

NEWSLETTER

Q4 2025 / Vol 16

Please enjoy the 2025 fourth quarter newsletter; covering the months of October, November, and December.

In alignment with strategic directive number four of the Township's Strategic Plan, this quarterly newsletter endeavours to engage citizens with news and updates.



CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

On December 25, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., the free Annual Christmas Day Dinner was held at the Norwood Town Hall, featuring live music by the Nephton Ridge Runners.

Thank you to Council for providing the space at no cost, and to the dedicated volunteers and community partners whose generosity and support make this annual event possible.

WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

NOVEMBER 1 - APRIL 30



NO PARKING

- on Township Roads; or
- County Roads from 11:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.





Scarecrow ROADSHOW

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's Scarecrow Roadshow, your creativity and community spirit truly brought the event to life. A **special thank you** to the Cultural & Heritage Committee for organizing and judging this year's Roadshow.

Congratulations

- **MJ's Hair Salon** – recipient of a \$100 Foodland gift card
- **Paul & Linda C.** – recipients of weekend passes to the Norwood Fair
- **Patrick & Jackie W.** – recipients of weekend passes to the Norwood Fair



SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Robert Gordon



At its October 21, 2025 meeting, Council recognized Mr. Robert Gordon as a recipient of the 2025 Ontario Senior of the Year Award.

Mr. Gordon is a long-standing member of the Asphodel-Norwood Historical Society and an active volunteer with the Township's Cultural & Heritage Committee. His many community contributions include being a former long-time member of the Donegal Fiddlers, a dedicated volunteer with the Norwood Fair's art section, and the creative force behind the popular Scarecrow Challenge.

He is also a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 300, where he curated and continues to promote the Military Museum. Professionally, Mr. Gordon has enjoyed an accomplished career as a photographer and is the author of three local history books, with a fourth currently in progress.

Traditionally, this award is presented at the Norwood Fair; however, due to scheduling conflicts, Mr. Gordon was recognized at a meeting of Council.

2026 Budget

2026 Budget Approvals

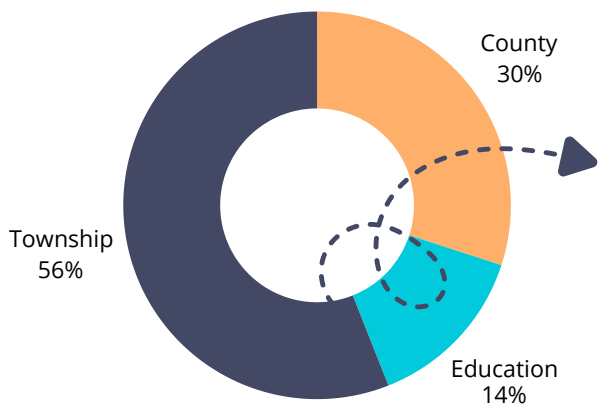
At the regular Council and public meeting held on **December 9, 2025**, the Township of Asphodel-Norwood approved the 2026 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget, as well as the:

- 2026 Norwood Water Budget
- 2026 Norwood Wastewater Budget
- 2026 Trentview Estates Distribution System Budget

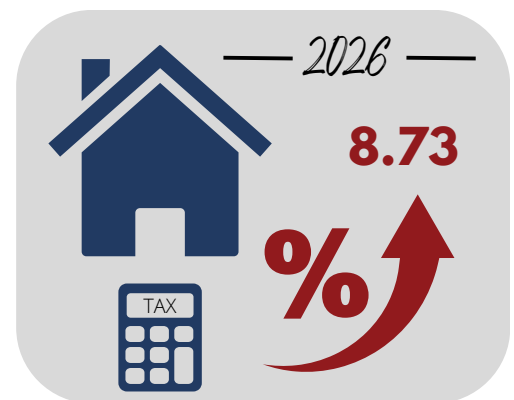


View the Municipal Operating and Capital Budget presentation

WHERE DO YOUR *Tax* DOLLARS GO?



Of the Township's retained portion, 51% is allocated to essential services such as roads, policing, and fire protection.



A 8.73% TAX RATE INCREASE IN 2026 EQUATES TO A \$13.29 INCREASE PER MONTH FOR THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER*

*Based on average assessment of \$227,000.00. This does not reflect any increases in the Peterborough County tax rate, education tax rate, or changes to your property's assessment by MPAC.

Looking ahead: 2026 Projects

- ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE**
 - Surface treatment (double tar-and-chip application) on Asphodel 7th Line and Asphodel 8th Line
 - ~20,000 tonnes of gravel will be applied (three times the usual amount) to more than one-third of the gravel road network
- COMMUNITY CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS**
 - Replacement of one dehumidifier
 - Splash Pad pump replacement
- MEDICAL CENTRE SUPPORT**
 - Continued support for the 17 Spruce Street Medical Centre to accommodate growth

2026 WATER & SEWER *rates*



| | |
|--|---------|
| Water Base Charge per Month (fixed) | \$36.30 |
| Water Metered Charge per m ³ (variable) | \$0.89 |
| Sewer Base Charge per Month (fixed) | \$44.95 |
| Sewer Metered Charge per m ³ (variable) | \$1.06 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| 2026 Trentview Estates Water Rates | |
| Pipe Charge per Month | \$6.86 |
| Water Base Charge per Month (fixed) | \$36.02 |
| Water Metered Charge per m ³ | \$1.50 |

[View Budget Presentations](#)

Fire Prevention Week



During Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11), the Asphodel-Norwood Fire & Rescue Department highlighted the 2025 campaign theme: **"Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home."**



Lithium-ion batteries power many everyday devices, but unsafe use can increase the risk of fire. Making smart choices when buying, charging, and recycling batteries helps keep our homes and community safe.

Three key steps to battery safety:

- Buy only certified and approved products
- Charge devices safely and according to manufacturer instructions
- Recycle batteries responsibly

Did you know? Battery drop-off locations are available throughout the Township at:

- Municipal Office
- Asphodel-Norwood Community Centre
- Norwood District Intermediate and High School
- Asphodel-Norwood Transfer Station



Cultural & Heritage Committee
@asphodelnorwoodhistoricalsociety



The Asphodel-Norwood Cultural & Heritage Committee (ANCHC) concluded its Peter Robinson Bicentennial Year celebrations with a festive Irish Ceilidh at the Norwood Town Hall on November 18, 2025. The sold-out event featured traditional Irish-style food, live entertainment, and handcrafted centrepieces inspired by the fairy houses of Irish folklore. Pictured below are photos from the celebration, courtesy of Jeff Dornan.



The ANCHC extends its sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to making the Asphodel-Norwood Peter Robinson Bicentennial Year a resounding success, and proudly honours the 32 Irish families who courageously settled in our Township in 1825. May their stories live on!

The year's events were made possible, in part, through funding from the federal *Community Anniversaries – Building Communities through Arts and Heritage* program.



Asphodel  Norwood

HOLIDAY

Night Market

November 29, 2025

Our community truly came together on Saturday, November 29, 2025 and we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who helped make the event such a success. This year, the Holiday Night Market was held earlier in the season to align with the Santa Claus Parade, hosted by Norwood Legion Branch 300, creating a festive evening of coordinated community celebrations.

We are grateful to our market vendors for sharing their creativity, talents, and holiday spirit, and to all the visitors and shoppers who supported local businesses and filled the evening with energy and kindness.

A special thank you goes to the local businesses that stayed open late - your holiday specials and community spirit added so much to the atmosphere.

We also extend our appreciation to the Asphodel-Norwood Public Library (ANPL) for hosting family-friendly children's activities and the popular Elfie Selfie photo booth, and to the Legion for organizing a truly fantastic Santa Claus Parade. Thank you to the Asphodel-Norwood Fire & Rescue for delivering an impressive fireworks display after the Parade.

Finally, we are thankful to everyone who donated food items or toys. Your generosity supports the Asphodel-Norwood Food Bank Association and the Norwood Lions Club Christmas Toy Drive, helping to brighten the holiday season for families throughout our community.



Pictured (L-R): Winners of the Santa Claus Parade float contest, St. Paul Catholic Elementary School; patrons enjoying the indoor Night Market vendors at the Town Hall; and Mayor Wilford posing for an Elfie Selfie with our generous volunteer elf.

Themed Public Skating

Themed public skating returned this quarter, free of charge thanks to our generous sponsors, with participants having the chance to win one of two \$5 ANCC canteen vendor vouchers.



OCTOBER 25, 2025

Halloween Costume Skate



NOVEMBER 29, 2025

Movember Skate



DECEMBER 20, 2025

Christmas Sweater Skate



Congratulations



Photo credit: Jeff Dornan

On December 12, 2025, David Piccini, MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South, joined the Executive and members of the Norwood Curling Club, along with members of Council and the Norwood Fair, to recognize the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant that funded a new roof for Norwood's Centennial Sports Complex - home of the Norwood Curling Club.

Welcome



MCDONALD'S NORWOOD

The Township was pleased to welcome McDonald's (4293 Highway 7) to the community during their soft opening on December 29, 2025!

Council and staff wish the McDonald's Norwood team every success as they officially open their doors and become part of our business community.

In the fourth quarter, Council considered and/or made the following decisions:



Received Q3 2025 departmental reports



Adopted the third phase of the **Asset Management Plan**, achieving compliance with the July 1, 2025, requirements under O. Reg. 588/17



Council adopted the updated Procedural By-law (By-law 2025-53), which includes a change to the Council meeting location to the Town Hall. View **notice of adoption**.



Approved the 2025 Water/Wastewater Study and Financial Plan for 2025-2035 in compliance with O. Reg. 453/07



Received a presentation on Invasive Phragmites and the Ontario Phragmites Action program



Received an update on the Township's application for Municipal Ice Storm Assistance Program funding related to the March 2026 ice storm



Set the **2026 Council Meeting Schedule** and Township Office closure dates



Approved the 2024 Consolidated **Financial Statements** of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood, as prepared by independent auditing firm, Baker Tilly



Council approved emergency shower access at the Asphodel-Norwood Fitness Centre during declared emergencies (e.g., Level 2 drought conditions or a State of Emergency), allowing residents to access shower facilities for a \$5 per person fee



Supported a 3% increase in Fitness Centre membership fees effective January 1, 2026



Approved a one-year extension with Circular Materials for continued Blue Box recycling services at the Transfer Station, implemented tipping fees (\$3 per blue box transaction and \$20 per cubic yard bulk) for non-eligible sources, and directed staff to report quarterly on impacts



Received an update on the Alto high-speed rail project, a Crown corporation initiative advancing a high-speed, electrified passenger rail network connecting Toronto, Peterborough, Ottawa, Montréal, Laval, Trois-Rivières, and Québec City



Received an **update** on the Community Safety & Well-being Plan.



Approved the 2026 Municipal Insurance Renewal proposal through Marsh Canada Ltd.



Adopted an updated Fees and Charges By-law, effective January 1, 2026, to better align municipal service rates with those of other Peterborough County municipalities, based on the County-wide average and rounded for ease of administration. Examples of updated fees include:

- Water meter fee: \$325 → \$425
- Tax certificate: \$40 → \$50
- 911 post and installation: \$100 → \$140
- Minor variance application: \$600 → \$1,500
- Zoning By-law amendment application: \$1,000 → \$1,900

Planning Applications

MINOR VARIANCE

- The Committee of Adjustment approved Minor Variance Application A-01-2025 · 1853 Asphodel 8th Line

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

- Council supported Zoning By-law Amendment Application ZBLA-03-2025 · Concession 6, Part Lots 3 and 4, Asphodel-Norwood