

**COUNCIL ADDENDUM**

**Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Video Conference**

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**5. PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**5.3. International Plowing Match**

**5.3.2. Chief Administrative Officer & Director of Development & Planning's Report – 2023 International Plowing Match Request – Scope & Cost**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Planning and Tourism, dated February 9, 2023, to outline the scope and cost involved for the County to support the International Plowing Match.

Listed on the  
agenda

THAT the report of the Director of Development and Tourism and the Chief Administrative Officer, dated February 9, 2023, 2023 IPM Request – Scope and Cost, be received;

AND THAT Dufferin County Council support the 2023 International Plowing Match (IPM);

AND THAT funds totalling \$787,000 be added to the 2023 budget to provide support and resources (as outlined) to the International Plowing Match;

AND THAT staff be directed to draft an agreement outlining the support and expectations of all parties, including the need for detailed accounting of resources and staff time during the planning period and for the event;

AND THAT following the event Dufferin County work with other host communities to advocate to the province for better support for this important agricultural event.

**7. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATIONS OF REPORTS**

**7.8. Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Vaccine Policy Repeal**

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated February 9, 2023, to consider repealing THAT the Members of Council Vaccination Policy #1-2-13 and Non-Union Staff COVID Vaccination Policy #IPAC 1.06 (excluding Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home employees).

Listed on the  
agenda

THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated February 9, 2023, regarding Vaccine Policy Repeal, be received;

AND THAT the Members of Council Vaccination Policy #1-2-13 and Non-Union Staff COVID Vaccination Policy #IPAC 1.06 (excluding Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home employees), be repealed.



Report To: Warden Mills and Members of County Council

Meeting Date: February 9, 2023

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**Subject: 2023 International Plowing Match Request – Scope and Cost**

**From: Cody Joudry, Director of Development and Tourism  
Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer**

### **Recommendation**

**THAT the report of the Director of Development and Tourism and the Chief Administrative Officer, dated February 9, 2023, 2023 IPM Request – Scope and Cost, be received;**

**AND THAT Dufferin County Council support the 2023 International Plowing Match (IPM);**

**AND THAT funds totalling \$787,000 be added to the 2023 budget to provide support and resources (as outlined) to the International Plowing Match;**

**AND THAT staff be directed to draft an agreement outlining the support and expectations of all parties, including the need for detailed accounting of resources and staff time during the planning period and for the event;**

**AND THAT following the event Dufferin County work with other host communities to advocate to the province for better support for this important agricultural event.**

### **Executive Summary**

The International Plowing Match (IPM) is being held in Amaranth, Dufferin County in September 2023. This important agricultural event is expected to bring upwards of 80,000 visitors to the area over a 5 day period. Over its hundred plus year history, the IPM has received significant support from the host communities which includes local volunteers and the municipalities. Consultation with host municipalities over the past 6 years (with no IPM in 2020 due to the pandemic) indicates that there is a requirement

for substantial staff support and a financial contribution to ensure the event is successful. A successful event showcases the agricultural sector and its wide-reaching impact on all residents, ensures visitors enjoy their experience and take away a positive impression of the host community which will in turn result in future visits.

For Dufferin County to also enjoy success, especially with an extremely short planning period, a substantial investment is required.

### **Background & Discussion**

The organizers of the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) are hosting the 104<sup>th</sup> annual event in Amaranth (Bowling Green), Dufferin County from Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. A formal request for approval and support was made to Dufferin County Council in June 2022. At that time, County Council indicated that hosting the the 2023 IPM did not allow sufficient preparation time and passed a motion to approve hosting an IPM in principle at a future date (preferably 2024 or 2025). Following this, Amaranth and Grand Valley elected to support the plowing match in 2023 and the organizers proceeded with planning for the event and announced that The Township of Amaranth and Town of Grand Valley would be the hosts for 2023.

Since that time, IPM organizers have moved forward with event planning, including recruiting volunteers, reaching out to local municipal Councils for financial support, and requesting support from various County Departments through staff. Representatives from the IPM organizing committee delegated to the Community Development and Tourism Committee asking for additional County support.

During their presentation to the Community Development and Tourism on January 26, 2023, the IPM organizers made 3 asks (5 specific requests) as outlined in the attached letter. Those requests are as follows:

- (1) Provide policing and paramedics in-kind (i.e. no cost to the IPM)
- (2) Provide 2-3 road entrances on CR-10
- (3) Waive fees for permits related to roads, building permits, and building inspections
- (4) Sponsor the Agricultural Showcase for \$50,000
- (5) Install signage provided by the IPM at the County borders

The intent of the Committee's discussion was to invite the IPM organizers to the next Council meeting. In addition, the organizers were to work with County staff so they could prepare a report for Council on the cost of the IPM's "ask". As part of this work, staff received a communication from the IPM organizers which included additional requests that can be summarized as the following:

- (6) Install, and remove numerous signs (with potential for additional signs needing to be fabricated/purchased for traffic control)
- (7) Contract the OPP to manage traffic at a specific location
- (8) Permit, install and/or upgrade 7 road entrances along CR-10
- (9) Provide staff responsible for various liaison duties
- (10) Provide marketing expertise, resources, and staff
- (11) Provide almost all medical services including staff, supplies, and equipment
- (12) Waive all permit fees under the County's authority
- (13) Provide meeting space as required

IPM organizers have also requested the County close a section of CR-10 and support Amaranth closing a section of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Lines between September 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. In addition to these requests, organizers have asked for permission to drill under CR-10 and potentially allow construction of buildings. Apart from staff time, these requests require authorities of various staff such as planners, building officials, and roads managers.

Apart from the requests the IPM organizers have made, there are also other requests that have been made to some departments and other requirements that would need to be addressed. These additional requirements include: the development of an (1) emergency management plan and (2) traffic management plan. Both of these plans are necessary for any large event and are key to refining a number of the other resources that will be needed to support the event. These plans will help further clarify requirements, such as how many police officers are required onsite. Given the short time period, external support will be required in addition to staff time to address these issues. Both would need to be developed by an appropriately trained and experienced third-party professional. Examples of additional requests include approaching Climate, the Museum, Waste Services and other divisions for displays, exhibits, etc. that all require substantial staff time and resources to deliver.

In discussing the IPM itself and the various requests, staff spoke with OPP, Dufferin EMS, and Grand Valley Fire Services. Many of these service providers have been contacted

and are generally aware of what is being proposed but will struggle to provide exact costs until the emergency management plan and traffic management plan are complete and fully discussed with the service providers. Initial discussions with Dufferin EMS indicates that the hospital may not require additional staff to handle the load, although that is not certain. All of these organizations are prepared to provide whatever support is needed but additional detailed planning and consultation is required.

Although not a requirement, it would be beneficial and critical to promoting the County as a future destination, for the County to also conceptualize, organize, build, staff and remove it's own "County Tent". These tents tend to be opportunities to showcase the County and local Municipalities. The amounts can range anywhere from \$50,000 to \$150,000 and up.

### **Financial, Staffing, Legal, or IT Considerations**

The following table breaks down the requests and provide estimates in cash and additional staff time (which would need to be backfilled given the serious capacity constraints that exist in several of the supporting departments). It should be noted these are extremely preliminary numbers and the true cost could be higher.

<b>Request/Topic</b>	<b>Cash and Staff Time</b>
Medical services include paramedics	\$120,000 for the event. Given limited staffing paramedics will be required to work overtime. Unknown time for staff to organize leading up to event.
Ontario Provincial Police	Unknown due to fact there is no emergency management plan or traffic management plan. Dufferin OPP estimate \$180,000.
Dufferin County Roads requests	Estimated additional \$100,000 for staffing and other costs to meet the requests. Unknown staff time coordinating/managing leading up to the event. Critical that staff be engaged to ensure coordination and clear understanding of actions required. This effort will very likely include all coordination related to the development of a Traffic Management Plan/Impact Study.
Fire Services	\$50,000. Estimate provided by Grand Valley Fire who is ensure how these costs will be paid.
Liaise and marketing Staff	\$85,000 for marketing staff/expertise and liason staff. This would provide a single point of contact for the IPM to liase with the County and includes marketing expertise, some

Request/Topic	Cash and Staff Time
	professional services, and some additional administrative support required for operations.
County Tent	\$140,000 this includes preparing and staffing displays such as climate, forest, waste and the museum. This includes the tent, materials and supplies, and additional staffing costs during the event.
Agriculture Showcase Sponsorship	\$50,000 (as stated in their request to the CDT committee)
Management Plan (Emergency and Traffic)	\$50,000 (will vary depending on challenges that arise from particular site and IPM's initial plan)
Building Permits and Inspections	\$12,000 (these fees cannot be waived and therefore would need to be funded through regular levy)

To provide all costs and services noted above, the cost would be approximately \$787,000. Although estimates and actuals will differ, and although this total may seem high – it is representative of the information received from other hosts (especially considering inflation) if you were to add staff time and cash costs. See Attachment A.

It is also important to note that other projects and initiatives contemplated for 2023 will likely be delayed and that in some areas service levels may be impacted.

#### Agreements and Reporting

In order to ensure a clear understanding, document expectations and limit any additional financial impact, an agreement between the County of Dufferin and the International Plowing Match should be developed. This will include the need to provide a detailed accounting of all costs, staff time, and other contributions throughout the planning period and during the event. Regular reporting to County Council over the next eight months will also take place.

#### Future Considerations

Given the broader benefit of the IPM to agriculture beyond the host community, it may be beneficial to request a delegation with appropriate Provincial Ministers and invite past Counties. The purpose of the delegation would be to advocate for the Province to compensate the Counties for the costs they bear hosting the IPM. It can be argued that the IPM is meant to advance the agriculture society agenda province-wide and therefore is unreasonable for property tax payers to cover the costs.

## **In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives**

Good governance - ensure transparency, clear communication, prudent financial management

Service Efficiency & Value – determine the right services for the right price

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sonya Pritchard  
Chief Administrative Officer

Cody Joudry  
Director of Development and Tourism

Attachments:

- Attachment A – IPM June 9 Report by Director
- Attachment B – IPM Letter to CDT Committee - Asks
- Attachment C – IPM Summary of Requests – Staff Email





**COUNCIL ADDENDUM**

**Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Video Conference**

**5.5.2. Chief Administrative Officer & Director of Development & Tourism's Report – International Plowing Match & Rural Expo**

Listed on the  
Agenda

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Development and Tourism, dated June 9, 2022, to respond to the motion from the Community Development and Tourism (CDT) Committee on May 26, 2022 for a staff report to Council outlining the requirements of potentially hosting the 2023 International Plowing Match and Rural Expo in Dufferin.

THAT the report of the Director of Development and Tourism, dated June 9, 2022, regarding the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo, be received.

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

**To:** Warden Mills and Members of County Council

**From:** Cody Joudry, Director of Development and Tourism  
Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer

**Meeting Date:** June 9, 2022

**Subject:** **International Plowing Match and Rural Expo**

**In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:**

**Economic Vitality** – promote an environment for economic growth & development

**Good Governance** – ensure transparency, clear communication, prudent financial management

**Service Efficiency & Value** – determine the right services for the right price

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to respond to the motion from the Community Development and Tourism (CDT) Committee on May 26, 2022 for a staff report to Council outlining the requirements of potentially hosting the 2023 International Plowing Match and Rural Expo in Dufferin.

### **Background & Discussion**

The Ontario Plowman's Association (OPA) is responsible for the coordination of the International Plowing Match (IPM), including seeking and securing hosting communities for the event.

On July 12, 2018, the OPA presented information on the IPM, requesting that Dufferin County consider hosting the event in 2020. A follow up staff report was presented to County Council on February 14, 2019 outlining research conducted at that time. As a result of the report and ongoing discussions at the Committee table, no further action was to be taken until a local municipal host site confirmed commitment. At that time,

this did not occur and a motion was passed at Mono Council on April 9, 2019 to not support hosting the IPM.

As noted above, the OPA recently presented an update to the Community Development and Tourism Committee regarding hosting the 2023 IPM in Dufferin County where a motion was passed to present a staff report on the impacts and requirements on staffing to County Council.

Staff conducted research by speaking with other municipalities and counties who have hosted the IPM in their region in the past. The discussion and research noted are as follows:

#### 2019 IPM - West Nipissing:

- Strategic planning began in June of 2017
- One full time dedicated Lead Coordinator hired for 2 years, 1 full time marketing lead for 1 year prior to the event
- All 7 municipalities were required to help provide staffing to support the event; heavy support from maintenance staff, communications and IT
- Various levels of County staffing support, including the involvement of all Managers
- Required strong strategic planning and policies to ensure background organization
- 52 branches and committees each with a local Lead, often a Councillor and ranged from water and sewer to beautification
- Required extensive volunteer management to coordinate 1,300 community volunteers total
- High level of Emergency Services involvement including but not limited to the following:
  - Various inspections required, i.e. food vendors, extension cords, RV park, CO/smoke detectors for all campers
  - Water tanker and septic trucks required for RV park and food vendors
  - 4 full time Firefighters on site for 9 full days including 1 truck, and 2 utility vehicles, 1 ambulance with 3 incidents reported (horse kick, 2 cardiac)
  - Traffic control was a challenge
  - 80,000 people attended which exceeded expectations
  - Required numerous meeting time for discussion prior to the event dates

2018 IPM - Chatham-Kent:

- Required 2 years of planning, with Director and Manager IPM planning committee meetings 1 year prior to that
- One full time Manager dedicating 80% of their time for 1 year
- Hired 1 full time Event Coordinator 1 year prior to event
- Addition of 3 full time staff 6 months prior to the IPM
- One full time staff was dedicated solely to recruitment and managing volunteers
- Substantial time required by Managers for meetings and event coordination discussion and decision making
- Budgeted \$400,000 (\$100,000 Showcase, \$100,000 loan/donation for IPM start-up, \$200,000 various expenses)
- Approximately 30 planning committees, each requiring their own chairs (often a Councillor) who all coordinated their own volunteers
- Difficult to measure investment, i.e. returning visitors, impact on local business long term, etc.
- High impact on Emergency Services who invoiced organizers \$100,000 which was not paid

2017 IPM - Huron County:

- Two full time staff members dedicated to coordinating the event for 1 year with 4-5 staff dedicating 75% of workload
- Economic Development staff lead the project with significant support from all other departments
- Total County expenditure loan of \$291,336 and \$137,100 Showcase expenses alone
- Final IPM report notes that timelines were tight and recommends preparation 3 years prior to the event, including recruitment of staff, reported heavy workload for Communications and Economic Development specifically
- Required all nine municipality's collaboration and involvement

2016 IPM – Wellington County:

- Report a lot of work for staff with roughly one year to plan and execute the event
- One staff member from each 8 departments and 2 Economic Development staff heavily involved
- Initially provided \$250,000 in addition to 2 full time staff who were needed from March to the event date in September, with a total cost to Wellington of \$759,000 not including any time and money from any lower tier Councillor involvement

- Impact on Emergency Services:
  - Police Services – on site 24/7 including officers assigned to traffic control
  - Fire Services – on site 24/7
  - Paramedic Services – on site 24/7

Staff research into the IPM indicates that the requirements and commitment to hosting the 2023 IPM would be extensive and involve the support and commitment of County staff as well as all lower tier municipalities, including County Council.

All four municipalities consulted regarding their experiences indicate that there was significant involvement and support from all departments as paid duties including but not limited to:

- Volunteer recruitment and management
- Hydro
- Water and sewer
- IT and Internet
- Emergency Services – Fire, Police, Paramedics
- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Public Health inspection support
- Waste Management
- Communications
- Marketing
- Maintenance
- Roads

Specific Dufferin County considerations for 2023

Local Municipal Input

- Many of the “in-kind” services required are delivered by the local municipalities
- Grand Valley, Shelburne and Orangeville would need to be consulted with respect to their willingness to provide Fire Services (emergency planning, pre-event safety inspections, on-site event support)
- All eight municipal Police Services Boards would need to consider the impact on policing and whether they would be able to financially support the OPP’s involvement
- Disposal of grey and black water would need to be considered by Grand Valley, Shelburne or Orangeville

- Other hosts have noted that there was participation and support from all local municipalities at both the staff and Council level with Councillors from all municipalities participating in various planning committees
- Amaranth would be required to commit the necessary support for entrances, culverts, and traffic control on their local roads

#### Waste Services

- Garbage, recycling and composting are all currently provided through a contract with GFL. There is no opportunity within the contract to support the event.
- In addition, 2023 marks the transition to producer responsibility for recycling. By September 2023, recycling will not likely fall under the County Waste Services program.

#### Budget

- Funds would be required in both 2022 and 2023. As evidenced from the previous four host Counties, there is a significant financial contribution. Any monies required for 2022 would have to come from reserves as nothing has been budgeted. Expenses in 2023 would need to be considered in the 2023 budget by the new Council. The budget process for a new term of Council is always later and generally not approved before February or March. Hosting the event in 2023 would effectively be committing funds in the new Council's first year budget.
- Inflation is a significant concern with respect to comparing previous hosts expenses and what may be required in 2023. More generally it is a concern for the 2023 budget overall.

#### Staffing

- Other host Counties have indicated that Economic Development and Tourism staff play a key role in planning and carrying out the event. This area currently has vacancies and does not have capacity. In addition, an update to the Economic Development Strategy is slated for 2023 which will require staff and Councillor commitment.
- Additional staffing resources will be required to support the event. Funds for staffing will need to be part of the budget. Other hosts indicate additional staff are required to start at least a year in advance of the event which would be September 2022.
- There are currently a number of significant projects underway that will extend into 2023 that are impacting staff capacity especially at the Manager level. Some of these projects include: significant software initiatives that are corporate wide (Financial System, SharePoint, website, HRIS, and fleet management),

employment systems and personnel policy updates, Dufferin Oaks accreditation, workforce planning initiatives, Strategic Plan 2023-2026, and new Council orientation and training.

#### Council Priority Setting and Strategic Plan 2023-2026

- The first part of any new term of Council is focused on Council priority setting and establishing a strategic plan for the term of Council.
- Additional time commitments and responsibilities could negatively impact the ability to complete the strategic planning exercise including meaningful community engagement in a timely and effective manner.

This event is well known and popular, and has historically created some economic successes for hosting communities. It provides an opportunity to show case the community and what it has to offer to both residents and visitors. To be successful, an event of this magnitude requires significant planning, people and resources. All of the hosts contacted indicated that one year was not sufficient planning time and all of them required additional staff along with time commitments from existing staff and Council. They all incurred significant expense.

Although it may be possible to host the event with a reduced contribution, commitment and planning window; it is likely not possible for it to then also be the showcase opportunity that other hosts have experienced, especially during an election cycle. Allowing for adequate planning time and sufficient funds to be set aside will ensure the event is successful and truly highlights the local community. Staff recommend delaying the opportunity to host the event to 2025 and deferring the final decision to the next term of Council.

#### **Recommendation**

**THAT the report of the Director of Development and Tourism, dated June 9, 2022, regarding the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo, be received.**

Respectfully Submitted By:

Cody Joudry  
Director of Development & Tourism

Sonya Pritchard  
Chief Administrative Officer



## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE ADDENDUM**

**Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.**

**By video conference** – The meeting will be live streamed on YouTube at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCx9vXkywflJr0LUVkKnYWQ>

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### **DELEGATION**

1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM – January 26, 2023 – ITEM #1  
Ontario Plowmen's Association

Not Listed  
on Agenda

A delegation from representatives of the Ontario Plowmen's Association regarding the upcoming International Plowing Match.



## Intro:

It has been recently announced that the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) will be held between Orangeville and Grand Valley in the hamlet of Bowling Green [September 19-23/23](#). , It is the first time in [the IPM's 110 years history](#) that this event will be held in the County of Dufferin [and we are very excited to be able to bring this huge event to Dufferin](#).

**Fun Fact:** The IPM is the only event in Ontario when the Ontario legislature closes for the day so ALL provincial politicians can attend. Additionally, federal and local politicians are invited to participate in special events.

The IPM event is owned by the Ontario Plowman's Association (OPA). The primary purpose of the IPM is to assist in fulfilling the objectives of the OPA as mandated both through its Constitution and the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act of Ontario.

i) **These objectives include:**

-To promote the development, sale, and export of agricultural products---locally, provincially, nationally and internationally

-To provide educational opportunities related to agriculture and rural life;

-To advance the interest in Agriculture by emphasizing the importance of proper cultivation and to encourage modern soil and water conservation practices;

-To co-operate in conducting demonstrations and experiments in plowing and in other methods of soil cultivation and crop production;

-To conduct annually the "International" Plowing Match Competition.

ii) In addition, the IPM shall strive to accomplish these following objectives:

***-To Showcase the Municipalities and County, its businesses, and contributions to society by its citizens;***

***-To generate economic development in the Municipalities/County/Region/District***

***-To build community spirit and pride of citizenship amongst members of the Municipalities and County;***

***-To leave a community-oriented legacy to the Municipalities/County/Region/District***

So you can see the purpose is three fold:

First -to promote agriculture,

Second -to host the plowing match event, which really mostly about supporting and promoting rural lifestyles, hence the Rural Expo part of the name

And thirdly – to be a host community booster, economically, and socially.

**There is an Agriculture Education tent that is set up to satisfy the requirements of the grade 3 curriculum and visited by about 10,000 school children.**

Typically the host municipality will use the show to highlight its industry and agriculture, as well as the attractiveness of living here through the availability and quality of recreation, culture, social and other lifestyle amenities. It all about local economic development!!

IPM is a not for profit incorporated company and is managed and run by volunteers, there will thousands of volunteer hours in this event.

### **Benefits to Dufferin County**

The IPM has the support of over 150 volunteers signed up to date. Some volunteers have already been hard at work quietly for over a year already. 8 local farmers have provided almost 700 acres of land for the tented city, RV park (1100 units), plowing and parking

The IPM will attract between **70,000-90,000 visitors**, and over time will generate **25 million dollars** of economic activity in the surrounding area ( based on Ontario Tourism calculations). The budget for supplies and services alone is **\$1.5 to \$2 million**.

Local service clubs and other non-profit groups will be invited to participate through such activities as being a food vendor, or assisting to man the gates in exchange for a club honorarium.

Profit made from the IPM 2023 will come back to the community. In the past the IPMs have donated their profits to service clubs, 4H clubs, churches and local hospital etc.

### **ASK #1**

The IPM would like a motion at County Council expressing support for this event.

Specifically, we are asking for in-kind support with:

Community safety (local police and Paramedic presence)

2 or 3 road entrance support from County Rd 10

Waiving of fees for items such as entrance permits, building (tent) inspections, etc.

The County are welcome to have a “County Tent” to inform visitors about Dufferin at county expense. Space provided free, county provides everything else required for their exhibit.

The local IPM committee will be showcasing agriculture and community spirit in Dufferin County by having a display of all the crops and commodities produces in Dufferin corn, wool, potatoes, apples, honey etc., as well as showcasing 4-H and running a dairy, beef, and sheep show in the “Agriculture Showcase” tent. We will also be showcasing the advanced agricultural technology used in modern agricultural production techniques.

### **ASK #2**

Agriculture is still Dufferin’s largest economic driver.

We would like the County to be the sponsor for the [Agricultural Showcase of agricultural products and livestock](#) with a donation of \$50,000. Dufferin would of course be recognized for their support of the exhibit.

### **Ask # 3**

On signs at the borders of the county indicating drivers are entering Dufferin County, we ask that the county install signs that say ‘Site of 2023 International Plowing Match’. Signs supplied by IPM committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill McCutcheon & Dawn Van Kampen

co-chairs IPM 2023 planning committee

# **COUNTY OF DUFFERIN AND THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH & RURAL EXPO.**

## **IPM EVENT STATISTICS**

Note these statistics are an average over the past five events.

### **1. Visitation**

- a. This includes public, vendors and IPM staff, average 15,000 people per day.
- b. Visitation will be higher as we approach Friday and Saturday.

### **2. Special Events**

- a. There may be concerts scheduled for the RV Park entertainment tent for two evenings.
- b. These events are for RV Park patrons only and will not involve day visitors.
- c. The RV Park entertainment tent does not allow alcohol.

## **ROADS DEPARTMENT**

1. IPM requests the closure of County Road 10 from Laurel to Amaranth 9<sup>th</sup> Line from September 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Use of one of the Counties variable message signs placed at County Road 10 and Amaranth 9<sup>th</sup> line two weeks prior and week of to inform public.
  - b. Use of one of the Counties variable message signs placed at County Road 10 just west of County Road 12 in Laurel two weeks prior and week of to inform public.
  - c. IPM plans a door to door with all local residence to discuss event traffic and recommended routes to and from their residence.
  - d. Have discussed the event with the Principal at Laurel Woods School, will discuss the event with school bus companies in June.

- e. Thirty-five +/- tractor and hay wagon shuttles traveling between parking areas and event areas along County Road 10 and concession roads.

## 2. Traffic Control Stations

- a. West Reception Station – County Road 10 at Amaranth 9<sup>th</sup> Line
- b. East Reception Station – County Road 10 at Amaranth 6<sup>th</sup> Line
- c. Using an Ontario Traffic Manual Temporary Conditions modified TS-7 site plan.
- d. Traffic is stopped, and IPM staff greet the visitors, determine their destination (parking, RV Park, Tented City etc.) and send them on their way.
- e. Traffic Direction Stations:  
IPM staff directs vehicles to their destination.
  - i. County Road 10 at parking field #1
  - ii. County Road 10 at Parking field #2
  - iii. County Road 10 at Amaranth 7<sup>th</sup> Line
  - iv. County Road 10 at lane crossing from RV Park to Tented City
  - v. County Road 10 at Parking field #3
- f. The closure of County Road 10 will allow these stations to work safely and efficiently.
- g. Temporary road signs and cones are being provided by surrounding towns and township works departments. Contribution from the County would be warmly accepted.
- h. Traffic staff will be trained prior to the event and provided with high vis traffic vest.

- 3. The Amaranth Roads Superintendent advised that County support is required to close the Amaranth 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Lines immediately north from County Road 109. We ask for the Counties support for these closures.
  - a. Road closed, Local Traffic Only
  - b. Objective ensure traffic arrives only by our two-traffic reception stations.

4. Proposed that traffic at the Laurel 4-way stop be managed by OPP.
  - a. Preliminary discussion have taken place with Anton (Tony) Jelich Staff Sergeant – Operations Manager, Dufferin Detachment and Constable Andrew Fines.
  
5. Event entrances from County Road 10
  - a. Four existing field entrances are to be upgraded.
  - b. Two new field entrance from the north-west corner of RV Park for tractor wagon cross over County Road 10 to the Tented City.
  - c. One new entrance on 7<sup>th</sup> Line immediately south of County Rd. 10 entrance to RV Park.
  - d. If permits and fees are required for entrance upgrades can the fees be waived.
  - e. What size of culverts are required?
  - f. Maximum allowable widths of entrance?
  - g. Can the County contribute any materials?
  - h. Applications for emergency numbers at eight entrances are in the works, we ask that the fees as listed on the application be waived.
  
6. Directional drilling under County Road 10 for water line.
  - a. Avertex Utility Solutions will provide the drilling.
  - b. Water line will run between the RV Park and the Tented City. East of Bowling Green – West of Amaranth 7<sup>th</sup> Line
  - c. Will install a permanent heavy conduit through which the waterline will be routed.
  - d. If a permit and fee is required, can the fee be waived.
  
7. Event Directional Signs
  - a. IPM would like to place IPM promotional sign (approximately 4 X 8 ft.) below all County of Dufferin boundary signs.
  - b. From the above signs the IPM would like to place Day Visitors & RV Park route markers (approximately 2 X 2 ft.) along County roads directing traffic to the east and west traffic reception stations.
  - c. Can we mount these signs on existing signposts such as green and white road name signs. (Not on Highway Traffic Act signposts)

d. If sign permits and fees are required, can the fees be waived.

## **EMS DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Reid and his two Deputies have been provided with medical occurrence statistics from the 2019 IPM.

1. Can Dufferin EMS designate a staff member to attend IPM Emergency Services and Health and Safety Committee meetings. (Estimate once every two months from February to September 2023)
2. Can County EMS liaison with the Headwaters Hospital Board and IPM staff regarding a Nurse Practitioner to be on site at the Medical Services tent. Service period is five days Sept 19 – 23, 2023, 8:00 Am to 6:00 Pm +/-.  
Goal of having a Nurse Practitioner on site is to reduce ambulance runs to hospital for some treatments.
3. Provide on site Ambulance(s) and Paramedics for five days Sept 19 – 23, 2023, 8:00 Am to 6:00 Pm +/- based on visitation statistics.
  - a. Waive the cost of ambulance and staff during the event.
  - b. Note there will be four fire fighters and a pumper rescue truck on site each day.
  - c. Wednesday and Friday night concerts are for RV Park patrons only.
  - d. RV Park population estimated at 2,000 +/- people 24 hours a day.
4. County EMS to take the lead in contact of Community Colleges to recruit volunteer paramedic students to staff the Medical Services tent along with the Nurse Practitioner.
5. EMS invited to provide comment and where to locate the on-site medical services tent, and if possible contribute resources to equip the tent.
6. Arrange with Orange for a temporary landing site for an air ambulance helicopter close to the event.

7. Liaison with the Medics at the on-site Rodeo to ensure they understand Dufferin EMS is the lead agency for medical occurrences.
8. Investigate the use of an ambulance all terrain vehicle(s) – borrowed from other ambulance service.
9. Provide three defibrillator stations for installation, one in the RV Park, Two in the Tented City.

## **GARBAGE DISPOSAL**

The IPM traditionally is responsible for disposal of the events garbage. With that said it would be greatly appreciated if someone from the County would work with the IPM to obtain a sponsorship from GFL.

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

1. Building Permits Tent Erections
  - a. Estimate there will be 21 committee/features building applications with most of these being greater than 640 sq. ft. We ask that IPM tents building permits be waived.
  - b. Estimated there will be approximately 25 exhibitor applications most of which will be smaller than 640 sq. ft.
2. Buildings To Be Erected
  - a. For the 2023 event we have one Home Builder who was involved with the 2019 event express interest in erecting a house on site at this years event.
  - b. With the proximity of Quality Engineered Homes and Royal Homes they may ask to be involved.
  - c. We expect 2 or 3 structures from companies such as Britespan, Multi-Shelters, etc.
  - d. All exhibitors would be responsible for their own permits and fees.



## MARKETING/TOURISM

1. Posting the IPM 2023 page on the Dufferin County website. Dufferin County tourist assets would be set up around the Dufferin IPM picture/link.
2. A Dufferin IPM tourist directional sign strategy developed with the Roads Department (Directional temp. blue tourist signs, sign permits for postings along designated areas and any other recommendation by Roads). The number of signs would depend on Road Dept. recommendation. Assistance from Roads for the installation.
3. Complementary use of a meeting room once a month at the Museum of Dufferin for IPM marketing group meeting.
4. In conjunction with the Dufferin MoD Events/Marketing Coordinator, potential sharing of county tourism pictures to update IPM's site and promote Dufferin's tourism assets (e.g. – the MoD). Regular discussions with MoD Events/Marketing Coordinator to review marketing ideas. It may include printing materials, social media blasts, etc. from the MoD depending on initiative specifics (e.g. - an IPM promo space in the MoD, local area promotions, etc.).
5. An outdoor IPM sign is requested at the MoD (Hwy 89/Airport).
6. In conjunction with the Dufferin MoD Events/Marketing Coordinator, develop a Dufferin IPM travel-sites link with a list of area attractions for tourists to explore as they travel to and from the IPM. The travel-sites link would be used in the Dufferin IPM web site as well as related county webpages with the IPM promo/link (e.g. – MoD, main county page, etc.). With this value-added approach, we hope to see many of the 80,000 tourists coming back to Dufferin.



Report To: Warden Mills and Members of County Council

Meeting Date: Feb 9, 2023

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**Subject: Vaccine Policy Repeal**

**From: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer**

### **Recommendation**

**THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, dated February 9, 2023, regarding Vaccine Policy Repeal, be received;**

**AND THAT the Members of Council Vaccination Policy #1-2-13 and Non-Union Staff COVID Vaccination Policy #IPAC 1.06 (excluding Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home employees), be repealed.**

### **Executive Summary**

A report titled Vaccination Policy Review – Non-Union Employees and Council was presented to County Council for consideration in October 2022. A motion to suspend the policy was considered by County Council at the last meeting of the term. At that time the motion lost. Members elected to keep the policy in place and indicated a preference to have the new Council decide on the matter.

At this point, very few mandatory vaccination policies remain in effect outside of health care organizations. The policy required 2 doses by December 31, 2021.

### **Background & Discussion**

In the fall of 2021, during the height of the pandemic, County Council adopted a policy requiring all staff (except for Dufferin Oaks who are subject to a separate vaccine policy) and members of Council to be fully vaccinated by December 31, 2021. The policy was introduced to respond to the conditions of the time and represented one of several tools available to employers to ensure employees were being afforded a safe work environment, in accordance with obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

During this time frame and into the first several months of 2022, a number of other public health measures were also in place as directed by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario and a Section 22 Order issued earlier in the pandemic by the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Medical Officer of Health. These measures included requirements such as a vaccine passport/verification system, mandatory masking, social distancing, capacity limits, enhanced cleaning, screening, isolation and quarantine requirements. In addition, the Federal government instituted a number of travel restrictions. All of these measures were in response to the conditions of the time. Since then, these mandatory measures have been eliminated with the federal travel related requirements being the last to expire on October 1, 2022.

When considering the ongoing value or merit of the Vaccine policy, the change in the broader environment is important to consider. The environment has changed since the introduction of the vaccine policy in fall 2021, and outside of the health care sector, very few mandatory vaccine policies remain. In many respects, society has transitioned to living with COVID 19 and has accepted a certain level of risk is present.

Most health care organizations, including long term care, continue to keep mandatory COVID 19 vaccination policies in place. In March 2022, when the Ontario government removed the provincial mandate to require vaccination in long term care; AdvantAge (Ontario's long-term care association) advocated strongly against the move and has not changed their position. Immunization requirements have long been considered best practice in health care policy, including at Dufferin Oaks. Some organizations, such as Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health, have updated their immunization policies to make them more all encompassing covering all vaccination requirements in a single policy. The Administrator at Dufferin Oaks will continue to monitor any changes to vaccine policy in the sector and ensure our policies continue to follow sector best practices.

Following best practices and health and safety protocols that are specific to each sector is important. Over the course of the last few years, it has become apparent that the ability to be flexible and adapt to the conditions of the time is critical to operational continuity and employee well-being. One way to ensure increased flexibility going forward will be through updating language in both health and safety policies and employment contracts that indicates employees are required to comply with all safety measures and protocols that may be introduced in response to new threats and changing circumstances.

### **Financial, Staffing, Legal, or IT Considerations**

By removing the policies for non-union staff, Council and advisory committee members there will no longer be any recruiting or participation restrictions. Maintaining the policy at Dufferin Oaks continues to follow health care sector best practices.

### **In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives**

Good governance - ensure transparency, clear communication, prudent financial management

Inclusive & Supportive Community – support efforts to address current & future needs for a livable community

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sonya Pritchard, CPA,CMA  
Chief Administrative Officer