



## Lord Mayors Report – April 29, 2025

### Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa

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#### **March 2025**

March 26 – I attended the new **Staff Meet & Greet at Town Hall**. This bi-annual event is an opportunity to get to know new employees and allow them to ask questions and share feedback on their hiring.

March 26 – I attended the **State of the Region** event with Chair Bradley. This event featured an overview of the current economic conditions and insights into key initiatives and projects to foster regional growth and development.

March 27 – On behalf of Council, I attended and delivered a greeting at the **Official Plan Public Information Centre** held at the St. Davids Fire Station. Town planning staff were present to answer questions and provide feedback regarding the Official Plan.

March 29- On behalf of Council, I attended and presented a certificate to **Clare's Harley Davidson**, which celebrated its **70th Anniversary**.

March 29 – I had the honour of attending and participating as a guest conductor with **Chorus Niagara** for their major fundraiser of the year held at the Seaway Mall.

#### **April 2025**

April 1 – I attended the **Royal George Theatre** for an **announcement** from **Minister Cho**. The province announced \$35 million in provincial funding for rebuilding the Royal George Theatre over the next three years. More than 100 people gathered for the announcement, Shaw will be replacing the aging Royal George Theatre..

April 1 - On behalf of Council, I attended and delivered a greeting at the **Official Plan Public Information Centre** held at the Community Centre. Town planning staff were present to answer questions and provide feedback regarding the Official Plan.

April 4 – The Town partnered with NICHE (Niagara Innovation Cluster Helping Entrepreneurs) to recreate an event called **Rooted in Growth, Exploring the Future of Niagara's Agriculture**, which was hosted at Jackson Triggs Winery. The event united leaders from Niagara's key industries to foster a space for networking, collaboration, and real conversations about industry challenges and opportunities. Congratulations to our Ec Dev Officer for organizing this event, which included a issues round table with industry stakeholders and panel participation by Deputy Lord Mayor Wiens.



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April 4 – I attended the **2026 World Junior Squash Championships announcement** and photo opportunity at White Oaks. White Oaks will be hosting again in 2026.

April 10 – I participated in the **CKTB Round Table** with Chair Bradley and Mayor Redekop. We discussed the recently launched support local campaign, the impacts of U.S. tariffs on local businesses, and what we are actively doing to address them.

April 10 – I had the pleasure of attending and honouring **Special Olympics Medalist Carter Simpson at Konzelmann Estate Winery**. Thank you to Konzelmann for hosting this special community event to celebrate Carter after his incredible performances at the Winter Special Olympics in Italy. I even snagged an autograph at the event!

April 12 – I attended and brought a greeting to the **Business & Professional Women of Niagara's Pink Tea** event on behalf of the Town. It was a wonderful event to recognize the “Famous Five” who fought for women's rights.

April 15 – I participated in the **CKTB Roundtable** at the Community Centre. Thank you to Steph Vivier and CKTB for the opportunity; we discussed our recent community engagement events, former hospital site, strategic plan, and more.

April 16 – I attended the **Village Centre 2.0 unveiling** at Stratus Vineyards. Congratulations to John Hawley, and David Feldman partners in the new Clayfield Hotel. The site will provide for a new grocery store, and many additional retails and office spaces for the community.

April 17 – I hosted a **Rural Community Open House** at the Virgil Fire Station. Thank you to all residents for attending.

April 19 – I attended the **Bunny Trail Easter Event** hosted by the Niagara Nursery School and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Kinsmen. It was wonderful to see so many families participate. Funds raised go directly to support programs and educational resources at the nursery.

April 28 – On the National Day of Mourning, we paused to recognize those who occupational illness, injuries, or losses have affected. I attended two ceremonies, one hosted by the Town and the other by the Niagara Regional Labour Council at the Town's National Day of Mourning Plaque at the Centennial Arena.

May 1 - Today, we join communities across Ontario in recognizing **Doctors' Day**—a day to express our gratitude to physicians for their compassionate care, dedication, and continued commitment to improving the health of people in our community.



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Here in Niagara, more than 600 physicians across a wide range of specialties are transforming care every day—collaborating with healthcare teams, embracing innovation, and going above and beyond for their patients.

We especially thank those who have retired this year for their years of service, and we warmly welcome the newest physicians to our region.

We are proud to recognize May 1 as Doctors' Day and express our sincere appreciation to all physicians for their extraordinary work in shaping a healthier Niagara.