



Office of the Mayor

MARCH COUNCIL MEETING - TOWN UPDATES:

- **February 26** | I had an interview with Mark Rockburn (Municipal Matters) to discuss the growth of Cobourg, local housing, warming rooms, solutions for rising water rates, and the re-use of properties in town.
- **February – March 13** | CobourgLicious took place from February 27th - March 13th, where residents and visitors could enjoy special menus and exclusive dishes from Cobourg's favourite downtown spots. It was the perfect opportunity to support local and try something new!
- **February 28** | The Veils and Vows Cobourg Wedding Show took place at Victoria Hall on February 28th, and it was a wonderful success. Thank you to all the vendors, volunteers and staff that made this event possible.

Cobourg's Coldest Night of the Year family-friendly fundraising walk also took place. This event supports local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness in our community. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported those in need.

- **March 5** | I was pleased to host the GLSLCI Webinar – Defer, Plan or Act: Using AI to Make Defensible Watermain Replacement Decisions, a webinar focused on aging water infrastructure, the impacts and cost, and how technology paired with AI can help municipalities make critical decisions regarding water infrastructure.
- **March 6** | InspiHER – Local Women in Business was held on March 6th at Venture13. It was an inspiring morning full of conversation, connection and community with local women who are helping shape Cobourg's business landscape. Thank you to all that attended this wonderful event.

Civic Award nominations closed as of March 6th. Thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination. We look forward to celebrating all volunteers at the upcoming 23rd Annual Civic Awards taking place during National Volunteer Week in April.

- **March 8** | Daylight Saving Time took place early morning, and we also celebrated International Women's Day. At the Town of Cobourg, we are fortunate to work alongside many incredible women whose dedication, leadership, and expertise help shape our community every day. We recognize, appreciate and celebrate all the women who contribute so much to our community.
- **March 9** | Starting March 9th, Cobourg Transit's Limited Fixed Route expanded its weekday hours to 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., giving riders more flexibility to get to work, school, appointments and more.
- **March 10** | I had the pleasure of meeting with residents at 125-145 Third St. during their coffee hour to connect with local seniors, discuss community concerns and share Town updates. I want to thank the residents for extending the invite - I truly enjoyed our conversations and look forward to connecting in the future.

I attended the virtual provincial briefing outlining Ontario's next steps to modernize the conservation authority system following the government announcement on March 10th.

- **March 11** | Myself, Deputy Mayor Beatty, Councillor Barber, Councillor Darling and Chris Challenger, Director of Development Services attended Northshore Lanes to help raise funds for the 2026 Bowl for Kids' Sake event in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs here in our community. It was a pleasure to be a part of this wonderful fundraising event!
- **March 12** | I welcomed members of the Cobourg Short Mat Lawn Bowling Group and Cobourg Lawn Bowls Club to the Mayors Office before they travelled to Norway to compete in the World Short Mat Bowls Championship this month. I had the opportunity to wish them well ahead of their departure and look forward to hearing about their accomplishments at the championships.
- **March 13** | I had the distinct pleasure of meeting with local Cobourg resident Julia to celebrate her 100th birthday. We had the opportunity to sit down one on one to discuss her achievements and memories over the years. This was truly an honour – Thank you Julia for sharing your wisdom and allowing me to celebrate with you.

Thank you to Deputy Mayor Beatty who attended the Grand Opening of Shoppers Drug Mart at Northumberland Mall on March 13th. We are excited and pleased to welcome Shoppers to this location and believe that their presence here will strengthen our community. A sincere congratulations to the team at Shoppers - We wish you great success!

- **March 16** | March Break was the week of the 16th, with March Break Camps taking place at the Cobourg Community Centre. Campers had the chance to stay active in our gymnasiums,

enjoy time on the ice and swim at the YMCA. Thanks to the CCC for hosting such an amazing camp experience!

We celebrated Transit Operator and Worker Appreciation Day through the week of March 16th - 20th. Thank you to all the operators and transit staff for keeping Cobourg connected through safe transportation.

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day on March 17th and want to recognize the Irish culture and heritage within our community. We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable St. Patrick's Day!

- **March 18** | I participated in the GLSLCI Consultation on a Canada Water Agency Municipal Stream. This provided an opportunity to share my perspectives on programs, priorities and considerations for a future municipal-focused granting program delivered by the CWA.
- **March 21** was World Down Syndrome Day. It is a day to celebrate the abilities, contributions, and achievements of individuals with Down Syndrome, while also promoting understanding and belonging within our communities. Thank you to Deputy Mayor Beatty who attended and spoke at the flag raising ceremony at Victoria Hall on March 20th alongside Councillor Barber and Councillor Burchat.
- **March 22** was the annual Polar Plunge at the Cobourg Marina in support of Special Olympics Ontario – An event that has raised over \$18,000 so far. Thank you to all that raised funds and took the plunge!
- **March 23** | The Town of Cobourg Legislative Services Division launched CobourgVotes.ca, a website dedicated to keeping the community informed throughout the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election.
- **March 24** | I had the honour of attending the OFSAA Girls A/AA Hockey Championship Banquet hosted by St. Mary Secondary Catholic School at the Lions Centre on the evening of March 24th. It was my absolute pleasure to welcome athletes, school representatives and families to our town, and wish them luck at the championships.

As patron of the Historical Society, it was great connecting with their members at last night's program. Unfortunately, I could not stay for the full presentation of *Scary Harry, The Northumberland County Cheesemaker Who Blew Up the Old West*, but I hope it was an engaging and informative session for everyone who attended.

- **March 25** | I attended St. Josephs Catholic Elementary School, where I brought pizza for Sam Kalishi, the winner of "Meet the Mayor", and their entire class. It was a wonderful chance to

connect with Grade 3-4 students, answer questions about the Town, and hear their ideas and thoughts. Thank you, St. Josephs for welcoming me into your Grade 3-4 classroom.

- **March 27** | March 27th was the Business Achievement Awards at the Best Western here in Cobourg. This event recognized local businesses, their achievements and was an opportunity to celebrate all their hard work and success. It was a true joy celebrating alongside all the well-established businesses. Congratulations everyone and thank you to all the staff for making this event possible.

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES:

- The **Rotary Harbourfront Outdoor Rink** is now closed for the season. We hope that everyone enjoyed their time on the ice this year!
- March is **Amyloidosis Awareness Month**, which is dedicated to raising awareness, funding research, and supporting those living with Amyloidosis and their loved ones.
- March is **also Agricultural Literacy Month**, which is dedicated to educating students and the community on Canada's agriculture and food industry.
- **March 20th** marked the first day of Spring in 2026. The Little Book of Spring Perks is now available, offering big savings at local businesses.

Eid al-Fitr marks the end of Ramaden, the sacred month of fasting in Islam.

COUNTY UPDATES:

- The County welcomes Dan Borowec as new CAO for Northumberland County. His first day was March 2, 2026 - Welcome Mr. Borowec, we wish you great success in your new role!
- County Council has approved extended hours for the overnight Warming Room located at 555 Courthouse Road in Cobourg until March 31st. Hours are now weekdays 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 a.m. and weekends 24 hours a day.



Lucas Cleveland
Mayor, Town of Cobourg