



# County of Ottawa

## *Press Release*



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For Immediate Release

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Suggested Tweet: Share your stories. Celebrate lakeshore living. Enter the “Ottawa County Way” Essay Challenge.

### **“Ottawa County Way” Essay Challenge**

What is unique about living in Ottawa County, Michigan? Are things done just a bit differently along the Lakeshore? What is the history behind the singular nature of life in Ottawa County? How true--or untrue--is that history? Writers of all ages are invited to share their views about living, working and playing in West Michigan through the “Ottawa County Way” Essay Challenge. Our goal is to celebrate those stories--great and small--about living in Ottawa County. Entries are due by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **How to enter:**

Interpret this subject as broadly as you wish. We would especially like to see work that is concerned with the interaction of local culture and local government, including but not limited to Ottawa County government. The “Ottawa County Way” Essay Challenge is open to all current and former residents of Ottawa County, and to full and part-time employees of Ottawa County, including former employees. Essays must be 1500 words or less, typed and double-spaced, with the author’s name, street address, telephone number and email address in the upper right-hand corner of the first page. Entries must be postmarked by or received via email by April 30, 2014. Attach and email essays to [mcunningham@miottawa.org](mailto:mcunningham@miottawa.org) or send by mail to the Ottawa County-Essay Challenge, 12220 Fillmore, West Olive, Michigan, 49460.

Essay Challenge entries will be pre-screened by Ottawa County Administration. The finalists will be forwarded to and judged by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. Results will be announced on May 27, 2014 at a regular meeting of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners and framed certificates

will be awarded to the authors of those essays judged most deserving by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. All essays will be considered for possible publication.

The “Ottawa County Way” Essay Challenge is a part of the Four C’s Cultural Intelligence Initiative. The Essay Challenge is being supported entirely by private funds. Along with cultural intelligence, customer service, creativity and communication make up the remaining C’s in the initiative.

Access county services and learn more at [miOttawa.org](http://miOttawa.org), [facebook.com/miottawa](https://facebook.com/miottawa) or [@miOttawa](https://twitter.com/miOttawa) on twitter.

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Ottawa is the county of choice for living, working and playing. Over 1100 County of Ottawa employees work together and achieve this through their commitment to excellent, cost effective public services. For more information and services visit [miOttawa.org](http://miOttawa.org).