



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

## Ottawa Valley Waste Management Board Re-Elects Chair and Vice Chair

**Laurentian Valley, ON (December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014)** – At its' inaugural, post Municipal election meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Ottawa Valley Waste Management Board re-elected Laurentian Valley Mayor Steve Bennett as Chair and Petawawa Deputy Mayor Tom Mohns as Vice-Chair. Both are familiar with the position as this will be Mayor Bennett's twelfth year as Chair and Deputy Mayor Mohns' tenth year as Vice-Chair.

At the meeting, staff were pleased to report that because of an increase in blue box funding as well as other efficiencies identified throughout the year, it is expected that the 2014 Budget will be balanced. This was good news for Board members.

**"We know staff will continue to look for efficiencies in the Centre's operations."** States Mayor Bennett. **"We want to be able to maintain our excellent service and programs here at the Centre, but we need to make sure we do that in an economically responsible manner."**

Extending the landfill lifespan by opening a Reuse Centre which will utilize existing staff and an on-site building will be a priority for staff in 2015. **"Operation of a Reuse Centre is an excellent addition to our waste diversion programs. It will keep usable items out of the landfill."** Comments Mayor Bennett.

Continuing to reduce the landfill's environmental impact through innovative leachate management systems will also be a priority. In 2014, the Centre planted 108 poplars as part of a pilot program to determine which species is best suited to absorb and filter run-off from landfill operations. This project will continue to be evaluated and possibly expanded in 2015.

**"The Board has always been supportive of innovative projects such as the poplar plantation."** Comments Deputy Mayor Mohns. **"Anything that helps reduce the impact our landfill may have on the environment is worth evaluating. We want to continue to be leaders in waste management."**

The Board also has two new faces at the table. City of Pembroke Councillor Andrew Plummer and North Algona Wilberforce Councillor Dave Plumb join Laurentian Valley Mayor Steve Bennett and Petawawa Deputy Mayor Tom Mohns as well as Councillor Bob Peltzer from Township of Bonnechere Valley who is returning to the Board for a fifth year.

**"Staff are looking forward to working with our Board to provide the community service and innovative programs the Centre has become known for."** States Sue McCrae, OVWRC General Manager."

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Picture and caption included.



Ottawa Valley Waste Management Board Chair Steve Bennett (right) and Vice-Chair Tom Mohns (left) are joined by Sue McCrae, OVWRC General Manager at their December 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting where Laurentian Valley Mayor Bennett and Petawawa Deputy Mayor Mohns were both acclaimed in their positions with the Waste Management Board.