



## **Report to Council**

To: Mayor and Council Members  
From: Gary Geraldi, Director of Parks and Recreation / Waste Management  
Date: December 16, 2024  
Subject: NKCC Olympia Engine Emergency Replacement

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### **Recommendation:**

The Township of North Kawartha replace the engine and parts, in the 2008 Olympia ice resurfer at a cost of approximately \$10,725. to \$14,500. Plus, applicable taxes.

### **Background:**

As recently reported, we have been experiencing premature starter motor failure in our 2018 Olympia. Although the current starter has been installed to spec', hard to start situations are still being experienced. However, once it is started, the Olympia runs fine.

### **Analysis:**

Although we originally had a new Olympia in the 2025 Capital Forecast Budget, this was deferred to 2026 for two reasons;

1. Our propane fueled Olympia was operating fine with no issues.
2. Electric Unit availability (is a consideration), is 10 months to 16 months on backorder, due to a battery supply shortage.

As recently reported, our Olympia recently experienced a starter motor failure. Then replacement motors failed prematurely, due to what we were advised was possibly an undersized motor and also due to the mounting bolts coming slightly loose, even with lock-tite applied. For info, this work was completed by licensed heavy equipment technicians in Bancroft.

Therefore, another starter for our application was installed and Corey from Roads and Joel from Parks and Recreation, heli-coiled the mounting bolt holes. The new starter motor has had no issues turning the motor over, but we still experience a hard-to-start issue. The issue mimics a fuel starvation issue, but once it's running, it runs perfectly.

Therefore, Resurface, the manufacturer of Olympias, was on-site last Wednesday and performed some tests on-site, that included replacing the distributor, etc.



**Township of North Kawartha**

280 Burleigh Street, PO Box 550, Apsley, ON K0L 1A0  
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In the end, they loaded our Olympia and left a loaner Olympia while they continue to diagnose the issue. And today, they confirmed that there is a crack in the block casting close to the starter mounts, which is causing the starter to flex on start-up. In all likelihood, he said this is probably what caused the original starter bolts to loosen, and our issues began. This crack causes no leaks and is not in a coolant or oil jacket. But a part of the block where the starter mounts, that eventually will cause complete failure. They said the cause could simply be a hairline crack that appeared after 16 years of start-ups.

Therefore, the balance of our Olympia is in decent condition, and by comparison, much better than the loaner they currently provided us with, which is the same year as ours (2008). And currently the value of ours is parts, even though it runs good once started. As such, the money spent on a new engine should be recouped on resale or trade-in. But furthermore, it will provide us with the time we originally had until new electric units are readily available, and even to consider electric on replacement.

Alternatively, we could rent the current loaner unit we have until the end of March at a cost of \$3,295 plus tax. This will give us time to shop around the engine replacement. Keep in mind that we would need to recoup the \$3,295. rental fee. Or if ordering new, that same machine will need to be rented again in the Fall, or until a new Unit is available. Then the cost of rental will be getting close to the cost of engine replacement.

Therefore, repairing our machine and restoring its current value seems to be the logical solution. It also preserves the 2025 advertising revenue currently on the machine.

I have attached an estimate from Resurface Corp., keeping in mind that this is an estimate only.

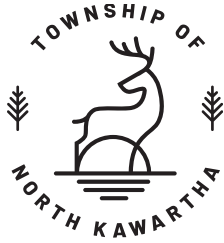
**Financial Implications:**

Estimated: \$10,725. to \$14,500 from General Reserves.

**Strategic and/or Other Plans:**

Infrastructure

1. Ensure that existing infrastructure is sustained reflective of the Asset Management Plan.



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**Governance**

1. Provide Quality Community Programs and Services.
2. Provide effective, clear and transparent Township Communication.

**In Consultation With:**

Resurface Corp. - Olympia

**Attachment:**

Resurface Estimate Dated Dec. 16, 2024.