



November 2025

As we enter the last month of 2025, here is an update on progress and events in November.

I was honoured to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Port Stanley with Deputy Mayor Noble, Minister Flack, and MP Lawton. Despite the snowfall, residents gathered for a meaningful parade and service to honour those who served and sacrificed for our freedom. Thank you to everyone who helped organize and participated in this important tribute.

Earlier this month, I attended an announcement in City of St. Thomas with Premier Ford, Minister Fedeli, Mayor Preston and the Vianode team regarding a historic \$3.2 billion investment in the community. Vianode manufactures synthetic graphite and will help supply the growing demand for graphite in EV batteries, energy storage, and other critical industries.

I also met with Infrastructure Ontario in Toronto as we continue advocating for forward momentum on the redevelopment of the former Psychiatric Hospital lands. We remain committed to working with our Provincial partners to ensure these lands can support future housing and community needs. In the new year, a finalized Policy Directions and Land Use Plan, incorporating the community's feedback collected in the fall, will be presented to Council for consideration.

Parts of the municipality saw their first snowfall in early November, and our crews were out early clearing roads and applying salt. A reminder that overnight street parking is restricted over the winter to help ensure plows can operate safely. More information about winter operations is available on our website: <https://www.centralelgin.org/en/news/winter-is-coming-central-elgin-is-ready.aspx>

Council met three times in November and approved several important items, including the contract award for a new street sweeper, confirming that the 2026 Municipal Election will use paper ballots, and a pilot program to address parking machine glare concerns. I also brought forward a motion asking staff to collaborate with the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario on a pilot program to offer reduced rates for Central Elgin residents for swimming and water-based programs beginning in January 2026. Details will be shared soon.

This month, Central Elgin Fire Rescue received two generous contributions: donation of fire prevention kits from Medallion Group Insurance, in partnership with the Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council, and a \$5,000 donation from McDougall Energy. We are grateful for this support and for the recognition of our firefighters' dedication.

I was also pleased to see so many residents and families enjoying the festivities at the Dickens Days Night Parade in Port Stanley, which kicked off Harbour Holly Days. Thank you to the Port Stanley Lions, the Port Stanley, Ontario BIA, and all the volunteers who make these events possible. Next weekend is the Belmont Santa Claus Parade, and I hope to see many of you there — watch for the Central Elgin float.

As we head into the final weeks before the holidays, consider supporting local this season. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful businesses offering unique gifts and services for everyone on your list.

I look forward to coming together with the community to celebrate the holidays.

As always please reach out if I can be of assistance.

- Andrew



