



Municipalité de
RUSSELL
Township

Township Newsletter

Edition 29 | Spring 2026

Save the Date!

Meet Me on Main Street
July 9, 2026 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Yahoo Park (8 Blais Street, Embrun)

Meet Me on Main Street

We invite you to participate at the Meet Me on Main Street event Thursday, July 9, 2026, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Yahoo Park (8 Blais street in Embrun).

This community gathering will include food & beverage kiosks, local music, craft breweries, face painting, fire safety, outdoor fun, etc. Fun for the whole family! Admission is free.

For more information: Russell.ca/MeetMe.

Message from the Mayor

Turning Plans into Progress

As the snow melts and we look ahead to brighter days, spring offers a chance to reflect, not only on what's been accomplished, but on what's actively taking shape across our community.



This year, you'll begin to see long-planned projects come to life. Our new Recreation Complex is well into construction and on track to open this fall. Once complete, it will provide a modern, welcoming space for programs, sports, and events, a gathering place for residents of all ages.

Throughout the Municipality, roadwork will continue through spring and summer. These aren't just surface repairs, they include safety upgrades, updated underground infrastructure, and new layouts to improve traffic flow. While short-term inconvenience is expected, these are long-term investments in safer, stronger streets and smoother commutes.

These projects are possible thanks to consistent long-term planning and a collaborative approach. By setting aside funds over time, forming strong partnerships, and securing grants, we're able to advance key priorities while maintaining one of the lowest property tax rates in the region. This reflects our commitment to responsible growth, delivering lasting value while respecting residents' tax dollars.

We're also applying outside-the-box thinking to infrastructure planning. In partnership with The Nation Municipality, we've begun early work on a shared solution to meet future wastewater needs. It's a smart, regional approach, one that has drawn provincial interest, and we're hopeful they'll come on board to support it. It's another example of how collaboration helps us plan effectively and spend wisely.

Through it all, we're guided by dialogue and partnership. Whether it's hearing from residents at community events, working with local groups, or meeting with neighbouring municipalities and all levels of government, we focus on decisions that serve the best interests of our Township and its residents.

Looking ahead, we'll continue building on this foundation, creating a strong, connected, and resilient community that reflects the values of the people who live here, and the rural character that makes our Township so unique.

On behalf of Council and staff, I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable spring season.

Be Informed on YOUR Township!

Receive information as it comes out. Subscribe to our email alerts at Russell.ca/subscribe.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.



@MunRussellTwp



Major Construction Projects

Roundabout at the intersection of Route 300 and St-Guillaume Road

Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2026. This project, led by the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, is part of the Route 300 reconstruction plan. Detours will be in place; please follow Municipal511.ca for updates.

Phase 2 of the Notre-Dame Street Reconstruction Project

In 2025, a section of the storm sewer system was replaced. Replacement work will continue in 2026. Watermain infrastructure will also be upgraded to meet future demand. Information sessions were held to share project details.

More information is available at Russell.ca/NotreDameSt.

Water Ban Continues in Embrun

The water ban in Embrun remains in effect until further notice while the Township of Russell completes work on the Embrun water tower. All outdoor water use is prohibited during this time.

Updates will be shared on the Township website, by email, and on social media. Subscribe for alerts at Russell.ca/subscribe.



The 2026 Municipal Election is October 26, 2026

The Voting Period will be held October 21 to 26, 2026. You can vote anytime online or by phone starting October 21 at 9:00 a.m. ending October 26 at 8:00 p.m.



Do you want voting on election day to be quick and easy? Update your information in advance! Visit Elections Ontario's Voter Registration site RegisterToVoteON.ca to confirm, update or add your information for provincial and local elections in Ontario.

Get on the voters list today.

RegisterToVoteON.ca
1.866.242.3025

KNOW WHO TO CONTACT

Organic & Waste

Municipalité de **RUSSELL** Township

613-443-1747 / infrastructure@russell.ca

Recycling

Miller Waste

1-888-852-2374 / area2@millerwaste.ca

Proper Bin Placement

To ensure your green and black (charcoal) bins are picked up, ensure proper positioning:

- Position your bin with the wheels facing away from the street.
- Leave at least 2 feet (60 cm) of space between your bins, recycling boxes, or other obstacles so the truck can safely pick them up.





Summer Recreational Programs

Our Moustiques, Kaboum, Sunshine, Lightning, and Xtreme summer camps, along with activities at the Russell Centennial pool will be back for summer 2026! The Summer Programs and Activities Guide will be available in April. Visit Russell.ca/Programs.

REGISTRATION DATES

Summer Camps

- Residents: April 8 at 9:00 a.m.
- Non-residents: April 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Aquatic Programs

- Residents: April 29 at 9:00 a.m.
- Non-residents: May 4 at 9:00 a.m.
- In-person registration for semi-private and private lessons will be held on June 4 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 717 Notre-Dame Street, Embrun.
- By appointment only: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A link to make an appointment will be made available on May 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Russell.ca/Programs.
- Walk-in only (first come, first served): 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Pool and Spa Permits

Are you planning on installing a pool or spa in the near future? Pools and spas with the capacity of 18 inches of water or more require a permit.

Learn more about what is required at Russell.ca/PoolPermits.



Visit Our Parklets

Our two parklets are back in Embrun and Russell this year! Come play chess, relax and enjoy these public spaces!

Details at Russell.ca/parklet.

Your School Support Matters

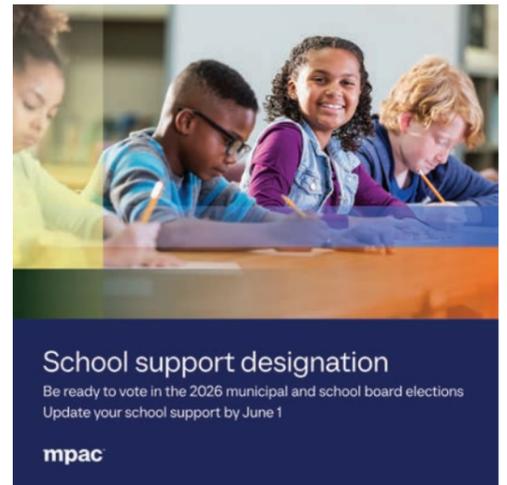
Make sure you're ready to vote in 2026!

Did you know your school support designation determines which trustee election you can participate in for in the next municipal and school board elections?

In Ontario, property owners and tenants can choose which school board they support. This designation also helps determine how you're listed on the Preliminary List of Electors, placing you on the correct voters list for the municipal and school board elections.

MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) is legislatively responsible for collecting school support designation data. This information is provided to Elections Ontario to help build and maintain the Preliminary List of Electors.

School support designations should be reviewed and, if needed, updated by June 1, 2026, to be accurately included on the Preliminary List of Electors for the elections on October 26, 2026. To learn more about school support and update your designation, visit mpac.ca/schoolsupport.



School support designation

Be ready to vote in the 2026 municipal and school board elections
Update your school support by June 1

mpac

48-Hour Building Permits

Fast-Track Your Small Residential Projects!

From May 6 to September 2, 2026, apply for a 48-hour building permit for small residential projects like decks, sheds, or minor residential renovations.

Submit your application before noon on Mondays. Permits will be issued by Wednesday afternoons, as long all information is provided, and the proposal complies with the Ontario Building Code and municipal zoning bylaws. Find more information on our website on various projects to ensure you submit all necessary information.

*Failure to provide all necessary information may cause delays.

For more information and to download the application form, visit Russell.ca/building or contact us at inspections@russell.ca.



New Carbon Monoxide Rules

On January 1, 2026, the Province of Ontario made changes to the laws that apply to carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. Homes in Ontario were already required to have a working smoke alarm on every floor & a CO alarm outside of all sleeping areas. But now a CO alarm is ALSO required on every level if the home has a fuel burning appliance or attached garage. This change is significant and it is important that all homeowners are made aware, something that we feel still has not been fully accomplished. This upcoming May, Russell Township Fire Services will be hand delivering notices of this change to every home within the Township. While this is a large undertaking, the importance cannot be disputed.

As spring is upon us, residents will want to have campfires on their properties. Please make sure to adhere to municipal by-laws when doing so. The same also applies to burn permits for farm properties. For more information on these matters please see Russell.ca/fires.



Scan to learn more about this new law.

Creating Lots on Farmland: What's Allowed

Most farmland located outside village borders is within a rural or agricultural zone and has an Official Plan designation. When land is both zoned and designated agricultural, lot creation is very limited by the province. The only kind allowed is a farm residence surplus severance, which means the existing farmhouse can be separated from the rest of the farmland.

Each property is different and may have its own rules. In general, the farmhouse must already exist, be livable, and the remaining land must continue to be used for farming — either by the current owner or by a bona fide farmer who buys it. A zoning amendment is also required to make sure the farmland cannot be used for new residential purposes. This must be completed within two years along with other consent conditions.

Creating new residential lots through zoning or Official Plan changes is not allowed in agricultural areas. These lands are protected by the province as prime farmland, even if they are not currently used for farming. The goal is to preserve farmland for future generations.

