
From: Chris Johnston <chris@chriswjohnston.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 12:05 PM
To: admin@nipissingtownship.com
Cc: chris@johnston.marketing; firechief@nipissingtownship.com
Subject: Re: Committee Appointments

Hi Kris,

Yes, I would like to be re-appointed to the Recreation Committee and the Museum Board.

I do have a couple of concerns though specifically around by-law [2021-38](#) and the by-law that proceeded in 2008.

It reads as the proceeding by-law read:

"1) That a Recreation Committee shall be appointed annually by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Nipissing at their first regular meeting, appointing the Committee for a term of one (1) year."

I assume, though not all by-laws are readily accessible on the website, that the other committees and boards have similar clauses. It concerns me that we are once again ignoring the council's wishes when the by-law was created and then revised, and are once again resolving something different much like we did in 2018. Given that council has yet to meet, this feels more like a staff decision to ignore the by-law, than a directive provided by council.

While it is absolutely within council's right to resolve what they choose, or update the by-law to better match their desires, the disconnect of such policies to have a by-law that is constantly and consistently ignored even after being updated as recently as last year concerns me. I think that it is imperative that the council, consisting of 4 new members since the last election in 2018, be provided with copies of the by-laws related to the creation of these boards and committees and be informed of these inconsistencies before voting on this resolution, perhaps through the inclusion of this email as part of the correspondence in the Agenda Package for the next council meeting.

Furthermore, I find it concerning that, with 0 current members of the boards and committees in the township (having been dissolved along with the council), we have had no external marketing - including on the Township website, for which new members could present themselves and allow new ideas to flourish. While I don't imagine we'd end up in a situation where council would have to turn away people who have asked to join a committee or board, wouldn't that be a wonderful problem to have?

We just had a large group of people step up and run for council, some of whom are not on committee or board positions currently, wouldn't it be only fair to them to be given the opportunity to gain experience over the next 4 years in the hopes that they may run again? I know I would have appreciated joining a board / committee at the outset of a term with everyone else, as opposed to what appears to be the only way to join - which is mid-term, when an existing member chooses to resign. In addition, maybe people on the existing committees/boards would want to change it up and join other boards/committees as well or instead of? The committee of adjustment is one that a number of people had discussed with me during my campaign as a concern in the community, and something I may have had an interest in.

Of course through the advertisement of the open positions, they may also consult the by-laws to understand the roles and responsibilities and think they are signing up for a 1 year term only to be resolved to a 4 year term. Or pass on the opportunity, thinking it will come up again next year. I know for me personally, I was shocked after volunteering that the position ran past the 1 year mark, thinking I was only committing to a few months - before deciding if it was a good fit for me or not.