

2014 Sunshine List names 26 Town of Aurora employees

By Brock Weir

The numbers are in, and 26 municipal employees at Town Hall have made the 2014 Sunshine List.

The 2014 Sunshine List, which reports salaries and benefits made by public sector employees earning over \$100,000 in the previous calendar year, is compiled annually by the Province of Ontario. This year's numbers were released on Friday, and the 26 Aurora inclusions on it is a marked increase over last year's report, which included just 18 public employees.

For Aurora, CAO Neil Garbe tops the list, earning \$197,507.18 in 2013, in addition to taxable benefits. Last year's Sunshine List pegged Mr. Garbe's salary at \$191,017.

Former Town Clerk John Leach, who was also Director of Customer and Legislative Services, was next on the list with a \$171,999.55 salary and \$2,551.95 in taxable benefits. In the 2013 list, Mr. Leach's salary was marked as \$162,074. Mr. Leach left the Town of Aurora at the end of January. His department has subsequently been put under the purview of Warren Mar, Director of Legislative Services, who is also acting Town Clerk until the vacancy can be filled.

Mr. Leach is followed by Town Treasurer Dan Elliott, who stands at \$169,211.35, with \$2,533.27 in benefits. Mr. Elliott was listed at \$160,695 in the 2013 Sunshine List.

Next are Ilmar Simanovskis, Director of Infrastructure and Environmental Services at \$162,986.95 with \$2,553.27 in benefits.

Al Downey, Director of Parks and Recreation Services, Director of Planning Marco Ramunno, and Director of Building and Bylaw Services Techa van Leeuwen each receive \$155,430 in salary and \$2,533.27 in benefits.

Town Solicitor Warren Mar took home \$150,592.68 with \$2,546.25 in benefits, followed by Weigong Ma, Coordinator of Capital Assets, at \$130,912.96, Aurora Public Library CEO Jill Foster at \$119,567, former Facilities and Property Manager Aaron Karmazyn at \$115,134.11, Operations Manager Luigi Colangelo at \$111,423.82, Human Resources Manager Daniel Levesque at \$109,418.40, Development Planning Manager Glen Letman at \$107,591.43, Parks Manager Jim Tree, Special Projects Manager Jim Kyle, and Information Technology Manager Karen Bates-Denney all at \$107,259.60.

Rounding out the list are Senior Plumbing Inspector Robin Del Favero at \$106,133.99, Recreation Manager Melodie McKay at \$106,071.79, Children and Young Adult Information Manager Jo-Ann Jordan at \$103,371.89, Engineering Manager Anca Kihail, Manager of Code Review and Inspections Dale Robson, Bylaw Manager Gerald Spencer, and Strategic Manager Anthony Ieurullo each at \$103,245.10, and finally Michael Kemp, Manager of Corporate Communications, at \$101,034.10.

Salary numbers are released through Ontario's Ministry of Finance under the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act (1996). Included under the act are Provincial and municipal employees, along with employees of Crown Agencies, hospitals, boards of public health, school boards, universities and colleges, as well as Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One.