

Rural Youth Group Committee Meeting

March 9, 2026, at 5:30pm at 136 Yonge Street, Burk's Falls

Present: Chair Barry Burton, Co-Chair Ashley Brandt, Mayor Chris Hope, Jeannette Godfrey, Recording Secretary

Guests: None

Regrets: Corrine Penstone, Mary Thompson

Delegations: None

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm by Chair B. Burton
2. **Land Acknowledgement:**
The Land Acknowledgement was provided for the Committee.
3. **Disclosure of Interest:**
None
4. **Acceptance of the Agenda:**
Moved by C. Hope - Seconded by J. Godfrey
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rural Youth Group Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the meeting of March 9, 2026
Carried.
5. **Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes:**
Moved by J. Godfrey - Seconded by A. Brandt
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Rural Youth Group Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2026.
Carried.
6. **Old Business:**
 - a) **Results of the Council Meeting**
At their regular meeting held on February 17, Council did not make a decision regarding the recommendations proposed by the Committee. Chair B. Burton has been requested to attend the next Council meeting scheduled for March 17, 2026, to participate in further discussion. Chair B. Burton confirmed he will attend.
 - b) **Update Regarding Rental Space and Quotes**
A plumber attended the potential sites and advised that the estimated cost for the basic plumbing setup for a washroom would be approximately \$5,000.00. This estimate does not include fixtures. It was also noted that accessibility must be considered, as the units reviewed are not currently wheelchair accessible. Chair B. Burton will reach out to the Magnetawan Lions Club, which has been identified as a potential partner in assisting with accessibility modifications.

c) Updates Regarding Interviews and Next Steps

The Committee discussed timelines and expressed a desire not to delay the hiring while waiting for modifications to a rental space. The Committee still requests the ability to move forward with hiring a coordinator as soon as possible. The coordinator will be responsible for running pilot activities, gathering ideas, researching and writing grant applications, and advancing the initiative.

Accessible spaces identified for initial programming include the Arena and the Seniors Centre.

J. Godfrey will contact the candidates who were interviewed to advise that a decision has not yet been made but is expected soon.

d) Naming of the Centre

Deferred

e) Downtown Celebration

Deferred

f) Fundraising

It was strongly noted that the Committee requires someone with the interest and skills to write grant applications. Mayor C. Hope again offered to assist with writing grants but indicated that a committee member would need to identify available funding opportunities and provide the relevant information. The Committee discussed that having a coordinator in place would help address this need.

7. New Business

Chair B. Burton met informally with the Library CAO, who indicated that the library supports the initiative. They currently face space limitations when hosting youth activities. Chair B. Burton and the Library CAO will prepare a memorandum of understanding to formalize their intent to collaborate. The memorandum will be provided to the Committee for review and comment before being submitted to Village Council for approval.

Other


Chair B. Burton reiterated that he will request that the Village not charge the Youth Group for hours associated with the recording secretary. The committee was reminded that the initiative was originally presented to Council as having no cost to Village ratepayers, which is the rationale for the fee.

8. Recommendations to Council

None

9. Date of Next Meeting: March 30th 5:30 pm, 2026

10. Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.



Signature of Chair