

Mayor's Report

It was another busy month for me and the members of Council. As part of my work as both a Mayor and a County Councillor, I attended several meetings with members of both some businesses and the public, as well as meetings of Middlesex County Council, Library Advisory Board, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority, South Central Ontario Region (SCOR) Economic Development Board, as well as a meeting of the Flight Exec Centre Expansion Committee to update us on the progress of the expansion of our seniors centre and arena complex. In addition, I was pleased to be in the audience to attend this year's Thorndale Dinner Theatre presentation again this year and I really must commend the Ag Society for all their hard work and efforts on this event.

Later that week, I was happy to represent Thames Centre as part of a panel discussion on the topic of housing, hosted by the MacDonald Cartier Club. On hand were MPP Rob Flack, London Ward 2 Councillor and Deputy Mayor Shawn Lewis and Mayor Joe Preston of the City of St. Thomas. A great opportunity to talk about the effects on smaller municipalities such as ours.

March 8th I attended a day long Women's Day Symposium in Lucan where women from all walks of life joined to listen to some great fireside chat from panel members and an inspiring time of song and story from Key Note speaker and musician, Emm Gryner.

Other items included the signing of an Agreement between Thames Centre and the UTRCA regarding source water protection; a meeting and update for the Local School Advisory Committee and was very honoured to help out with meal delivery around the Municipality for the VON March for meals.

It's always nice to visit our local schools and this time, an excellent visit with the LDSS Robotics team to learn more about the program and to cheer them on as they prepared for an upcoming competition

In the first week of April, as a member of SCOR (South Central Ontario Regional – EcDev), I attended along with other mayors and board members a very wide ranging discussion with MPP's Flack, Hardeman and Brady concerning housing matters, provincial government support and the big topic of the day – infrastructure.

In the same week, the Deputy Mayor, Michelle Smibert, our CAO had a wonderful opportunity to visit and learn more about a great local business – White Crest Mushrooms, to learn from owner Murray Good more about the process and his plans for the future. Then later that week, a good news story of a ground breaking for a new logistics and warehouse facility in Thames Centre, with a completion date of November of this year.

And Thursday, April 11 was the first Mayor's Breakfast since 2019 and superbly hosted by Karl Pfister and Gudrun Haas of Armatech. It was a cool, rainy morning but the atrium of the building was a perfect setting for the breakfast. Hope to be able to do another one in 2025