



Media Release

For immediate release - Mayor Brian Stewart - Township of Lanark Highlands

August 21, 2017

Township Hires New Clerk Administrator/Deputy Treasurer

On behalf of Council, I wish to announce two developments that will not only provide for stability in terms of leadership in the management of Township operations but also enhance our ability to meet challenges in the area of financial management of the Township.

First, I am very pleased to announce that Allison Vereyken will be appointed to the position of Clerk Administrator/Deputy Treasurer for the Township of Lanark Highlands effective September 26th, 2017. A graduate of Lakehead University (Business Administration – Accounting), Ms. Vereyken’s practical experience includes her role as Assistant Controller for Greenwood Paving. In that role, Ms. Vereyken was responsible for all financial aspects of the business including human resources compensation management and employee health and safety. More recently, as the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk for the Township of Greater Madawaska, Ms. Vereyken was responsible for financial management and human resource functions, including labour relations and policy development. Ms. Vereyken is in the process of obtaining her CPA designation.

Ms. Vereyken, now a resident of Lanark Highlands, was successful in two recent Lanark Highlands’ staffing processes (CAO and Treasurer) in 2016. Although placing first, Ms.

Vereyken was unable to accept an appointment to the position of Treasurer at the time of the competition. We are very pleased that she has agreed to join the Township in the position of Clerk Administrator/Deputy Treasurer.

Second, the Township is in the process of finalizing a “shared services agreement” with the County of Lanark for the appointment of Ms. Joan Pratt, CPA, as the Township’s Treasurer on a half-time basis. This will save the municipality approximately \$50,000 annually and will also provide the Township access to other County resources in the finance department to assist with specific requirements on an as needed basis. Shared services agreements have recently been promoted as an excellent tool, especially for small rural municipalities such as ours, for providing services to communities in a more efficient and effective manner.

Although Ms. Pratt will carry out the overall responsibilities for the financial management of the Township, Ms. Vereyken as the Deputy Treasurer will be able to provide day to day support to Township staff on financial matters.

As previously announced, Stacey Blair’s last day as Clerk Administrator will be August 23rd. Council wishes to extend Stacey our sincere best wishes as she fulfills a career goal by taking on her new responsibilities for the Town of Carleton Place. In the interim, Steven Potter will carry out the duties of Clerk Administrator on a contract basis until Ms. Vereyken starts her employment with us. Mr. Potter, a resident of Lanark Village, has been called on, for a number of years, to provide human resources management advice to both Council and staff.

On behalf of Council I would like to extend an enthusiastic welcome to Ms. Vereyken and Ms. Pratt as well as Mr. Potter and I am confident that their contributions to the overall management of the Township’s operations will be appreciated by both staff and residents.

Mayor, Brian Stewart