#### **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

Greetings everyone.

Spring should be just around the corner bringing with it maple syrup season, tulips, spring bird migration and of course warmer weather. Days are longer and we can once again enjoy the breath-taking sunset the Island has to offer. With spring/summer comes camp fires and brush burning. Residents are reminded, for everyone's safety, to pay attention to dry conditions and fire ban announcements. Billings Township will be erecting their newly acquired fire risk billboard in a highly visible location.

Council continues to look for ways to improve safety for everyone, on our roads. The township will be conducting a speed and road safety study this spring and summer. We look forward to a new market season in the newly named Kagawong River Complex. Come and visit vendors from all across the Island or if you're so inclined, set up your own space and enjoy meeting the folks that wander through. As well, the complex offers a space for pickle ball, roller hockey and events, rain or shine.

Spring is a great time to get out and enjoy our green spaces, walking trails and of course a visit to Bridal Veil falls. Please remember to respect the wildlife and natural environment, as the saying goes "take only pictures, leave only footprints".

Once again thank you to our numerous volunteers for their hard work. If you wish to get involved there are openings in some of our committees.

Council and staff are hard at work preparing the 2025 budget and ensuring that we present a fiscally responsible budget while maintaining the best services we can offer. A special thank-you to staff for their dedication and hard work.

With the recent presidential election in the United States and our own recently announced federal and provincial elections we are facing unprecedented times and uncertainty in what the future may bring. Whatever the future may bring we can take comfort in knowing we have a strong and resilient community that will support each other through encouragement and friendship.

- Mayor, Bryan Barker

### LET'S CONNECT

 OFFICE
 (705) 282-2611

 FAX
 (705) 282-3199

 EMAIL
 admin@billingstwp.ca

 GARAGE
 (705) 282-3433

### YOUR COUNCIL

Mayor Bryan Barker bbarker@billingstwp.ca

Deputy Mayor David Hillyard dhillyard@billingstwp.ca

Councillor Michael Hunt mhunt@billingstwp.ca

Councillor Vince Grogan vgrogan@billingstwp.ca

Councillor lan Anderson ianderson@billingstwp.ca

### **STAY INFORMED**

Council meetings are scheduled for the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Comments are always welcome from members of the public, please direct them to the township office.

> Agenda packages, meeting minutes and monthly newsletters are posted on the township website.

#### **Our Vision**

"Inspiring A Life Well Lived. Naturally" Our Mission

> "Ensuring a Progressive Future, While Honoring Our Rich History"



OFFICE 15 Old Mill Road Kagawong, ON PHONE (705) 282-2611 EMAIL admin@billingstwp.ca HOURS Mon – Thurs 8:30am – 4:00pm Fri 8:30am – 12:00pm



Photo Courtesy of Craig Jackson

#### STAFF

CAO/Clerk Véronique Dion Harmony Hancock Treasurer **Tiana Mills** Deputy Clerk Municipal Project Manager **Todd Gordon** Admin/Tax Clerk Jorja Croft Public Works Superintendent Chris Cyr Bill Hore Public Works Operator Public Works Operator Bill Savage Public Works Operator John Tolsma Dennis Beckett Landfill Attendant Fire Chief Martin Connell Building Inspector Dan Osborne Protective Services Arthur Moran Marina Manager Jim Fowlie Jill Ferguson Librarian **Rick Nelson** Museum Curator

#### LANDFILL SITE INFORMATION

The Billings Landfill 9490 Hwy 540, Kagawong

Summer Hours April 1 – October 31 Tuesday & Thursday 2pm – 6pm Saturday & Sunday 10am – 4pm

Winter Hours November 1 – March 31 Tuesday & Thursday 2pm – 6pm Saturday 1pm – 4pm Sunday 10am – 4pm

There are separate recycle bins for paper, cardboard, metal, electronics, wood and comingled plastics, aluminum, metal, etc.

Garbage must be in clear bags. Recycling is mandatory and unsorted garbage will not be accepted. The landfill does not accept household hazardous waste. Billings participates, with other island municipalities, in an annual household hazardous waste day, held in July.

### LIBRARY HOURS

The Billings Library 18 Upper Street, Kagawong Phone (705) 282-2944

Hours Tuesday & Thursday 4pm – 7pm Saturday 10am – 1pm

The library offers fiction and non-fiction books for adults and children, graphic novels, audio books, e-books, magazines, board games, and cake pans. Free Wi-Fi, desktops, fax, and copying services and basic technical support are also available.

### **TAX INFORMATION**

The 2025 interim taxes included with this flyer are due March 31, 2025

A \$15 administration fee will be applied to all credit card payments.

Payment can also be made through the bill payment services at the following banks: The Bank of Montreal, CIBC, Scotia Bank, RBC and TD Canada Trust. Credit Union customers can check with their local branch for set up and assistance.

A penalty of 1.25% will be added to any unpaid balance after the due date and on the first of every month until paid.

If you are interested in setting up a Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for your municipal property tax, please contact the Treasurer at (705) 282-2611 x 222.

Do you have a change of address? Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse the property owner from paying taxes. If you move, remember to update your address with the office in writing or by email (admin@billingstwp.ca).

# GENERAL

Our outdoor rink volunteers have been busy this winter at the newly named Kagawong River Complex. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our community and for another great skating season!

Are you interested in joining a committee of Council and are a resident or property owner in Billings Township? Contact the municipal office to learn

# FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



ownship of Billings | www.billingstwp.ca

### NEW TOWNApp FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS

We're pleased to announce that Billings is now part of TOWNApp, the trusted platform developed by Citizen Alert. This new, easy-to-use app puts timely information right at your fingertips, helping you stay informed and connected every day.

# What's in it for you?

- Instant Notifications: Get alerts about safety, events, road closures, taxes, and more—so you're always up to date.
- Quick Reporting: Report road issues, accidents, fires, floods, power outages, and other concerns directly through the app.
- Reliable Source: TOWNApp uses the same dependable infrastructure provided by Citizen Alert, so you can trust every update.

### **Get Started**

 Simply download TOWNApp and enter Billings (no registration or payment required) and you'll be ready to receive valuable news and alerts. It's the easiest way to stay in touch with everything happening in your community!

# **BY-LAW UPDATES**

Short Term Accommodation Rentals (STAR) Application information packages are available for

Application information packages are available for pick-up at the township office or by email. To be able to operate a STAR operation, the Township is requiring property owners to have a license for each property that is being used as a rental unit (By-Law 2022-49).

If you have any questions regarding the completion of the license application or require the package by email please contact Arthur Moran, By-Law Enforcement Officer <u>bylaw@billingstwp.ca</u>.