

**Gord Queen**, 28 Pulford Street, Kingsville, Ontario, Canada N9Y 1B4

May 5, 2018

The Council of the Town of Kingsville  
2021 Division Road North  
Kingsville, Ontario

### **2018 OSUM Conference & Trade Show May 2018**

I recently attended the Ontario Small Urban Municipality Conference in Niagara Falls. In accordance with the tradition of the Council of Kingsville, I respectfully offer my own comments and observations on that subject matter.

The conference included many interesting subject matters and speakers.

1. **Community Schools.** Doug Reycraft spoke about the importance of community schools. The Friday before the Conference the Ministry of Education released a new set of requirements for the school closing process. Included in the presentation was the need for greater input, increased timelines, and the need for discussion with the local municipalities.
2. **Police Service and Police Service Boards.** It was reported that changes are coming. In the future, the local Police Boards may be expanded. At first glance, that sounds great. On the flip side the suggestion was noted that in the future, the Local Police Service Boards may be reduced in number to one per detachment. If Essex Detachment covers the majority of Essex County, I believe that all of Council should be aware of any changes and timelines that may impact our community.

Another point reported, was in the future the Police will not be enforcing local municipal by-laws. This may well require the retention of by-law enforcement officers.

3. **First Impressions discussion included Niagara on the Lake.** The great stories of that location were highlighted. Wines, Special Events, the Fine Dining and Historical highlights. Hundreds dining outside, and Christmas Carol singing with hundreds on the Main Street. The story of Niagara on the Lake is not unlike our own community. They also noted targeted their marketing for visitors to those with income in the 100K range. I also visited Niagara On the Lake... Since my last visit to Niagara on the Lake, they have added the pay parking machines on the core shopping area. From that perspective, our local BIA shopping area is more inviting following the removal of the local Parking meters.

4. **Community Newspapers.** During the Conference the value of Community Newspapers was highlighted. The Communities that lost their local Community Newspapers, with reduced readership was said in part to the loss of local coverage.
  
5. **Bill 68 Code of Conduct.** The Importance of a code of Conduct was stressed. The Codes of Conduct are not only required by Council, but also all local Boards of Council.
  
6. **Conflict of Interest.** We are already aware of the need to report a conflict of interest. In the future it was noted that members of Council may be required to provide the office of the Clerk with the Conflict details in writing.

Each member that attends any conference may come away with their own notes and observations. The Notes provided above are my own rough notes and may not reflect the views of others. From a legal perspective, when draft or suggested changes are referenced I note the need of administration to conduct due diligence and research for final consideration of the subject topics by Council in the future.

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