



City Manager's Update

Committee of the Whole | Council

September 22, 2025

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sound
where you *want* to live

Highlights

- Camp TOM wrapped up in August. A total of 87 campers attended. Several spaces were held for youth to attend at no cost thanks to the sponsorship of the Kiwanis Club of Owen Sound.
- The Gallery received just under 300 submissions of works by 194 artists for the upcoming juried exhibition Convergence. Presented every two years, Convergence celebrates artistic innovation and excellence across a wide range of mediums in our region and province. Convergence opens at the TOM on October 18.
- TD Harbour Nights free music series concluded on August 10. Taking place at the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre, the series featured 11 performances. Thank you to the 2025 sponsors: Barriston Law, Owen Sound Gardens, Owen Sound Attack, Long & Mcquade, Country 93, Kelso Villa, Zoomer 92.3, Tahini's, and Shankar Law.

Highlights

- Tourism continued year 2 of a pilot project to deliver key visitor services at the TOM. Five summer students joined the team as Tourism and Events Ambassadors supporting customer service and events including Canada Day, TD Harbour Nights, Hottest Street Sale, and they set up Tourism booths at the Salmon Derby and Summerfolk. Four of the positions were supported by grant funding.
- Beta Launch of Tourism App – for the Salmon Tour.
- Cars & Coffee and Concours d’Lemons – positive economic impact on the City from hotel stays, to shopping, mainstreet draw and foot traffic. At any given time over the weekend beautiful cars old and new are seen parked on main street taking in the restaurants and shops. This is one of the most visually trackable events for success because of the influx and visibility of the cars.
- The Salmon Spectacular was a great success with the Owen Sound Tourism Tent on site through the entire weekend.

Highlights

- In July Owen Sound Tourism in partnership with the Owen Sound Tourism Development Fund launched a Natures Gateway Campaign and due to its success, an agreement was reached to continue the campaign through the fall months. A few metrics to report 3,369,596 impressions over 4 platforms and 18,135 click throughs to date. The fall campaign will run through the holiday season.
- The new scoreboard is up at Tom Williams Park. This scoreboard was made possible by generous donations in memory of Baily Derocher by his family, the Baysox and Minor Baseball.
- Summer camps wrapped up with excellent attendance and feedback from a variety of sessions. Report will be coming in November with more details.
- Staff played a large support role for Summerfolk50 which was a big success at Kelso Beach at Nawash Park.

Highlights

- The Bayshore Floor and boards project was substantially completed by early September. The Arena's team put the first floods on the new floor on September 11 with the ice painting, lines and logos installed on September 12. The project has remained on time and on budget. Looking forward to the Attack's home opener on Saturday, September 27.
- Arena staff installed new benches in the Bayshore dressing rooms, replacing the old wooden benches with a new recycled plastic material.
- Arena staff painted the steel siding on the upper concourse, brightening and refreshing the entire arena bowl. Contract painters continue to paint the remaining walls and washrooms on the second-floor concourse. Staff painted downstairs hallways and refinished floors in community halls
- JMRRC West Ice was installed early in August.

Highlights

- 16th Ave sanitary sewer replacement has started.
- Road Resurfacing is underway and is currently expected to be completed by October 3.
- Water meter project is more than 90% complete and will now be sending out final notices to people who have not responded to booking requests.
- Traffic Counting devices have been received, and staff training will follow.
- City will be launching a new garbage tag design shortly, with a larger size and improved visibility
- There are a number of active construction projects right now, so there is a lot of coordination between multiple divisions. The collaboration that goes into every project is critical to its success and shows each person's dedication to the City and to the satisfaction of doing a good job.

Corporate Services Committee

Second Thursday of each month - 5:30 p.m.

Lead Director: Kate Allan, ext. 1238

October 9

- 2025 T2 Financial Update
- External Communications Strategy Project Plan
- Joining the Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities
- Pay and Compensation Update
- Recruitment and Retention Update
- Update on Safety in the Council Chambers

Operations Committee

Third Thursday of each month - 5:30 p.m.
Lead Director: Lara Widdifield, ext. 1201

October 16

- Bus Stop Agreement – Skyline Retail Real Estate Holdings Inc. – Fronting East Side Shoppers Drug Mart
- Pedestrian Signal Status Update

Community Services Committee

Third Wednesday of each month - 5:30 p.m.

Lead Director: Pam Coulter, ext. 1252

October 15

- Design and Location of the Commemorative Forest Monument
- External Relations and Investment Attraction Plan
- Summer Recreation Programs 2025 Wrap-Up
- Report on Municipal Response to Provincial Bill 5
- Building Activity Update

In case you missed it - Media Advisories Issued July 21 – September 9

www.owensound.ca/news

1. Set Sail for Adventure, Movies and Music this Weekend!
2. A Collaborative Partnership to Advance New Affordable Housing Options in Owen Sound
3. Structure Fire at Vacant Building on Superior Street
4. City Continues Fire Hydrant Flushing into Zone B
5. Celebrating Community: Manitoba Plaque Unveiling at Midweek Music
6. Owen Sound Hosts Facilitated Discussion for River District Stakeholders
7. What's Open and Closed in Owen Sound for the Civic Holiday Weekend
8. Building Fire in the 900 Block of 2nd Ave E
9. Road Construction on 9th Avenue E and 6th Street E Down to One Lane
10. Notice of Intention to Pass Amendment to the Fees and Charges By-law
11. Kelso Beach at Nawash Park in Owen Sound posted unsafe for swimming (on behalf of Grey Bruce Public Health)
12. New 'Gather in Grey' Video Shines a Spotlight on Owen Sound's Culinary Scene
13. Fresh Start for a Familiar Site Across from the Bayshore Community Centre
14. Expressions of Interest for the Temporary Use of the "Rice House"
15. Flagging in Place on 9th Avenue E for Manhole Replacement
16. Public Notice: Seasonal Changes in Taste and Odour of Tap Water
17. Secure Your 2025 Salmon Spectacular Camping and Boating Permits Now
18. Summer Hydrant Flushing in Zone G Complete
19. Passing of Former City Councillor and Dedicated Volunteer, Ann Kelly

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20. Lane Reductions on Eddie Sargent Parkway During Summerfolk Festival to Support Event Access
21. Household Hazardous Waste Event Happening Saturday, August 16
22. City of Owen Sound to Honour Former Public Works Employee, Paul Duncan
23. City of Owen Sound Officials Advocate for Local Needs at 2025 AMO Conference
24. Owen Sound Celebrates Groundbreaking of Major New Waterfront Housing Project
25. Owen Sound Delegates Advance Key Priorities at 2025 AMO Conference
26. Loading Dock Door Replacement at The TOM to Retire Iconic Mural
27. Leaf and Yard Waste Compost Site Closure Beginning Wednesday, August 27
28. Hockey Fest Celebrations Return to Owen Sound
29. Owen Sound and Partners Lead the Way: Ontario's First Great Lakes Coastal Cleanup Announced
30. Summer Hydrant Flushing in Zone D
31. What's Open & Closed in Owen Sound for Labour Day Weekend
32. Swimming advisory lifted for Kelso Beach - August 28, 2025 (on behalf of Grey Bruce Public Health)
33. Tom Thomson Art Gallery's 'Gallery Night at the Movies' Returns for 28th Season
34. City Seeks Sunday Free Skating Sponsors
35. Mill & Pave 2025- On-Street Parking Restrictions
36. Road Construction: 32nd Street East Watermain Replacement
37. City of Owen Sound Improves Wastewater Service Reliability for Residents
38. Hydrant Flushing in Zone E
39. Fire at 1005 2nd Ave E Quickly Contained

Engagement

Discover Your City: Owen Sound Community Open House

Monday, October 20 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Bayshore Community Centre.

This free, family-friendly event offers residents a unique opportunity to connect directly with City Council and staff, learn more about essential City services, and engage with community organizations that play a vital role in daily life.

- Learn about City services, programs, and resources
- Chat directly with City staff and have questions answered
- Explore current and upcoming City projects
- Connect with other community organizations offering essential services in the area
- A dedicated kids' space will be available with fun activities.

Salmon Discovery Day

Saturday, October 4

Tourism is partnering with the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority for Salmon Discovery Day which will take place on Saturday, October 4 from 11am – 3pm. It's designed as a self-guided adventure that takes you along the Sydenham River to watch the salmon on their journey upstream. Along the way, you can collect stamps in a Salmon Discovery Passport for a chance to win a prize. This family-friendly event starts at the West Side Boat Launch and ends at Inglis Falls Arboretum.

Year-To-Date Building Activity

Construction value of:

\$214,526,096



264 Building Permits Issued

Including all building, plumbing, demolition, heritage, and tents.

920 Building inspections.



\$905,576



Building permit fees collected.

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www.owensoundriverdistrict.ca

www.owensoundtourism.ca