

Campbell sworn in as 2020 Lanark County Warden

Councillor Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve) was sworn in as Lanark County's 2020 warden at the inaugural meeting on Tuesday morning following a new nomination process that saw him elected by secret ballot during the Nov. 27 council meeting.

Mr. Campbell was nominated by Councillor John Fenik (Perth Mayor), who said Mr. Campbell has the best interest of the community in mind and puts it first. "He works by consensus and is diplomatic and will make an exceptional warden."

His seconder, Councillor Barrie Crampton (Tay Valley Deputy Reeve), noted Mr. Campbell's long commitment to public service, as he was elected to Tay Valley Council in 2000, became deputy reeve in 2014 and reeve in 2018. "He is eminently qualified to assume the role of warden of Lanark County Council."

During his time in municipal politics, Mr. Campbell has chaired many committees and is very active with local trails. He highlighted accomplishments in Lanark County, including the paramedic services with advanced care paramedics, the award-winning vegetation management efforts and recognition received for the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail.

"Lanark County is looked at as a leader, and we should be proud of that," he said.

Short- and long-term challenges include addressing property issues in Carleton Place, the redevelopment of Lanark Lodge, proceeding with cellular and broadband connectivity, provincial funding cuts, and ongoing infrastructure, affordable housing and youth homelessness issues. "I believe this council is up to the challenge," he said, pledging to do his best to represent the county at the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus.

Mr. Campbell thanked county and Tay Valley Township staff and council, as well as his family, for their support during the election process. He commended Mr. Kidd for his leadership and work as warden in 2019, and thanked his nominators, Councillors John Fenik (Perth Mayor) and Barrie Crampton (Tay Valley Deputy Reeve).

"Lanark County is a great place to live, and over the next year I will do my best to make sure it continues to be a great place to live," Mr. Campbell said.

Past Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) thanked county and township councils and staff and his family for their support while he was warden. "This is a great council and we all bring different strengths to this table," he said, adding, "I know Brian is going to do a great job. It's an educational process and I know he is open to that and he is going to have a great year and be a great leader. He will learn a lot about the county and will be an even bigger asset for the county."

Committee chairpersons were sworn in at the meeting as well, including Councillor Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve) for corporate services, Councillor John Fenik (Perth Mayor) for economic development, Councillor Klaas Van Der Meer (Montague Deputy Reeve) for public works and

Councillor Rickey Minnille (Mississippi Mills Deputy Mayor) for the community services. Mr. Campbell also named a striking committee, which appoints members to various committees and boards. Council reconvenes Wednesday at 5 p.m. for its regular meeting.

Earlier this year, council adopted a change to the procedural by-law that sees nominations open at the start of November and elections for warden and committee chairs take place during the last council meeting of that month.

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For more information, contact:
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Photos of this event are available at

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ghws0lyb18nbn3e/AAA0JTpMXT_BCXOHpQBFF-gla?dl=0

Captions:

1. Reading the Oath: 2020 Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve) takes the oath of office from Clerk/Deputy CAO Leslie Drynan.
2. Signing the Oath: 2020 Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve) signs the oath of office.
3. Chains of Office: Outgoing Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve), right, presents the chains of office to 2020 Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve).
4. Past Warden's Pin: Councillor Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve), right, receives the Past Warden's Pin from 2020 Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve).
5. Newly elected Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve), left and Past Warden Richard Kidd (Beckwith Reeve).
6. Newly elected Warden Brian Campbell (Tay Valley Reeve), centre, is escorted to the chair by his nominators, Councillors John Fenik (Perth Mayor) and Barrie Crampton (Tay Valley Deputy Reeve).