



Keeping Track

City of St. Thomas Council Highlights

April 14, 2026 | Issue 39



BRIGHTER FUTURE MONTHLY UPDATE PILLAR #3

Council received the report CMO-25-26. As a monthly reporting process, Council members are encouraged to share feedback, suggestions and ask questions about the focused Pillar.

Pillar #3 - Thriving Economic Development - highlights items such as:

- Renew downtown St. Thomas to create a lively, safe and inclusive destination that people want to live, work, operate a business, participate in, and visit
- Foster a strong and diversified “open for business” economy
- Work with partners, employers, and post secondary institutions to attract, train, retrain, and retain a skilled and sustainable workforce,
- Continue to invest in new City attractions and continue to invest in the diversification of the St. Thomas Airport and its land

A LOOK INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1.

Brighter Future Monthly Update
Pillar #3

2.

Review of Proposed 2026-2028 Fee
Structure for Pickleball and Tennis
Courts



BRIGHTER FUTURE MONTHLY UPDATE PILLAR #3 - THRIVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Corporation (EDC) continues to support business retention and growth across St. Thomas and Elgin County. The EDC recognizes that future investment will be driven by existing companies expanding, hiring, and improving productivity. In 2026, major infrastructure milestones—including Phase 4 Yarmouth Yards Earthworks and Servicing, the South Edgeware Booster Station and rail shunting yard. The Woodworth Avenue and Yarmouth Yards pumping stations will be completed as well. Ongoing partnerships with provincial and regional agencies continue to attract domestic and foreign investment, while workforce initiatives, downtown events, the thriving Horton Farmers' Market, tourism promotions, and Small Business Enterprise Centre programs all contribute to a vibrant, growing local economy and community.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ST. THOMAS PUBLIC LIBRARY

The St. Thomas Public Library continues to strengthen connections with the local business community by showcasing the Maker Lab through partnerships with the Downtown Development Board, STPL Plus, and networking tours. These conversations with businesses and entrepreneurs are helping shape future services and programming in the space. At the same time, the Library is collaborating with Parks and Recreation staff to expand programming beyond its walls, bringing more regular activities to parks, summer camps, sports events, and community spaces across the city. One space that has been discussed for programming is Westlake Evans Park which happens to be located right beside the Library.





REVIEW OF PROPOSED 2026-2028 FEE STRUCTURE FOR PICKELBALL AND TENNIS COURTS

Council received report PR-11-26 outlining court utilization, revenue, operating costs, and fee comparisons from other municipalities for organized racquet sport league play at Pinafore Park. While casual public use remains free, the proposed 2026-2028 Rates and Fees Schedule includes a modest increase from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per hour per court for league play. Staff noted the per-court model remains the most practical and equitable option, helping maintain affordable access while supporting cost recovery and continued investment in accessible recreation opportunities.



UPCOMING FLAG RAISINGS & PROCLAMATIONS



27
APR

Beta Sigma Phi Week
⌚ 11:00AM 📍 CITY HALL

4
MAY

Mental Health Week
⌚ 10:00AM 📍 CITY HALL

4
MAY

GBS/CIDP Awareness
⌚ 11:00AM 📍 CITY HALL

11
MAY

Victims and Survivors of
Crime Week
⌚ 10:00AM 📍 CITY HALL

JUMBO MONUMENT LIGHTING

April 24
Human
Values Day



Red

May 4-8
GBS/CIDP
Awareness



Blue

May 10
Lupus
Awareness
Day



Purple

May 11-16
Victims and
Survivors of
Crime Week



Teal



Make your mark in the community with a proclamation, flag-raising, or by lighting up the iconic Jumbo monument! The Proclamation, Flag-Raising, and Jumbo Lighting Request Form can be found on the City's website or is available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall. Requests should be submitted as far in advance as possible to ensure they can be placed on a Council agenda. Request forms can be submitted in electronic or hard copy format.



FUTURE MEETINGS

- Monday, April 20, 2026 at 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 4, 2026 at 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 11, 2026 at 5 p.m.

To view the council meetings live, visit:
www.stthomas.ca/watch

PAST MEETINGS

Watch archived council meetings:

www.stthomas.ca/archived

View past agendas and minutes:

www.stthomas.ca/pastcouncilmeetings

STAY CONNECTED



www.stthomas.ca



info@stthomas.ca



519.631.1680 '0'



545 Talbot Street, St.
Thomas



@cityofstthomasontario



@cityofstthomas



@cityofstthomas



@cityofstthomasontario

