As we quickly move through 2015 many positive developments are well underway in Morris-Turnberry and the County of Huron. The announcement of the Cross-Border service agreement between North Huron and Morris-Turnberry in July was certainly great news. The announcement will greatly encourage development in the area while helping both Municipalities to move forward. Services will be provided by North Huron to areas in Morris-Turnberry and in return Morris-Turnberry has agreed to help fund soft services (such as recreation and cemeteries) at a more equitable level. This is a win-win-win situation for both Municipalities and the entire community.

At the same time the two Municipalities have been working to complete the Wingham Area Land Strategy. The many studies that are required for this planning process will be finalized and presented to Council in September. This will provide the area with shovel ready land for development.

Two important initiatives have recently begun through collaboration of the Lower Tier Municipalities and the County of Huron, in August. A new Economic Development strategic plan process started in each of the Lower Tier Municipalities. This is being co-ordinated by OMAFRA County wide and will result in an economic development strategic plan for each municipality that totally meshes with the economic development strategic plan of Huron County. This is a first in the Province of Ontario and will be a great boost to development in all of Huron County.

On September 17 and 18, 2015 a shared service workshop will be held with all Municipalities of Huron County in attendance. It will be a chance for all municipalities to discuss and have input into what services could be shared or delivered more efficiently across the County. This could very well be a pivotal event in how each municipality moves forward.

2015 has been a very busy year to date. I believe that we will soon see some very positive results from these initiatives. Continuing to work together will only help us reach our goals.

Mayor, Paul Gowing
Information Publications

1) The **2014 Financial Statement** is available for review at the Municipal office and on the Municipal website.

2) The **2014 Performance Measures** is available to review at the Municipal office and on the Municipal Website.

3) Municipal **Belgrave Water System** Report is available for review at the Municipal office and on the Municipal Website

Landfill Department

**Morris Ward Landfill Site**

- **Wedgesdays** 10:00 – 3:00pm
- **Saturdays** 9:00am – 5:00pm

**Weigh Scale:** all waste entering the landfill site must be weighed

New OPP Billing Model

Under the new OPP model in effect January 1, 2015, two components are used to determine the amount a municipality is billed for policing costs; a standard base cost and number of calls for service. The base cost billed to a municipality is billed per property, which includes services such as routine patrol, crime prevention, RIDE programs and other proactive policing initiatives. The remainder of the bill is based on reactive calls for service based on a 4 year average.

In an effort to keep costs down, we would like to provide you with a brief explanation of who to call for specific emergency and non-emergency events:

**Call 911 (emergency):** for a crime in progress, suspicious activity/people/vehicles and collisions

**Call 211:** If you have issues finding housing, mental health/substance abuse services, or any information on local service organizations.

**Call 511 (from a cell phone only):** for information on provincial highways (road closures, winter road conditions and construction projects).

Certain incidents can be reported online by using the ‘online citizen self reporting’ website at [www.opp.ca/reporting](http://www.opp.ca/reporting). You may use this system to report: theft under $5000, damages to properties/vehicles under $5000, theft from vehicles, lost/missing property, stolen licence plates and driving complaints (after the fact). Please do not use this website for emergencies.

**911 Numbers on Vacant Lands**

Please contact the Municipal office if you wish to have a 911 number sign erected on your vacant property

Guiderail/Escort Vehicle

Morris-Turnberry roads are reconstructed in accordance with MTO Standards which includes Guiderail in some locations. The Council suggest that if wide equipment is transported in those areas, that escort vehicles are suggested as a safety measure.

Fire Prevention

Once again Firefighters will be going door to door through Morris-Turnberry this summer. Our **alarmed for life campaign** will see another 500 smoke alarms installed within our community. Our hopes are that we will see a higher level of compliance this year. We were surprised to find last year only 11% of homes were properly protected with functioning smoke alarms. By law you must have a smoke alarm on every level of your home. They also need to be installed near sleeping areas and loud enough to wake you. Make sure these smoke alarms are replaced every 10 years and the batteries changed when you change your clocks. Should your house have a fire you have roughly 2 minutes and 45 seconds to get out alive. **Without smoke alarms installed as described above your family will not have this much time!**