



Approximately 40 Hillier Township residents attended the regular Hillier council meeting, April 11 as part of Municipal Government Week, across Ontario.

## Hillier township residents take interest in council

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By Chris White,  
Gazette staff

Approximately 40 residents of Hillier Township turned out at the regular meeting of their township council, April 11, as part of Municipal Government Week, across the province.

Hillier Council has been participating in the program for the last two years and Hillier Reeve Clare McFaul said the turnout this year was the best.

Hillier clerk-treasurer, Sid Whalen, said the township sent out 523 personalized invitations to every household in Hillier Township. Whalen said the good turnout was also because Hillier residents care about what is going on in their community.

As part of their opening

comments, Reeve McFaul stated that local governments in Ontario spend in excess of \$18-billion a year. Local government is one of the greatest users of taxes, but it also provides the taxpayer with visible evidence of the use of this money because it shapes the community and has a direct impact on the quality of life.

There are 839 municipalities in Ontario, ranging in size from Metropolitan Toronto, with two million people, to Cockburn Island Township, that has two permanent residents.

About 600 municipalities in the province have fewer than 5,000 residents but two-thirds of Ontario's population is contained in 49 cities and one borough.

Townships, villages and towns comprise almost 90 per cent of the municipalities in Ontario, yet they contain only one-third of the population.

In the municipal elections to be held on November 14, there will be some 4,850 councillors elected in the 839 municipalities and 2,104 trustees including

French language trustees, chosen to look after the operation of 186 school boards.

Roughly one-third of the \$18-billion requirement is raised through property taxes, another one-third through user fees and other levies and the balance comes from the Ontario government

through grants and transfer payments.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs offers a number of grants to municipalities. These take the form of unconditional grants, where funds may be used to meet the cost of any

budgeted current operation expenditure and conditional grants, where payment is made with stipulation that the funds be used for a specific program of service within the municipality.

Reeve McFaul talked about the good job all the township employees do by naming them all and what they do. There are eight township employees not including the fire department and councillors.



TRAVEL DIPLOMA — Miss Sharon Kelly, the foster daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Munro of Wellington, received her diploma in travel and tourism at the convocation ceremony on June 17 at Humber College in Toronto.

### Graduation



KENNETH GEORGE FORSYTH

KEVIN WALTER FORSYTH

Kenneth George Forsyth and Kevin Walter Forsyth, sons of Russell and Peggy Forsyth of Hillier, graduated from the University of Guelph on June 8, 1990 with their Bachelor of Science Degrees in Agriculture, both majoring in Animal and Poultry Science. Kenneth and Kevin are currently working on the family farm with their father.

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