

MARCH 29, 2019

## Record Crowd at 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference

The combined total of exhibitors, speakers, and registered attendees for the Tug Hill Commission's 30<sup>th</sup> annual Local Government Conference at Jefferson Community College topped 715, making it the largest crowd ever for the commission's flagship training event. The keynote address was delivered by Fort Drum Garrison Commander Colonel Kenneth Dean Harrison, who spoke fondly of Fort Drum and the greater community, including his plans to retire to the area when his army career is complete.

Elected and appointed officials from town and village governments in Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Oswego, St. Lawrence counties and beyond chose from 31 individual sessions on a wide variety of topics. In addition, 30 exhibitors staffed displays in the gymnasium highlighting a wide variety of services offered to local governments. Presentations from most of the sessions will be available soon on the commission's website at <http://www.tughill.org/services/training/local-government-conference/>.

This year's platinum level sponsors were BCA Architects & Engineers, Development Authority of the North Country, and GYMO Architecture, Engineering, Environmental & Land Surveying. Gold level sponsors were C2AE, Comp Alliance, Watertown Savings Bank and Williamson Law Book Co. Bronze level sponsors were the Local Government Education Committee of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, NYS Association of City & Village Clerks, and the North Shore, Northern Oneida County, River Area, and Salmon Rivers councils of governments.

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NEW YORK STATE TUG HILL COMMISSION  
**HEADWATERS**   
 2018 NEWSLETTER & 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT, ISSUE 55

# 2018-19 Commission Annual Report

The latest issue of Headwaters is now available on the Tug Hill Commission's website, <http://www.tughill.org/publications/headwaters/>. This year's annual report highlights the commission's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary and new book, the local leaders survey, complete streets, Super COG, the passing of Arnie Talgo, training opportunities, and updates from all five councils of governments.

## Guide to Broadband Funding on Association of Towns Website

The NYS Association of Towns has linked the 2019 Broadband Funding Guide, prepared by The Ferguson Group on behalf of the National Association of Towns and Townships, at <https://www.nytowns.org/images/Documents/Announcement/Grant%20Sources%20-%20Broadband%20Funding%20Guide%20for%20NATAT%202019.pdf>. The guide contains program and application info for more than a dozen federal grants for expanding connectivity.

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

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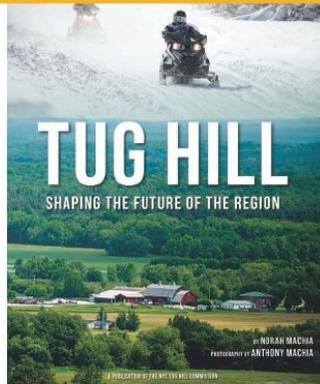
### Commission Celebrates 45 Years

It's 1972. New York State has organized several commissions focused on different regions of the diverse state. Some concerns are being raised in a rural area known as Tug Hill, regarding various development proposals. Assemblyman Crawford and Senator Barclay introduce legislation and it makes its way through both chambers, and is signed by Governor Rockefeller. The Temporary State Commission on Tug Hill is created, and meets for the first time in April of 1973.

Few at the time would have believed that the Tug Hill Commission would continue to exist 45 years later, with the same grassroots approach and emphasis on cooperation and compromise to achieve both local and state goals. But in 2018, the commission celebrated its 45th anniversary

in Camden with approximately 100 colleagues and partners from across the region and beyond.

With entertainment provided by the NYS Old Time Fiddlers Association, the event honored the memory of Commissioner Arnie Talgo, who passed away early in 2018. Executive Director Katie Malinowski reviewed the past year's activities and looked forward to new initiatives and challenges coming in 2019. The commission's three past executive directors, Ben Coc, Bob Quinn, and John Bartow reminisced about their time serving the region. All guests were provided a complimentary copy of *Tug Hill, Shaping the Future of the Region*, and author Norah Machia shared stories of her travels around Tug Hill when researching the book. ■



# DEC Releases 2016-2018 Great Lakes Program Progress Report

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation released last week its [2016-2018 progress report](#) on the restoration and protection of New York's Great Lakes resources. The report highlights New York's programs and projects in the Great Lakes watershed that are benefiting communities taking action to maintain and improve community uses of the lakes, surrounding lands and other waterways in the Great Lakes Basin. The Tug Hill Commission is proud to be a partner in efforts that benefit Tug Hill communities in the basin.

The 2016-2018 report details how DEC and its partners are restoring environmental quality, conserving natural resources, promoting resilient communities, and supporting sustainable development. Key projects include municipal sewage system upgrades, [a riparian restoration opportunity assessment tool](#) that can help prioritize areas for protection and restoration, the development and implementation of 9 Element watershed plans, such as the one that Tug Hill Commission and DEC developed for the Black River, and the Great Lakes Ecosystem Education Exchange program that provides professional development and resources to help teachers promote Great Lakes Literacy and stewardship to their students.

For report highlights and for more [information on getting involved in efforts to help protect and improve New York's Great Lakes](#) at the local or regional level, visit DEC's website or e-mail [greatlakes@dec.ny.gov](mailto:greatlakes@dec.ny.gov).

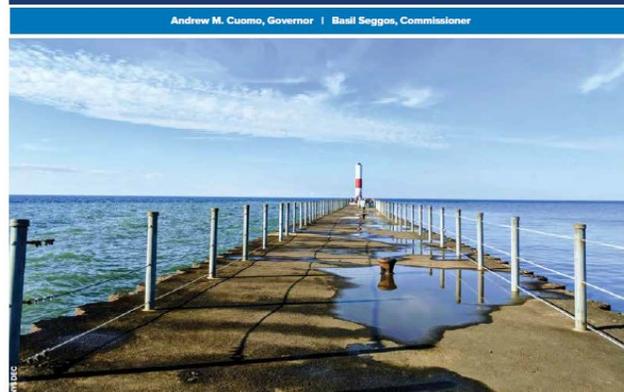


 **NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.** | Department of Environmental Conservation

**2018 GREAT LAKES PROGRAM**

PROTECTING, CONSERVING, RESTORING AND ENHANCING NEW YORK'S GREAT LAKES

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor | Basil Seggos, Commissioner



# NYS DEC Announces State of Salmon River Meeting

State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos announced that there will be a public meeting about the Salmon River fishery on Thursday, April 11 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Pulaski High School auditorium, 4624 Salina Street, Pulaski. This is the first such "State of the Salmon River" meeting.

The meeting will present information on DEC's activities and how they related to the Fisheries Management Plan developed in 2018, and what to look forward to in the upcoming year. The meeting format includes time for attendees' questions following scheduled presentations.

For additional information, contact David Lemon, DEC Region 7 Fisheries Manager, at the Cortland office, (607) 753-3095 or email [fwfish7@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfish7@dec.ny.gov)

## The Process of Site Plan and Subdivision Review

**LAND USE PLANNING WORKSHOP TO BE HELD ON APRIL 22, 2019 AT JCC FROM 6:30-8:30PM  
THE JULES CENTER AMPHITHEATER, ROOM 6-002  
COSPONSORED BY JEFFERSON COUNTY PLANNING AND TUG HILL COMMISSION**

From the applicant's first sketch on the back of a napkin to the final approved project, the complete land development review process including SEQR will be explained in detail.

Helpful checklists, forms, and outlines will be provided. Planning boards, zoning boards of appeal, code enforcement officers, and all those interested in learning more about the review of proposals for development are invited to attend in order to better understand the project review process.

The workshop speaker will be Phil Street, Planning Director for the Tug Hill Commission. Phil has been with the commission for over 40 years and Planning Director for over 20. He works with many of the Tug Hill region's towns and villages on land use laws and comprehensive plans.

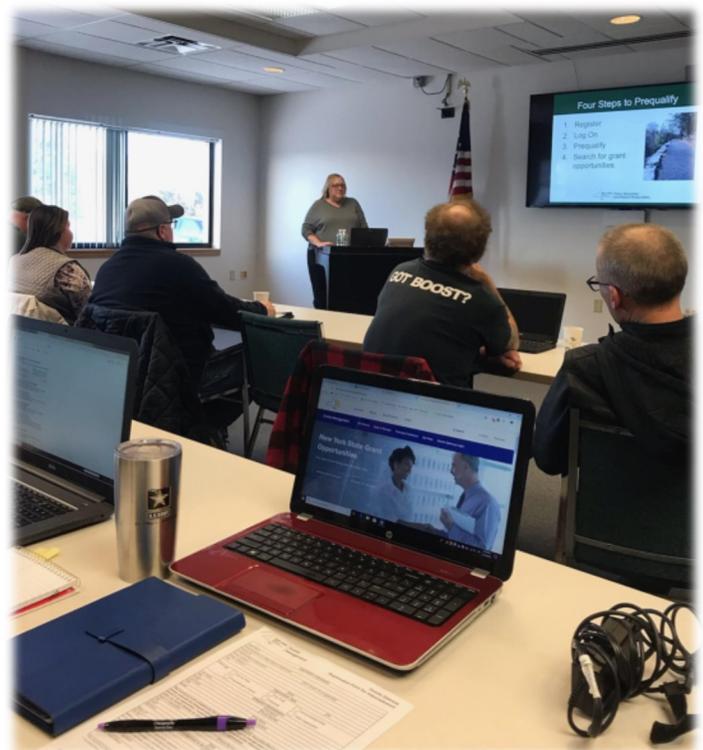
## Grants Gateway Workshop Well Attended

Twenty people representing organizations from all over the North Country gathered for a workshop covering all you ever wanted to know about the NYS Grants Gateway (<https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/>). The Grants Gateway is the state's online grant application and contract management system. It allows you to search for funding opportunities and apply for grants online. Applicants that are awarded grants use the Grants Gateway to manage their contracts online.

The Grants Gateway also includes the State's Prequalification system. Prequalification allows non-profit vendors to provide required documents, forms, and proof of policies that all State agencies require prior to reviewing grant applications and awarding contracts. In short, if you are a non-profit and plan on applying for state grants, you must be registered and prequalified through the grants gateway.

Focusing the session on non-profits, Ms. Karen Ferguson from NYS Parks covered registering and pre-qualifying and the many documents needed to complete the non-profits' document vault. In her position with NYS Parks, Ms. Ferguson reviews document vaults submitted for parks grants, including those applying for recreational trails or groomer grants. The Tug Hill Commission worked closely with Lewis County Planning and Lewis County Recreation Forestry and Parks to develop the workshop, which was held at the BOCES campus in Glenfield.

If you would like a copy of the presentation and information from the session, please contact Jennifer Harvill [jennifer@tughill.org](mailto:jennifer@tughill.org) or 315-785-2392.



# June 20 Training Session on Codes Concerning Amish Residents

The Local Government Education Committee of Oneida and Herkimer Counties is sponsoring a second session relating to the Amish. This session will focus on codes issues with a representative from the Department of State. The session will take place Thursday, June 20 from 6:30 - 8 :00 p.m. at the town of Trenton Municipal Building, Route 12 in Barneveld.

## Office of the State Comptroller 2019 Governmental Accounting Training Schedule Released

The new training schedule includes dates for both the Introduction to Governmental Accounting (basic) and Accounting Principles and Procedures (advanced). For more information and to register, see [www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/academy/index.htm](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/academy/index.htm)

## Business Transition Workshop Series

A new initiative called the *Center for Businesses in Transition* is holding a series of monthly workshops throughout the North Country. The Center's partner organizations and community liaisons provide resources and networking opportunities for business owners looking to transition their operations to new owners or ownership models.

The collaborative partnership is led by the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA), and includes partner organizations from Franklin, Hamilton, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties, as well as the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce and the NYS Small Business Development Center.

The first workshop in a five-part series — "Business Transitions Overview: Where do you start?" — will take place at the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) on Wednesday, April 3rd from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m. Retiring business owners and entrepreneurs interested in taking over existing businesses are encouraged to participate.

Four additional monthly workshops include the following:

- May 8, 2019: "Preparing to Sell Your Business," hosted by the Franklin County Local Development Corporation and County of Franklin IDA at the Hotel Saranac in Saranac Lake, NY
- June 5, 2019: "Transitioning to Worker Ownership," hosted by Hamilton County IDA at the Adirondack Experience museum in Blue Mountain Lake, NY
- July 10, 2019: "Intergenerational Family Transitions, Creative Solutions and Alternative Structures," hosted by the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce at Anchorspace in Potsdam, NY
- August 21, 2019: "Entrepreneurs: Taking Over an Existing Business," hosted by Lewis County Economic Development and IDA at their Center for Business office in Lowville, NY

The Center is offering different ways to participate in the workshops, including in-person attendance and online viewing parties with partner organizations. Workshops will also be recorded so that interested participants can view them at their convenience and as needed in the future.

At each workshop, invited panelists will share their experiences with selling a business, taking over an existing enterprise or supporting small businesses through ownership changes. North Country business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs are invited to contact the Center at ANCA's office at [transitions@adirondack.org](mailto:transitions@adirondack.org) or (518) 891-6200 for more information or to be connected with a community liaison. Information about the Center's workshop series and how to register can be found at [www.adirondack.org/CBITWorkshopSeries](http://www.adirondack.org/CBITWorkshopSeries).

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