

Vision: *The City of Greater Sudbury is a growing, world-class community bringing talent, technology and a great northern lifestyle together.*

Vision: *La Ville du Grand Sudbury est une communauté croissante de calibre international qui rassemble les talents, les technologies et le style de vie exceptionnel du Nord.*

Agenda

Ordre du jour

Councillor / Conseillère
Janet Gasparini

Chair / Président(e)

Councillor / Conseiller
Jacques Barbeau

Vice-Chair / Vice-président(e)



For the **Priorities Committee** meeting to be held
Pour la réunion du **Comité des priorités** qui aura lieu

on Wednesday, March 5th, 2008
le mercredi 5^e mars 2008

at 5:30 pm à 17h 30

Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square dans la Salle du Conseil, Place Tom Davies



Agenda

For the 25th Priorities Committee Meeting to be held on
Wednesday, March 5, 2008
in Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square

5:30 pm

Vision: *The City of Greater Sudbury is a growing, world-class community bringing talent, technology and a great northern lifestyle together.*

(25th)

PRIORITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA

For the 25th Priorities Committee Meeting
to be held on **Wednesday, March 5, 2008**
in Council Chamber, Tom Davies Square at **5:30 pm**

COUNCILLOR JANET GASPARINI, CHAIR

Jacques Barbeau, Vice-Chair

(PLEASE ENSURE CELL PHONES AND PAGERS ARE TURNED OFF)

The Council Chamber of Tom Davies Square is wheelchair accessible. Please speak to the City Clerk prior to the meeting if you require a hearing amplification device. Persons requiring assistance are requested to contact the City Clerks Office at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting if special arrangements are required. Please call (705) 671-2489, extension 2471. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TTY) (705) 688-3919. Copies of Agendas can be viewed on the City web site at www.greatersudbury.ca.

1. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

{NONE}

CITIZEN DELEGATIONS

2. Report dated January 8, 2008 from the General Manager of Growth & Development regarding Georgian Bay Coastal Route Development Project. **9 - 12**

(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

- Rob Thorburn, Scenic Caves Adventures & Georgian Bay Coastal Route Development Partnership
- Ian Wood, Special Advisor to the Mayor

(The Georgian Bay Destination Development Partnership is a tourism industry alliance, created as part of the Ontario Tourism Strategy Implementation Plan in 2006. It includes partners around the perimeter of Georgian Bay, including the City of Greater Sudbury. The goal is to attract international travellers and encourage the domestic market to travel locally in the Georgian Bay region in a manner that supports a strong and vibrant local economy and quality of life, and strives for more repeat visitation on a year round basis.

Rob Thorburn, Director of the award-winning Scenic Caves Nature Adventures, and tireless supporter of the efforts of the Georgian Bay Coastal Route project partnership, will be sharing more about his experience in marketing this destination icon and the group's vision for the future of the project.)

3. Annual Update from Safe Communities Coalition Greater Sudbury

(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

- Viola Tanner, Program Co-ordinator, Safe Communities Coalition Greater Sudbury
- Tony Ingram, Safe Communities Coalition Greater Sudbury
- Donald Donaldson, Fire Chief

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION

4. Report dated February 22, 2008 from the Fire Chief regarding Public Input Meetings on the City of Greater Sudbury's Open Air Burning By-law. **13 - 18**

**(ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION) (RECOMMENDATION TO BE READ)
(PUBLIC INPUT DOCUMENTATION UNDER SEPARATE COVER)**

- Donald Donaldson, Fire Chief

(The Fire Chief's recommendations to amend the City of Greater Sudbury's Open Air Burning By-law based on five Public Input Sessions held in January, 2008.)

POLICY DISCUSSION PAPERS - DECISION REQUESTED

{NONE}

ADDENDUM

{NONE}

MANAGERS' REPORTS

{NONE}

MOTIONS

{NONE}

CITIZEN PETITIONS

{NONE}

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

{NONE}

10:00 P.M. ADJOURNMENT (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

(Two-thirds majority required to proceed past 8:30 pm)

Councillor Gasparini
Chair

Franca Bortolussi
Council Secretary

Pour la 25^e réunion du Comité des priorités
qui aura lieu le **5 mars 2008**
dans la Salle du Conseil, Place Tom Davies, à 17h 30

CONSEILLÈRE JANET GASPARINI, PRÉSIDENT(E)

Jacques Barbeau, Vice-président(e)

VEUILLEZ ÉTEINDRE LES TÉLÉPHONES CELLULAIRES ET LES TÉLÉAVERTISSEURS)
La salle du Conseil de la Place Tom Davies est accessible en fauteuil roulant. Si vous désirez obtenir un appareil auditif, veuillez communiquer avec la greffière municipale, avant la réunion. Les personnes qui prévoient avoir besoin d'aide doivent s'adresser au bureau du greffier municipal au moins 24 heures avant la réunion aux fins de dispositions spéciales. Veuillez composer le 705-671-2489, poste 2471; appareils de télécommunications pour les malentendants (ATS) 705-688-3919. Vous pouvez consulter l'ordre du jour au site Web de la Ville à l'adresse www.grandsudbury.ca.

1. Déclaration d'intérêt pécuniaire

SÉANCES D'INFORMATION DES CONSEILLERS

{AUCUNE}

DÉLÉGATIONS DE CITOYENS

2. Rapport du directeur général de la Croissance et du développement, daté du 08 janvier 2008 portant sur le projet d'aménagement de la route côtière de la baie Géorgienne. **9 - 12**

(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

- Rob Thorburn, Scenic Caves Adventures et partenariat d'aménagement de la route côtière de la baie Géorgienne
- Ian Wood, conseiller spécial du maire

(commercialisation de destinations en vue d'attirer davantage de touristes - plan de mise en oeuvre de la Stratégie pour le tourisme en Ontario de 2006)

3. un compte rendu annuel de la Coalition des communautés sûres du Grand Sudbury

(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (A TITRE D'INFORMATION)

- Viola Tanner
- Tony Ingram
- Donald Donaldson, chef des pompiers

DISCUSSION PRÉLIMINAIRE

4. Rapport du chef des pompiers, daté du 22 février 2008 portant sur les réunions de consultation publique de janvier 2008 sur des modifications recommandées au règlement sur les feux en plein air. **13 - 18**

(PRÉSENTATION ÉLECTRONIQUE) (RECOMMANDATION À LIRE) (DOCUMENTS DE LA CONSULTATION DU PUBLIC SOUS PLI SÉPARÉ)

- Donald Donaldson, chef des pompiers

DEMANDE DE DÉCISION

{AUCUNE}

ADDENDA

{AUCUNE}

RAPPORTS DES GESTIONNAIRES

{AUCUNE}

MOTIONS

{AUCUNE}

PÉTITIONS DE CITOYENS

{AUCUNE}

À TITRE DE RENSEIGNEMENTS SEULEMENT

{AUCUNE}

LEVÉE DE LA SÉANCE À 22 H (RECOMMANDATION PRÉPARÉE)

(Une majorité des deux tiers est requise pour poursuivre la réunion après 20h 30.)

La Conseillère Gasparini,
Présidente

Franca Bortolussi,
Secrétaire du conseil



Request for Recommendation

Georgian Bay Coastal Route Development Project

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Mar 05, 2008
Report Date	Tuesday, Jan 08, 2008
Type:	Regular - Citizen Delegations

Recommendations

It is recommended that Council pass the following resolution of support:

Whereas Georgian Bay, often called "the sixth great lake," is an outstanding natural treasure that lies wholly within the province of Ontario And, whereas the Georgian Bay region contains a wealth of tourism assets including fascinating villages, towns and cities, heritage attractions, aboriginal cultural experiences, unsurpassed scenery, and historically significant places. And, whereas the 740 km loop around Georgian Bay has the potential to become an internationally-recognized Tourism Icon Destination for Ontario.

And whereas the Georgian Bay Coastal Route initiative brings together tourism marketing organizations and industry stakeholders from around Georgian Bay, including the City of Greater Sudbury, to cooperatively foster the development of...

[recommendation continued...](#)

Finance Implications

This project does not include budget impacts at this time.

Signed By

Report Prepared By
Rob Skelly
Manager of Tourism, Programs & Partnerships
Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Division Review
Rob Skelly
Manager of Tourism, Programs & Partnerships
Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Recommended by the Department
Doug Nadorozny
General Manager of Growth and Development
Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.
Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

(Recommendations continued from cover)

...this tourism icon destination. Therefore be it resolved the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury supports the efforts of the Georgian Bay Coastal Route organization to develop and promote Georgian Bay as an Icon Destination, Council directs staff to cooperate with and assist with the organization, Finally, that Council calls upon the provincial and federal governments to provide financial assistance to ensure the continued development of this destination.

BACKGROUND

Georgian Bay features more than 30,000 islands and 2,000 kilometres of shoreline all uniquely contained within the province of Ontario. Often referred to as the sixth great lake, Georgian Bay's serene beauty conjures images of windswept pines, majestic towering cliffs, endless beaches and clear blue water.

Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs) and businesses have been working collectively over the past 6 years to develop Georgian Bay as a signature touring and outdoors destination. In 2006, the Ministry of Tourism, Investment and Development Office (IDO) provided a contribution of \$45,000, through its Destination Development initiative, allowing the partners to move one step closer to achieving this goal.

Destination Development

Goal: To develop, position and communicate Georgian Bay as an icon tourism destination in Ontario; enhancing economic and community benefit, while respecting local traditions and environment.

Organization

The Georgian Bay Destination Development partnership is a product development and marketing alliance formed of Destination Marketing Stakeholders around Georgian Bay. Through sharing of resources, leveraging funding from other sources, and encouraging participation from additional stakeholders around Georgian Bay, the group uses a cooperative approach with a Memorandum of Understanding amongst the partnership. Each is committed to seeing it through to completion. The partners working together on Georgian Bay Destination Development include:

DMO Representatives

Bruce County, CHRIS HUGHES

Grey County – BRYAN PLUMSTEAD

Georgian Triangle Tourist Association – NANCY KINDLER

Town of Wasaga Beach – BONNIE SMITH

Southern Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce – DENISE HAYES

Georgian Bay Country – CHRISTINE KING

Sudbury Tourism – SCOTT RENNIE (for MEREDITH ARMSTRONG)

Rainbow Country Travel Association – DONNA MACLEOD

Manitoulin Tourism Association – JENNIFER SAYYAE

Industry Representatives

Scenic Caves Nature Adventures – ROB THORBURN

Blue Mountain – DON BRADEN

Lambac – JOHN HODDER

Owen Sound Transportation Company – IAN DEAN

Parks Canada – DON WILKES

Ontario Parks - CHRIS TOMSETT

Phase I Project – Georgian Bay Touring Route

Phase I of the Georgian Bay destination development initiative resulted in development of tourism product around the Bay comprising the Georgian Bay Coastal Route.

- Motorcycle Tour
- RV Tour
- Beach Tour
- Lighthouse & Marine Heritage Tour
- Scenic Vistas
- Outdoor Adventure
- Top Ten Things to See & Do

The partners feel strongly that these product offerings are good enough to entice Ontarians to vacation in Ontario, and compete on a global scale to attract cross boarder US, Quebec and international travellers, creating the Georgian Bay Icon. To take this product to market quickly, a website has been created featuring the tours and communities around Georgian Bay: www.visitgeorgianbay.com.

The Ministry of Tourism's Investment & Development Office (IDO) furthered their support by committing \$60,000 to the completion of Phase II of the project. Currently, NOHFC support is pending and the group is also working in consultation with FedNor. Together, the partners have committed many hours and dollars to this project. In 2006, it is estimated that the partners contributed over \$54,000 in time and effort to the Georgian Bay initiative. For 2007, in kind contributions are expected to reach \$93,000 by the end of the year. This coupled with a financial contribution of \$22,500 takes the investment by the partners to well over \$115,000 for this year.

The Tourism Section has made a financial contribution to this project from its regular operating budget. There are no additional financial implications to this presentation and resolution of support.

Summary

With the foundation of support in place from DMO partners, the Ministry of Tourism Investment and

Development Office is requested to continue its support of this project to help reach the critical mass necessary for a self-sustaining initiative. The partners are quite confident in bringing more stakeholders and communities into these conversations over the next year to fulfill the vision of Georgian Bay as a tourism destination icon in Ontario; enhancing economic and community benefit, while respecting local traditions and environment.

Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion



Request for Recommendation

Public Input Meetings on the City of Greater Sudbury's Open Air Burning By-law

Presented To:	Priorities Committee
Presented:	Wednesday, Mar 05, 2008
Report Date	Friday, Feb 22, 2008
Type:	Consent - Policy Discussion Papers - Preliminary Discussion

Recommendations

That the recommendations contained in the report of the Fire Chief dated February 22, 2008 regarding public input meetings on the Open Air Burning By-law be accepted and that By-law 2004-160 be amended.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Donald Donaldson
Fire Chief

Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Recommended by the Department

Donald Donaldson
Fire Chief

Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Mark Mieto
Chief Administrative Officer

Digitally Signed Feb 29, 08

Background

This report will provide a brief background and summarize the public input sessions held in January of 2008. Additionally, based on the public input received and further input from Fire Services, adjustments to the existing by-law will be recommended.

In the summer of 2007, several Council Members were contacted by their constituents expressing their discontent with the current by-law regulating open air burning.

In October of 2007, Fire Chief Donaldson met with the Mayor, Councillor Dutrisac and two members of her ward who had concerns regarding the harmful aspects of smoke. They were asking for a complete open air burning ban in the city core or other built up areas. This was in reference to the residential neighbourhoods, not commercial.

As a point of interest, we cannot argue the fact that smoke is bad – we do know that. Our Fire Fighters have expensive protective equipment to protect them from smoke and associated hazards, plus we have presumptuous legislation from WSIB that if after 20 years on the job a Fire Fighter gets certain cancers, it is presumed to be from the smoke on the job.

At this meeting, the Fire Chief explained that the existing open air burning by-law is reviewed every 2 – 3 years. As a result, the Chief suggested there should be some public input into any proposed changes, which was supported by those in attendance. However, it was also made very clear to all by the Mayor that an outright ban (being completely opposite to existing by-law) was not likely.

Councillor Dutrisac broached the subject with Council at a subsequent Council Meeting and it was asked for the Fire Service to conduct a review of the by-law including public input sessions and report back to Council prior to the end of March 2008. This report will summarize the actions since then and present recommendations.

In addition, a comparison with other Northern communities was conducted. The results of this comparison are summarized later in this report.

Input Sessions

There were five (5) public input sessions held across the community in order to receive as broad a base of community feedback as possible. The sessions are summarized in the table below.

LOCATION	DATE	APPROXIMATE ATTENDANCE	APPROXIMATE % FOR	APPROXIMATE % AGAINST
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS	January 14, 2008	100	70	30
GARSON ARENA	January 15, 2008	75	95	5
CHELMSFORD ARENA	January 17, 2008	50	90	10
T.M. DAVIES ARENA	January 21, 2008	60	90	10
HOWARD ARMSTRONG CENTRE	January 23, 2008	200	99	1
TOTALS (weighted averages)		485	90	10

In addition to Fire Services staff, Councillors Dutrisac, Caldarelli, Callaghan and Gasparini attended session #1; Councillor Dutrisac also attended sessions #3 and #4; no Councillors were present at either #2 nor #5. Session #5 had the date changed by Fire Chief and unfortunately this coincided with a Priorities Meeting of Council, so Council was double booked. This was explained to the public at the start of session #5 as there were questions as to where the Councillors were. The Fire Chief publicly accepted all responsibility at that time for the double booking. However, several of the public attendees did not feel comfortable with my explanation.

At this point it is very clear that the public input is very much in favour of keeping the existing by-law with some possible minor revisions. There does not seem to be an appetite from the public for wholesale changes.

This on the surface seems okay but there are opposing views especially from citizens in built up areas that should not be ignored even though they are very much in the minority.

All of the public input is available for viewing in the City Clerk's office. The above is a summary based on what was presented to Fire Services at the Public Input meetings.

Recommendation

During the initial by-law establishment (2003), Fire Services had a great deal of input into the parameters surrounding open air burning. These included distances from combustible structures; time constraints – no day time burning due to higher winds in the daytime along with higher temperatures increasing risk of fire spread; fire size restrictions etc. Based on those inputs there is no reason from a fire safety standpoint that there should be any changes with the following exceptions (based on public input).

1. Winter daytime burning – it was suggested by many at the input sessions that it is not

fair they cannot have daytime fires in the winter especially from a family standpoint where they may be out with the family ice fishing on one of our over 300 city lakes and they cannot have a fire for fun, warmth and cooking. To address this concern, the Fire Chief is recommending that daytime burning in the winter (November 1 - April 30) be allowed following all other restrictions on size of fire, what can be burned etc., and which are already contained in the existing by-law.

2. Our current restrictions do not allow for open air daytime burning other than on fires via a permit process including an inspection by our staff. It was suggested that there are times this is not appropriate e.g. ceremonial fires for cultural issues; group bonfire activities for Scouts, carnivals, schools etc. To address this concern, the Fire Chief is recommending that these types of fires be considered pending an inspection by our staff and approvals based on meeting conditions set out in the inspection process which will mirror existing fire safety concerns in existing by-law.

There are no other changes recommended by the Fire Services from a fire protection perspective. However, based on the public feedback, there is one more recommendation being presented representing the public viewpoint.

3. The existing by-law requires an open fire to be located a minimum of 3 meters (10 feet) from a combustible structure. In order to accommodate the concerns of the public who do live in built up areas, we recommend increasing this distance to 6 meters (20 feet). Although this is not based on fire science but rather public input, it is supported by CGS Fire Services in order to accommodate the concerns raised in the public input sessions.

Further to this information, according to Communiqué 2005-09 and the Q & A (which is a guideline from the O.F.M. to provide Fire Departments and municipal officials with measures that could be considered to manage open air burning within their communities), states that the Fire Chief is “not empowered to enforce the Environmental Protection Act”. Based on this, the Fire Chief (and by extension, the Fire Service) has no authority to deal with smoke complaints. The majority of concerns about open air burning raised were about smoke issues. Additionally, the majority of calls that CGS Fire Services responds to about open air burning (about 200 - 250 per year) are based on smoke matters, which we should not be getting involved with. If this is supported by Council, Fire Services will change their operating procedures so that we do not respond and deal with smoke complaints.

It should also be noted that the Ministry of Environment (MOE) recommends that in order to address smoke concerns the fire should be set at a minimum of 150 meters (500 feet) from any building. If we follow this, there will effectively be no open air burning within the city except for large open tracts of land. It is very clear from the public input sessions that the majority of citizens are not in favour of such a recommendation. The above recommendation (#3) does attempt to address concerns about smoke but it is not in the Fire Services responsibility to do so.

Enforcement

During the input sessions, we heard numerous concerns about the existing by-law not being enforced and about the legality of enforcement. In order to address these matters the Fire Chief has met with the By-law officials and together we are making changes to the process to ensure enforcement is done consistently across the community.

Community Comparisons

As part of this process, we asked other Northern communities for their input as to what is done in their community.

Sault Ste. Marie

They do not have an open air burning by-law.

West Nipissing

Again, they do not have an open air burning by-law. They attempt to use the Ontario Fire Code to enforce open air burning.

Espanola

They are in the process of developing an open air burning by-law but have nothing at this time.

Elliot Lake

They break the community into urban and rural sections. Fire size and time of burning (evenings), along with the other safety concerns built into CGS by-law is identical to our by-law. The rural portion allows for bigger fires, similar to our use of permits for agricultural burns.

Baldwin Township (McKerrow)

They have a by-law very similar to our existing by-law.

Huntsville

They have a permit system similar to our by-law to address large rural agricultural burns and also for fires to be set during the daytime. For recreational burning, the size is identical to the size limit in our by-law. The distance requirements are that the fire must be a minimum of 6 meters (20 feet) from adjacent properties in all directions.

To summarize this comparison, it is very easy to see that most of the by-laws are very similar. The fire safety concerns built into each are almost identical giving credibility to the fire safety measures contained within these by-laws. Copies of these by-laws are available from Fire Services Administration staff.

Conclusion

We allowed equal opportunity for all to comment publicly or provide a written input. There was a great deal of public participation, roughly 500 persons attended the public sessions which is very high for a public input in general. Additionally, we received a large number of submissions post the public sessions with citizen views and input. All of these were equally considered in providing this report to council.

It is clear; there are two opposing views about open air burning in this community. One view is the long standing tradition of fires for family and social events, which is seen as a benefit of living in this Northern community, particularly for those who live on one of our over 300 lakes. The other view is that we should progress to the 21st century and ban any and all pollution including smoke from fires or wood stoves. Fire Services has no jurisdiction with regard to the smoke from wood stoves inside a dwelling or any other structure.

The recommendations in this report are based on the public input and also on fire science and public safety.