

Office of the Mayor

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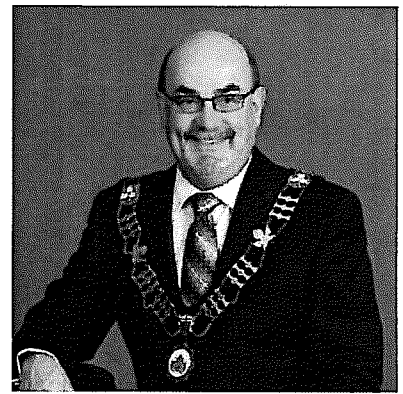
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The Corporation of the



Town of Tecumseh



MAYOR - MAIRE
GARY MCNAMARA

July 14, 2011

Letter to the Editor - Shoreline News

I would like to extend sincere congratulations to the International Dragon Boats for a Cure on another successful event. The weather could not have cooperated more, the crowd bigger, the fun more abundant, the camaraderie among team members more noticeable, or the cause more worthwhile.

For those unfamiliar with the sport, dragon boating simply put, is a boat of 20 paddlers, a drummer and a steers person paddling to cross the finish faster than their competition. It's a team sport in its purest form that encompasses the elements of power, speed, synchronization and endurance. How fitting to have such races involved with breast cancer. These same traits are seen among those with breast cancer; companionship (paddlers), a close confidant who will help you focus (a drummer) and the doctor (a steers person) who will ensure you are going in the right direction. All of them working together to help you cross that finish line and win your quest against cancer.

Since its inception, The International Dragon Boats for a Cure have certainly helped Essex County/Windsor residents. To date they have raised over \$1.6 million, which remains in Essex County/Windsor. These funds have assisted in purchasing the necessary tools to help with early detection - the best protection against this deadly disease. To this we commend the organizers of this wonderful event. Thank you for all you do.

A huge thank you to the volunteers. How wonderful that we have so many individuals within our community that are willing to take time out of their busy lives to help an important cause. Your dedication and boundless work ethic certainly shone through. We can't say thank you enough.

To all the teams that participated - Thank you. I believe everyone can honestly say they had an enjoyable couple of days. Thank you to the local OPP and Fire Fighters who assisted in making sure everyone was safe both at the event and in our town. And a huge thank you goes out to our staff that assisted in ensuring everything ran smoothly.

To the Town of Tecumseh Dragon Boat Team - well, what can I say? While we worked hard and had a lot of fun, we never lost sight of the goal of the day - to help raise money and awareness for breast cancer. Whether you were a rower or a fundraiser, your dedication and commitment is commendable.

My sincere gratitude is extended to the community as a whole. To our residents and businesses for being so patient and keeping our town looking its best - the best in Ontario.

We look forward to hosting the International Dragon Boats for a Cure again next year. As American writer Orison Swett Marden says, "Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds." Let's all remember - together we will beat the odds and paddle this disease away!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gary McNamara". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Gary McNamara
Mayor