testing to replace cells at the end of the 2024-25 ice season
  - Scheduling and cost sharing discussions between supplier, Wawa and Marathon began

## PARKS AND FACILITIES

### MMCC Bookings and Special Events:

The MMCC slows down in January, with most of the special events for the remainder of the season scheduled in February and March. In addition to regular programming we hosted community and private holiday events. These include:

#### Special Events

- WMHA Hockey School

#### Regularly Scheduled Programming:

- Various organization's meetings (Goose Nest, WMHA, USW, Ice Fishing Derby, Hamper Fund, Mustangs, Scouts, Marina, Heritage, etc)
- League Games – Hearst, Chapleau, Smooth Rock, Timmins
- Birthday Parties
- Christmas Parties (yes, two in January!)
- Technica Mining training

Sample schedule for the month is included in the attachments

## RECREATION AND EVENTS

### Recreation report: January

- January kicked off with a Wawa Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) camp from Jan 02-Jan 04, great attendance with the kids off school.
- WMHA also had numerous league games throughout January with towns such as Hearst, Chapleau, Smooth Rock Falls and Timmins coming to play. MMCC has received wide compliments on our space here from visitors.
- Mustangs had their bottle drive as well as hosted SSM for two games. On January 18<sup>th</sup> there was a two-person curling bonspiel that was well attended, and they had a lot of fun.
- Our new winter session of fitness classes has started, and we are welcoming two new instructors, Winter Dubbin and Mason Stencil. They are providing new classes such as strength training and band exercises. We are also trying something new by having a personal trainer in the gym twice a week to show our gym clients how to use the new equipment and help with any questions.
- Ice time is very busy with school rentals, Ecole's hockey academy, personal rentals, and practices. January is also a good time to start to ramp up for our busiest months February and March.

**TOURISM****Tourism report: January**

- Staff completed a significant advertising campaign to promote the Wawa Ice Fishing Derby. Using a combination of our own social media as well as leveraging the online and social media presence of our partners at Algoma Kinniwabi Tourism Association (AKTA), DNO, and DO. This led to an increase in ticket sales for the 1<sup>st</sup> week in February.

**MAT Implementation**

- Staff of the Community Services and Tourism Department, Economic Development Officer, and Finance departments planned the outreach campaign for the last step of Municipal Accommodation Tax implementation. Additional meetings are scheduled for staff training in February, and community outreach is planned for March before the April implementation of the program

**FUNDING**

**See staff report – Upper Mission Park**

**MONTH AHEAD****Operations:**

- Implement winter carnival
- Prepare for Ice Fishing Derby
- Continue work on WSIB HSEP

**Recreation:**

- Implement winter carnival
- Prepare for Ice Fishing Derby

**Tourism:**

- Prepare advertising and community information sessions for MAT
- Prepare scope of work for TIC funding application
- Continue advertising Ice Fishing Derby

**Administration:**

- Prepare funding applications to Trillium, Fednor for projects pending Council direction
- Prepare RFP's for 2025 Capital Projects

**Attachment**

- Appendix January 2025

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council acknowledges receipt of Community Services and Tourism Department Monthly Report AP 2025-03 submitted by Alex Patterson dated February 14, 2025 for information.

*Respectfully submitted by:*



Alex Patterson, Director of Community Services and Tourism