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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THAMES CENTRE LAUNCHES OPENBOOK INITIATIVE FOR ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

THAMES CENTRE - Thames Centre, Ontario, March 21, 2024 – Thames Centre is thrilled to announce the launch of OpenBook, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at elevating transparency and fostering community engagement in alignment with Council's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan objectives.

OpenBook, an online transparency and data visualization tool that enables organizations to share complex data and financial reports, represents a significant leap forward in empowering Thames Centre residents with access to important information regarding the Municipal Budget and comprehensive details on capital projects; including the display, on a map, of every infrastructure project, the actual spend and funding sources. From progress updates to project leads, detailed costs, and beyond, OpenBook provides residents with a comprehensive understanding of the Municipality's finances and operations.

OpenBook is designed to facilitate seamless navigation for users of all levels. Through its interactive charts, tables, graphics, and informative text pop-ups, residents can see what decisions were made in order to shape community resources and municipal service levels.

The Municipality of Thames Centre is committed to government accountability and transparency. Explore our OpenBook site to learn more about Thames Centre infrastructure projects, capital budget and operating expenditures.

For more information and to access OpenBook please visit:
<https://thamescentre.openbook.questica.com/>

"This marks a significant milestone towards a more transparent Municipality with enhanced community engagement. Special thanks to our dedicated staff for their invaluable contributions."
Mayor Sharron McMillan

"The launch of OpenBook propels us further in our dedication to a resident-centered Municipality, perfectly aligned with Council priorities. By offering residents transparent insights into the allocation of their tax dollars, we cultivate trust, enabling deeper conversations to address Council and community challenges. Thames Centre OpenBook signifies a significant stride in our continuous pursuit of excellence in municipal service delivery." *CAO David Barrick*

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