



December 6, 2018

NEWS RELEASE

RICK PHILLIPS SWORN IN AS WARDEN IN HASTINGS COUNTY

NEWS

Rick Phillips, Reeve of the Township of Tyendinaga, was elected and officially sworn in today as the Warden of Hastings County and will hold the office for the next two years. He held this same position from 2012 to 2016.

QUOTES

"I am humbled and sincerely appreciate the confidence that the members of County Council have shown in electing me as Warden for the next two years. It means a great deal to me," said Phillips.

"I believe and endorse fully the County's basic mission...to support families, individuals and communities through the provision of our services. There is no more important job," he added.

"2019 and 2020 will be very busy years and I commit to work as hard as I can for all fourteen members of County Council and your communities. As I said in my Inaugural remarks, this Council works for every member municipality, all of our residents and our entire business community no matter where they are located across this great County," stated Phillips.

BACKGROUND

Warden Phillips was first elected as Councillor to Tyendinaga Township in 2006 and was elected Reeve in 2010. He was acclaimed in 2014 and re-elected as Tyendinaga's Reeve this year. In his personal work life he was with CN Rail for 33 years prior to his retirement and maintains an active role in the Royal Canadian Legion and as a member and elder of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Roslin.

He has been a resident of the Township for 55 years and has been married to his wife Cheryl for 45 years. They have two sons and five grandchildren.

SUMMARY OF 2019 PRIORITIES

- Continue working with the Province and local businesses to best prepare our Ontario Works clients with the skills to match local employers' needs.
- Working with our Joint Committee and following our Housing and Homelessness strategy to improve the amount of safe, affordable housing in our communities.
- Working with our Joint Committee for Emergency Services to reduce the use of ambulances for inter-facility calls by 50% and to put the operational savings towards funding additional paramedics and vehicles. This will include the development of a new ambulance base in Central Hastings.
- Continue to support the advancement of our paramedic services through research and the engagement of non-traditional partners, particularly in the area of community paramedicine.
- Working with the County's Human Resources Department in the care of the over 870 full and part-time staff through execution of a Corporate Health and Wellness Strategy, completing the installation of a new Human Resources Information System, and negotiating contracts with three bargaining units including paramedics and long term care team members.
- With assistance with the Joint Long Term Care Committee, to transform both Hastings and Centennial Manors towards a truly socialized model of care and away from an institutionalized approach. This will include working with the Province to increase the funding of our two Homes so that more front-line staff can be hired to provide at least 4 hours of direct daily care for each resident.

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

For more information contact:

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