

December 8, 2016

NEWS RELEASE COONEY SWORN IN AS WARDEN

NEWS

Rodney Cooney, Mayor of the Township of Stirling-Rawdon, was officially sworn in today as the Warden of Hastings County and will hold the office for the next two years.

QUOTES

"I am excited to have this opportunity to be the next Warden of the County and very appreciative of the support that I have received from all members of County Council," said Cooney. "I need to also thank my wife Lisa, indeed my whole family as well as the council and staff of Stirling-Rawdon for their support. It means a great deal to me," he added.

"I know the next two years will be busy ones for the County but the work that we do is essential. Our job is straightforward. We take care of individuals and families as well as help our communities grow," stated Cooney.

"Whether it's caring for loved ones in Hastings and Centennial Manors, providing safe, secure and affordable housing to thousands of individuals and families or doing the best we can to have an ambulance available when needed, we will continue to strive for excellence in our service to the public," said Warden Cooney.

BACKGROUND

Warden Rodney Cooney was first elected to the Township of Stirling-Rawdon Council in 2000 and served as Councillor until 2003. In October 2010, he was elected Mayor of the Township.

Warden Cooney owns and operates a family farm in Stirling-Rawdon with his wife Lisa and his parents Marvin and Lynda, and has been involved in the dairy industry and

growing apples for over 25 years. He now operates a cash crop farm and runs "The Apple Store" a retail market selling apples, beef, specialty foods and unique giftware.

He has also been a member of the Hastings County Dairy Producers, Stirling Senior School Parent Teacher Association, Hastings County Crop & Soils and a Chairman of Stewards for the Bethel United Church.

He was born and raised in Stirling-Rawdon having lived there his entire life and has been married to his wife Lisa for over 30 years. They have three daughters, Deanna (married to Patrick), Candice (married to William) and Jeanette (married to Brennan). The Warden and his wife have also been blessed with four grandchildren Keira, Liam Sean and Blake.

Warden Cooney enjoys playing and coaching hockey, traveling and spending time with family.

SUMMARY OF 2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Examining opportunities to reduce ambulance response times;
- Enacting a new Official Plan;
- Bringing in responsible, affordable annual County budgets;
- Implementing a renewed, focused economic development strategy with greater support for tourism promotion;
- Continuing to build new affordable housing units
- Strengthening County Information Technology operations and supporting the needs of local municipalities
- Implementing a staff development program;
- Competing a Succession Plan for the County.

To view the Warden's entire inaugural remarks, please visit www.hastingscounty.com.

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