



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Northumberland United Way has awarded to Community Care Northumberland a \$2,500 fund to help subsidize drives within our transportation program. This fund will assist any resident in the County who financially might not be able to attend important appointments within or outside the County. Pictured (from left) are Northumberland United Way chief executive officer Lynda Kay, Community Care Northumberland transportation co-ordinator Charlotte Clay-Ireland, and Kristina Nairn, a member of Community Care Northumberland's regional transportation committee.

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY MAR 7/13

Westrope disputes contents of statement of remuneration

BOB OWEN
For QMI Agency

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP - The annual statement of remuneration for Cramahe Township Council members should have been passed quickly and quietly on March 5. But it wasn't.

The document was deferred to another meeting after questions which were raised by Councillor Pat Westrope.

Westrope protested that the document was not complete. Her expenses included \$685.30 which was paid to her by Lower Trent Conservation. Others receive payment for their committee work but did not have their expenses listed.

The question related largely to money paid to Mayor Marc Coombs from Lakefront Utilities and to Deputy Mayor Jim Williams for his work on the Pine Ridge Municipal Planning Agency (PRMPA). Some members of the Cramahe Police Services Board also receive payment.

Coombs receives a T4 form for his work with Lakefront.

Williams argued that it is PRMPA which pays him and not the township but that argument didn't fly. PRMPA receives funding from the township for its services. He later conceded that it must be one way or the other; it must all be recorded or none.

Westrope noted that she had asked for this to be corrected last year.

The motion to accept the statement of expenses was deferred.

For the record (only money paid directly by the township is included), Coombs earns \$22,440 and had expenses in 2012 of \$738.15 (Northumberland County pays most of his expenses), Williams was paid \$14,280 plus \$4,661.36 in expenses. Councillor Clinton Breau is paid \$12,240 and \$1,750.36 expenses. Councillor Ed Van Egmond is paid \$12,240 and \$1,607.47 expenses. Councillor Westrope is paid \$12,240 and \$1,684.13 expenses.

ANIMAL CONTROL: Twenty township dogs taken in last year

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY MAR 7/13

Shelter of Hope sends Cramahe the bill

BOB OWEN
For QMI Agency

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP - Cramahe Township Council will continue to send its stray dogs to the Shelter of Hope located in Hamilton Township. Despite some discussion on March 5 regarding the high cost of animal control, the councillors agreed that there were few alternatives.

It costs Cramahe \$8,250 a year to use the service. Last year 20 dogs were taken in from Cramahe by the shelter. On a per-dog basis it amounted to taxpayers paying \$415 a dog. All were either adopted or returned to their owners. Those who retrieved their pets paid as much as \$135 and those who adopted paid from \$80 to \$120

depending on whether it was a puppy or full-grown dog.

Cobourg, Port Hope, Hamilton Township and Alnwick / Haldimand Township all use the shelter for cats, too. There are many more felines turned in than canines. Alnwick / Haldimand had 116 cats go to the shelter. Only 21 were adopted out and 42 had to be euthanized. The numbers were even higher in the other three municipalities.

Cramahe bylaw officer Allison Torrie Lapaire told council that the Shelter of Hope is interested in expanding its service in Cramahe. Currently the shelter collects dogs which have been contained for pickup. It will also accept dogs surrendered by residents of Cramahe.

Cramahe employed a dog catcher prior to using the Shelter of Hope, but found the service unreliable. Chief administrative officer Christie Alexander explained that the standards now in place are quite high. The township fields numerous calls about lost and stray dogs. Those with licence tags are easily traceable.

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