



Wingham Advance Times

Thursday, April 22, 2021

\$1.50 per copy (includes GST)

Maitland Family Dental

334 Josephine St.
Wingham

519-357-2021
519-357-2728



MAKE YOUR BEST DEAL WITH GARRY

Ontario's Largest RAM Truck Dealer!

I WILL SAVE YOU MONEY!

CALL ME DIRECT GARRY WOODCOCK
1-800-263-5382 Ext. 325
Cell: 519-323-6550
Serving my customers



woody@arthurchrysler.com

RE/MAX

Land Exchange Ltd.
Brokerage
Independently Owned and Operated

262 Josephine St., Wingham
519-357-3332

www.remaxlandexchange.ca
"Featuring Most Local and Ontario Listings"

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Local News pages 2,5
- Opinion page 4
- Regional News pages 6-11
- COVID-19 page 12
- Real Estate page 13
- Sports page 14
- Classifieds page 15



Cory Bilyea photo

Members of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) walked to the site of upcoming borehole drilling on Apr. 14, to offer prayers and ceremony for the Earth, the water and the rock that will be affected by NWMO's proposed DGR, if the area is chosen for the project. See story on page 6.

It's about dam time!

After years of debate, council votes 5-2 to decommission Howson Dam

CORY BILYEA

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
cbilyea@midwesternnewspapers.com

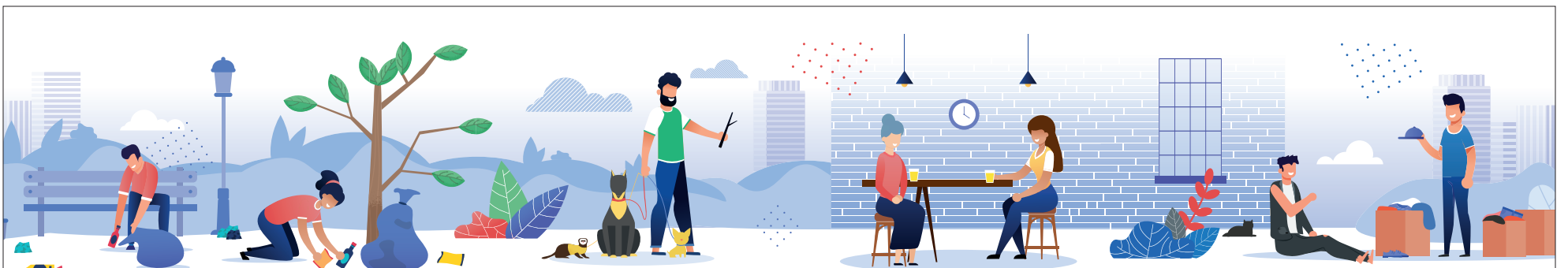
NORTH HURON – The Howson Dam will be decommissioned. After years of debate and reports, North Huron council has voted to remove the entire structure after a report from Chant Limited said rehabilitation of the asset is not possible. “While clearly the Howson Dam has been in use and operated for more than 100 years, the condition of the structure has significantly deteriorated over time and there is little

doubt from Chant’s investigations that the south dam structure has now reached end of life.” Council directed staff to initiate the process to decommission the dam and instructed them to prepare a future report on potential financial impacts. Staff was also directed to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the “procurement of services to decommission the dam.” The township hired Chant Ltd., an engineering company based in Aurora, to prepare a report regarding the dam that

included reviewing the existing reports and documents. Fieldwork on the south dam structure took 10 concrete cores which checked for soundness and strength. Chant assessed the structure for its suitability for rehabilitation and provided recommendations to council of practical rehabilitation methods. The recommendations totalled in the millions. “The results of the Chant Limited investigation indicate that the condition of the existing concrete does not qualify the

south dam as a candidate for rehabilitation. Engineers have stated that without significant dollars and additional support provided by a new concrete addition, the dam is not suitable to remain,” said Jamie McCarthy, director of public works, told council in her report. “Construction cost estimates from engineers to provide the necessary support range from \$1,974,000 to \$4,224,000. It is important to note that these cost estimates do not take into consideration construction contingency costs, engineering,

permits, the north weir, and reinstatements.” Added McCarthy, “The data collected by the experts also suggests that delaying decisions regarding the future of the Howson Dam will result in increased liability on the part of the municipality due to the poor state of the asset.” Reeve Bernie Bailey and Deputy Reeve Trevor Seip were the two nay votes in a motion that passed 5 – 2 to start the process of decommissioning the dam.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

APRIL 18-24, 2021

SEE PAGES 8 & 9