

COUNTY

County to tender garbage contract

BY VALERIE MACDONALD
STAFF WRITER

Following an in-camera session lasting more than three and a half hours, Northumberland County Council this week passed a resolution authorizing its administrator to tender the garbage collection contract which expires in just over three months.

Last fall, again following an in-camera session, an agreement was reached with the existing garbage collector, Canadian Waste, to consolidate three existing, separate contracts in Northumberland into one. The new contract provided a \$60,000 monthly increase retroactive to Aug. 1, 2000. That's about \$1.8-million annually.

The duration of the collection tender being worked on ranges from three to seven years, commencing May 1, states the council resolution.

Despite this, Warden Bill Finley says the county must still decide whether to extend the current agreement with Canadian Waste for a "short period" or to go to open tender within the next three or four weeks to ensure a

garbage collection contract is in place for May 1.

"The timetable we're up against right now (is tight)," he suggested.

The tender only deals with the curbside collection of wet and dry waste; compost materials are not part of it.

The tender is flexible and allows the parties to look at technological changes and other issues as changes occur, Mr. Finley added.

The next waste issue council must look at is the pros and cons of establishing a transfer station where both wet and dry waste can be compacted. It can then be transported more economically, said Mr. Finley.

Other equally important matters cited by the warden are:

- finalizing the revision of the certificate of operation for the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Grafton, allowing it to be open



Warden Bill Finley

for more hours, plus process recyclable waste from outside the county. The objective is to help the operation become more profitable. While it currently operates in the red it does divert garbage from landfill;

- reducing the volume of waste going into county landfills to preserve this valuable

resource;

- examining the benefits of moving from a two- to three-stream garbage system with the addition of compost collection;

- addressing problems surrounding the Brighton landfill ranging from appropriate compensation to the host community to legal issues; and

- dealing with concerns about the operation of the MRF, which is located in the warden's home municipality. These include any possible adverse impact on water quality.

CHAPMAN, LYAL WILLMONT

At his residence in Colborne on Monday, January 15, 2001. Lyal Chapman was the beloved husband of Ida Lucretia Chapman (nee Smith). Dear father of Al and his wife Judy of Colborne, Beth and her husband Bill Vosborough of Colborne, Stan and his wife Diane of Colborne, Brian and his wife Michelle of St. Thomas, Art and his wife Terri of Colborne and Steve and his wife Jackie of Aylmer. Grandfather of Jackie, Nicole, Alicia, Caleb; Matt, Nick, Tex, Luke, Dillon, Samantha, Jacob and Travis. Brother of Bernice Branscombe of Peterborough, Lloyd of Colborne, Hazel Waite of Colborne, Dorothy Brown of Colborne, Carl of Colborne, Bill of Cobourg and Doreen Lackey of Grafton, also Ron, Thelma Clark, Lawrence, Ruth McKnight, Lola Harnden, Adelle Mutton, Jack, Vera Godwin and Ray all predeceased. A funeral service will be held at the Eden United Church on Thursday, January 18 at 2pm. Spring interment Shiloh Cemetery. Friends may call at the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St. W., Colborne on Wednesday from 1-4 and 7-9pm. If desired, memorial donations by cheque to the Eden United Church, Quinte Health Care Centre (Trenton), N.H.C.C. Foundation or the charity of your choice would be appreciated by Lyal's family.

COLBORNE CHRONICLE
JAN 18/01

\$76,000 three-county agriculture study underway

COLBORNE CHRONICLE JAN 18/01

BY MANDY MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

A major study of the economic impact and potential of agriculture in the counties of Northumberland, Hastings and Prince Edward Counties is underway.

"This is something that has been needed. There's a big gap when it comes to agriculture statistics," Susan Miller, project coordinator for the three counties says. "The data that has been in use is out of date. Hopefully, this study will show people what's going on in agriculture."

The federal Human Resources Development Corporation is contributing \$53,750 of the \$76,000 study cost. Trenval Business Development Corporation is kicking in \$10,000.

The study is slated for completion by August 2001.

"The study will be given back to the steering committee members," Mrs. Miller outlined. "It will be circulated to MPs, MPPS, county councils, county planner and used to lobby for effective support of agriculture. Increasingly, people are several generations removed from agriculture, so this will allow everyone to step back and look at this and inform decisions. For example, should we be using all the good land for building or use it for farming. This will provide the government with hard statistics to use, give an idea of what's going on."

The firm Walton & Hunter Planning Associates was selected to undertake the study. Dr. Richard DiFrancesco and Dr. Betsy Donald form the consulting team. The report will include a statistical review of agricultural statistics from Statistics Canada and other recognized sources. The review and analysis will provide detailed measures of the direct and indirect measures of the agricultural economy. There will be a detailed identification of the variety of ag businesses that exist in the area.

A cross section of ag-related businesses will be surveyed to determine their level of dependence on

the farm community for their existence to to make broader conclusions about the impact of agriculture on the local economy. Those contacted include feed businesses, machinery dealerships, trucking, accounting firms, etc.

The study will also identify a report on the agricultural characteristics of each of the three counties including land inventory maps and official plans.

Mrs. Miller is serving as a resource for the study team.

"I'm a member of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and our county organizations and members are supporting this initiative," Mrs. Miller explains. "The same consultants completed a similar, comprehensive study for the five Counties surrounding the Greater Toronto Area and it really does give a lot of detailed information."

The three-county study will identify the location and nature or agriculture and assess the direct, indirect and induced economic impacts of agriculture. It will provide specific recommendation to improve agriculture and protect the agriculture economic sector.

The project was initiated by the Northumberland Federation of Agriculture (with an estimated 1,000 members), Hastings Federation of Agriculture (estimated 650 members), and Prince Edward Federation of Agriculture (estimated 350 members).

Supporting agencies are Human Resources Development Canada, Trenval Community Development Corporation, Taste The County, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Quinte Economic Development Commission and the counties of Northumberland Hastings and Prince Edward.