



May 30, 2018

## MEDIA RELEASE

HASTINGS HIGHLANDS HIRES AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR  
Maynooth, ON – At the Council Meeting of May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Mayor and Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Russell Grant as the Economic Development Coordinator for the Municipality of Hastings Highlands. This is a one (1) year contract position. Mr. Grant is to provide leadership in drafting an economic development and tourism strategy tailored to our Municipality; and to refine, prioritize and lead the implementation of the top recommendations from the Hastings Highlands Business Retention + Expansion (BR+E) survey, the First Impressions Community Exchange (FICE) and the Tourism Brainstorming Workshop.

Mr. Grant brings a wealth of experience as a project leader and process facilitator. One of his key guiding principles is that “participation breeds commitment”. He is to work with Council, municipal staff, business leaders and members of the public to synthesize and identify the most important, realistic and attainable action items to implement in the next eighteen (18) months. He is to lead a team of “economic development champions” who will help to establish both these short-term action items as well as long-term plans that will be a focus over the next three (3) to five (5) years.

The Municipality of Hastings Highlands would like to thank the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) for funding through the Rural Economic Development Program and to Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) for their funding as well.

“I am thrilled to finally being able to move forward with our BR+E recommendations” stated Mayor Bloom.

-30-

For additional information, please contact:

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