



Growth and Prosperity for Ignace. A Journey Not Taken Alone.

“As the Township of Ignace embarks on a new path forward, Council has realized it will take many positive stakeholders to paddle in the right direction”.

Ignace, ON May 19, 2023. The Township of Ignace has reached a critical crossroad where it has realized that to take advantage of opportunities for the future, it must work closely with its ratepayers, government stakeholders, professional advisors, and the general public. To that end, it has embarked on a critical appointment process to fill two open vacancies left by the former Mayor and Deputy Mayor earlier this year. “Once July 17, 2023, roles around, we expect to have a full, operational and eager Council ready to roll up its sleeves and work diligently together toward a positive and progressive future for this community” stated Interim Mayor Kim Baigrie.

In its quest to move forward, Council at the Township of Ignace has taken its time to review the structure of the Township office, its policies and by-laws, its organizational chart, examined options for future growth, and established a workplace that promotes safe, healthy, and inclusive behaviour. “While we await certain outcomes, including the filling of our two vacant Council seats, we are ensuring that we have a solid internal infrastructure to move forward with excellence, efficiency, compliance and long-term sustainability of the office in Ignace” stated Councillor Defeo.

“This includes training, hard and soft infrastructure replacement and the creation of a modernized office environment that will provide staff the opportunity and instruments to be successful” stated Councillor Taddeo.

The one clear and concise decision of both Council and senior staff at the Township, is that this is a journey that needs to be successful and sustainable into the future, and that requires professional assistance and advice, stakeholder engagement with both levels of government and occasional feedback from the public. To that end, The Township of Ignace has engaged experts in the municipal field to help guide them through this process in order to achieve, not only the best-in-class results, but also to provide guidance and feedback that allows them to be successful in this journey. Expertise for Municipalities (E4m) is just that. This Northern Ontario based not-for-profit specializes in making communities stronger, by engaging and enforcing best practices for smaller municipalities and their ability to grow and become successful and sustainable. E4m has worked with hundreds of municipal clients as either their primary municipal advisors or their Integrity Commissioners. Their expertise and experience in the municipal world are based on research and execution of sound operational practices, state-of-the-art policy development and the implementation of practices that position the community for growth. E4m has access to a multitude of professional expertise in the legal, communications, investigation, and human resource development fields at its disposal to ensure the right team is in place to execute on those successful and approved strategies.

The Township of Ignace has also not forgotten, but ensured that their Provincial and Federal partners are up to date on the current matters of the community. “We need our government partners at both levels of government, more now than ever, and keeping an open line of communication with them as we re-emerge from our current challenges is critical in any functional relationship” stated Interim Mayor Baigrie. “We also need the feedback from our ratepayers and the public and instituting an open and transparent framework for replacing our two vacancies on Council is a testament to that process. We need to all continue to paddle in the right direction”.

“We certainly realize that we are dedicated to the municipality and openly thank our ratepayers for their on-going support and patience, and we also realize that this is not a journey we can take alone, but only with that collaborative involvement, including our government stakeholders, our professional partners and advisors and the good people of this wonderful community.”

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