



October 2025

October has been a busy and inspiring month across Central Elgin — filled with community celebrations, local meetings, important planning initiatives, and regional collaboration. I'd like to share a few highlights with you.

Earlier this month, we hosted an Open House for the Former Psychiatric Hospital Lands Planning Project. I was pleased to see so many residents attend and share their feedback on the Draft Policy Directions and Land Use Plan for this significant site. Community input is essential — your ideas help shape a complete community that will serve Central Elgin for generations. If you missed the Open House, you can still review the presentation boards and complete an online survey at

<https://www.letstalkcentralelgin.ca/reimaginehospitallands>. Your feedback will help refine plans as the project moves forward.

I attended the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus 2025 Conference in London — an opportunity to connect with leaders from across the region, share ideas, and discuss priorities for Southwestern Ontario. Collaboration at this level ensures that Central Elgin's voice is part of the broader regional conversation.

I was pleased to attend a meeting with the **Belmont Swans** and present a cheque to the Swans as one of the recipients of Central Elgin's 2025 Community Grant and Sponsorship Program. Thank you to the Swans for your continued dedication and enthusiasm — and for the warm welcome and great questions.

As part of Ontario Public Library Week, I had the pleasure of reading to children and caregivers at the Port Stanley Library. A big thank-you to our local librarians for all they do to inspire a love of reading in our community.

Deputy Mayor Todd Noble, Councillor Dave Baughman, and I had the opportunity to meet with residents at the annual Ward 5 Town Hall in Belmont. It was great to see so many community members take part and share thoughtful questions, ideas, and feedback. We heard a range of topics—from updates on the new school to parking and traffic concerns—and we're taking that feedback back for follow-up and action. I'm confident that the feedback gathered will help guide our next steps and shape the opportunities ahead for Belmont and the broader community.

Last week, Ontario celebrated Small Business Week. Small businesses are the heart of Central Elgin's economy - from our local shops and restaurants to the entrepreneurs and family-run services that make our communities thrive.

Finally, I was pleased to see Port Stanley Terminal Rail and Port Stanley featured on Toronto. com as a must-visit autumn adventure destination — highlighting one of the many reasons our community is such a special place to experience.

As we look ahead to November, I look forward to joining residents at Remembrance Day services in Port Stanley and Belmont as we come together to honour those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom.

Thank you to everyone who continues to engage, volunteer, and share ideas for building a stronger Central Elgin.

– Andrew



