

Our Cramahe

Connect / Engage / Be Heard

Creating our Community

Township of Cramahe **Engagement Charter**



OUR CRAMAHE ENGAGEMENT CHARTER

The Our Cramahe Engagement Charter is a Promise

The Township of Cramahe is being proactive in our efforts to further increase public engagement by creating civic engagement experiences that better meet the needs of our community.

A healthy and vibrant community requires active and engaged community members. We need to create further opportunities for discussion, problem solving and future planning to ensure Cramahe is ready for the future.

The **OUR CRAMAHE** Charter aims to:

- ❖ encourage participation in civic activities;
- ❖ improve interaction and participation between residents, stakeholders, elected representatives, and Township staff;
- ❖ and to create opportunities for making the Township of Cramahe and its residents more accessible and accountable to one another.

The **OUR CRAMAHE** Charter acts as an agreement between and among The Township of Cramahe elected representatives and the residents of Cramahe regarding citizen engagement with their local government that establishes the commitments, responsibilities and fundamental concepts of this relationship.

Government belongs to YOU and I!

We have a mutual goal to involve and engage our community on being better informed in the decision-making process!



MISSION STATEMENT

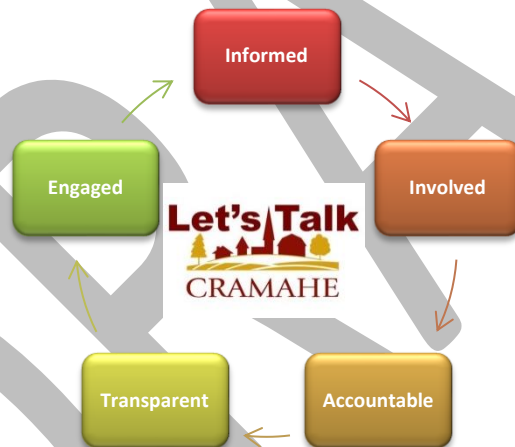
Our **mission** is to continue to enhance the natural, historical, social and economic fabric of our community, because... ***It's in our Nature!***

Our Cramahe Charter

Vision, Mission & Recommendations:

The Vision, Mission & Recommendations held within the **OUR CRAMAHE** Charter will:

- a. **PROVIDE** residents, Council and Staff, the basic principles of public engagement that will cultivate a municipality that is:



- b. **PARTICIPATE** in future projects for the Township of Cramahe as they impact future readiness.
- c. **DEVELOP** engagement resources like www.letstalkcramahe.ca to foster engagement for our Cramahe community.



ENGAGING THE PUBLIC

When residents, stakeholders and governments at all levels are actively involved in co-creating their community, it strengthens civic pride and commitment to making The Township of Cramahe the municipality of choice where people can **grow**, **work**, **play** and **learn** together.

By engaging the Cramahe community, we allow for responsible decision-making through a range of perspectives, experience, and knowledge and we share ideas in ways that support learning and creation of sustainable solutions.

Achieving the greatest results through engagement requires many different ways of engaging people to tap into innovation and ideas that exists within our community; understanding the decision making process; and understanding how input from resident's influences end results.



Community Engagement Spectrum



*Based on the IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum, developed by the International Association for Public Participation, 2014
http://c.yimcdn.com/sites/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

THE ROLE OF RESIDENTS

We all have a responsibility to participate in civic activities that influence our quality of life and contribute to those decisions which are made by those who represent us!

Residents can be involved by responding to opportunities within our community to:

- ⇒ Learn how local governments work and being aware of municipal issues;
- ⇒ Being informed on the growth and sustainability of our services;
- ⇒ Share ideas on Let'sTalkCramahe.ca;
- ⇒ Participate in community-focused events and discussion;
- ⇒ Provide suggestions for improvements and contribute to positive change;
- ⇒ Become an active member of one of our Boards & Committees!



THEMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Effective engagement exists when residents, elected representatives, and Township staff...

- Understand that everyone has an important role in our community;
- Ensure that input collected through letstalkcramahe.ca is used to help direct the decisions made; and
- Build positive and respectful relationships within our community.

2. Building accountability and being transparent means...

- Engaging in consultation with residents before making decisions;
- Providing an easy-to-use website with current and relevant information;
- Ensuring that residents have access to public records easily through the use of our Open Government resources; and
- Sharing how and why decisions are made through the development of a Working with Council Guide and Council Highlights.

3. Creating opportunities for collaboration by...

- Informing everyone of directions of Council using simplified Council highlights;
- Consulting the community as a process to build community awareness; and
- Involving the community through a range of mechanism to ensure that issues and concerns are considered as part of the decision-making process.

4. Ongoing engagement and communication is effective when...

- Opportunities for feedback are provided to residents through various resources;
- Recognizing that resident input is a community asset;
- Providing timely information so residents provide meaningful input; and
- Outcomes of community engagement opportunities enable all people to share their ideas and participate in discussions;
- Information is accessible to residents; and
- Communities have access to a variety of resources to encourage participation.

The **OUR CRAMAHE** Charter is only the first step in creating better ways for residents to engage in decisions that affect their life ad their community. We strive to include all residents within

the Township of Cramahe to get involved and help create the future of our community.

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