

Correspondence

Link to the [Association of Municipalities of Ontario \(AMO\) - Communications](#)

Link to the [Municipal Property Assessment Corporation \(MPAC\)
InTouch Newsletters](#)

Link to the [North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit \(NBPSDHU\) - Communications](#)

Link to the [Ontario Good Roads Association \(OGRA\) - Communications](#)

Link to the [Ontario Heritage Trust - Communications](#)

Link to the [Labour Market Group – Communications](#)

Link to the [Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations \(FOCA\) - Communications](#)

Link to the [Federation of Canadian Municipalities \(FCM\)](#)



The Corporation of the Township Of Prince
3042 Second Line West, Prince Township, Ontario P6A 6K4
Office 705-779-2992 Fax:705-779-2725

February 10th ,2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

RE: Support for Steel and Lumber Sectors

Dear Prime Minister,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 10th , 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Prince passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan.

Resolution Number: 2026 - 35

Moved by: Councillor J. Weir

Seconded by: Councillor M. Christenson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Prince support the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan's resolution regarding support for the Steel and Lumber Sectors;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Sincerely,

Megha Trivedi
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Prince



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

February 4, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

RE: Support for the Steel and Lumber Sectors

Dear Prime Minister,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 4th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Naim & Hyman.

Resolution No: 2026-02-04-07
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Township of Naim & Hyman's resolution regarding Support for the Steel and Lumber Sectors.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, Renfrew Nipissing & Pembroke MP and MPP, and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



64 McIntyre Street • Nairn Centre, Ontario • P0M 2L0 ☎ 705-869-4232 📠 705-869-5248
Established: March 7, 1896 Office of the Clerk Treasurer, CAO E-mail: belindaketchabaw@nairncentre.ca

December 17, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Support Resolution

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Nairn and Hyman, I am writing to formally convey Council's support for recent federal measures aimed at stabilizing and strengthening Canada's steel and softwood lumber sectors.

As a small Northern Ontario municipality whose economy is closely tied to the continued operation of Interfor, a local softwood lumber mill, Council is increasingly concerned that ongoing trade pressures and market uncertainty are placing added strain on the long-term viability of this key employer. Any reduction in operations or a potential closure would have significant and lasting consequences for local employment, municipal revenues, and the overall economic and social wellbeing of our community.

In this context, and in response to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities' November 26, 2025 media release, Council adopted the enclosed resolution at their meeting of December 8, 2025:

SUPPORT FOR STEEL AND LUMBER SECTORS

RESOLUTION # 2025-14-247

MOVED BY: Karen Richter

SECONDED BY: Wayne Austin

WHEREAS the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has issued a media release dated November 26, 2025, welcoming the Government of Canada's new measures to support the steel and softwood lumber sectors in response to ongoing U.S. tariff pressures; and

WHEREAS the federal actions—including strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports, and increased incentives to utilize Canadian steel and lumber in federal infrastructure and housing projects—represent important steps in stabilizing industries that are vital to Northern Ontario's economy; and

WHEREAS municipalities across the North continue to experience the economic impacts of industry closures, including the recent shutdown of Domtar a pulp and paper mill in the neighboring Town of Espanola, which has demonstrated the vulnerability of resource-dependent communities and the need for coordinated intergovernmental support; and

WHEREAS the Township of Naim and Hyman recognizes the significant role of Interfor, our local soft-wood lumber mill, as a major employer and economic anchor in our region, and further recognizes that any threat to its continued operation would have devastating consequences for workers, families, and local businesses; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has a shared responsibility to ensure the long-term sustainability of the forestry, lumber, and steel sectors, which are foundational to the economic wellbeing of Northern and rural communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of Naim and Hyman commends the Government of Canada for its leadership and for implementing substantial measures to support Canada's steel and softwood lumber industries during this period of trade volatility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council respectfully urges the Government of Ontario to introduce additional financial, regulatory, and policy-based supports to ensure that Ontario's steel, forestry, and lumber sectors remain competitive, resilient, and able to withstand ongoing international trade pressures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council specifically calls upon the Province of Ontario to work directly with industry stakeholders, including municipalities and major employers such as Interfor, to create programs and investments that will help protect jobs, maintain production capacity, and support long-term industry growth in Northern Ontario; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, MP Jim Belanger, MPP Bill Rosenberg and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Sincerely Yours,



Belinda Ketchabaw
CAO Clerk - Treasurer

BK/mb

cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Minister of Northern Development
FONOM
MP Hon. Jim Belanger
MPP Hon. Bill Rosenberg
All Ontario Municipalities



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 26, 2025

FONOM Welcomes Federal Support for Steel and Lumber Sectors Impacted by U.S. Tariffs

Northeastern Ontario – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) welcomes today’s announcement by Prime Minister Mark Carney outlining new federal measures to support Canada’s steel and softwood lumber industries, which continue to face unprecedented challenges due to aggressive U.S. tariff actions.

The federal plan includes strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports for companies facing liquidity pressures, and new incentives to increase the use of Canadian steel and lumber in national infrastructure and housing projects. These measures aim to stabilize sectors vital to the economies of many Northern Ontario communities.

Prime Minister Carney announced that Canada will significantly tighten tariff-rate quotas on foreign steel imports, opening an estimated \$850 million in domestic demand for Canadian producers. In addition, the federal government is allocating \$500 million in new financing for softwood lumber firms, paired with a further \$500 million expansion of the Business Development Bank of Canada’s softwood guarantee program.

FONOM is encouraged by the federal government’s recognition of the pressures facing Northern resource-based communities, where steel and lumber operations support thousands of jobs and anchor local economies.

“These measures acknowledge what Northern Ontario has long understood — that our steel and lumber sectors are national economic pillars,” said FONOM President Dave Plourde **“U.S. tariffs continue to destabilize communities across the North, and today’s announcement provides needed tools to help our workers and industries adapt, compete, and grow.”**

FONOM also welcomes the federal commitment to reduce interprovincial freight rates by 50 per cent for steel and lumber shipments beginning next spring. Lower transportation costs will help Northern producers access new domestic markets and move product efficiently while north-south trade remains constrained.

As part of the plan, the federal government will also advance the Buy Canadian Policy, ensuring that major defence, construction, and infrastructure projects prioritize Canadian steel, aluminum,

665 Oak Street East, Unit 306 North Bay, ON P1B 9E5 Tel: (705) 498-9510
Email: fonom.info@gmail.com Website: www.fonom.org

and wood products. This aligns strongly with FONOM's longstanding advocacy for procurement policies that support Canadian jobs and supply chains.

"Keeping Canadian dollars working in Canada is essential," added the President. "These steps will create new demand for made-in-Canada materials while helping stabilize communities affected by unpredictable U.S. trade actions."

FONOM looks forward to continued collaboration with federal officials to ensure the timely rollout of these programs, and to ensure that Northern Ontario municipalities and industries can fully benefit from the measures announced today.

Media Contact:

Dave Plourde, President

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE




Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 5.4.1.
Resolution Number 2026-022
Title: Resolution of Support - Moosonee - Strengthening Self-Defence
Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario
Date: February 18, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution Number 2026-008 passed on January 6, 2026 by the Corporation of the Town of Moosonee regarding strengthening self-defence protections and addressing rising home invasions in Ontario;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, our local Member of Parliament (MP), our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), and all Ontario Municipalities.**

CARRIED


MAYOR



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

February 4, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

RE: Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children

Dear Prime Minister,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 4th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Town of Aylmer.

Resolution No: 2026-02-04-05
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

“Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Town of Aylmer’s resolution regarding a Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada’s Children.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and MP, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all municipalities in Ontario.”

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

January 15, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister

Re: Support for the City of Welland's Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children

At their Regular Meeting of Council on January 15, 2026, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Aylmer supports the City of Welland's call to action for justice and protection of Canada's children; and,

Whereas the safety and well-being of children is a fundamental responsibility shared by all levels of government; and,

Whereas recent incidents involving sexual offences against children have deeply affected communities across Ontario and Canada, raising serious concerns about public safety and the adequacy of existing legislative protections; and,

Whereas violent sexual crimes against children represent some of the most serious offences under the Criminal Code of Canada and have lifelong impacts on victims, families, and communities; and,

Whereas municipalities play a critical role in advocating for policies that protect residents and promote safe communities; and,

Whereas there is a growing concern that gaps in bail, sentencing, parole eligibility, and offender monitoring allow high-risk individuals to re-enter communities pre-maturely, placing children at continued risk;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Aylmer formally urges all levels of government to review and strengthen legislation and policies related to violent and sexual offences against children, including but not limited to:

- 1. Bail and Sentencing Provisions - ensuring that individuals charged with or convicted of violent sexual offences against children are subject to the strictest possible bail conditions and sentencing outcomes that reflect the severity of these crimes;**
- 2. Parole and Early Release - limiting parole eligibility, statutory release, or other forms of early release for offenders convicted of sexual offences against children who pose ongoing risks to public safety;**
- 3. Sex Offender Monitoring - strengthening the National Sex Offender Registry and related provincial tools to improve accuracy, enforcement, and timely access to information for law enforcement; and**
- 4. Victim and Community Safety - prioritizing the protection of children and community safety within the justice system above administrative or procedural efficiencies;**

And be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to:

The Premier of Ontario
The Attorney General of Ontario
The Solicitor General of Ontario
The Prime Minister of Canada
The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Member of Provincial Parliament, Rob Flack
Member of Parliament, Andrew Lawton
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and;
All 444 Ontario Municipalities

And be it further resolved that Council encourages municipalities to adopt similar resolutions to work collaboratively to present a unified municipal voice advocating for stronger protections for children across Canada.

Yours sincerely,

Owen Jaggard
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk | Town of Aylmer
46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7
519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446
ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Hon. Doug Ford doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Hon. Doug Downey doug.downey@pc.ola.org
Hon. Michael S. Kerzner michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org
Hon. Sean Fraser sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca



The Corporation of the Town of Aylmer
46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 1J7
Office: 519-773-3164 Fax: 519-765-1446
www.aylmer.ca

Hon. Rob Flack rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Mr. Andrew Lawton andrew.lawton@parl.gc.ca

Mayor Frank Campion c/o Theresa Ettore Theresa.ettore@welland.ca

Federation of Canadian Municipalities resolutions@fcm.ca

All municipalities



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
FRANK CAMPION
60 East Main Street
Welland, Ontario
L3B 3X4
Phone: 905-735-1700
Fax: 905-735-1543**

December 2, 2025

Subject: A Call to Action: Standing Together for Justice and the Protection of Canada's Children

Dear Fellow Mayors,

I write to you today not only as the Mayor of Welland, but as a member of a community that has been deeply shaken by an unthinkable act in August 2025: the brutal sexual assault of a three-year-old child. This tragedy has horrified our residents, leaving families in grief and disbelief, and compelling us as leaders to confront the uncomfortable truth that our justice system is failing to adequately protect our most vulnerable.

While no policy can erase the trauma this child and their family will endure, we have a moral obligation to act. This moment demands leadership from all of us, to raise our collective voices and ensure that meaningful reform takes place.

I urge you to join me in calling on provincial and federal governments to take immediate and decisive action by advancing the following measures:

- The full and expedited implementation of recent federal bail and sentencing reforms, so that new provisions designed to protect the public—particularly victims of violent sexual crimes—are applied swiftly and consistently across all jurisdictions.
- Strengthening bail and sentencing provisions so that individuals charged with, or convicted of, violent sexual crimes face the strictest possible conditions, including limits on early release in cases of extreme brutality.
- That parole eligibility for sexual offences against children reflects the full gravity of these crimes, limiting conditional or early release for offenders who pose ongoing risks to community safety.
- Strengthening the National Sex Offender Registry, providing communities and police with timely, accurate information and effective tools to safeguard residents.

Canadians must be able to trust that our justice system prioritizes public safety—especially the safety of children—above all else. Communities like ours cannot bear the weight of knowing that legislative gaps may allow dangerous offenders to harm again.

I am calling on you, my colleagues in municipalities across Canada, to:

1. Pass council resolutions urging your respective provincial governments to review and strengthen laws protecting children from violent offenders.
2. Collaborate through FCM and provincial municipal associations to bring a united municipal voice to Ottawa and all legislatures across the country, advocating for the timely implementation and continued enhancement of justice reforms.
3. Engage your local MPs, MPPs/MLAs, and their governments to advocate for continued legislative and judicial reform.

4. Support awareness and prevention efforts within your communities to reinforce the safety and well-being of every child.

Together, we can create a wave of leadership that demands justice and refuses complacency. The protection of children transcends politics and geography; it is a shared duty that defines who we are as a nation.

Thank you for standing with us in this urgent cause. I would welcome the opportunity to coordinate efforts with you and your councils to move this national call forward.

With respect and solidarity,



Frank Campion
Mayor of Welland



The Corporation of the Township Of Prince
3042 Second Line West, Prince Township, Ontario P6A 6K4
Office 705-779-2992 Fax:705-779-2725

February 10th ,2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

RE: Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children

Dear Prime Minister,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 10th , 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Prince passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan.

Resolution Number: 2026 - 33

Moved by: Councillor M. Christenson

Seconded by: Councillor J. Weir

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Prince support the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan's resolution regarding a call to action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Sincerely,

Megha Trivedi
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Prince

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 5.4.2.
Resolution Number 2026-022
Title: Resolution of Support - Hornepayne - Small Northern New Residential Property Tax Class
Date: February 18, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

WHEREAS there is a visible disparity between the northern and southern population of Ontario;
AND WHEREAS northern Ontario has an abundance of opportunity in the form of municipally serviced building lots for both industry and population growth;
AND WHEREAS high residential property taxes in northern Ontario discourage and prohibit the construction of new residential single family dwellings;
AND WHEREAS the addition of a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass would create an incentive for the building of new homes in small northern Ontario communities;
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St-Charles does hereby request that the Honorable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Minister of Finance, amends the Assessment Act to include a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass.
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario; your Municipalities MPP; the Honourable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Minister George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth; the Honourable Minister Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; AMO; FONOM; NOMA; NEOMA; NESMG; and ROMA.

CARRIED


MAYOR

VIA E-MAIL (scarter@northperth.ca)

February 24, 2026

Municipality of North Perth
330 Wallace Avenue North
Listowel, ON N4W 1L3

Dear Municipality of North Perth,

RE: Removal of HST and GST From New Homes

Please be advised that at the February 5, 2026 Regular Meeting of Perth County Council, Council members supported the Municipality of North Perth's position regarding the removal of HST/GST from new home purchases.

"THAT Council sends a letter of support to the Municipality of North Perth, Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MP John Nater, MPP Matthew Rae, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario regarding the removal of HST and GST from new homes".

Perth County Council believes that housing affordability must continue to be supported across the Province of Ontario through diverse measures. The removal of HST/GST from the sale of new homes (primary residence purchases only) is one way that the Province could support housing affordability across all municipalities. Housing supply and affordability is tied to a number of areas that help municipalities to thrive including economic development, tourism, social services, and more.

Should you require any additional information or wish other consideration by Council in this matter, kindly advise.

Sincerely,



Dean Trentowsky, Warden

cc: The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Finance

The Honourable Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada
MP John Nater, Perth-Wellington
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ontario Minister of Finance
The Honourable Rob Flack, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
MPP Matthew Rae, Perth-Wellington
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Municipalities in Ontario

Fw: Township of Meet GB Painting Co

From info <info@seguin.ca>

Date Tue 2/24/2026 8:18 AM

To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager@psachamber.ca>

Sent: February 24, 2026 8:15 AM

To: info <info@seguin.ca>

Subject: Township of Meet GB Painting Co

Meet GB Painting Co



This week's Business Spotlight is GB Painting Co!

Looking to refresh your home, cottage, or business? Meet GB Painting Co., a trusted name in painting and property care across Georgian Bay.

Established in summer 2019 by Erin, who brings over 20 years of experience in the painting industry, this female-run business has quickly become a go-to choice for property owners who value quality, professionalism, and attention to detail.



Erin's experience includes 15 years working for a painting company before starting her own venture, giving her the expertise to handle projects of any size. From intimate residential interiors to large-scale commercial jobs, making GB Painting Co. a welcoming choice for homeowners looking for a friendly, professional service.

What GB Painting Co. Offers

- **Residential & Commercial Painting** – whether it's a cozy cottage on Georgian Bay (from Sans Souci to Pointe Au Baril), a full-sized home, or a commercial space, GB Painting Co. delivers impeccable results.
- **Full House Interior Painting & Cabinet Refinishing** – perfect for winter projects. Refresh your living spaces or give your kitchen and cabinetry a brand-new look.
- **Exterior Painting** – planning ahead? Spring and summer bookings are now open for exteriors!
- **Professional Team & Equipment** – with reliable boat transportation for water access projects and a team of up to 10 skilled staff during the summer, GB Painting Co. ensures every project is completed efficiently, safely, and to the highest standard.

NEW THIS YEAR

Property Maintenance

- Window cleaning
 - Gutters
- Construction cleans



Before ^



After >

OFFERING PERKS! Found on the Chamber Perks App



GB Painting Co

Winter Painting Promotion

WINTER PAINTING PROMOTION

Sparkle up a room or office !

\$10 off regular hourly rate

Does not apply to large commercial projects



GB Painting Co. prides itself on reliability, attention to detail, and a commitment to making each client's vision a reality. Whether it's a detailed interior project this winter or a complete exterior refresh for the summer, GB Painting Co. has the expertise and experience to get the job done right the first time.

Now Booking:

- **Interior Winter Projects:** full-house painting, cabinet refinishing
- **Spring & Summer Exteriors:** painting, window cleaning, gutters, construction cleans

Transform your property with a professional touch and experience why GB Painting Co. is a trusted choice across Georgian Bay. Don't wait—spaces for interior winter projects are filling up fast!

Visit GB Painting Co



Contact


K

GB Painting Co

Erin Cardy

Phone: 705-774-4358

Email: eringbpainting@gmail.com

 Outlook

Fw: Would you like to Sponsor the Olympic Homecoming on Saturday?

From info <info@seguin.ca>

Date Thu 2/26/2026 11:44 AM

To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <info-parrysoundchamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Sent: February 26, 2026 11:21 AM

To: info <info@seguin.ca>

Subject: Would you like to Sponsor the Olympic Homecoming on Saturday?

Sponsorship Opportunity

TOWN OF
Parry Sound presents an
OLYMPIC HOMECOMING
WITH

MEGAN OLDHAM



Special musical guest



Sully Burrows

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2026

11AM
11:30 AM

DOORS OPEN AT THE STOCKEY CENTRE
EVENT BEGINS
AUTOGRAPH SESSION UNTIL 1:30PM

12:30PM TO
3:30PM

STREET PARTY ON JAMES ST.
LIVE MUSIC
MEGAN TO JOIN AT 1:30PM



THIS IS A FREE GENERAL ADMISSION EVENT
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED



**Sponsorship
Opportunity**

As directed by the Mayor, Although the Town is not actively seeking sponsorships, there have been many businesses reach out with an interest in supporting, so we would like to offer sponsorships to anyone who would like to support the street party celebration event.

Street Party Sponsorship Opportunity:

The Town of Parry Sound, with support from the Downtown Business Association is proud to be hosting an Olympic Homecoming Celebration Street Party in honour of Megan Oldam and we are inviting our business community to be part of this exciting event.

Sponsorships of any amount are welcome and greatly appreciated. All sponsors will be recognized during the Mayor's remarks at the Stockey Centre event, which will also be live streamed.

If you would like to support this community celebration, please **email April at the DBA** and indicate your sponsorship amount and the name (individual or business) you would like recognized as. A formal invoice will be issued next week from the Town of Parry Sound, including payment options.

Thank you for considering supporting this special moment for our community. We look forward to celebrating together!

Email April

Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce | 1 College Drive Chamber of Commerce
located at Canadore College | Parry Sound, ON P2A 0A9 CA

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!

Fw: Township of Attention Innovative Companies!

From info <info@seguin.ca>

Date Tue 3/3/2026 8:39 AM

To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager@psachamber.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2026 8:15 AM

To: info <info@seguin.ca>

Subject: Township of Attention Innovative Companies!

SDPP

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Eligible, for-profit, innovative companies may apply to receive a competitive wage subsidy of \$13/hr to hire an individual full-time (37.5 hours/week) over a 16-week period (May 4th -August 21st, 2026).

Do you operate an innovative business that...

Is hiring or has hired recently?

Is looking to develop employee leadership skills?

Needs additional support to start or complete a growth project?

**Accelerate your company's growth project
with SDPP!**

**For more information and applications please
visit: WWW.IION.CA/SDPP**

Program Lead: Miranda Courville
E-mail: miranda@iion.ca Phone: 705-494-5550

TO BE ELIGIBLE, INNOVATIVE COMPANIES MUST:



Be registered and operating in the district of Nipissing, Timiskaming, Parry Sound or Muskoka.



Be hiring a new, full-time, T4 employee or have recently hired.



Be a registered for-profit businesses that operates full-time. (non-hobby, non-seasonal)



Be innovation driven; developing or refining products, technologies, software, or processes.



Have their SDPP hire work specifically on a growth project through the 16 week program.



Have a SDPP hire who is dedicated to attending & being an active participant in the mandatory 4 half-day virtual workshops and 3 day in person retreat.



Have under 500 employees.



DEADLINE

**Applications
Close April 10th.**

WWW.IION.CA/SDPP

Attention Innovative Companies!

Apply Now for a \$7,800 wage subsidy with IION's Skills Development Placement Program (SDPP) – Deadline April 10th!

IION's Skills Development Placement Program (SDPP) accelerates company growth projects by providing for-profit innovative companies with a **competitive wage subsidy of \$7,800 (\$13/hour)** to hire an individual full-time (37.5 hours/week) over a 16-week period (May 4 th -August 21, 2026).

Benefit to Companies:

- Competitive wage subsidy
- Supports the skill growth of a new employee; helping companies benefit from a more capable and engaged team member
- Opportunity to accelerate strategic projects with dedicated staff member

Benefit to Participants:

- Personal & professional development is bolstered through SDPP's mandatory 4 virtual workshops, and a 3-day in-person innovation retreat
- Opportunity to work directly with a local innovative company on real projects, giving practical experience in a professional environment
- Opportunity to interact with business leaders, peers, and innovation professionals through both their placement and program activities

*Participants are **not required** to be a youth, or student returning to school.

*Participants **must be** working within the region, be legally entitled to work in Canada and be 18+ years of age.


To learn more and apply go to: www.iion.ca/sdpp

Please contact Miranda Courville to discuss the eligibility of your company, participant & project(s). We would be happy answer any questions you may have.



Contact

Miranda Courville
Marketing & Client Management Specialist
Phone: 705-494-5550
Email: miranda@iion.ca

 Outlook

Fw: Township of Spring and Summer Program Registration is OPEN!!

From info <info@seguin.ca>

Date Thu 3/5/2026 8:39 AM

To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager@psachamber.ca>

Sent: March 5, 2026 8:00 AM

To: info <info@seguin.ca>

Subject: Township of Spring and Summer Program Registration is OPEN!!





It's not just play,
it's social, cognitive & physical
development



It's not just time in nature,
it's stress reduction & increased
mental wellbeing



It's not just exploration & discovery,
it's connection & conservation

Parry Sound Forest School strives to provide a child-centred, inquiry-based outdoor experience where our learners develop greater:

**resilience,
perseverance,
confidence,
independence,
friendships,
and personal connection with nature.**



Complement your child's classroom learning with holistic development and growth in nature.

Spring Programs

March 23 – June 19, 2026

- Forest Families: **0-4yr & caregivers**, MONDAYS
- Sprouts: **3-5 yr**, WEDNESDAYS
- Chickadees: **4-6yr**, WEDNESDAYS
- Saplings: **6-10 yrs**, TUESDAYS
- Rangers: **10 – 12 yrs**, THURSDAYS

A Typical Day at Forest School

We begin each day together with gratitude, a story, songs or seasonal nature discoveries and then make a plan for the day. Options include exploring the land, playing group games and nature crafting.

Children are given long blocks of time to get deeply involved in their play and exploration.

Staff support the children by following their interests and playing and learning beside them. Sometimes this looks like coaching through play experiences, asking questions, bringing out hands-on nature resources, sharing personal natural history experiences, or searching alongside children in field guides find the answers to their questions; learning and growing together.

We wrap up our day with another gratitude circle and nature stories from the day, excited for next time.

Come learn, play and grow with us!

Register today

Summer Camp Registration opens March 1, 8:00 am

Visit Parry Sound Forest School



Contact

Phone: (705) 938-4298

Email: admin@psforestschool.com



Join the Chamber: Chamber Benefits

Why JOIN the Chamber? Let us help your business!



Fw: Township of The March Digital Newsletter is here

From info <info@seguin.ca>

Date Tue 3/10/2026 8:55 AM

To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager@psachamber.ca>

Sent: March 10, 2026 7:00 AM

To: info <info@seguin.ca>

Subject: Township of The March Digital Newsletter is here

Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce March 2026 Digital Newsletter

**New Businesses, Making the most of your
Membership, Free Training Courses, Events,
News, Grants, and More**



March Newsletter

Upcoming Events



Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce **Festival of the Sound**

RBC's Malvin Seto joins us for a brief educating conversation about Wills and Estate Planning



Malvin Seto
Will and Estate Advisor
Phone: 416-319-1588
malvin.seto@rbc.com

Networking Event

Business After Hours Networking Event



Wednesday, March 25th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Festival of the Sound Office
1 Avenue Rd, Parry Sound

For more information visit our website at www.psachamber.ca



REGISTER NOW

[Register Here](#)

JOIN US FOR THE **Spring Job Fair 2026**

March 26, 2026

9:30am – 12:30pm
Bobby Orr Community Centre
7-17 Mary Street, Parry Sound

Meet local employers and explore available job openings at the YMCA Employment & Learning Services job fair!

Looking for extra help landing your next job? Our YMCA job coaches will be at the job fair ready to chat with you, answer questions, and even get you registered as a client for ongoing employment support. No appointment needed!

For more information, please call (705) 746-8480.

Don't forget to bring your resume!



REGISTER NOW



Register Here



Networking Event

Business Over Breakfast Networking Event



Thursday April 9th from 8:30am - 9:30am

**Trappers Restaurant
50 Joseph St, Parry Sound**

For more information visit our
website at www.psachamber.ca



Registration Required

[Register Here](#)

A.I. Creation Lab Lunch & Learn



Tues. April. 14th

11:30am - 1pm

Canadore College

- Using AI tools to create free and effective visual marketing content
- Leveraging AI to save time and money
- Using AI to help streamline your day to day tasks



Open to Chamber Members and Invited guests - Must register ahead - www.psachamber.ca

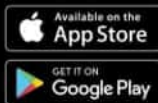
[Register Here](#)



SHOP LOCAL BUY CANADIAN!

- Save Money Redeem Perks
- Discover Local Businesses
- Grow your Business
Network Canada-wide
- Help your Local
Community Thrive

Proudly Canadian!
Chamber Perks
MOBILE APP™



We are a proud HR affinity provider. As a valued member, please [click here](#) to register for your complementary access to over 1000+ HR documents and other benefits.

"Please contact your Chamber for Membership PERKS information"



Support Local, Shop Local

Scan & Save

Chamber Perks
MOBILE APP™

The Best App to Save Money!

Support local businesses and help your local community thrive!



Download For Free!

Anyone can start saving today.



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Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce Members Reserve and Save on Airport Parking Please contact your Chamber for details

Canada's #1 Plan
for Employee Benefits



Chambers Plan
Employee Benefits

Chambers Plan offers the best, most affordable and easiest way to care for you and your employees

Fw: Township of New Business: Northern Touch Softwash

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Thu 3/12/2026 8:44 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 12, 2026 8:00 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of New Business: Northern Touch Softwash

You don't often get email from manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Meet Northern Touch Softwash



This week's Business Spotlight is [Northern Touch Softwash!](#)

The Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome Northern Touch Softwash as one of our newest members!

Family-Owned & Locally Operated

Northern Touch Softwash is a proud father-and-sons business, offering professional-grade work while maintaining the care, trust, and attention to detail that comes with being a family-owned operation. Their commitment to quality service and community connection is at the heart of everything they do.

Exterior Cleaning That Protects Your Investment

Established on October 9, 2025, Northern Touch Softwash is dedicated to helping homeowners and cottage owners maintain, restore, and protect their exterior surfaces through professional soft washing services. Their goal is simple — to help your property look like new again while preventing the long-term damage caused by organic buildup and environmental exposure.

The Soft Washing Difference



Soft washing is a cleaning method that uses low-pressure water combined with specialized, eco-friendly cleaning solutions to break down and remove contaminants at their source. Unlike traditional high-pressure washing, this approach is gentle on surfaces while still delivering a deep and effective clean — making it ideal for roofing, siding, and other more delicate materials.

This method not only improves appearance but also supports longer-lasting results and helps protect exterior materials from premature wear.



What They Offer

Northern Touch Softwash provides comprehensive exterior cleaning services designed to safely remove harmful growth and staining from a wide variety of surfaces, including:

- Roof cleaning to eliminate black streaks, moss, and organic growth that can shorten shingle life
- House and cottage siding cleaning to remove mold, mildew, and algae
- Deck, dock, and patio cleaning to restore natural beauty and improve safety
- Treatment of shaded or north-facing walls where buildup is most common
- Preventative maintenance cleaning to help extend the life of exterior finishes
- Pressure washing solutions available when required for more stubborn surfaces

By addressing these issues early, their services help preserve materials, reduce deterioration, and maintain the value of your home or cottage.

Why Join the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce

Northern Touch Softwash joined the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce to expand their business visibility, build relationships within the local business network, and become an active part of the community they proudly serve.



**PRESSURE WASH
& SOFTWASH
SPECIALISTS**

**COTTAGES • BOATS
DOCKS • DECKS
CEDAR ROOFS
POOL DECKS
FENCES • SIDEWALKS**

**NTSoftwash@gmail.com
705-923-WASH**

Visit Northern Touch Softwash



Contact

Reegan and Daryl Haney
Phone: (705) 923-9274
Email: NTSoftwash@gmail.com



Fw: Township of New Business: PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Tue 3/17/2026 10:17 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 17, 2026 8:00 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of New Business: PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation

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Meet PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation



This week's Business Spotlight is **PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation!**

The Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation as one of our newest members!

 **Clear, Coordinated Financial Planning**

Founded in December 2022, PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation is a fee-based financial planning firm serving professionals, business owners, and families who want greater clarity, structure, and confidence in their financial lives.

Their work focuses on comprehensive wealth planning, helping clients bring together the many moving parts of their financial world so decisions are proactive rather than reactive.

 **Independent, Objective Advice**

With over 20 years of experience in financial planning, PB Total Wealth operates independently and without product sales mandates. Their approach is grounded in:

- Objectivity and transparency
- Education-first guidance

- Thoughtful, long-term strategy
- Collaborative professional relationships

They frequently work alongside accountants, lawyers, and other advisors to ensure financial strategies are coordinated and well executed.



What They Offer

PB Total Wealth provides strategic guidance across a wide range of planning areas, including:

- Cash flow and lifestyle planning
- Tax strategy coordination
- Business and succession planning
- Estate planning collaboration
- Long-term financial and lifestyle modeling
- Coordinated planning across personal and corporate finances

For clients who require ongoing investment implementation, and only if directed by the client, planning may be coordinated with independent fiduciary investment firms such as Treegrove Investment Management Inc., allowing planning and portfolio management to remain clearly defined and aligned.



👉 **A Collaborative Approach to Financial Confidence**

PB Total Wealth was built on the belief that financial advice should feel steady, empowering, and understandable—not sales-driven or overwhelming. Many of their clients are incorporated professionals and growing business owners navigating complex financial decisions, and they value having a trusted partner to help organize and guide those choices.

Founder Penny Stayropoulos is actively involved in professional collaboration, local business development, and community engagement, believing that financial clarity strengthens not just individuals, but families and communities as well.

💬 **Open to Meaningful Conversations**

PB Total Wealth welcomes conversations with individuals and business owners who want to feel more organized and intentional in their financial decisions—whether navigating incorporation, planning for succession, reassessing their direction, or preparing for the next phase of life.



Why Join the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce

PB Total Wealth joined the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce to actively participate in and contribute to the local business community. They value collaboration, shared learning, and supporting sustainable business growth within the region, while building meaningful relationships with fellow professionals and business owners.

Please join us in welcoming PB Total Wealth Advisory & Consulting Corporation to the Chamber and supporting this professional service dedicated to helping individuals, families, and businesses plan with confidence.

📍 Office Locations (By Appointment Only)

Barrie Office
92 Caplan Ave, Suite 406
Barrie, Ontario L4N 0Z7

Huntsville Office
1 Crescent Rd, Box 14, Suite 103
Huntsville, ON P1H 1Z6

Serving Simcoe, Muskoka, Algonquin Highlands, and surrounding regions.



Visit PB Total Wealth



Contact

Penny Stayropoulos
Owner and Financial Planner

Phone: (647) 220-4727

Email: penny@pbtotalwealth.com



Join the Chamber: Chamber Benefits

Fw: Township of New Business: Treegrove Investment Management Inc.

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Thu 3/19/2026 8:53 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 19, 2026 8:01 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of New Business: Treegrove Investment Management Inc.

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Meet Treegrove Investment Management Inc



This week's Business Spotlight is **Treegrove Investment Management Inc.!**

The Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome Treegrove Investment Management Inc. as one of our newest members!

 **Disciplined, Evidence-Based Investment Management**

Established in October 2018, Treegrove Investment Management Inc. is an independent, fiduciary investment management firm serving professionals, incorporated business owners, and families who want their wealth managed with clarity, structure, and purpose.

Treegrove specializes in portfolio design and ongoing investment implementation grounded in evidence-based strategy—not product sales or trend chasing. Every portfolio is thoughtfully structured around a client’s financial needs, tax efficiency, risk profile, and long-term lifestyle goals.



Penny Stayropoulos
Partner and Portfolio Manager

What They Offer

Treegrove provides comprehensive, client-aligned investment management services, including:

- Customized portfolio design tailored to individual and corporate needs
 - Ongoing investment implementation and monitoring
 - Tax-efficient investment strategies for incorporated professionals
 - Coordination between corporate structures and personal wealth planning
- Long-term, disciplined investment strategies focused on sustainability—not speculation
- Clear alignment between financial decisions and the life clients are building

With over 90 years of combined experience in financial planning and investment management, their approach is rooted in transparency, structure, and long-term alignment.



A Fiduciary Standard — Advice in the Client’s Best Interest

Treegrove operates under a fiduciary standard, meaning their responsibility is to act in the client’s best interest at all times. They do not sell products or promote proprietary funds, ensuring advice remains independent and objective.

Many of their clients are business owners and incorporated professionals navigating complex financial decisions. Treegrove helps integrate those moving parts into a clear, coordinated strategy designed to support both present stability and future growth.

Supporting Financial Literacy & Community Strength

Beyond investment management, Treegrove is committed to professional collaboration, financial education, and community-based business development.

Partner and Portfolio Manager Penny Stayropoulos believes wealth is not just financial—it supports stability, freedom, and stronger communities.

Open to Conversations

Treegrove welcomes conversations with business owners and families seeking more structure, discipline, and clarity in how their wealth is managed—whether growing a business, preparing for succession, navigating incorporation, or developing a more intentional investment strategy.

Why Join the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce

Treegrove joined the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce to become an active participant in the local business community and build meaningful relationships with fellow professionals and business owners. They value

collaboration, trust, and shared support as essential to long-term regional prosperity.



 **Office Locations (By Appointment Only)**

Barrie Office

92 Caplan Ave, Suite 406

Barrie, Ontario L4N 0Z7

Huntsville Office

1 Crescent Rd, Box 14, Suite 103

Huntsville, ON P1H 1Z6

Serving Simcoe, Muskoka, Algonquin Highlands, and surrounding regions.

Visit [Treegrove Investment Management Inc.](#)



Contact

Penny Stayropoulos
Partner and Portfolio Manager

Phone: (647) 220-4727

Email: penny@treegrove.ca



Fw: Township of Chamber Members, get ready for a call

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Mon 3/23/2026 9:03 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 21, 2026 9:30 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of Chamber Members, get ready for a call

You don't often get email from manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com. [Learn why this is important](#)



In the coming weeks, HR Covered will be reaching out to share two valuable free benefits with members. This includes access to the HR Hub document library, which offers **over 1,000 essential HR resources, valued at \$990 per year**. Additionally, members can receive a **fully compliant policy manual, worth \$1,500, at no cost**.

The Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce a new affinity program with HR Covered.

All Chamber Members now have access to several HR offerings from HR Covered at **no-charge**, including:

- Unlimited access to the HR Hub document library containing 1000+ HR documents, policies and forms. **Click here** to register.
- Access to engaging webinars on various HR related topics. **Click here** to explore the HR covered webinar schedule and sign up for the webinars that interest you the most.
- Compliant policy manual to protect your organization. HR Covered will create and review your new manual, address legislative compliance, and pinpoint any HR vulnerabilities. **Click here** to book your 45 minute meeting to get your manual created today.

The HR Covered Team will be reaching out over the next few weeks and are there to help you access these new complimentary resources as well as answer any additional questions you have.

We understand that there may be some members that **do not wish to be contacted via phone**

Any members that wish to opt out of this round of calls simply need to submit this **form**



Small business? Non-profit? Big dreams?

Fuel your growth with
Complimentary HR Tools & Resources
from HR Covered Inc.



Join the Chamber: Chamber Benefits

Fw: Township of Neil Jefferson Carpentry has you covered

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Tue 3/24/2026 10:17 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 24, 2026 8:00 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of Neil Jefferson Carpentry has you covered

You don't often get email from manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Meet Neil Jefferson Carpentry



This week's Business Spotlight is Neil Jefferson Carpentry!

Where Craftsmanship, Detail & Experience Matter

With nearly 40 years of experience in the construction industry, Neil Jefferson Carpentry is a trusted local business specializing in fine finishing, trim carpentry, and small renovation projects. Since 1986, Neil has built a reputation for meticulous workmanship, creative problem-solving, and results that are not only functional — but beautiful.

Neil Jefferson Carpentry focuses on the details that make a space feel complete. As the last person on the job, Neil understands that his work is what homeowners see first and live with every day. That responsibility drives a commitment to quality, precision, and craftsmanship that shows in every finished project.

Services Offered

Neil Jefferson Carpentry provides a range of interior-focused services, including:

- Trim carpentry and fine finishing
- Smaller renovation projects
- Small drywall jobs
- Interior painting
- Flooring installation

In addition to traditional carpentry, Neil also brings experience in log and timber frame work and specialty paint and finishing techniques, making him a versatile choice for unique or detail-heavy projects.



A Unique Blend of Art & Carpentry

What truly sets Neil Jefferson Carpentry apart is Neil's background as a fine artist, working in both landscapes and abstract art. His artistic eye and attention to colour, texture, and balance naturally carry over into his carpentry and finishing work.

Neil approaches each project with creativity and problem-solving in mind. For example:

- When oversized screws from window installation created an unsightly finish, Neil filled each hole and transformed them into realistic pine knots, seamlessly blending them into the wood.
- A man-made stone fireplace was completely refreshed by repainting it from outdated orange-brown tones to a modern grey palette, using multiple shades of grey to create depth and a natural stone appearance.

These thoughtful details are what elevate a finished space from “done” to exceptional.

Why Choose Neil Jefferson Carpentry

- Nearly 40 years of construction experience
- Specializes in trim carpentry and finishing
 - Strong eye for detail and design
 - Creative, solution-focused approach
- Pride in delivering beautiful, lasting results

Neil's work reflects his belief that craftsmanship matters — especially in the final stages of a project

Client Testimonials

Neil Jefferson Carpentry is proud to be supported by strong client feedback.

TESTIMONIAL

It's a pleasure to work with Neil Jefferson on our renovation. He presents as a wonderful blend of artist paired as a master finish carpenter. We've appreciated his many clear and comprehensive communications (and suggestions) about plans and details along the way. Neil is a great listener and coordinates well with various subcontractors. Our project outcome is better than we dreamed because of Neil and recommend him without reservation

*Michael D - Home Owner
(bathroom remodel)*

TESTIMONIAL

We have hired Neil Jefferson for several jobs over the past 8 years. These include the complete and extensive renovation of a guest cabin; building a shed; installation of new windows; finish trim; installation of tongue and groove ceilings; and staining. His work is always of high quality, and he's quick to solve problems and make creative suggestions. He's also very easy to work with. We have no hesitation in recommending him to others.

Neil and Kim- Cottage owners

TESTIMONIAL

When we purchased our cottage, which had suffered years of deferred maintenance, we hired Neil Jefferson to undertake the renovations and we are very glad we did. The cottage required extensive repairs (new foundation, new roof, new floors, new kitchen, and insulation) Neil oversaw and liaised with some third-party contractors. The work Neil did was meticulous, well thought out, responsive, of exceptional quality, and always considerate of the budget. We do not hesitate to highly recommend Neil Jefferson's carpentry and renovation services.

Chip and Rob - Cottage Owners

TESTIMONIAL

My wife and I highly recommend Neil for superior interior carpentry. Neil completed a significant number of difficult tasks associated with the completion of our upgraded home, ranging from interior framing, drywall, finish painting, staining, complex ceiling wood work, and custom, decorative finish mouldings. Neil excelled at dealing with difficult non-typical trim and finish issues, and as a result of his conscientious attention to detail created some unique and beautiful results that we're going to enjoy for a lifetime.

Jim and Nancy - Home Owners



Contact

Neil Jefferson Carpentry

Neil Jefferson
Phone: (705) 380-1433
Email: neil_jefferson@outlook.com



Join the Chamber: Chamber Benefits

Why JOIN the Chamber? Let us help your business!



Fw: Township of Great North Building Supplies

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Thu 3/26/2026 8:53 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce <manager-psachamber.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>
Sent: March 26, 2026 7:45 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Township of Great North Building Supplies

Meet Great North Building Supplies



This week's Business Spotlight is Great North Building Supplies!

Building Expertise You Can Count On

Located at 89 North Tudhope Street, Great North Building Supplies has been serving Ontario builders, contractors, and property owners since October 2016,

providing high-quality materials, expert guidance, and complete build-ready solutions.

Their team of qualified building experts delivers premium materials from trusted brands and helps clients streamline the process from planning to construction—so you can focus on building, not logistics.

Local Knowledge, Complete Build Packages

They can pick materials based on the drawings you provide so you don't have to do as much work before placing your order. Don't have drawings? No problem! Their fully qualified team of BCIN certified designers, architects, and consultants is here to help you get the job done. Stop worrying about material counts. Forget about stressing over permit applications and deadlines. Build Better. Contact Great North Building Supplies to start building in Ontario today.



What They Offer

Great North Building Supplies specializes in a full-service approach to construction projects, including:

- Premium building materials supplied and delivered across Ontario
- Material selection based directly on your construction drawings
- In-house BCIN-certified designers, architects, and consultants to assist if drawings are not yet prepared
- Guidance with planning, permitting considerations, and material coordination
- A stocked lumber yard and prompt, professional delivery team

Their service-first model is designed to simplify the building process and help clients “build better” with confidence and efficiency.

Featured Program: 100% Garage Design Rebate

Great North Building Supplies also offers a unique 100% Garage Design Rebate Program. Clients can have their custom detached garage designed by the in-



house team and receive a full rebate on the design deposit when they purchase the build package within one year of completion.

Learn More about the *FREE* Garage Design

Great North Building Supplies joined the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce to expand networking opportunities and increase brand exposure within the local business community.



Contact

Email: info@gnbuildingsupplies.ca
Phone: 705-746-5010

[Visit Great North Building Supplies](#)





Join the Chamber: Chamber Benefits



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 – 015

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO	DATE: February 17, 2026
Councillor G. ASHFORD	_____	_____	MOVED BY: 
Councillor J. BELESKEY	_____	_____	
Councillor P. BORNEMAN	_____	_____	SECONDED BY: 
Councillor B. KEITH	_____	_____	
Councillor D. McCANN	_____	_____	
Councillor C. McDONALD	_____	_____	
Mayor J. McGARVEY	_____	_____	

CARRIED: **DEFEATED:** _____ **Postponed to:** _____

Whereas, improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute, and invest in their local economies and communities; and

Whereas, poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income; and

Whereas, poverty, homelessness and food insecurity have detrimental impacts on physical and mental health; and

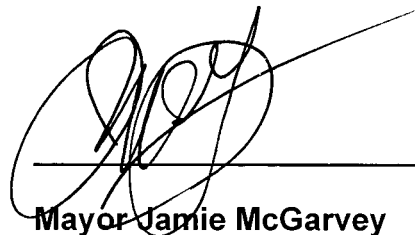
Whereas, income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts a household's ability to pay for the basic costs of living, including housing and food; and

Whereas, the 2025 North Bay Parry Sound food affordability results show that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Council of the Town of Parry Sound support efforts to raise awareness about, and work to reduce poverty, homelessness and food insecurity; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Council of the Town of Parry Sound endorse the recommendations from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program rates to reflect the costs of living, and index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, That the Council of the Town of Parry Sound provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Michael Parsa (Minister of Children, Community and Social Services), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health), Pauline Rochefort, MP (Nipissing-Timiskaming), Scott Aitchison, MP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH).



Mayor Jamie McGarvey

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 5.4.3.
Resolution Number 2026-022
Title: Resolution of Support - Northumberland - Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)
Date: February 18, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution Number 2026-01-21-052 passed on January 5, 2026 by the Corporation of the County of Northumberland regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF);
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

January 28, 2026

Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure),
Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing),
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance),
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South),
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM),
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM),
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Correspondence, 'Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)'

At a meeting held on January 21st, 2026 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2026-01-21-052, adopting the recommendation below from the January 5, 2026 Public Works Committee meeting:

Moved by: Deputy Warden Mandy Martin

Seconded by: Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Public Works Committee having considered correspondence from the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the Municipality of South Huron and the Township of Puslinch recommend that County Council support the correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure), the Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2026-01-21-052

Carried



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**

555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at bennett@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,
Tonia Bennett

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tonia Bennett".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By M. Martin

Seconded By J. Logel

Agenda
Item 10.a

Resolution Number
2026-01-21-052

Council Date: January 21, 2026

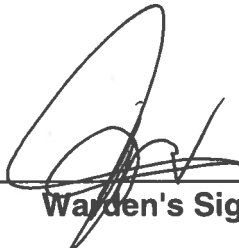
"That Council adopt all recommendations from the six Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held January 5, 6 and 7, 2026), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

- Public Works Committee, Item 8.b, Report 2026-002 'Changes to Tipping Fees at Community Recycling Centres'- **Held by Councillor Cleveland**

And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote
Requested by _____
Councillor's Name

Deferred _____
Warden's Signature

Carried  _____
Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
Warden's Signature

Public Works Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: January 5, 2026

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2026-01-05-004

Moved by: J. Logel

Seconded by: R. Crate

Council Meeting Date: January 21, 2026

"That the Public Works Committee having considered correspondence from the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the Municipality of South Huron and the Township of Puslinch recommend that County Council support the correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure), the Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and all Ontario Municipalities."

Carried 
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
Committee Chair's Signature

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

Resolution Number 2025-253

September 29, 2025

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data,

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

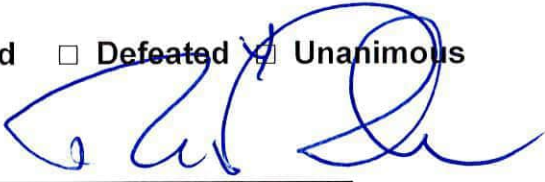
September 29, 2025

Resolution Number: 2025- 253

demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.

5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.
7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - o The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - o The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - o The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - o The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - o Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - o Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - o Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - o The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - o All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

Carried Defeated Unanimous

Mayor: 

RECORDED VOTE REQUESTED BY: _____

NAME	YEA	NAY
Councillor J. Martelle		
Councillor W. Smail		
Councillor C. Ward		
Deputy Mayor S. Dillabough		
Mayor T. Deschamps		
TOTAL		



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

Phone: 613-658-3055
Fax: 613-658-3445
Toll Free: 866-848-9099
E-mail: mail@twpec.ca

P.O. Box 129,
18 Centre St.
Spencerville, Ontario
K0E 1X0

VIA EMAIL

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
All Upper- and Lower-Tier Municipalities in Ontario

Please be advised that at its Regular Council meeting held on Monday, September 29, 2025, the Council of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities' ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.

6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - o The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - o The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - o The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - o The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - o Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - o Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - o Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - o The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - o All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

If you have any questions, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,



Natalie Charette
Interim Clerk
clerk@twpec.ca



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

October 23, 2025

Via email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their October 20, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

418-2025
Moved By: Aaron Neeb
Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025, Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson, AMO, OSUM, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Infrastructure Hon. Kinga Surma, kinga.surma@pc.ola.org;
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack,
rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy,
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; MPP Lisa Thompson,
lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; OSUM,
osum@osum.ca; FCM, resolutions@fcm.ca; and all Ontario Municipalities



Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

Marit Stiles, MPP
Leader of the Official
Opposition
VIA EMAIL:
mstiles-qp@ndp.on.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 28, 2025

Hon. Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
VIA EMAIL:
kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing
VIA EMAIL:
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

RE: 6.17 Municipality of South Huron Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund & 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 19, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-382:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.17, 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be received for information; and

That the Township of Puslinch Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025 Resolution and the Municipality of South Huron Resolution of October 20, 2025 regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Leader of the Official Opposition, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of



Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

Title: Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Resolution
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026
Time: 3:47 PM

Moved by: Councillor Ardiel
Seconded by: Councillor Porter

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information and supports the September 29, 2025 Resolution from the Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal regarding Support Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund;

AND THAT Council direct staff to circulate the attached resolution of support to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Francois-Phillippe Champagne, Minister of Finance, MPP Paul Vickers, MPP Brian Saunderson, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Small Urban Municipalities, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and all Ontario Municipalities

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Deputy Mayor Bordignon	Councillor Ardiel	Councillor Hope	Councillor Maxwell
Councillor McKinlay	Councillor Porter		

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Mayor Matrosovs

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

Resolution Number 2025-253

September 29, 2025

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data,

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

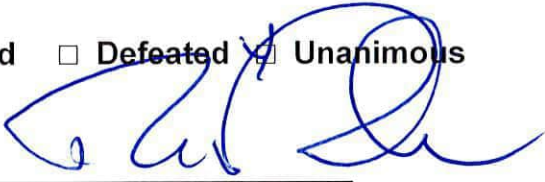
September 29, 2025

Resolution Number: 2025- 253

demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.

5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.
7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - o The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - o The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - o The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - o The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - o Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - o Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - o Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - o The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - o All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

Carried Defeated Unanimous

Mayor: 

RECORDED VOTE REQUESTED BY: _____

NAME	YEA	NAY
Councillor J. Martelle		
Councillor W. Smail		
Councillor C. Ward		
Deputy Mayor S. Dillabough		
Mayor T. Deschamps		
TOTAL		

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution # 7

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

Moved by: Michael Madden

Seconded by: Carma Williams

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—including roads, bridges, and water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality, and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities; and

WHEREAS in 2022, the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026; and

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials, and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt; and

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance, and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs, and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing; and

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability, and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Township of North Glengarry calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics, and rural equity considerations.

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution #

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

-
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs, or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
 6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments, and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of North Glengarry supports the September 29, 2025 resolution of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the October 20, 2025 resolution of the Municipality of South Huron, and the November 19, 2025 resolution of the Township of Pulsinch regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

FURTHER THAT this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED


MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR

Deputy Mayor: Carma Williams
Councillor: Jacques Massie
Councillor: Brian Caddell
Councillor: Jeff Manley
Councillor: Michael Madden
Councillor: Gary Martin
Mayor: Jamie MacDonald

YEA

NEA

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Top
Aggregate
Producing
Municipalities of
Ontario

NEWS LETTER



Introducing TAPMO's Next Phase of Engagement

As TAPMO enters 2026, the organization is launching a new phase focused on strengthening member engagement, improving information-sharing, and better supporting municipalities in navigating aggregate-related issues.

TAPMO is pleased to be working with Alyssa Gosse to lead its communications and marketing efforts. As a freelance communications and strategy professional, Alyssa has developed a forward-looking approach focused on improving the clarity and consistency of TAPMO communications, strengthening advocacy through timely policy updates and issue briefings, and developing practical tools, templates, and guidance materials to support municipal decision-making.



This newsletter marks the first step in this strategy and the beginning of a more regular communications program. Future updates will provide timely insights on policy and regulatory developments, highlight key issues facing aggregate-producing municipalities, and share resources designed to support members' work at the local level.

Advocating for Stronger Oversight at the AMO Conference

At the 2025 AMO Conference in Ottawa, members of the TAPMO Executive Committee met with Dawn Murphy-Gallagher, Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), along with senior Ministry staff. The delegation, led by Board Chair James Seeley, called for increased provincial funding for inspections of aggregate sites to ensure strong environmental and safety standards, as well as the implementation of annual inspection plans across all operations to improve oversight and consistency. TAPMO also emphasized the importance of publicly posting non-compliance offences to improve transparency, promote accountability, and strengthen public trust, noting that transparency acts as a deterrent to non-compliance and reinforces Ontario's commitment to high regulatory standards.

HIGHLIGHTS

MARKETING
EFFORTS

AMO
CONFERENCE

PROVINCIAL
AGGREGATE
POLICY
FRAMEWORK

COMMITTEE
VACANCY

NEW
MEMBERS

THE
AGGREGATE
RESOURCES
ACT

TAPMO Comments on Amendments to the Provincial Aggregate Policy Framework

TAPMO recently submitted comments to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding proposed amendments to the provincial aggregate policy framework.

In its submission, TAPMO focused on three key priorities:

1. Fair, Consistent, and Efficient Approvals

TAPMO called for a proactive and streamlined consultation and approval process that is fair, consistent, and accessible, while reducing unnecessary delays and maintaining clear municipal requirements and meaningful community engagement.

2. Cost Recovery for Municipalities

TAPMO emphasized that taxpayers should not subsidize aggregate operations. Property taxes must reflect the true cost of municipal services, and aggregate levies must adequately cover infrastructure damage caused by aggregate haulage.

3. Balanced and Sustainable Solutions

TAPMO supported the development of constructive solutions that balance growth in Ontario's aggregate sector with municipal and community needs through stronger collaboration, clearer technical standards, and improved haul route planning.

Members are encouraged to submit similar comments to MNR at aggregates@ontario.ca. For a copy of TAPMO's full submission, please contact executivedirector@tapmo.ca.

TAPMO Welcomes New Members

TAPMO is pleased to welcome the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh and the Township of Ramara as new member municipalities. With their addition, TAPMO now represents 26 active member municipalities across Ontario.



TOWNSHIP OF
ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH

Committee Vacancy

Following the resignation of an Executive Committee Member, TAPMO is seeking one member from the Greater Toronto/Hamilton/Niagara District to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee.

Interested members are invited to submit an expression of interest by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, 2026 by email executivedirector@tapmo.ca

Ministry of Natural Resources Interpretation of Imported Materials under the Aggregate Resources Act

Overview

In October 2025, the TAPMO Chair, Mayor James Seeley, met with senior staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to seek clarification on how the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA) is currently being interpreted with respect to the importation, processing, and blending of aggregate materials from other licensed sites. This discussion has since been followed by written confirmation from the Ministry outlining its current position.

Ministry Interpretation

According to the MNR's written clarification, where a licensed aggregate site's site plan explicitly permits the importation of aggregate materials, the licence authorizes the following:

- Aggregate material may be imported from other licensed sites in Ontario.
- Imported material does not count toward the site's annual licensed tonnage limit.
- Where site plans also permit processing, including blending, the licensee may process imported material for the duration of the licence, unless the site plan is amended or surrendered.
- The Ministry is currently reviewing whether imported material that is subsequently processed or blended should count toward licensed tonnage limits. While the current interpretation is that it does not, this position remains under internal review.

Under the Ministry's current interpretation, sites with explicit importation permissions may import unlimited quantities of aggregate from other licensed sites in Ontario for the life of the licence. These imported volumes are not subject to annual tonnage caps, nor are they subject to TOARC fees.

Municipal Considerations

This interpretation raises important concerns from a municipal land use planning and governance perspective. In practice, a site with importation, processing, and blending permissions could function as a permanent off-site processing facility without tonnage restrictions or associated fee obligations, even after on-site extraction activities have ceased.

Such an outcome may conflict with the intent of aggregate operations as interim land uses under the Planning Act, where rehabilitation and transition to appropriate end uses are key expectations. The interpretation also has broader implications for environmental management, long-term land use planning, infrastructure impacts, and community compatibility.

Municipalities have a vested interest in ensuring that aggregate operations operate within the scope originally contemplated by both the Aggregate Resources Act and the Planning Act, and that regulatory interpretations do not unintentionally extend or intensify industrial activity without appropriate oversight, consultation, or compensation mechanisms.

Next Steps

While the Ministry's clarification provides valuable insight into its current interpretation of the ARA, certain elements remain under review. TAPMO will continue to monitor the Ministry's internal evaluation and will share updates as further clarification becomes available.

Members are encouraged to share experiences or questions related to ARA interpretation and site plan permissions, as continued dialogue and coordination may support greater consistency in understanding and application across Ontario municipalities.

Become a Member

To learn more about TAPMO's work, visit www.tapmo.ca or email executivedirector@tapmo.ca.





The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.4.
Resolution Number 26-026
Title: Request to Province to maintain local, independent, municipality governed watershed-based conservation authorities
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026

Moved by: Councillor MacLeod
Seconded by: Councillor Cade Fraser

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has long demonstrated a strong and unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, watershed protection, and the preservation of its globally significant Georgian Bay shoreline, wetlands, forests, and inland waters for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities play a critical role in watershed-based resource management, natural hazard prevention, and environmental protection through local, independent, and municipally governed organizations; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed changes to Conservation Authority boundaries and governance, including the creation of an “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority,” as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has received a number of resolutions from municipalities expressing concerns with, and not supporting, the proposed changes to Conservation Authority structures and boundaries;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago formally requests that the Province of Ontario maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council does not support the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment,

Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and area municipalities for information and support.

Carried



Department of Corporate Services
1593 Four Mile Creek Road
P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0
905-468-3266 • Fax: 905-468-2959

www.notl.com

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

February 26, 2026

Ministry of Education
438 University Ave, 15th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2A5

Attention: Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education

Dear Minister Calandra:

RE: Swim to Survive

Please be advised the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the Lake, at its regular meeting held on January 27, 2026, approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS drowning is one of the leading causes of preventable deaths among children in Ontario and research by the Lifesaving Society of Ontario shows that most children who drown never intended to be in the water; and

WHEREAS evidence demonstrates that even basic swimming and water survival skills significantly reduce the risk of drowning; and

WHEREAS many children in Ontario do not have equitable access to swimming lessons outside of school due to financial, cultural or geographic barriers; and

WHEREAS several municipalities across Ontario have expressed strong interest in improving water safety education for children; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has the authority to incorporate water safety and survival training into the regular elementary school curriculum as a universal, life-saving skill comparable to fire safety and road safety instruction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Town of Niagara-on-Lake respectfully urges the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Education, to incorporate mandatory water safety and Swim-to-Survive training into the elementary school curriculum for all Ontario students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Minister of Education of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities, with a request for their endorsement.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact my office at 905-468-6488.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Grant Bivol', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Grant Bivol
Town Clerk/ Manager of Legislative Services

c.c. Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Fw: Seguin Tp - October to December 2025 Detachment Revenues

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Fri 2/27/2026 8:42 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

From: OPP GHQ Municipal Policing (OPP) <opp.municipalpolicing@opp.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:25 AM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>; Michele Fraser <mfraser@seguin.ca>; Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Subject: Seguin Tp - October to December 2025 Detachment Revenues

Good morning,

Revenues collected for worked performed by detachment staff is credited to municipalities quarterly throughout the year.

We are pleased to advise October to December 2025 revenue credits have been sent to Ontario Shared Services (OSS) for processing and will be issued within the week. Your municipality will be receiving a credit memo in the amount of \$5165.62.

The breakdown of the October to December revenue credit is as follows:

Security Checks = \$1271
Reports = \$3637.17
Fingerprints = \$575.2
Other = \$0
OPRCU 25% Reduction = -\$317.75
Total = \$5165.62

Please note an adjustment has been made to remove 25% of the Security Checks revenues collected by the Online Police Record Check Unit as per the letter sent to all OPP-policed municipalities in September 2023.

We have been advised by OSS a call to 1-877-535-0554 is required to apply the credit to an outstanding invoice.

Respectfully,

MPU Financial Services Unit



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
E-mail: admin@papineaucameron.ca Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

February 26, 2026

The Ontario Veterinary College
50 Stone Road East
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

RE: Ontario Veterinary College expansion of enrollment capacity

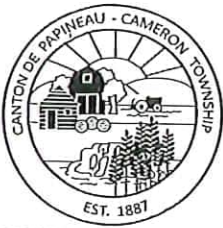
The Council of The Corporation of The Township of Papineau-Cameron met at their Regular Council Meeting on February 24, 2026 and passed the attached resolution 2026-50 that relates to the Ontario Veterinary College's enrollment capacity.

Yours truly,

Venessa Wilson
Administrative Assistant

Encl: Resolution 2026-50, Township of Papineau-Cameron

Cc: The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
The Honorable Victor Fedeli, MPP, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
The Honorable Trevor Jones, MPP, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Honorable Nolan Quinn, MPP, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2026-50

MOVED BY:

Shelley Belanger

SECONDED BY:

M Chenier

WHEREAS large animal livestock owners in Northern Ontario have extremely limited access to large animal veterinary services;

AND WHEREAS the cost of large animal veterinary services in Northern Ontario is significantly higher due to long travel distances and the limited number of large animal veterinarians available to service the region;

AND WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township that three qualified individuals within our community have applied to the Ontario Veterinary College for large animal veterinary, but were denied admission due to limited enrollment capacity;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township formally requests that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, the Hon. Trevor Jones MPP Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Hon. Nolan Quinn MPP Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Ontario Municipalities for their consideration and support.

CARRIED:

Robert Corriveau
(Mayor)

NOT CARRIED:

(Mayor)

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			

COPY

Fw: New Trail Proposal Submitted by Ontario Federation of Trail Riders for the Recreational Development of Crown Land in Seguin Township and the Municipality of McDougall and accessed from Hwy 518, Seguin Township

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Fri 2/27/2026 5:33 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

 1 attachment (1 MB)

OFTR Land Use Proposal - 2025 DEC 04.pdf;

From: Philip W.H. West <pwh.west@gmail.com>
Sent: February 27, 2026 4:13 PM
To: psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca <psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca>
Cc: Ann MacDiarmid <annmacdiarmid@seguin.ca>; Ken Adams <kenadams@seguin.ca>; Mario Buszynski <mariobuszynski@seguin.ca>; Greg Getty <greggetty@seguin.ca>; Terry Fellner <terryfellner@seguin.ca>; Ted Collins <tedcollins@seguin.ca>; Gail Finnsen <gailfinnsen@seguin.ca>; Planning <planning@seguin.ca>; Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Subject: New Trail Proposal Submitted by Ontario Federation of Trail Riders for the Recreational Development of Crown Land in Seguin Township and the Municipality of McDougall and accessed from Hwy 518, Seguin Township

You don't often get email from pwh.west@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To whom it may concern,

It is my understanding that following a presentation to the Seguin Township Council on 2026/01/12, the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders submitted the attached proposal to the Ministry of Natural Resources in support of a Land Use Permit to create a trail system for off road motorcycles within 2800 hectares of Crown land that straddles Hwy 518 in Seguin Township. The proposal creates a trailhead and parking area on Hwy 518 providing both an entrance and exit site for the proposed trails. The proposal includes a letter sent to residents on Hwy 518 and expresses a desire to work with local stakeholders (residents?) in the planning of the trail network. Please be advised that although a resident who accesses his property from Hwy 518, I did not receive a copy of the letter, however the designated representative of the OFTR promptly sent me a copy of the proposal when asked and has quickly responded to my questions.

I have reviewed the proposal and have listened to the OFTR presentation to Seguin Township Council.

As a nearby property owner on Faris Lake, I cannot support this application. My concern is the likelihood of persistent noise from the motorcycles traversing the trail system primarily on the south side of Hwy 518. The noise might be less apparent on the trails north of the Hwy until it nears the exit point on Hwy 518. The noise will not just be from motorbikes on the trails, but also on Hwy 518 as they travel to and from the trail, noise not just from the exhausts of the bikes, but also from their tires. Vehicles passing on the 518 are audible for about one to two kilometers in either direction. This includes motorcycles

(including Harley Davidsons) and people with specialized mufflers on their vehicles designed to amplify sounds, and vehicles with specialized “off-road” tires. Additional unnecessary traffic is not welcome.

The proposed trail south of Hwy 518 nears the shores of Martin Lake. There is a water course directly connecting Faris Lake to Martin Lake and it is anticipated that sounds from the motorcycles will carry across Martin Lake, through the connecting water course and into Faris Lake. While I cannot say with any certainty that this will occur, the applicants cannot say with any certainty that it won't. From Faris Lake, the trains operating along James Bay Junction Road and the gun club on Brooks Road are audible. These installations are further away than the proposed trail system and demonstrate how sound can carry. It cannot be assumed that the forested nature of the area will adequately muffle the sounds made by off road motorcycles.

Near my home, perhaps a kilometer away as the crow flies, there is an “off grid “ home that relies on sun and wind power. When these are insufficient, a Generac generator kicks in to charge the battery and provide the required power. Generacs are quieter than the motorcycles (65-68 vs 94db), yet we hear that generator despite an ample wooded area between our properties. It is not loud, but it is a persistent annoying “white noise” sound that disturbs the quiet. As the generation of power is necessary, it has not been subject of complaint. Noises made by people riding motorcycles in the woods for fun is not necessary.

I do respect that in many ways, this is a debate about “rights, the “rights” of property owners to enjoy the properties that they worked to buy, develop and maintain vs. the “rights” of a community of motorcycle enthusiasts to “have fun” with noisy polluting machines in an otherwise quiet and pristine environment. Overall, I think community standards and by-laws favour a property owner's right to enjoy their property. By-Laws generally restrict noises that we might make for fun, such as loud music, shouting etcetera, noises that a neighbour could find annoying and disturbing. By-laws tend to be less restrictive of noises made necessary for maintenance tasks and construction.

From the presentation to Seguin Council and from the proposal, I garnered that the OFTR intends to “police” it's membership by requiring “trail passes” and ensuring that motorcycles have working mufflers to cut noise to 94db. However, I am not convinced that the OFTR can indeed restrict access to anyone wanting to access Crown Land anytime day or night. I don't see how access by persons with louder bikes can be prevented, especially after normal operating hours. I think it unlikely that the OFTR can provide 24-hour security during “riding season”.

The proposal indicates an intent to create a multi-use trail “...giving access to hunters, anglers, hikers, cyclists and others...”. The proposal is also for a single-track trail being no wider than what is necessary for an off-road motorcycle to pass through. The proposal specifically states that the trail will not be wide enough to accommodate side by sides or all terrain vehicles.

The presentation to Seguin Township Council advised that the membership of the OFTR consists primarily of an older and mature demographic. While I am confident that this demographic is likely more experienced and cautious, the proposal notes that the sport of off-road motorcycling is a “family friendly” activity. Indeed, the Muskoka Off Riders Facebook page shows children riding off road motorcycles. This presents a question of safety on a trail shared with hikers, dog walkers, off-road cyclists and wildlife. Is the likelihood of an accident heightened when a child operating a motorcycle encounters someone or something unexpected on the trail ahead of them? Indeed, I think that regardless of who is operating the motorcycle, the potential for accidents on the trail is reasonably high leading to the question of first responder availability and capability. Despite Seguin Township relying on a volunteer fire department, I am confident in the ability of the Christie Fire Hall to respond quickly to a trail emergency. However, without the ability to access the trail with a 4X4 or ATV, how can the first

responders access the injured with necessary life saving gear and transport them back to the highway for transport to hospital if needed?

Under the section “Purpose and Objectives” the proposal states as a core objective;

“To establish a **well managed, environmentally responsible trail network...**” To this end one must ask how noisy polluting motorcycles in an otherwise pristine natural area is “environmentally responsible”?

“To **support local economic development** by attracting visitors to Seguin Township.” To this I note that while there may be a couple of smaller motels nearby in Seguin Township, there are no restaurants, gas stations or retailers in Seguin that will significantly benefit as most of these services are nearby in the Town of Parry Sound which has no particular stake in this proposal.

Within Section 6 of the proposal it states under the heading of “**Wildlife**”, “Single track trails with good vegetation cover often become travel corridors, allowing animals to move between habitats more easily.” Aside from questioning how trail vegetation can be maintained with constant motorcycle traffic, I am confident that the wildlife would prefer to be left alone to lead their lives and raise their young without the added stress of off-road motorcycles intruding into their living rooms. Thanks but “no thanks” for the corridor.

To conclude I do not see how this proposal to create space for people wanting to have fun with noisy polluting motorcycles in an otherwise pristine natural environment aligns with MNRF’s goals for responsible land stewardship or provincial land use objectives as asserted in the proposal. Further, I do believe that my ability to enjoy the property that I have worked to acquire, develop and maintain will be negatively impacted if the Land Use Permit is approved. I respectfully ask that the requested permit be denied.

Please advise of any public hearings in respect to this application and of the decision once made.

Yours truly,

Philip West,
19 Engelking Lane,
Seguin, Ontario,
P2A 0B2

Land Use Proposal for Recreational Trail Development on Crown Land in Seguin Township, Ontario

Submitted to:

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)
Seguin Township

Submitted by:

Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR)

Date: 2025 DEC 04

1. Proposal Overview

This proposal requests approval of a Land Use Permit to create a trail system within 2,800 Hectares of Crown land located along Highway 518 in Seguin Township, Ontario. OFTR is proposing the development and maintenance of a multi-use recreational trail system. The proposed trail system will serve members of the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR) and their families, promoting safe, responsible, and sustainable off-road motorcycling and trail riding in line with provincial land use objectives.

The OFTR is a not-for-profit association, incorporated in the Province of Ontario, representing 6,000 members. The association is divided into chapter clubs which includes the Muskoka Off Road Riders (MORR) with 120+ members residing in the West Parry Sound district.

2. Purpose and Objectives

The core objectives of this proposal are:

- To establish a **well-managed, environmentally responsible trail network**, comprised of mainly single-track trails, accessible to OFTR members.
- To provide **family-friendly recreation** opportunities that encourage outdoor activity and community engagement.
- To support **local economic development** by attracting visitors to Seguin Township.
- To foster **environmental stewardship** through education, conservation efforts, and volunteer trail maintenance programs.

3. Land Description and Location

- **Location:** Crown land accessible via Highway 518, within the geographic boundary of Seguin Township, Parry Sound District, Ontario. (see attached maps)
- **Total Area:** Approximately 2,800 hectares.
- **Current Use:** Undeveloped crown forest land with limited public access and no formal infrastructure.
- **Proximity to Services:** Within reasonable distance of local businesses and amenities in Seguin and surrounding communities.

4. Trail System Plan

The trail system will be developed with the following principles in mind:

- **Environmental Sustainability:** Trails will be designed and built using best practices to minimize soil erosion, protect sensitive habitats, avoid wetlands and have designated water crossings where necessary.
- **Safety and Accessibility:** Signage, maps, and designated routes will be provided to ensure user safety. Trails will accommodate varying rider skill levels.
- **Partnerships:** OFTR will collaborate with the MNRF, MTO, Seguin Township and local stakeholders to ensure inclusive and transparent planning.
- **Multi-use recreational trail:** OFTR will work with other stakeholder groups including hunters, anglers, hikers, cyclists and others, to ensure cooperation in the planning, shared use and maintenance of trails.



Sample of Trail Sign 85cm x 100cm

5. Establishing Single-track Trails

A single-track trail is a narrow pathway, typically just wide enough for a dirt bike, bicycle or one person on foot. It's characterized by its winding nature, tight turns, and often follows the natural contours of the landscape, sometimes incorporating obstacles like steep hills, rocks, roots, and trees. Single-track is not well-suited for use by ATVs or side-by-sides.

Several key considerations for creating single-track trails.

- **Sustainability:** Minimizing environmental impact, favouring higher ground and avoiding wetlands while minimizing crossing of water courses.

- **Line Selection:** Choosing the optimal route considering terrain, natural features (ridgelines, benches, humps, etc.), and potential for scenic views. This is typically marked with red flagging tape tied to trees.
- **Clearing the Trail:** Removal of small trees (less than 2.5cm dia.), branches, rocks, and other obstacles to create a clear path with decent visibility.
- **Grading and Shaping:** Offroad riders prefer natural and unimproved surface and will avoid changing grades, filling holes or altering natural drainage paths.
- **Structures:** Corduroy bridges may be used to traverse wetlands, where no alternative route is possible. These single-track bridges are built on-grade at a maximum width of 30”.

6. Trail Management and Maintenance

- **Stewardship Model:** a MORR member will be assigned to be responsible for trail stewardship in the proposed area. The Trail Steward with the help of local volunteers will regularly monitor and maintain the trails.
- **Usage Monitoring:** The OFTR is a member-based organisation that issues trail passes, and rider permits to ensure compliance with usage guidelines.
- **Education & Outreach:** OFTR promotes responsible riding through training programs, outreach events, and community days.
- **Wildlife:** Single-track trails with good vegetation cover often become travel corridors, allowing animals to move between habitats more easily.
- **Seasonal trail closures:** The OFTR posts access to the trail network in Ontario through the *RideOFTR* App. In the fall, we will close the trails during hunting season. In the spring, the trails may be closed if there is excessive water that would lead to trail damage and impact sensitive areas.
- All riders will sign a **RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT** before being allowed to access the trail system.
- **Liability Insurance.** The OFTR through membership fees, maintains \$15 million in personal liability and property damage insurance.

7. Conclusion

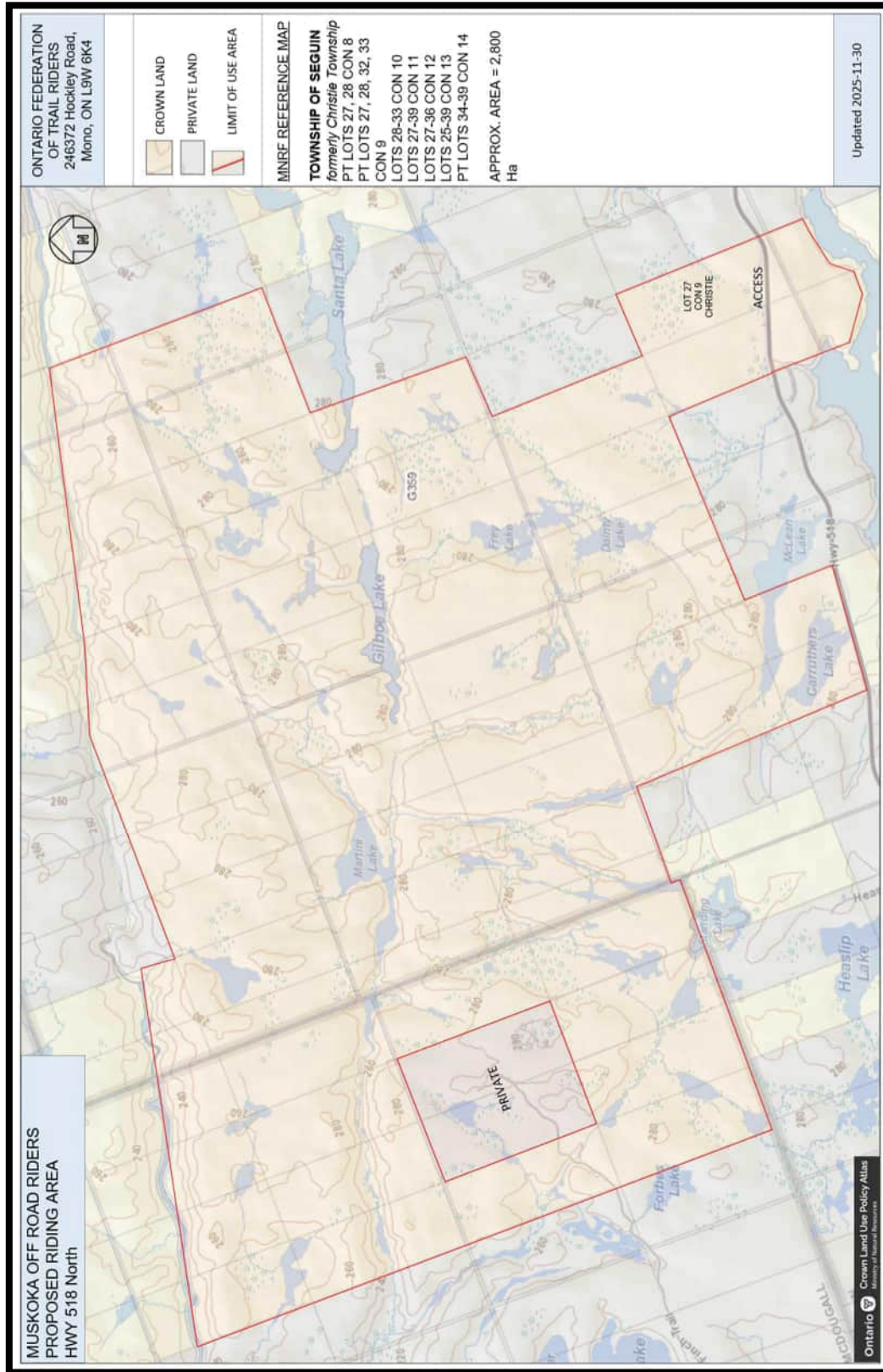
The Ontario Federation of Trail Riders respectfully seeks approval to use the identified Crown land to establish a sustainable, community-driven trail network. This initiative aligns with MNR's goals for responsible land stewardship, supports rural recreation, and builds on OFTR's proven track record of advocacy for safe, respectful off-road riding.

We welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the MNR and community partners to bring this vision to life.

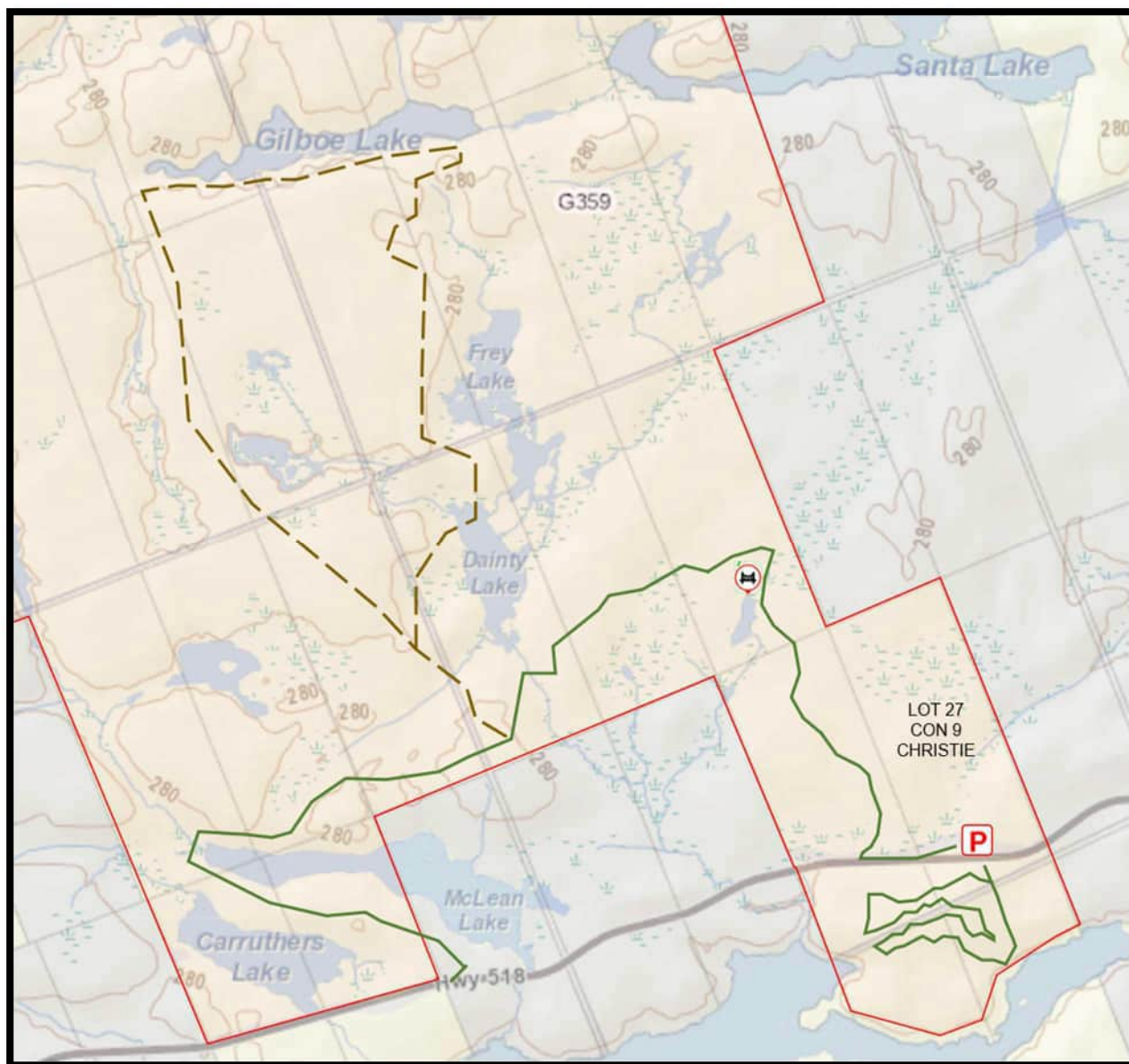
Appendices

- A. Hwy 518 North Crown Land area
- B. MORR 2026 Trail Plan
- C. Letter provided to Hwy 518 Residents

A. Hwy 518 North Crown Land area



B. MORR 2026 Trail Plan



TRAIL	LENGTH	MARKED	IMPROVEMENTS
Green Trail 518S	2.8	ribbons	None required
Green Trail 518N	6.1	ribbons	Tree trimming (< 1" diametre) Bridge at Beaver Dam
Gilboe Lake	5.3	ribbons	Tree trimming (< 1" diametre)

D. Letter provided to Hwy 518 Residents

Dear Hwy 518 Residents

We would like to share our plans to use some of the Crown Land off Hwy 518 for single-track off-road motorcycle trails.

The Ontario Federation of Trail Riders (OFTR), through our local club Muskoka Off Road Riders will be submitting a proposal to MNRF to establish single-track trails North of Hwy 518. Our Club has several members in the Muskoka/Parry Sound area who would ride and maintain the trails.



The trails will be established exclusively on Crown Land, and we will provide a wide margin around private property. In most cases you won't hear, or see us, as we ride in the bush enjoying the natural beauty and rugged terrain. We welcome other users to enjoy the trails including anglers, hunters, hikers, campers, dog-walkers, mountain bikers and others.



OFTR trail access requires a paid membership, and bikes must be licensed and insured. The Club will monitor and maintain the trails and provide sound testing to ensure dirt bikes are below 94db. The OFTR maintains liability insurance that covers all our members and their activities while riding on approved trails.

Please reach out to us directly if you have questions or concerns. Let us know if you are a trail supporter!

- Aubrey Bailey, Seguin resident (705) 774-4116
- Noel Hutchinson, Seguin resident (705) 761-0047
- Barry Billings, Trail Coordinator, McDougall resident (519) 829-9522

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Muskoka Off Road Riders

Ontario Federation of Trail Rider www.oftr.ca

Should you have any concerns, you can contact the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, located at:

7A Bay Street, Parry Sound, ON, P2A 1S4

psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca

Fw: MORR 518 Trail Information

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Tue 3/3/2026 7:28 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Mark Auerman <mark_auerman@hotmail.com>
Sent: March 2, 2026 5:12 PM
To: Ann MacDiarmid <annmacdiarmid@seguin.ca>; info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Fw: MORR 518 Trail Information

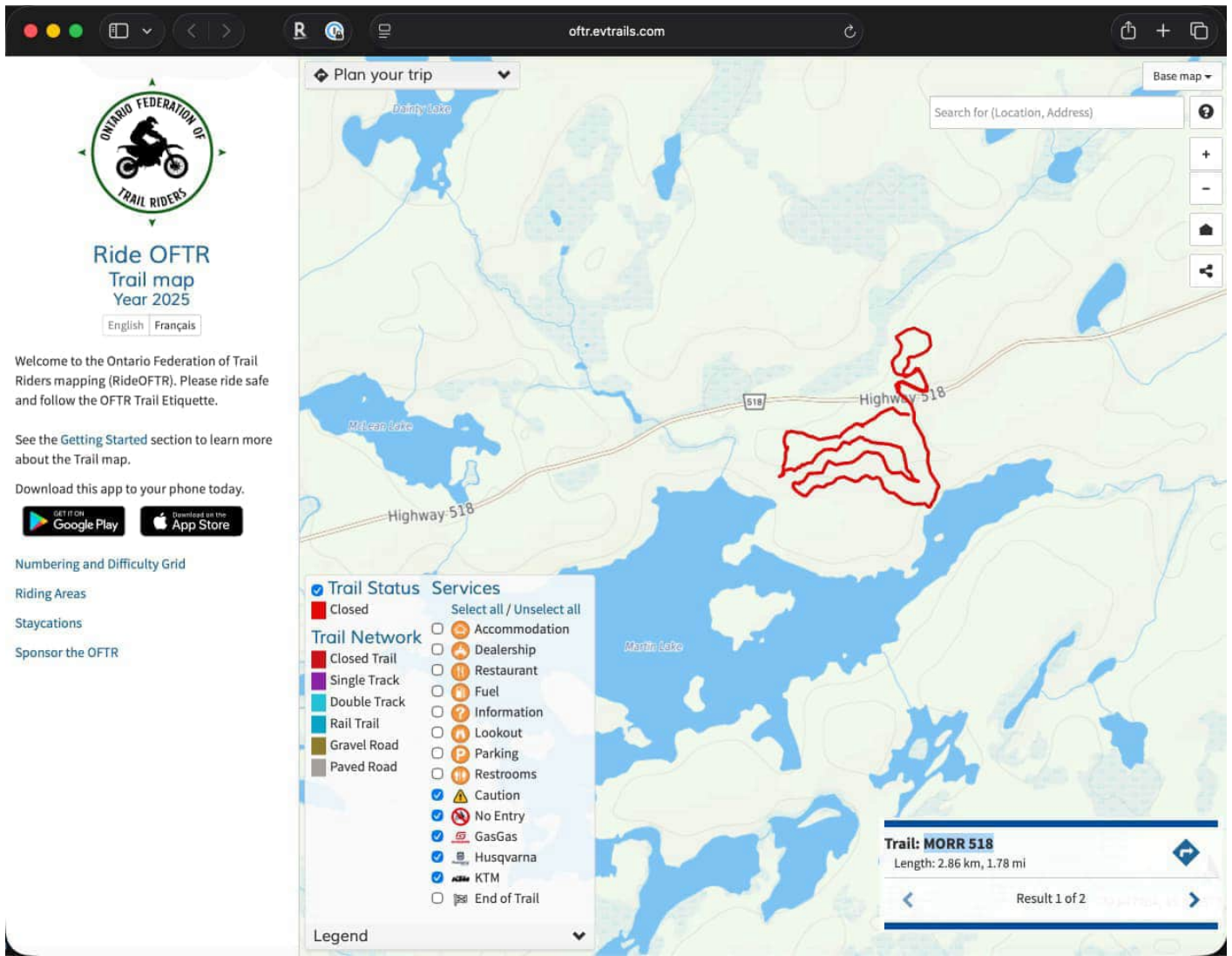
Hello Ann,

Thank you for setting aside some time to see me today. I hope the council meeting goes well.

As we discussed the Muskoka off road riders have advertised the MORR 518 (trail) since April 2025. This contravenes the statement found on the Ministry's website "You may only begin work on projects when you receive a work permit."

Here is the information about the MORR 518 Trail:

1. Map of the MORR 518 Trail from the OFTR's website (login required) As it is winter time all the OFTR trails are in red indicating they are closed.



2. Photo of the Thunderbox on the MORR 518 trail from the Muskoka Off-Road Riders Facebook page (they are a club of the OFTR as per <https://oftr.ca/membership/>)



Muskoka Off-Road Riders

Always open

Muskoka, ON, Canada

Links

oftr.ca

Contact info

+1 855-637-6387

muskoka@oftr.ca

Muskoka Off-Road Riders



Muskoka Off-Road Riders is in Orrville, Ontario.

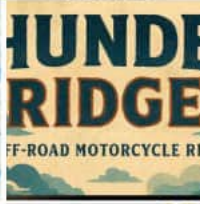
3 July 2025 · 🌐

MORR518 trailhead is now equipped for your every need. We have a Thunder Look for the derelict trailer in the Staging area and follow the arrows. P.S Brin



Photos

See All Photos



In case you are interested.



Please keep me in the loop when you hear back from the MNRF. An outline of the steps (public hearing, environmental assessment) and a realistic timeline from Adam regarding the proposal would be appreciated.

Respectfully,
Mark Auerman

Fw: Opposition to Proposed OFTR Trail on Hwy 518

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Mon 3/9/2026 4:25 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: Don Dean <drivingwithdon@hotmail.com>
Sent: March 9, 2026 4:11 PM
To: adam.wakefield@ontario.ca <adam.wakefield@ontario.ca>
Cc: Jason (MNR) <Jason.Lorbetskie@ontario.ca>; psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca <psdistrict.mnrf@ontario.ca>; Ginette (MNR) <Ginette.Bain@ontario.ca>; Ann MacDiarmid <annmacdiarmid@seguin.ca>; info <info@seguin.ca>; Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>; graydon.smith@pc.ola.org <graydon.smith@pc.ola.org>
Subject: Opposition to Proposed OFTR Trail on Hwy 518

Some people who received this message don't often get email from drivingwithdon@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Adam,

My family has owned property in Seguin Township for over 40 years. I am writing to express my serious concerns about the proposed multi-use off-road trail submitted by the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders.

The areas of McLean Lake, Carruthers Lake, and Martin Lake will be greatly impacted if this proposal is approved. Significant noise, garbage, human waste, fire risk, erosion, wildlife disruptions, vandalism and break-in risk to nearby properties, removal of small trees, and physically changing the landscape are just a few of my concerns.

Furthermore, I am extremely troubled that there has been no public consultation or consideration to the impacted residents of this area. Council has supported this proposal without consulting the community. It is difficult to find information about the full proposal, including the exact routes, etc., which is very unsettling to say the least.

Will Seguin Township continue to be "*The natural place to be*" if these trails are created? How will the proposed bridges and exhaust fumes affect the fragile ecosystem in these areas?

Although the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders suggests "seasonal trail closures", this would still affect the area year-round. The impact of motorized vehicles will likely permanently displace wildlife and

destroy the viability of this 2800-hectare area for hunting. Entrusting the management of this land to a private organization threatens the historic, open access that local hunters have relied upon for decades

I am formally requesting the following information:

1. Full public consultation prior to any approvals.
2. Full and accurate information regarding the proposed trail and route.
3. A full environmental impact assessment.
4. Confirmation of all steps that this proposal needs to take before it is fully approved.
5. A list of the levels of government and the associated departments that are involved, along with contact information for each one.
6. Formal updates for every step of this process.

Please have this email formally entered as part of the official correspondence.

Sincerely,

Donald Dean

519 551 4805

Fw: OFTR application processes going forward

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Mon 3/9/2026 10:00 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

From: Ann MacDiarmid <annmacdiarmid1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 3:29 PM
To: Mark_aerman@hotmail.com <Mark_aerman@hotmail.com>
Cc: Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>; Jason Inwood <jinwood@seguin.ca>; adam.wakefield@ontario.ca <adam.wakefield@ontario.ca>
Subject: OFTR application processes going forward

Good morning Mark; I have chatted with Adam Wakefield at MNR and the processes are well defined and the timelines pretty undefined depending on various stages along the way.

1. The application for trails south of 518 has been received and is complete. The application is for the construction of trails and does not limit the use of this area to the OFTR and no fees can be collected for the trail use. As I have explained before these lands are governed by the Public Lands Act and can be used by anyone at any time for hiking, skiing, camping etc. The OFTR application does not change any part of that.
2. MNR will determine if the application fits into Category A or Category B. If it is Category A, it can be approved by the local MNR office. If it is Category B after MNR staff review, it must involve some sort of public/community consultation and an environmental review by MNR staff. Public consultation can take a number of forms from online surveys to public open houses. It will require the applicant to get input from neighbouring property owners, municipalities and other ministries such as the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). This process would likely take 6 months or more.
3. If MECP determines that there are environmental issues that need to be addressed such as species at risk they can insist on a modification to the application or deem it inappropriate from an environmental point of view.

In my opinion and that of Adam Wakefield, it is highly unlikely that you will see new trails built north of 518 in the next many months. All of the letters and input need to be evaluated and MNR staff need to decide if environmental studies are required. Adam has agreed to look into whether or not OFTR already has a work permit issued for trails south of 518. I will continue to follow up on that issue.

I hope that this answers some of your questions. You should feel free to follow up with Adam directly.

From Seguin Township's point of view, there are no next steps for us on the application until the MNR contacts us.

Ann



Ann MacDiarmid
Mayor
Seguin Township
(705) 732-4300
annmacdiarmid@seguin.ca

annmacdiarmid1@gmail.com

cellular: 705-346-2210

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

BY-LAW NUMBER 20-2023

A BY-LAW TO PERMIT AND REGULATE THE OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES ON MUNICIPAL HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

WHEREAS Section 8 of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001*, as amended, empowers a municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Town of Deep River wishes to authorize a time-limited Pilot Project to assess the viability of allowing the use of off-road vehicles on municipal highways within the Town of Deep River;

AND WHEREAS the *Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter H.8, Section 191.8*, as amended, provides that a council of a municipality may pass a by-law:

- i) permitting the operation of off-road vehicles with four or more wheels on any highway within the municipality that is under the jurisdiction of the municipality, or on any parts of such highway; and
- ii) prescribing a lower rate of speed for off-road vehicles with four or more wheels than that prescribed for off-road vehicles by regulation on any highway within the municipality that is under its jurisdiction, or any part or parts of such highways, including prescribing different rates of speed for different highways or parts of highways; and
- iii) prescribing specific months or hours during which off-road vehicles can be operated on a municipal highway or parts of highways

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River enacts an off-road vehicles pilot project for a period of three (3) years commencing May 10th, 2023 and ending on May 10th, 2026 as follows:

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this By-law is to regulate and provide conditions to allow residents to utilize off-road vehicles on municipal highways within the Town of Deep River for a set period of time, and to ensure compliance with the parameters / rules of this by-law, as well as any associated provincial or federal enactments that may apply.

2. DEFINITIONS

"Off-Road Vehicle (ORV)" means an off-road vehicle as defined in the *Highway Traffic Act* under Ontario Regulation 316/03, as amended, as described in Section 1 of the definitions as:

"All-Terrain Vehicle" means an off-road vehicle that:

- a. has four wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- b. has steering handlebars
- c. has a seat that is designed to be straddled by the driver, and
- d. is designed to carry,
 - i. a driver and no passengers, or
 - ii. a driver and only one passenger, if the vehicle, has one passenger seat that is designed to be straddled by the passenger while sitting facing forward behind the driver, and is equipped with foot rests for the passenger that are separate from the foot rests for the driver

“Multi-Purpose Off-Highway Utility Vehicle” means an off-road vehicle that,

- a. has four or more wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- b. has a steering wheel for steering control.
- c. has seats that are not designed to be straddled, and
- d. has a minimum cargo capacity of 159 kilograms

“Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle” means an off-road vehicle that,

- a. has four or more wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- b. has a steering wheel for steering control,
- c. has seats that are not designed to be straddled, and
- d. has an engine displacement equal or less than 1,000 cubic centimeters

“Highway” means an open public highway or all classes of roads intended for vehicle passage (paved and unpaved roads and back-alleys) under the jurisdiction of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River and subject to the *Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990*.

3. JURISDICTION

This by-law regulates the use of all off-road vehicles on all highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River only.

This by-law does not provide authority for:

- a. County of Renfrew, upper-tier municipality, roads
- b. Private roads
- c. Any highways situated outside of the Town of Deep River including the portion of any boundary road not owned by the Town of Deep River.

4. REGULATIONS

Only those off-road vehicles falling within the definition of an all-terrain vehicle, a multi-purpose off-highway utility vehicle and a recreational off-highway vehicle in this by-law, may be driven on highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River provided that:

- a. the off-road vehicle meets all the equipment requirements and operation requirements of O. Reg 316/03, as amended by O. Reg 135/15,
- b. an off-road vehicle shall not be driven at a rate of speed greater than:
 - i. 20 km/hr if the speed limit established under the *Highway Traffic Act* or by municipal By-law for that part of the highway is not greater than 50 km/hr

- c. Off-road vehicles shall not travel between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise
- d. Off-road vehicles shall not travel upon any municipally owned or municipally maintained lands such as parks, playgrounds, beaches, sports fields, cemeteries and trails, save and except any designated parking areas made available as an off-road vehicle staging area to facilitate access to municipal roadways or adjacent trail networks

5. ENFORCEMENT

Any person who contravenes the *Highway Traffic Act* or its regulations or any section of this By-Law is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*.

6. PILOT DURATION

The Pilot Project is for a period of three (3) years ending on May 10th, 2026, at which point the By-law shall be reviewed by staff and a summary report with recommendations will be presented to Council.

7. SEVERABILITY

Each provision of this by-law is independent of all other provisions and if any provision of this by-law is declared invalid for any reason, all other provisions of this By-law shall remain valid and enforceable.

This By-law is in force and effect upon its adoption by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME, AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 10th DAY OF MAY, 2023.


Suzanne D' Eon, MAYOR


Jackie Mellon, CLERK

The Corporation of the Town of Deep River
REPORT
2023-PW-001

Council Meeting Date: March 15, 2023
Council Meeting Time: 6:00 PM
Council Meeting Place: Council Chambers

Subject: Off-Road Vehicle Pilot Project

Author: Dave McCarthy, Infrastructure and Contract Manager

RECOMMENDATION(S):

BE IT RESOLVED THAT report number 2023-PW-001 “**Off-Road Vehicle Pilot Project**” be received,

THAT Council approves a three-year pilot project for the use of Off-Road Vehicles, consistent with the attached draft By-law (Attachment 1), on all highways (including County Roads 72 and 73) in the Town of Deep River,

THAT staff be directed to present a By-law after the County of Renfrew Off-Road Vehicle By-law is amended to include County Roads 72 and 73, and

THAT Council approve the pre-budget allocation in the amount of \$2,000 as part of the 2023 operating budget to purchase the required signage for the pilot project.

BACKGROUND:

On December 21, 2022, Council received report 2022-PW-016 which examined relevant legislation and outlined a comparative analysis of neighbouring municipalities. The relevant legislation allows municipalities to pass by-laws permitting and regulating the operation of off-road vehicles on municipal highways, prescribe a lower rate of speed of than that prescribed for off-road vehicles as well as specific months or hours during which they can be operated. Also, the legislation clearly defines an 'off-road vehicle' as well as providing regulations governing the operation of these vehicles upon highways within municipalities, and regulates the equipment and operational requirements.

After receiving the report, Council directed staff to develop a pilot By-law to allow the use of off-road vehicles in the Town of Deep River, including County Roads 72 and 73.

Following this direction Town staff entered into discussions with County of Renfrew staff, Deep River Police Services, and members of the Renfrew County ATV Club to discuss removal of restrictions on County roads, traffic safety and enforcement, and trail access. Based on these discussions, staff are proposing a three-year trial period to allow the use of off-road vehicles on all highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River. Note; the definition of "highway" includes all classes of roads intended for vehicle passage. In the case of Deep River this would apply to all paved and unpaved roads and back-alleys. Also, as per the legislation, staff are also recommending that off-road vehicles shall not be driven at a rate of speed greater than 20km/hr or travel between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

RATIONALE:

A trial period of three years is recommended as an appropriate amount of time to evaluate the program and provide Council with information regarding its performance. This will provide evidence to Council on the merits of a potential permanent program.

As promoted by both the County of Renfrew and the Renfrew County ATV Club this recommendation will support significant economic activity within Deep River.

The proposed By-law is intended to mimic what a permanent By-law would be to ensure that the pilot project accurately represents the outcome of what a permanent By-law is likely to achieve.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

A permanent program was considered but not recommended as the three-year trial period for the pilot project will provide evidence to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of a permanent program.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Pre-budget approval of \$2,000 from the 2023 Operating Budget to purchase the necessary signage to permit and regulate the use of off-road vehicles on roadways within the Town of Deep River.

STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS:

This recommendation will support several desired outcomes within the Town of Deep River Strategic Plan.

1. Transparent, Fair & Effective Governance
2. Engaged Population enjoying Diverse Recreational & Cultural Opportunities
3. Vibrant & Increased Business & Commercial Sectors
4. Strong Collaboration with Community Businesses & Neighbours

CONSULTATIONS:

County of Renfrew
Deep River Police Service
Renfrew County ATV Club

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Draft By-law

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

BY-LAW NUMBER XX-2023

A BY-LAW TO PERMIT AND REGULATE THE OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES ON MUNICIPAL HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

WHEREAS Section 8 of *the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001*, as amended, empowers a municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Town of Deep River wishes to authorize a time-limited Pilot Project to assess the viability of allowing the use of off-road vehicles on municipal highways within the Town of Deep River;

AND WHEREAS the *Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter H.8, Section 191.8*, as amended, provides that a council of a municipality may pass a by-law:

- i) permitting the operation of off-road vehicles with three or more wheels on any highway within the municipality that is under the jurisdiction of the municipality, or on any parts of such highway; and
- ii) prescribing a lower rate of speed for off-road vehicles with three or more wheels than that prescribed for off-road vehicles by regulation on any highway within the municipality that is under its jurisdiction, or any part or parts of such highways, including prescribing different rates of speed for different highways or parts of highways; and
- iii) prescribing specific months or hours during which off-road vehicles can be operated on a municipal highway or parts of highways

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River enacts an off-road vehicles pilot project for a period of three (3) years commencing XXX and ending on XXX as follows:

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this By-law is to regulate and provide conditions to allow residents to utilize off-road vehicles on municipal highways within the Town of Deep River for a set period of time, and to ensure compliance with the parameters/rules of this by-law, as well as any associated provincial or federal enactments that may apply.

2. DEFINITIONS

"Off-Road Vehicle (OVR)" means an off-road vehicle as defined in the Highway Traffic Act under Ontario Regulation 316/03, as amended, as described in Section 1 of the definitions as:

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- b. has steering handlebars
- c. has a seat that is designed to be straddled by the driver, and
- d. is designed to carry,
 - i. a driver and no passengers, or
 - ii. a driver and only one passenger, if the vehicle, has one passenger seat that is designed to be straddled by the passenger while sitting facing forward behind the driver, and is equipped with foot rests for the passenger that are separate from the foot rests for the driver

“Multi-Purpose Off-Highway Utility Vehicle” means an off-road vehicle that,

- a. has four or more wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- b. has a steering wheel for steering control.
- c. has seats that are not designed to be straddled, and
- d. has a minimum cargo capacity of 159 kilograms

“Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle” means an off-road vehicle that,

- a. has four or more wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- b. has a steering wheel for steering control,
- c. has seats that are not designed to be straddled, and
- d. has an engine displacement equal or less than 1,000 cubic centimeters

“Highway” means an open public highway or all classes of roads intended for vehicle passage (paved and unpaved roads and back-alleys) under the jurisdiction of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River and subject to the *Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990*.

3. JURISDICTION

This by-law regulates the use of all off-road vehicles on all highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River only.

This by-law does not provide authority for:

- a. County of Renfrew, upper-tier municipality, roads
- b. Private roads
- c. Any highways situated outside of the Town of Deep River including the portion of any boundary road not owned by the Town of Deep River.

4. REGULATIONS

Only those off-road vehicles falling within the definition of an all-terrain vehicle, a multi-purpose off-highway utility vehicle and a recreational off-highway vehicle in this by-law, may be driven on highways under the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River provided that:

- a. the off-road vehicle meets all the equipment requirements and operation requirements of O. Reg 316/03, as amended by O. Reg 135/15,
- b. an off-road vehicle shall not be driven at a rate of speed greater than:
 - i. 20 km/hr if the speed limit established under the Highway Traffic Act or by

ATTACHMENT 1

- municipal By-law for that part of the highway is not greater than 50 km/hr
- c. Off-road vehicles shall not travel between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise
 - d. Off-road vehicles shall not travel upon any municipally owned or municipally maintained lands such as parks, playgrounds, beaches, sports fields, cemeteries and trails, save and except any designated parking areas made available as an off-road vehicle staging area to facilitate access to municipal roadways or adjacent trail networks

5. ENFORCEMENT

Any person who contravenes the Highway Traffic Act or its regulations or any section of this By-Law is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act.

6. PILOT DURATION

The Pilot Project is for a period of three (3) years ending on XXX, 2026, at which point the By-law shall be reviewed by staff and a summary report with recommendations will be presented to Council.

7. SEVERABILITY

Each provision of this by-law is independent of all other provisions and if any provision of this by-law is declared invalid for any reason, all other provisions of this By-law shall remain valid and enforceable.

This By-law is in force and effect upon its adoption by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME, AND FINALLY PASSED THIS XX DAY OF XX, 2023.

Suzanne D' Eon, MAYOR

Jackie Mellon, CLERK

Agenda Number: 14.b.
Resolution Number 2026-RCM-077
Title: Highway 11/17 Nation Building Improvements - Town of Joly
Date: March 2, 2026

Moved by:

Rae Rachelle

Seconded by:

Dave

WHEREAS Canada's east-west trade and national mobility rely on the Trans-Canada Highway system, including Highways 17 and 11 across Northern and Eastern Ontario, which carry significant freight volumes but remain predominantly two-lane corridors;

AND WHEREAS to four-lane the entirety of Highway 17 is the ultimate goal of the communities along the corridor;

AND WHEREAS the proven "2+1" highway design, alternating passing lanes with a continuous median barrier, delivers safety outcomes comparable to full twinning at substantially lower cost, land, and environmental impact, and can be scaled or converted to four lanes (2+2) as volumes grow;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced a 2+1 pilot between North Bay and Temagami and a further extension toward Cochrane, creating a near-term implementation pathway;

AND WHEREAS modernizing Highways 17 and 11 will improve safety, reduce closures, strengthen supply-chain reliability for mining, forestry, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, and enhance national resilience and emergency response capacity;

AND WHEREAS a phased 2+1 build - prioritizing Highway 11 (North Bay -+ Cochrane, then Cochrane -+ Nipigon) and key sections of Highway 17 (western border of County of Renfrew-+ Sudbury; Sault Ste. Marie--+ Sudbury; Thunder Bay--+ Kenora) - aligns with nation building criteria, supports economic reconciliation with indigenous partners, and enables integrated EV charging and low-carbon construction practices;

AND WHEREAS analysis summarized by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, (FONOM) demonstrates high freight demand on these routes and strong safety / economic rationale for a 2+1 program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren formally endorses the adoption and phased implementation of a 2+1 highway program on Highways 17 and 11 as a nation-building project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Government of Canada be urged to designate this initiative as a project of national interest under the Building Canada Act and to partner with Ontario to co-fund and accelerate planning, design, procurement, and construction;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Government of Ontario be urged to expand the announced pilot to a corridor-wide program, sequencing works according to readiness, safety benefit and economic importance;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Government of Ontario prioritize these projects into the Ministry of Transportation's Major Projects Division;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT both governments ensure early, ongoing, and capacity supported engagement with affected Indigenous Nations, with opportunities for Indigenous training,

contracting, and equity participation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the program incorporate corridor-wide safety features (barrier-separated 2+1 cross-sections, controlled passing frequency, wildlife considerations), resilience measures (closure mitigation, climate adaptation), and clean-growth elements (EV charging readiness, recycled aggregates, lower-carbon materials);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transport (Canada), the Minister of infrastructure (Canada), the Ontario Minister of Transportation, our local MP and MPP, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens'

CARRIED

DEFERRED

DEFEATED



Mayor



Corporation of the Township of Black River - Matheson

421 Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box 601
Matheson, Ontario
P0K 1N0

**ITEM # 2026-10.d)
RESOLUTION**

DATE: March 10, 2026

2026-81

Moved by Councillor Bree Allen
Seconded by Councillor Scott McCutcheon

WHEREAS safe, reliable transportation corridors are essential to the economic prosperity, public safety, and supply chain resilience of Northern Ontario communities;

AND WHEREAS Highways 11 and 17 form the primary east–west transportation corridor across Northern Ontario and serve as a critical link for trade, resource development, emergency services, and community connectivity;

AND WHEREAS the expansion and modernization of these highways would strengthen national supply chains, support mining and resource development projects including those associated with the Ring of Fire, and improve safety for residents, commercial transport, and travelers;

AND WHEREAS Member of Provincial Parliament John Vanthof has introduced a motion in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario calling upon the Government of Ontario to work with the Government of Canada to declare the expansion and modernization of Highways 11 and 17 a project of national significance;

AND WHEREAS Member of Parliament Gaétan Malette has introduced a motion in the House of Commons advocating for federal recognition and support of strategic national infrastructure priorities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson formally express its support for the motion introduced by MPP John Vanthof requesting that the Government of Ontario work with the Government of Canada to declare the expansion and modernization of Highways 11 and 17 a project of national significance;

AND FURTHER THAT Council express its support for the motion introduced by MP Gaétan Malette currently before the House of Commons;

AND FURTHER THAT Council call upon both the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to prioritize investments that strengthen transportation infrastructure, supply chain reliability, and economic development opportunities across Northern Ontario;

AND FINALLY THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Gaétan Malette, Member of Parliament
- John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming–Cochrane
- All Members of Parliament
- All Members of Provincial Parliament

- The Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Northern Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

CARRIED DEFEATED



CHAIR SIGNATURE

Original Amendment Refer Defer Reconsider Withdrawn

Recorded Vote-TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERK ONLY

	YEAS	NAYS
Mayor Dave Dymont		
Councillor Allen		
Councillor Morrish		
Councillor Campsall		
Councillor McCutcheon		
Councillor Gadoury		
Councillor Bouchard		



Hong Ji Lei
Clerk

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2026

FONOM Supports Provincial Highway 11/17 Safety Measures While Calling for Continued Progress

Latchford, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) welcomes the Province of Ontario’s recent announcement outlining new safety and enforcement measures along the Highway 11/17 corridor—an essential transportation link for Northern communities, industries, and Canada’s national supply chains.

The Province’s plan includes increased enforcement, expanded inspection capacity, improved signage, and continued design work for future highway improvements.

FONOM recognizes these actions as important steps that respond to long-standing concerns raised by municipalities across Northern Ontario.

“FONOM is pleased to see continued investments aimed at improving safety and reliability on Highways 11 and 17,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “These are important and necessary steps for northern communities that rely on this corridor every day.”

A Shared Northern Priority

Municipal leaders across Northern Ontario have consistently identified Highway 11, Highway 17, and the shared corridor as critical infrastructure requiring sustained attention, modern design standards, and ongoing investment.

FONOM continues to work alongside municipal partners and stakeholders to advance practical improvements that enhance safety while supporting economic activity and supply chain reliability.

Progress Made—More Work Ahead

While encouraged by the Province’s actions, FONOM notes that recent incidents on Northern highways underscore the importance of maintaining momentum.

“We continue to see serious collisions and highway closures across the North,” added Plourde. “While the measures announced will help, they also reinforce that more work remains to be done to ensure these highways meet the expectations of the people who use them.”

FONOM continues to advocate for:

- **Enhanced safety measures and enforcement**

- **Expanded passing opportunities**, including 2+1 and four-laning where appropriate
- **Improved rest areas and winter reliability**
- **A coordinated provincial and federal commitment** to long-term corridor improvements

A Corridor of National Importance

Highways 11 and 17 are vital parts of Canada’s Trans-Canada Highway system, supporting economic development, resource industries, and the movement of essential goods across the country.

“As conversations continue, we will remain focused on supporting long-term enhancements that reflect the significance of these highways—not just to Northern Ontario, but to Canada as a whole,” said Plourde.

Looking Ahead

FONOM remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province of Ontario, the federal government, and municipal partners to advance meaningful improvements that improve safety, reliability, and economic connectivity across Northern Ontario.

“We appreciate the Province’s engagement and look forward to continuing this work together,” said Plourde. “Northern municipalities are ready to be part of the solution.”

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

TOWN OF ENGLEHART

61 Fifth Avenue , Englehart , Ontario , P0J 1H0

Tel: 1-705-544-2244

<https://www.Englehart.ca/>

February 25, 2026

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 2026-35

Agenda Item # 5.3 Committee of the Whole followed by the Regular Meeting

Moved By : Jo-Anne Farmer

Seconded By : Pam Bannink

WHEREAS the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

WHEREAS the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

WHEREAS these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

WHEREAS the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS municipalities are already under significant financial strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Englehart does not support the legislative changes to the OMERS Act contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes; FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Englehart supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model, with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, MPP Paul Vickers, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

This is a certified and true copy of the original document Amy Vickery, CAO/Clerk.



OMERS Governance Changes & Bill 68



Association of
Municipalities
of Ontario



Contents

- OMERS: Current Governance Model
- OMERS Sponsors Organizations
- What happened?
- What does this matter?
- Why municipalities need to care?
- What can we do?

OMERS: Current Governance Model

- Prior to 2006, OMERS was fully controlled by the provincial government, as its sole sponsor: decisions regarding pension benefits and contributions were the responsibility of the provincial government
- In 2006, the provincial government removed itself from plan oversight and devolved the plan's sponsorship to the employers and employees who contribute to the plan.
- Now, OMERS is a defined benefit jointly sponsored pension plan where employee and employer sponsors are jointly responsible for funding the plan and making decisions around plan design.
- OMERS is governed by two corporate boards, each made up of members appointed by employee and employer sponsor groups:
 - The **Sponsors Corporation** determines plan design, contribution rates, and appointments to the Administration Corporation Board.
 - The **Administration Corporation** is responsible for the overall administration of the Plan, including making investment decisions and paying pension benefits to retirees.

The current OMERS governance model of two corporate boards with distinct responsibilities works because it balances independence, accountability, and fairness across the many different employers and employees.

OMERS: Sponsor Organizations

Employer Sponsors	Employee Sponsors
Association of Municipalities of Ontario	CUPE Ontario CUPE 416/79
City of Toronto	OPSEU
Ontario Public School Boards Association & Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association	Police Association of Ontario
Ontario Association of Police Services Boards	Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies	Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
Electricity Distributors Association	Retirees Group

*Sponsor organizations currently appoint members to the Sponsors Corporation and *nominate* members to the Administration Corporation (Sponsors Corporation reviews nominations and appoints to AC).

What happened?

- In 2024, the OMERS Sponsors Corporation conducted a regular review of contribution rates
 - Identified that lower-paid plan members were in effect subsidizing the retirement benefits of higher-paid plan members; adjusted rates to reallocate the financial burden in a more equitable way
- Following the release of this decision, the Police Association of Ontario, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, and Metrolinx wrote to the Premier requesting a governance review
 - The government launched a review in 2024
- AMO/MEPCO has consistently stated that the current OMERS governance structure functions well and does not require structural change.
- In November 2025, the government:
 - Released the Report of the Special Advisor, containing recommendations for significant governance change
 - One day later, tabled legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* as part of Fall Economic Statement omnibus legislation
 - Passed legislation in early December

Why does this matter?

Report recommendations and legislation mean significant changes to OMERS governance that:

- Shifts from a stewardship model focused on long-term sustainability and affordability to one focused more on advocacy and interest-based bargaining
- Weakens sponsor and municipal employer oversight by shifting power to the administrator (Administration Corporation) with respect to appointments and resources
- Provides significant authority to the Minister to prescribe rules and regulations related to Sponsors Council business, which risk interference in the plan design and potential new costs without the say of sponsors, employers, or employees

This is another example of provincial overreach into areas of municipal responsibility without a clear rationale or a full understanding of impacts.

Why municipalities need to care?

- Municipalities have less of a voice in the pension plan that we fund
- Province will be able to make decisions about the plan through regulation, and municipalities and employees will have to cover any new costs
- An interest-based approach to benefits and contributions decisions creates greater financial risks for municipalities (e.g. decisions that could lead to higher contribution rates or lower benefits)
- Less sponsor control over the Administration Corporation makes it harder to hold administrators responsible for plan performance

Ultimately, municipal governments are the default funder of the pension plan. This new model creates a greater risk of funding shortfalls, which will need to be covered by municipal taxpayers.

What can we do?

- Tell government and local MPPs that pension governance matters, and that municipalities should have control over their own plan by:
 - Passing a resolution
 - Sending a letter
 - Meeting with your local MPP
 - Raising this issue in delegations at ROMA (key messages on next slide)

Key messages

- The OMERS pension plan is important to municipalities: it is a recruitment and retention tool and a valuable benefit for our employees.
- We are concerned about the OMERS governance changes because:
 - Municipalities have less of a voice in the pension plan that we fund and rely on
 - These changes could lead to higher costs for municipalities. We cannot afford new costs without increasing taxes or cutting services.
- We believe that the current OMERS structure with two corporate boards is working; it provides predictability and stability.
- Pensions need to stay independent and accountable. They cannot be politicized.
- We are asking you to work with AMO and the other plan sponsors to chart a path forward that limits major changes and protects the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.



Appendix

Poirier Report Summary

	Recommendations
Sponsors Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wind down Sponsors Corporation and replace with a Sponsors Council• Maintain current composition with the addition of five (5) non-voting members• Re-establish employer/employee co-chair model and employer/employee sponsor caucuses
Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extend current Independent Board Chair term for three (3) years• Sponsors to directly appoint members to Administration Corporation Board• Give Administration Corporation Board veto (2/3 majority vote) over sponsor appointments
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• End corporate structure for Sponsors Corporation and access to independent resources• Administration Corporation to reimburse Sponsors Council for “reasonable costs”• Costs of arbitration be borne exclusively by sponsor organizations
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislate normal retirement age (NRA) 60/65 flexibility within plan text

Bill 68 Summary

- As part of Fall Economic Statement, Government introduced Bill 68 legislation to enact several (but not all recommendations)
- Provides authority to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing to:
 - Dissolve Sponsors Corporation at a date determined by Ministerial order
 - Establish a Sponsors Council, subject to any rules Minister deems appropriate
 - Make regulations governing any elements of the Sponsors Council by-laws
 - Approve Sponsors Council by-laws, as established initially by the Administration Corporation
- Prohibits Sponsors from appointing:
 - to the Sponsors Council anyone who has been a member of the Administration Corporation Board or the Sponsors Corporation Board
 - to the AC anyone who has been a member of the Sponsors Corporation Board or the Sponsors Council

Re: Formal Proposal for a Dark Sky / Responsible Outdoor Lighting Bylaw

From Liran Belenzon <belenzon.liran@gmail.com>

Date Mon 3/2/2026 12:40 PM

To Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>

Cc Sean Carroll <scarroll@seguin.ca>; Jason Inwood <jinwood@seguin.ca>; Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

You don't often get email from belenzon.liran@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Craig,

Thank you for getting back to me so quickly. That is wonderful news! Is my understanding correct, you are already pursuing a policy to ensure dark skies in Seguin?

If so, is this something we should expect to happen by summer 2026?

Kind regards,
Liran

On Mon, 2 Mar 2026 at 12:33, Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca> wrote:

Good morning Liran,

Township of Seguin staff are in the process of researching and drafting a by-law and policy related to dark skies. Sean Carroll, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Chief is the staff person responsible for this project. I have copied Sean on this email; if you have any questions/comments feel free to reach out to Sean.

Your correspondence will be copied to Council as information.

Regards,
Craig



Craig Jeffery
Clerk
Seguin Township
(705) 732-4300
1-877-4SEGUIN

From: Liran Belenzon <belenzon.liran@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2026 11:22 AM

To: Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Formal Proposal for a Dark Sky / Responsible Outdoor Lighting Bylaw

You don't often get email from belenzon.liran@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Craig,

I am writing to formally submit a proposal to the Seguin Council for a "Dark Sky" or responsible outdoor lighting bylaw. This initiative aligns with Seguin's "Environment First" philosophy and our commitment to preserving the unique natural character of our community.

Attached to this email is a formal letter addressed to the Mayor and Council. The letter outlines:

- **Alignment with Seguin's Values:** How protecting our star-filled nights supports the Township's goal of environmental stewardship.
- **Environmental Impact:** The critical benefits for local wildlife, including nocturnal hunters and migratory birds, as well as the preservation of our local insect populations.
- **Success in Other Municipalities:** Examples from neighboring communities like the Township of Muskoka Lakes, Lake of Bays, and the Town of Parry Sound, all of which have successfully implemented similar responsible lighting or dark sky regulations.
- **Specific Recommendations:** Actionable steps such as requiring full shielding for fixtures and implementing curfews for non-essential architectural lighting.

I would also like to request to be heard as a **delegation** at the next available Council meeting to present this proposal in person and answer any questions the Council may have.

Thank you for your time and for your dedication to the Township of Seguin.

Sincerely,

Liran Belenzon



TOWNSHIP OF
McNab/Braeside

Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 17, 2026 No: RESOLUTION - 56-2026
 Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott Brum Item No: 14.2

Description: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

WHEREAS The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

WHEREAS The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

WHEREAS Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

WHEREAS Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:	_____	
	Yea	Nay
Mayor Lori Hoddinott	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Scott Brum	_____	_____
Councillor Kevin Rosien	_____	_____
Councillor Robert Campbell	_____	_____
Councillor Jill Campbell	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: _____
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),
 abstained from discussion and did not vote

Motion: Support for Modernizing the Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG)

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

WHEREAS The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

WHEREAS The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

WHEREAS Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

WHEREAS Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.



Township of Perry

PO Box 70, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON POA 1J0

PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

www.townshipofperry.ca

March 5, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation Province of Ontario

Re: Municipal Support for School Bus Safety and Stop-Arm Camera Systems

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria,

On behalf of the Township of Perry, I am writing to express our strong support for enhanced school bus safety measures across Ontario, including the implementation of school bus stop-arm camera systems and other child-safety technologies.

Illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a serious and widespread issue throughout the province, occurring an estimated 30,000 times per day. These violations place children at unacceptable risk and continue to result in preventable injuries and fatalities. Municipalities require effective, modern enforcement tools to address this dangerous behaviour.

The Town of Parry Sound supports provincial investment in and expansion of school bus stop-arm camera systems under Part XIV.3 (School Bus Camera Systems) of the *Highway Traffic Act*. These systems have demonstrated success in deterring illegal passing, improving driver compliance, and strengthening accountability. Provincial funding and implementation support would help ensure municipalities of all sizes can deploy this technology equitably.

We also support the Let's Remember Adam – Stop for the School Bus campaign, launched in memory of Adam Ranger, a five-year-old child who tragically lost his life when a driver failed to stop for a school bus displaying its flashing lights and stop arm. This tragedy highlights the urgent need for continued public education, enforcement, and the use of technology to better protect children travelling to and from school.

...2



Township of Perry

PO Box 70, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON POA 1J0

PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

www.townshipofperry.ca

We respectfully call on the Province of Ontario to provide municipalities with the necessary funding tools, legislative support, and implementation guidance to advance school bus stop-arm camera systems and complementary child-safety initiatives across Ontario.

Protecting children on our roads is a shared responsibility. Through strong provincial leadership and municipal partnership, meaningful progress can be made to prevent further tragedies and enhance road safety for families across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Norm Hofstetter
Mayor

cc: The Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: March 4, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 104

Moved By: Paul Sowrey **Seconded By:** Margaret Ann MacPhail

Whereas the Township of Perry has received a letter from the Town of Parry Sound, along with other municipalities requesting support for improved school bus safety initiatives and the expansion of stop-arm camera programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby supports the resolution passed by the Town of Parry Sound advocating for enhanced provincial support for school bus safety and stop-arm camera systems;

And further that Council directs staff to forward a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities for support.

Carried: ✓ **Defeated:** _____ 
Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
Council	For	Against
Councillors Jim Cushman		
Joe Lumley		
Margaret Ann MacPhail		
Paul Sowrey		
Mayor Norm Hofstetter		



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

March 4, 2026

RE: OMERS Governance Changes and Bill 68

Dear Honourable Rob Flack and Honourable Peter Bethenfalvy,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on March 4th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus.

Resolution No: 2026-03-04-04
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Keller

"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolution regarding OMERS Governance Changes and Bill 68, as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, Minister of Finance, EOWC MPPs, and AMO."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

Resolution: OMERS Governance Changes and Bill 68

Moved by: Warden Jennifer Murphy, Renfrew County

Seconded by: Warden Mario Zanth, United Counties of Prescott and Russell

“WHEREAS the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children’s aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

WHEREAS the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

WHEREAS these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

WHEREAS the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS municipalities are already under significant financial strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus does not support the legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to maintain the current OMERS governance model,

with two corporate Boards, as the structure that would best deliver on the long-term interests of municipalities, taxpayers, and employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to:

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs;
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
- EOWC regional MPPs: Billy Denault, Dave Smith, David Piccini, John Jordan, Laurie Scott Nolan Quinn, Ric Bresee, Steve Clark, Stephane Sarrazin, Ted Hsu, Tyler Allsopp; and
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)."

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonnie Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'C'.

Signed by: **Bonnie Clark, EOWC Chair**
Warden of Peterborough County

Info@eowc.org

January 8, 2026



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

March 4, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario

Dear: Honourable Doug Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on March 4th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from Tay Valley Township.

Resolution No: 2026-03-04-05
Moved by: Councillor Kauffeldt
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Tay Valley Township's resolution regarding Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario, as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier Ford, Leader of the Official Opposition Party and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk, Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



Tay Valley Township

October 24, 2025

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Sent by Email

Dear: Honorable Doug Ford,

RE: Municipality of Tweed – Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario.

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting held on October 21st, 2025 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2025-10-22

MOVED BY: Fred Dobbie
SECONDED BY: Marilyn Thomas

"WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township Support the Municipality of Tweed's resolution regarding waste incineration and a more Robust Recycling Program;

AND WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the members of council, MPP's and MPs to make the decisions that will result in the most positive outcomes for now and future generations;

AND WHEREAS, with large urban centres now looking in rural areas of our province and entire country for lands to bury their garbage waste;

AND WHEREAS, a large landfill site owned by a large urban centre which receives 50% of their garbage at the present time is expected to be full by 2029 creating more environmental impacts;

AND WHEREAS, continuing to bury garbage in the ground will result in our future generations having lost potable groundwater as a result of garbage leachate rendering it unusable;

AND WHEREAS, burying garbage, particularly organic waste in landfills, leads to the production of methane a greenhouse gas, which escapes into the atmosphere and contributes to climate change causing more environmental destruction;

AND WHEREAS, we continue to destroy our environment jeopardizing our future generations;

AND WHEREAS, we have worldwide technology that will allow us the use of clean incineration and also produce much needed electric energy;

AND WHEREAS, the incineration of household and other municipal waste has a long tradition in Germany, which currently has 156 municipal thermal waste incineration facilities with an aggregate annual capacity of around 25 million tons;

AND WHEREAS, with a strong focus on community involvement, innovative infrastructure, and sustainable practices, Germany has set a high bar for municipal recycling programs that the rest of the world can learn from and emulate;

AND WHEREAS, at the present time, Germany recycles 66.1% of its garbage waste at a municipal level. This places the country as the most effective and prominent country when it comes to recycling in the entire world. This highlights the citizen's strength and motivation to deal with environmental issues on a daily basis;

AND WHEREAS, German schools often integrate recycling education into their curriculum. This early exposure to the importance of recycling instills a sense of responsibility in the younger generation, creating a culture of sustainability that transcends generations;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of Tay Valley Township support the Municipality of Tweed in investigating the possibility of working together with Ontario Municipalities, Provincial and Federal Governments and manufacturing partners to form a working group to ensure that waste disposal issues can be resolved quickly, efficiently and effectively with the use of incineration, more robust recycling programs and sustainable practices, so that future generations will not suffer from our environmental mismanagement;

AND THAT, this support be sent to Premier Ford, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition Party, and all Ontario Municipalities."

ADOPTED



If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (613) 267-5353 ext. 130 or deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aaron Watt".

Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

cc: Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition Party,
All Municipalities in Ontario

Fw: Regional Council Decision - Circular Materials Ontario

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Fri 3/6/2026 9:07 AM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

From: Regional.Clerk <regional.clerk@york.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2026 8:12 AM
Subject: Regional Council Decision - Circular Materials Ontario

You don't often get email from regional.clerk@york.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)
On February 26, 2026 Regional Council passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Province of Ontario has implemented the Blue Box Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, transferring responsibility for municipal recycling to producer responsibility organizations and their contractors, including Circular Materials Ontario;

And Whereas Circular Materials Ontario has engaged multiple private collection contractors to deliver recycling services to municipalities across Ontario, including those within the Regional Municipality of York;

And Whereas municipalities throughout Ontario are experiencing inconsistent recycling collection service levels under the new EPR model, including differences in collection frequency, missed collections, accepted materials, cart provision, contamination management, customer service response times, and contractor accountability;

And Whereas residents in some municipalities are receiving reduced or inferior recycling collection services compared to others, despite participating in the same provincial Blue Box program;

And Whereas these service level inequities have resulted in increased resident complaints, confusion, reduced participation in recycling programs, and declining public confidence in Ontario's recycling system;

And Whereas upper- and lower-tier municipalities, including York Region, no longer have direct operational control over Blue Box recycling collection, yet continue to experience the impacts of service disruptions and resident dissatisfaction;

And Whereas the intent of Extended Producer Responsibility was to improve environmental outcomes, efficiency, and accountability, not to create unequal treatment of Ontario residents based on municipal boundaries;

And Whereas access to reliable and effective recycling collection is an essential public service and should be fair, consistent, and equitable for all residents of Ontario, regardless of where they live;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of The Regional Municipality of York calls upon the Province of Ontario to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario and its contractors provide fair, consistent, and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario;

And That the Province be requested to establish, enforce, and publicly report on consistent province-wide service standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed-collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times, and contractor performance;

And That the Province require Circular Materials Ontario to promptly address collection service level inequities and performance gaps between municipalities, including those impacting York Region;

And That this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Circular Materials Ontario and all Mayors of Ontario.

Regards,

Christopher Raynor (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300 | christopher.raynor@york.ca | york.ca

Our Mission: **Working together to serve our thriving communities – today and tomorrow**

March 8, 2026

For Immediate Release

FONOM Calls for Urgent Action Following Another Fatal Collision on Northern Highway

March 2026 – Smooth Rock Falls, Ontario

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is expressing deep concern and growing frustration following another fatal collision on Northern Ontario’s highway system.

On March 7, a serious collision near **Smooth Rock Falls** involving four tractor-trailers and a passenger vehicle claimed the life of a **Kapuskasing resident**, marking the **tenth highway fatality this winter on Northern highways**. FONOM extends its sincere condolences to the family, friends, and community affected by this tragic loss.

“These tragedies are becoming far too common on Northern Ontario highways,” said **FONOM President Dave Plourde**.

“Northern Ontario families should not have to live with the constant fear that a routine trip on the highway could end in tragedy. When we see collision after collision and closure after closure, it becomes painfully clear that the current situation is unacceptable. Northern Ontarians deserve the same level of highway safety that people in southern Ontario expect every day.”

FONOM notes that in **April 2023**, the **Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force**, co-chaired by former FONOM President **Danny Whalen** and **Wendy Landry**, delivered a comprehensive report to the Province of Ontario outlining recommendations to improve transportation safety, reliability, and economic connectivity across Northern Ontario.

While FONOM appreciates that some improvements have been made, many of the recommendations—particularly those related to highway safety, passing opportunities, rest areas, and improved road design—have yet to be fully implemented.

“Northern leaders have already done the work. The Transportation Task Force delivered clear recommendations to improve safety on Highways 11 and 17, yet too few of those recommendations have been implemented,” Plourde said. “Every serious collision is another reminder that improving this corridor is not just a transportation issue—it is a matter of public safety for the people who live, work, and travel in Northern Ontario.”

FONOM continues to advocate for meaningful improvements to **Highways 11 and 17**, including expanding passing opportunities through four-laning where feasible and using **the 2+1 highway model** in appropriate sections.

“These highways are part of the Trans-Canada system and carry billions of dollars in goods every year,” Plourde added. “They connect our communities, support our resource economy, and move essential supplies

across the country. Improving safety on these corridors is not just a Northern issue—it is a national one.”

FONOM is calling on the Province of Ontario to accelerate the implementation of the **Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force recommendations** and to work collaboratively with Northern municipalities and the federal government to modernize this critical corridor.

Despite frequent collisions and heavy truck traffic, much of Highway 11 and 17 is a two-lane, undivided roadway with no alternative route. FONOM continues to advocate for meaningful improvements to **Highways 11 and 17**, including expanding passing opportunities through four-laning where feasible and using **the 2+1 highway model** in appropriate sections.

“Northern Ontarians should not have to accept a higher level of risk simply because of where we live,” Plourde said. “Our communities deserve the same commitment to safe and reliable transportation infrastructure as any other part of the province.”

FONOM will continue to work with municipal partners, Indigenous leaders, and governments at all levels to advance solutions that improve safety and reliability on Northern Ontario’s highways.

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

FONOM Resolution

Urgent Action on Highway Safety – Highways 11 and 17

WHEREAS Highways 11 and 17 form the backbone of the Trans-Canada Highway through Northern Ontario and are essential corridors for the movement of people, goods, and emergency services across Canada;

AND WHEREAS these highways support Northern Ontario's resource economy, connect communities to health care and services, and carry significant national supply chains;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario continues to experience a troubling number of serious collisions and highway closures each year;

AND WHEREAS the tragic fatal collision near Smooth Rock Falls on March 7, 2026 involving four tractor-trailers and a passenger vehicle, resulted in the death of a Kapuskasing resident and marked the **tenth highway fatality in Northern Ontario so far in 2026**;

AND WHEREAS in April 2023, the **Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force**, co-chaired by representatives of FONOM and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), delivered a comprehensive set of recommendations to the Province of Ontario aimed at improving safety, reliability, and economic connectivity across Northern Ontario's transportation network;

AND WHEREAS Northern leaders, Indigenous partners, and transportation experts invested significant time and effort developing practical and achievable recommendations, many of which have yet to be fully implemented;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario residents should not have to accept a higher level of risk simply because they live, work, or travel in the North, and every preventable highway fatality underscores the urgent need for action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) call upon the Province of Ontario to urgently accelerate the implementation of the recommendations contained within the **Northern Ontario Transportation Task Force Final Report**;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario prioritize meaningful safety improvements along **Highways 11 and 17**, including increased passing opportunities through four-laning where feasible and expanded implementation of the **2+1 highway model** in appropriate sections;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province work collaboratively with Northern municipalities, Indigenous communities, and the Government of Canada to modernize this critical national transportation corridor;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province provide an update to Northern municipalities on the status of the Task Force recommendations and the timeline for their implementation;

AND FURTHER THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth, Northern Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, Northern Members of the Canadian Parliament, and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association.

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2026

FONOM Board Advances Northern Priorities at Meeting in Kirkland Lake

KIRKLAND LAKE, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) Board of Directors convened in Kirkland Lake on March 20, 2026, to address key priorities impacting Northern Ontario communities, including highway safety, housing, health care, and municipal sustainability.

The Board was welcomed by **Mayor Stacy Wight**, along with **CAO Alan Smith** and **Clerk Jennifer Montreuil**, who met with FONOM members on Thursday evening to share local best practices, current challenges, and preparations for the upcoming municipal election cycle. The discussion provided valuable, on-the-ground insight into municipal governance in Northern Ontario.

“FONOM greatly appreciates the opportunity to meet directly with local leadership in Kirkland Lake,” said **Dave Plourde, President of FONOM**. “These conversations ensure that our advocacy is grounded in the real experiences of Northern municipalities and reflects the diverse challenges communities are facing.”

Key Discussions and Advocacy Priorities

During the Board meeting, members continued to advance several key advocacy files:

- **Northern Highway Safety and Capacity:** FONOM reaffirmed its strong commitment to the multi-laning of Highways 11 and 17, including twinning and 2+1 models. The Board discussed ongoing efforts to secure provincial and federal commitments and emphasized the importance of maintaining momentum on this nation-building corridor.
- **FONOM Conference 2026 – Timmins:** Preparations are well underway for the upcoming annual conference, taking place May 11–13, 2026, hosted by the City of Timmins. The event will bring together municipal leaders and partners from across the North to discuss shared priorities and opportunities.
- **Continued Advocacy Efforts:** The Board reviewed progress on Queen’s Park advocacy, federal engagement, and strategic communications efforts aimed at elevating Northern Ontario priorities on a provincial and national stage.

Presentations Inform Board Discussions

FONOM welcomed three guest presenters who provided valuable insights on critical issues:

- **Patrick Chouinard, Element5**, presented on the use of **mass timber and panelized construction** as an innovative solution to address housing shortages in Northern Ontario, including opportunities tied to the forestry sector and mining development.

- **David McNeil, President and CEO of Health Sciences North**, shared regional health care data, highlighted current and future system pressures, and emphasized the importance of collaboration across Northern hospitals. He also expressed a willingness to work closely with FONOM to support improved health outcomes across the region.
- **MP Gaétan Malette (Kapusksing–Timmins–Mushkegowuk)** discussed federal perspectives on infrastructure and introduced his resolution supporting improvements to Northern highways, reinforcing the need for coordinated federal and provincial action.

Resolutions Reflect Municipal Priorities

The Board considered and supported a wide range of resolutions brought forward by member municipalities, addressing issues such as:

- Sustainable and equitable **policing funding**
- **Highway safety** and reclassification of Highways 11 and 17
- **Health care access**, including concerns related to laboratory services
- **Housing affordability** and homelessness
- **Municipal infrastructure pressures**, including water systems and public health levies
- **Telecommunications and connectivity**
- **Environmental and recycling policies**

“These resolutions reflect the priorities and pressures being felt across Northern Ontario,” added Plourde. “FONOM will continue to amplify these voices and work collaboratively with all levels of government to deliver meaningful solutions.”

Looking Ahead

FONOM will continue its advocacy efforts in the lead-up to the 2026 Annual Conference in Timmins and remains committed to advancing policies that support strong, resilient, and connected Northern communities.

Media Availability

Dave Plourde, President,
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

Fw: Nominations for the 2026 OSUM Executive Committee now Open

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Mon 3/9/2026 10:05 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

From: Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) <osum@osum.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 1:05 PM
To: Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Subject: Nominations for the 2026 OSUM Executive Committee now Open

You don't often get email from osum@osum.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)



Call for the 2026-2028 OSUM Executive Committee Election

[The Call for Nominations](#) for the 2026 Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) Executive Committee election is now open.

Those interested in running for the 2026-2028 OSUM Executive Committee term are required to fill out the attached [nomination form](#) and return by **4:00 p.m. on April 10, 2026**. Forms must be returned to **Larry J. McCabe, Administrative Officer, OSUM, larryjmccabe@gmail.com**.

The election will take place during the April 29–May 1 OSUM Conference and Trade Show, hosted by the Town of Parry Sound and held at the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts/Bobby Orr Hall of Fame.

Voting is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To be eligible to run and vote, your municipality must be in good standing as an Association of Municipalities of Ontario member.

[Register today.](#) [Book your accommodations.](#)

About OSUM

OSUM is the small urban voice of the province. It is an integral part of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and includes a number of Board members who serve on the AMO Board of Directors. OSUM provides an important forum for elected and appointed municipal officials to share information and examine pressing and emerging issues facing small urban communities. OSUM is the vehicle by which matters of common interest can be addressed through collective action to improve local government service across Ontario.

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA



Mark Sutcliffe
Mayor | Maire

**Office of the Mayor
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110 Laurier Avenue West
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Tel.: 613-580-2496
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Email: Mark.Sutcliffe@ottawa.ca

**Bureau du maire
Ville d'Ottawa**
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Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1
Tél. : 613-580-2496
Télééc. : 613-580-2509
Courriel : Mark.Sutcliffe@ottawa.ca

February 26th, 2026

The Honourable Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General
Ministry of the Solicitor General
George Drew Building
25 Grosvenor St. Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6
SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca

By electronic submission

Re: Proposed New Regulation under the Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act

Dear Solicitor General,

Please be advised that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of February 25, 2026, considered and approved the following motion:

MOTION

Moved by / Motion de: Councillor S. Plante
Seconded by / Appuyée par: Mayor M. Sutcliffe

WHEREAS the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2025* (RPCISA) was brought into force on June 5, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) is considering regulatory amendments to the RPCISA to prescribe special constables employed by authorized public transit agencies, including OCTranspo special constables for the purpose of the Act, thereby granting them the same enforcement powers as police officers, and is seeking public input on this proposal until March 1st; and

WHEREAS the City of Ottawa has invested significant resources to improve public safety in the downtown core and the ByWard Market; and

WHEREAS OC Transpo deploys on average approximately 4 special constables in the downtown daily, and 13 deployed across the city-wide transit network, who are already present in high-traffic transit environments, including stations, platforms, and bus stops throughout the downtown core and across the city; and



Mark Sutcliffe
Mayor | Maire

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Courriel : Mark.Sutcliffe@ottawa.ca

WHEREAS public transit riders include workers, students, seniors, people with disabilities, youth, and low-income residents who rely on transit as their primary or only mode of transportation and require a safe environment at all times; and

WHEREAS restoring ridership is essential to the financial sustainability of Ottawa's public transit system, to achieving the City's climate and transportation goals, and to ensuring equitable access to employment, education, healthcare, and community services; and

WHEREAS enabling OCTranspo special constables to enforce the RPCISA would allow for timely, proportionate, and location-specific interventions focused on transit spaces, while reducing reliance on police response for matters that occur primarily within the transit system; and

WHEREAS any extension of authority under the RPCISA would be accompanied by appropriate training and would operate alongside existing public health, outreach, and harm reduction services, recognizing that enforcement alone does not address substance use but that clear rules and safe public spaces remain necessary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ottawa endorse the proposed regulatory amendments under the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2025*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor write to the Solicitor General of Ontario in support of the proposal before March 1st, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk share this motion with other Municipalities in Ontario, prior to March 1st, 2026; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor write the Solicitor General of Ontario to renew or extend the funding associated with the Ontario-Ottawa agreement.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Mark Sutcliffe
Mayor
City of Ottawa

cc. All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097
rideaulakes.ca

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township
mayor@rideaulakes.ca
613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
All Members of Parliament
All Provincial Cabinet Ministers
MPP Steve Clark
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



**GEORGIAN BAY
BIOSPHERE**
MNIDOO GAMII

State of the Bay News

Coastal Caretaking: Big Plans for 2026!

From researchers tracking wildlife to volunteers fighting Phragmites, the eastern coast of Georgian Bay is alive with stewardship efforts!

Whether it is removing invasive species, protecting nesting turtles, or monitoring water quality, countless hands come together to care for this landscape and shape the future of the coast.

On February 24, we hosted the Mnidoo Gamii Stewardship Gathering for groups that conduct environmental work in the region...



[Read More](#)

Biosphere Updates

Exploring Georgian Bay by Boat

When our field team is not using our boat to do research, clean campsites, and map habitats, it is available for custom tours!

We love sharing the Bay with visitors, residents, and cottagers. Booking opens March 20th - explore the 30,000 islands with us by boat or kayak starting at Snug Harbour!



Plan Your Adventure!

Join Our Team

We are hiring a summer **Food & Gardens Assistant!**

The successful candidate will support seven community gardens, our Eat Around the Sound workshops, attend outreach events, and more! **Applications due Monday, March 9th.**



Job Description

We Can Help You Save Money on Energy Costs!

Introducing our free Energy Savings Support program!

As part of the program our Energy Specialists can support homeowners and renters by:

- Helping you make your home or cottage more energy efficient
- Sharing information about rebates, grants, and retrofits



- Filling out applications and forms to get you started!

Get Started

Spring Gardening Fever

We are celebrating the beginning of growing season with our **Seedy Saturday event on March 7th!**

New to gardening? Read more to learn details about the event and to grab our free "Seed to Soil" guide to help you get started.



[Read More](#)

FREE Biosphere Events

Seedy Saturday

Drop by our local seed-swapping and garden knowledge sharing event! There will be refreshments, workshops, exciting new vendors, seeds by donation or swap, garden tool sharpening, and activities for kids! New and experienced gardeners welcome.

Saturday, March 7th
10 am to 2 pm
Canadore College, Parry Sound



[More Information](#)

Kids in the Biosphere Events

We have an exciting MARCH BREAK line up of FREE kids events! Join us the week of March 16th for events in communities across the region to have fun, become nature detectives, and to learn about species at risk, winter wildlife, and more! Plan your week with GBB:

Mon, March 16: Where the Wild Things Thrive (Seguin)

Tues, March 17: Animal Tracks (McKellar)

Wed, March 18: Winter Wildlife (Britt)

Thurs, March 19: Critters with a Bad Rap (Seguin)

Fri, March 20: Critters with a Bad Rap (Parry Sound)



March Break Kids Events

Never miss an event or how we are making a difference! Follow us:

Georgian Bay Biosphere is recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as one of 19 World Biospheres in Canada. GBB promotes community projects which advance conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development, and research and monitoring.

WE ARE A REGISTERED CANADIAN CHARITY: # 87100 1335 RR 001

Donate Today!



The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Meeting

Title: Township of Southgate Resolution
Date: Monday, March 9, 2026
Time: 3:40 PM

Moved by: Councillor Ardiel
Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information and supports the February 20, 2026, Resolution from the Township of Southgate regarding Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025;

AND THAT Council directs staff to provide a copy of the resolution to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario

YES: 6

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Deputy Mayor Bordignon	Councillor Ardiel	Councillor Hope	Councillor Maxwell
Councillor McKinlay	Councillor Porter		

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

Mayor Matrosovs

Township of Southgate
Administration Office
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

February 20, 2026

Re: Township of Southgate – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025

Please be advised that at the February 18, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-073

Moved By Councillor Shipston

Seconded By Councillor Ferguson

WHEREAS arable land is a critical finite resource; and

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and


WHEREAS Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Southgate support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,



Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
MPP Paul Vickers – Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound
Senator Rob Black
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Municipalities in Ontario



—The TOWNSHIP of—
NORTH DUMFRIES

106 Earl Thompson Road, 3rd Floor
PO Box 1060
Ayr, ON N0B 1E0

March 11, 2026

Sent via Email:

Premier of Ontario, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Brian Riddell, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario

RE: Resolution – Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025

Please be advised, at the Council Meeting held on March 9, 2026 the Township of North Dumfries Council considered the enclosed resolution received from the Township of Southgate regarding Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

“THAT the Resolution received from the Township of Southgate regarding Support for Bill 21, Protect our Food Act, 2025 be received;

WHEREAS arable land is a critical finite resource; and

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

WHEREAS Ontario’s farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of North Dumfries support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Brian Riddell, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.”

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Good". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ashley Good, Clerk
Township of North Dumfries
519-632-8800 ext. 122
agood@northdumfries.ca

encl.

Township of Southgate
Administration Office
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

February 20, 2026

Re: Township of Southgate – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025

Please be advised that at the February 18, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-073

Moved By Councillor Shipston

Seconded By Councillor Ferguson

WHEREAS arable land is a critical finite resource; and

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

WHEREAS Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Southgate support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lindsey Green".

Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
MPP Paul Vickers – Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound
Senator Rob Black
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Municipalities in Ontario



Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Council Resolution
Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Willsie
Seconded by: Councillor Derbyshire

WHEREAS the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc is a community deeply rooted in agriculture, with a significant portion of our local economy and heritage dependent on the sustainability of farming and food production;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is losing an estimated 319 acres of farmland daily to non-agricultural development, posing a significant threat to the province's long-term food security and the viability of the agri-food sector;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21, the *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*, currently before the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, seeks to preserve productive agricultural land by requiring Agricultural Impact Assessments before zoning changes can occur and by establishing a Foodbelt Protection Plan;

AND WHEREAS the protection of prime agricultural land is not only a matter of food sovereignty but also of fiscal responsibility, as low-density residential sprawl on farmland frequently incurs higher long term infrastructure and service costs for municipalities compared to agricultural land use;

AND WHEREAS providing certainty regarding the agricultural land base encourages long-term investment by farmers in their operations, soil health, and local businesses, thereby strengthening the rural economy of Strathroy-Caradoc;

AND WHEREAS low-density urban sprawl increases the per-capita cost of municipal infrastructure and service delivery—including roads, water, wastewater, and emergency services—creating a long-term financial burden on the Municipality that often exceeds the tax revenue generated by such development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc hereby expresses its support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*,

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca



MUNICIPALITY OF
STRATHROY-CARADOC

The Corporation of the
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
52 Frank Street, Strathroy ON N7G 2R4

to ensure that Ontario's prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to send a letter of support for Bill 21 to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the leaders of the Opposition parties;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all municipalities within the County of Middlesex to encourage broader municipal support.

Carried.

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca

Canadian Municipal Barometer: Elected Officials Survey 2026

Preliminary Report



CANADIAN MUNICIPAL BAROMETER
MAR 11, 2026



Sh

Canadian municipalities sit at the centre of many of the country’s most pressing policy debates—from housing supply to local taxation and immigration.

What do the people governing those municipalities actually think about these issues?

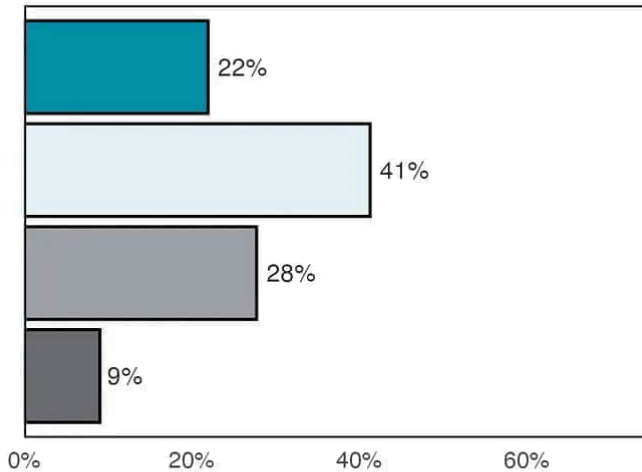
Today we release a **preliminary look at the 2026 Canadian Municipal Barometer Elected Officials Survey**, based on responses from 1,512 elected officials representing 736 municipalities for a response rate of 22%. The survey was fielded from January 1 to March 1, 2026.

In this preliminary report, we provide a brief overview of respondents’ opinions on some of the core issues facing Canadians today. We obtained these measures by presenting each elected official with a randomly selected set of three policy proposals out of a total of twenty-six, and asking if they agree with them (strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree). Below, we present the results for 12 of the most topical policy proposals included in the survey. These results offer a preview of our latest data and provide a window into the priorities that currently define municipal politics in Canada.

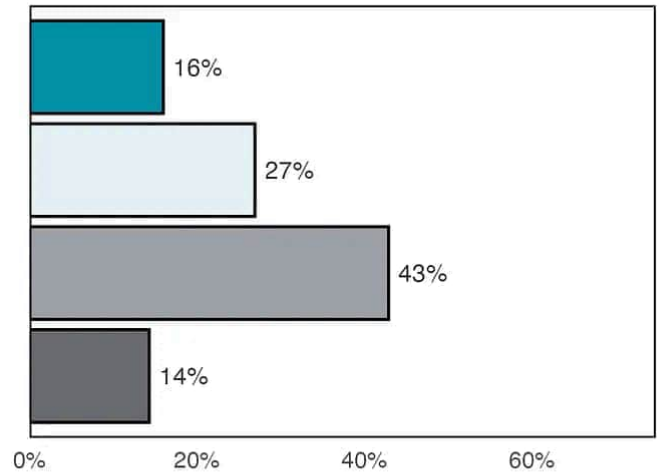
To reduce complexity in the interpretations below, we often report the total of both the “agree” or “disagree” categories. We preserved all four response categories in the plots so you can see each question’s full variation.

Municipal Politicians Support Increasing Housing Supply

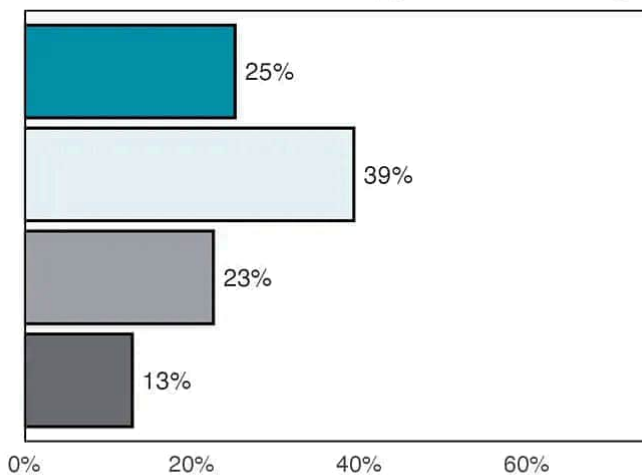
A: Municipal governments should legalize multi-unit housing across all residential zones to expand housing supply and reduce prices.



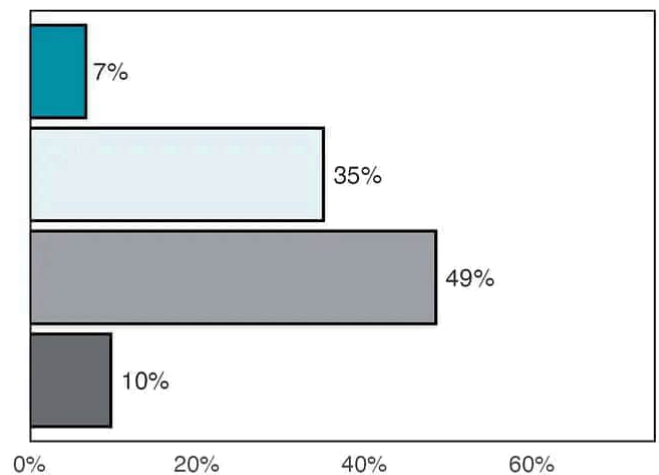
B: Municipal governments should limit high-density developments in established residential neighbourhoods, even if this restricts housing supply.



C: Municipalities should legalize fourplexes and small apartment buildings in all residential neighbourhoods, even if some homeowners oppose the change.



D: Municipalities should give homeowners more say over nearby zoning changes, even if this slows down the construction of new housing.



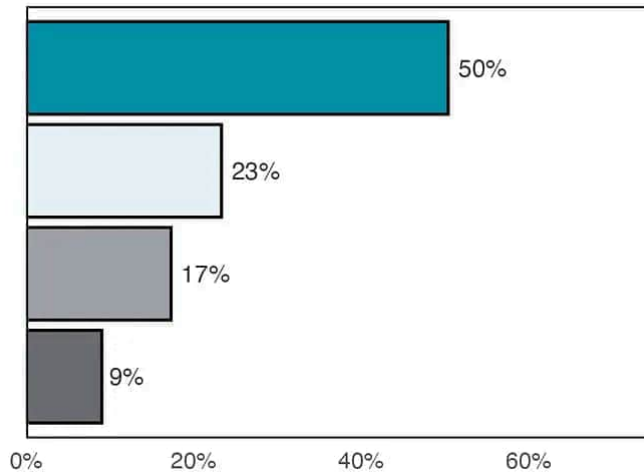
Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Strongly Disagree

On housing issues, our survey shows that most elected officials favour policy change to increase housing supply in their municipalities. Of our respondents, 63% agree that municipal governments should legalize multi-unit housing in all residential zones to help increase supply and reduce housing prices (sub-plot A). Support for limiting high density development in established residential neighbourhoods is relatively low at 16% (sub-plot B). Furthermore, most municipal representatives favour policy tools such as legalizing fourplexes and small apartment buildings in residential neighbourhoods (64%, sub-plot C). Finally, 59% of municipal elected officials oppose participation in zoning changes by home-owners if it hampers new construction.

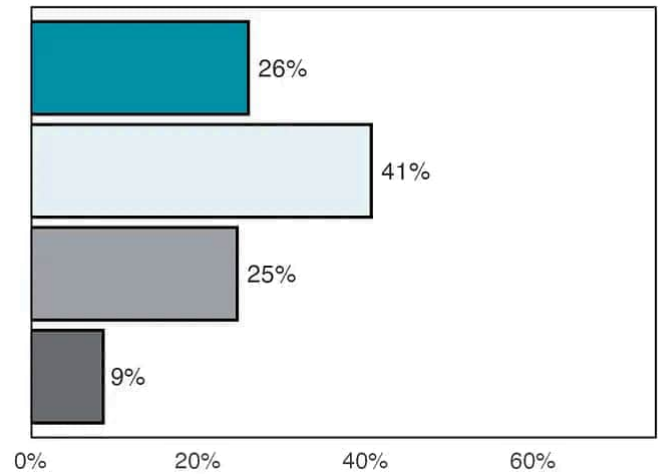
Amid persistent supply shortages, these results indicate that many municipal politicians support densification reforms.

Universal Policy Approaches Are Widely Preferred

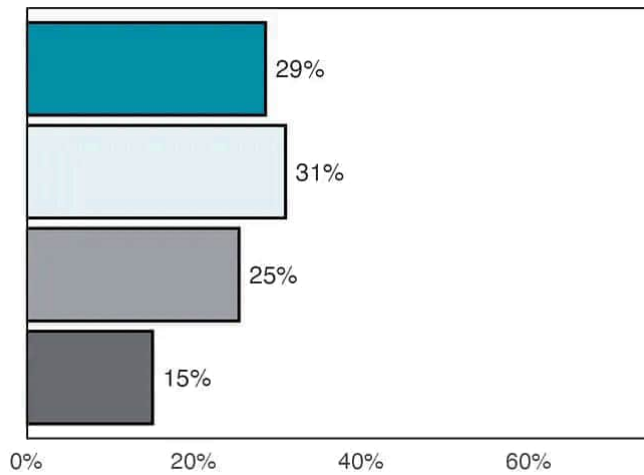
A: Municipalities should treat all residents equally and not create special policies or advisory bodies based on race or cultural background.



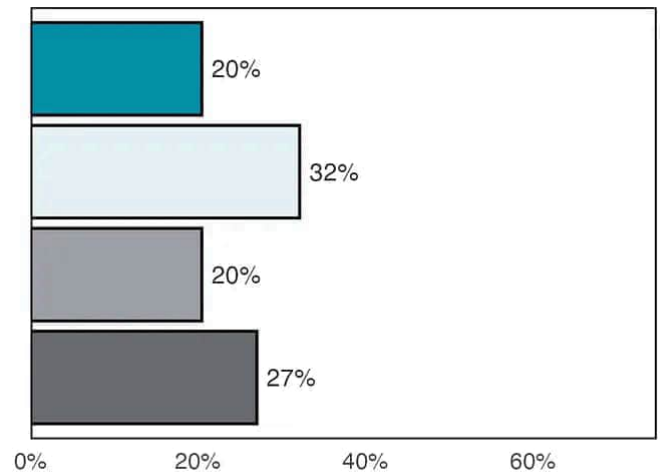
B: Municipal governments should avoid offering culturally specific programs for immigrants and instead focus on encouraging a shared civic identity.



C: Municipal governments should avoid creating special programs for immigrants and instead treat all residents the same regardless of immigration status.



D: Municipal governments should provide voting rights in local elections to permanent residents, even if they are not Canadian citizens.



Strongly Agree
 Somewhat Agree
 Somewhat Disagree
 Strongly Disagree

We find that most elected officials believe that municipal governments should focus on equal treatment of residents instead of cultural-, racial-, or immigrant-specific programs, policies, or advisory bodies. 73% of respondents agree or strongly agree that municipalities should treat all residents equally and not create special policies or advisory bodies based on race or cultural background (sub-plot A).

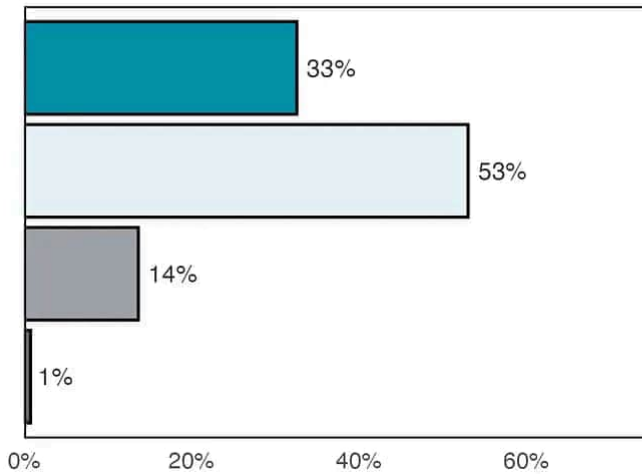
Responses to culturally specific programs for immigrants are more evenly divided. 40% believe such programs should be avoided in favour of encouraging a shared civic identity (sub-plot B), and 60% prefer avoiding the creation of culturally specific programs (sub-plot C).

Among the elected officials surveyed, 52% agree or strongly agree that permanent residents who are not Canadian citizens should be granted the right to vote in local elections (sub-plot D).

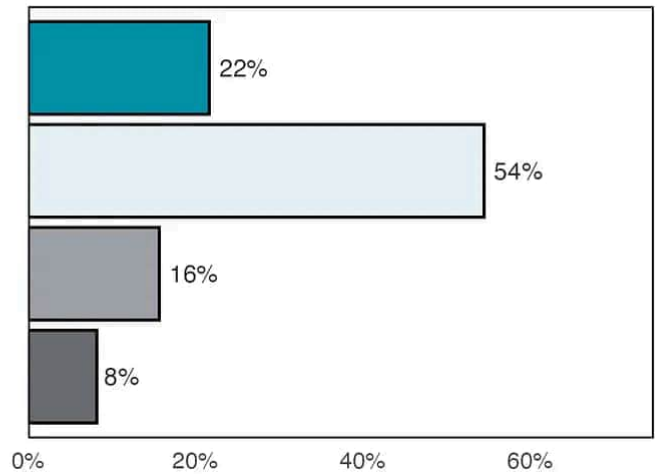
These findings indicate that municipal representatives tend to endorse universalist programming. A narrow majority favours extending voting rights.

Municipal Leaders Prioritize Public Services Over Tax Cuts

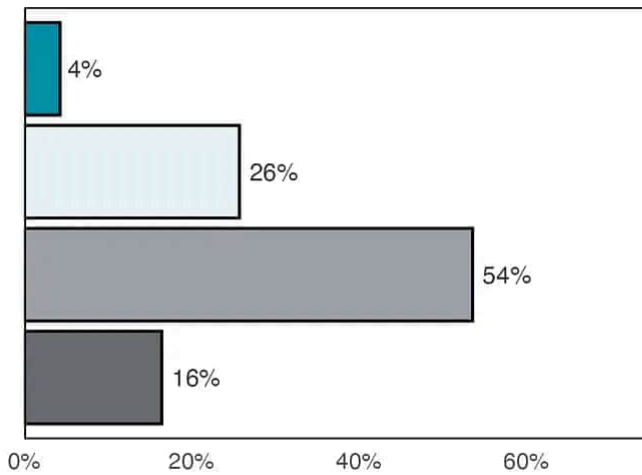
A: Municipalities should raise property taxes if needed to maintain or expand core public services, rather than cutting those services.



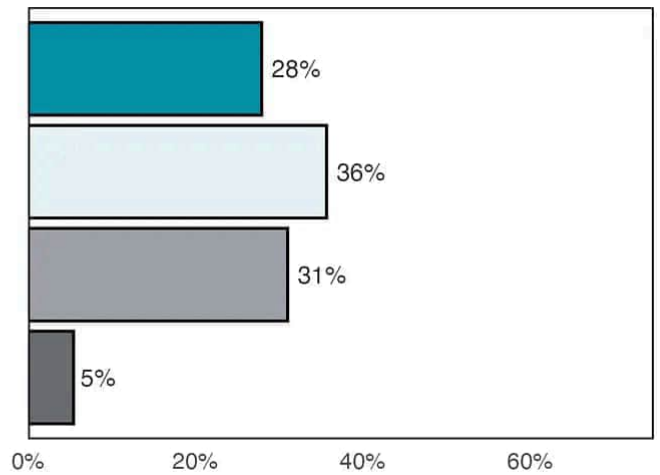
B: Municipalities should adopt tax policies that explicitly aim to reduce inequality within the community.



C: Municipalities should reduce commercial property taxes to attract employers, even if it means cutting other parts of the municipal budget.



D: Municipal governments should prioritize inclusive cooperatives and community-owned businesses over attracting large corporations.



Strongly Agree
 Somewhat Agree
 Somewhat Disagree
 Strongly Disagree

We find that council members tend to support redistributive and public service-oriented municipal tax policies over market-oriented tax cuts. A strong majority of respondents (86%) support raising property taxes, if necessary, to maintain or expand core public services rather than cutting those services (sub-plot A), and 76% support adopting tax policies aimed at reducing inequality in the community (sub-plot B).

Of our respondents, 76% either strongly or somewhat disagree that municipalities should reduce commercial property taxes to attract employers if doing so requires cuts elsewhere in the municipal budget (sub-plot C). When asked about prioritizing corporate versus cooperative or community-owned businesses, 64% of respondents support prioritizing local business (sub-plot D).

Taken together, these results suggest that municipal elected officials hold a distinct set of policy priorities shaped by the needs of the community. Across several major issue areas, respondents tend to favour policies that expand public services, maintain fiscal capacity, and address pressing challenges such as housing supply. At the same time the results point to a preference for broadly applied policies rather than narrowly targeted programs in areas such as immigration and community development. As debates over housing, economic development, and demographic change continue to unfold across Canada, the perspectives of municipal leaders will remain an important component of the country's evolving policy landscape.

This preliminary report only highlights a subset of results from the 2026 Canadian Municipal Barometer. In the coming months, we will release additional analysis examining other aspects of the survey and continue to provide updates.

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Comments

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TECHNICAL BRIEFING

Improving Ontario's Conservation Authority System



**PROTECT
ONTARIO**

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

March 10, 2026

Ontario 

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1. Overview: Ontario's conservation authority system

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) administers the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) and is responsible for overseeing Ontario's 36 existing conservation authorities (CAs).

CAs play a vital role in **watershed management** and protecting communities from **natural hazards** like floods. They also deliver programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, and management of natural resources.

CAs issue **permits** to builders, municipalities, and property owners for development activities such as housing developments and installation of sewage systems in areas affected by risks of natural hazards such as floodplains, shorelines, river and stream valleys, and wetlands. Permitting helps to ensure that development does not happen in unsafe areas and that it does not worsen the impacts of flooding or erosion in surrounding areas.

What is a watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall into a common outlet, such as a lake, bay or river.

2. The need for action

The Ontario government is taking action to protect Ontario's economy, workers, and communities by making the province the best place in the G7 to invest, create jobs, and do business. To achieve this, the government is making investments to build local infrastructure and taking action to bring more consistency and transparency to the cost and timelines of building homes.

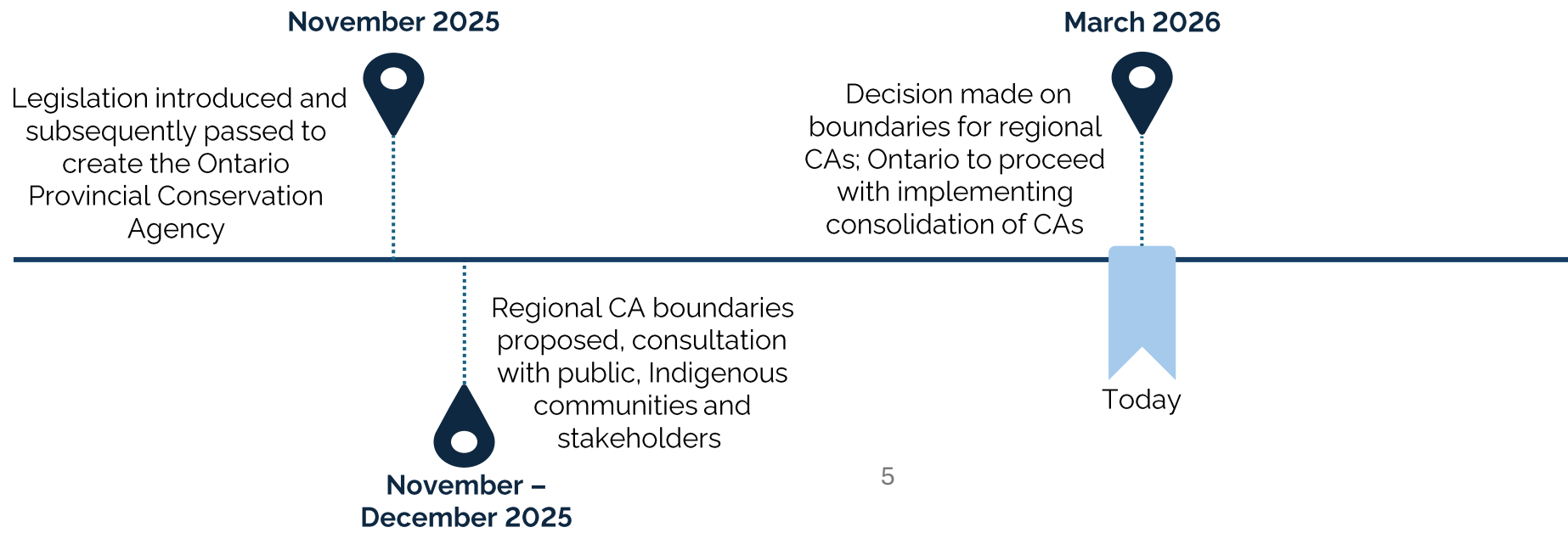
CAs are independent, local public sector organizations with significant variation in capacity, governance, transparency, and reliance on municipal funding. Over time, this has created a fragmented system with inconsistent standards and timelines.

Key challenges under the current framework that this proposal seeks to address include:

- **A patchwork of standards, service delivery:** Each CA has different policies, customer service standards, fees, processes and staffing, and technical capacity leading to unpredictable and inconsistent turnaround times for approvals across all CAs. This can result in uncertainty and delays for builders, landowners, and farmers seeking permits.
- **Outdated and fragmented data systems:** Lack of resources has led to discrepancies in the tools and technology that CAs use, leading to varying types and quality of technology and data management. This can compromise effective provincewide flood risk management and evidence-based decision making.
- **Administrative duplication:** Under the current framework, municipalities are forced to fund duplicate corporate functions (e.g., procurement, communications), diverting costs away from front-line conservation and service delivery.
- **Need for more accountability and transparency:** Lack of transparent asset management and inconsistent performance monitoring and reporting.

2. Actions to date

- Ontario is making progress on its commitment to enhance the effectiveness of conservation authorities, creating more consistency and modern standards and ensuring CAs remain strong, effective and ready to meet today's challenges. Since announcing our plan in fall 2025, we have passed legislation to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) to provide centralized leadership and oversight of regional CAs, including coordinating a smooth and organized consolidation and key initiatives to improve the CA system, and we consulted extensively on the proposed regional CA boundaries.
- Consultations included virtual sessions with CAs, municipalities, stakeholders, and Indigenous communities, and regional workshops with CA and municipal leadership led by the Chief Conservation Executive and the Minister. More than 500 people participated, and 14,000+ comments were submitted on the proposed boundaries. We listened and used this feedback to strengthen the plan.
- The government is now moving forward with a framework for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs into 9 optimized regional CAs that would deliver more consistent, more efficient, and more cost-effective outcomes for the communities that they serve. In the coming weeks, the government plans to introduce amendments to the CAA that would set out and enable the framework for consolidation of Ontario's CAs.



3. Why consolidation

Under the current system, more than half of all municipalities in areas served by CAs fall within the jurisdiction of two or more CAs, resulting in unnecessary duplication that diverts resources from front line conservation work and service delivery. Individual CAs have significant disparities in size and resources, with some lacking access to the latest tools and technology that support flood risk management and evidence-based decision making.

Consolidation would enable more consistent service delivery and more efficient resource and information sharing, making CAs more responsive to the needs of the communities they serve.

What these changes would mean:

- More resources for front-line services
- Improved flood management and erosion prevention
- Strong environmental protections maintained
- Faster permit approvals
- Modern service delivery
- Consistent standards and use of modern technology

What's not changing:

- Where CAs operate (areas currently served by CAs will continue to be served by CAs)
- The programs and services CAs provide, including the responsibility for source water protection, natural hazard and watershed management
- CA management of their lands and trails, providing access to green spaces, recreation and education programs
- Where and how CAs receive funding
- CA relationships with municipalities, developers, landowners
- Each CA being an independent, municipally-governed organization

4. Guiding principles

- The following principles informed the actions the province is taking to improve CAs, in addition to feedback heard during consultation:
 - **Retain local influence** – ensure local knowledge, expertise and interests inform the watershed management and conservation work of CAs
 - **Maintain CA watershed-based jurisdictions** – align with natural hydrological boundaries to support flood/water management. Align with drinking water source protection regions
 - **Reduce administrative overlap and duplication** – streamline requirements and processes for municipalities and conservation authorities
 - **Strengthen CA capacity** – improve and standardize the level of expertise and resources across CAs. Seek to balance the needs and interests of urban, rural, northern and southern watersheds
 - **Continuity of services** – minimize disruptions to CA operations and staffing, ensuring uninterrupted delivery of key programs such as permits, watershed management and trails and recreation for public use
 - **Improve customer service** – enhance consistency and clarity in process and timelines

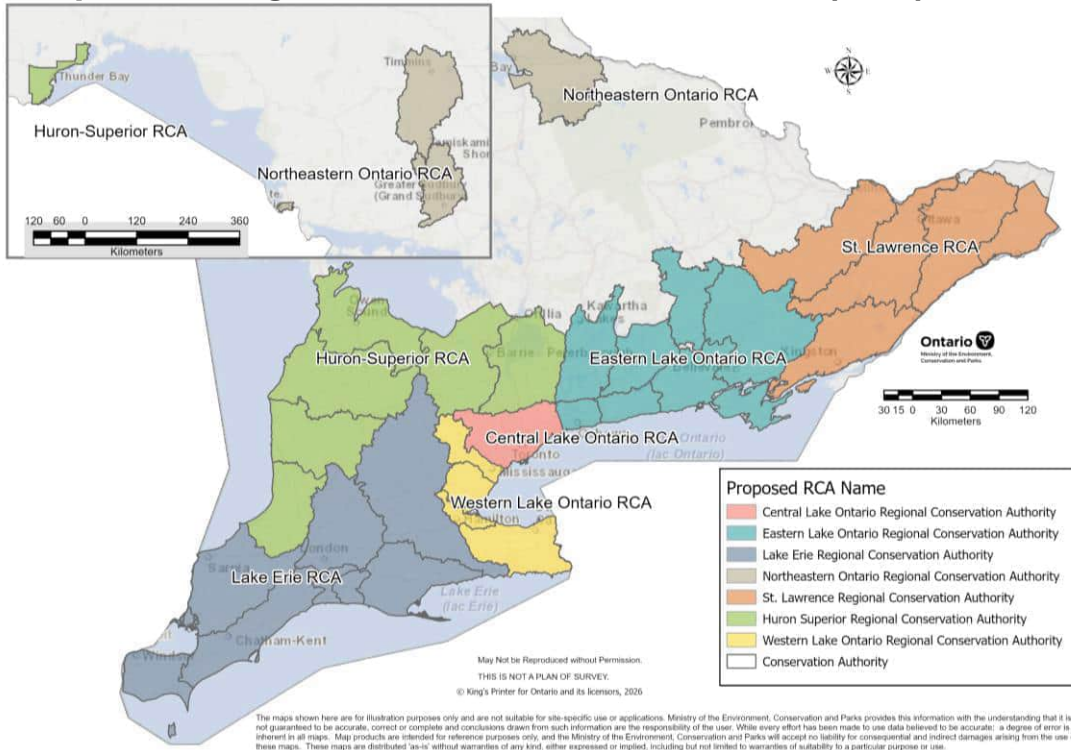
5. Our plan: Improving Ontario's CA system

- The government plans to introduce amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) that would set out the consolidation of Ontario's CAs in accordance with the framework described in this presentation.
- The plan is for CA consolidation to take effect early 2027, allowing for transition planning to occur throughout 2026. Over time, OPCA will further transform Ontario's CA system, including by developing a single digital permitting platform to provide a faster, more predictable approvals process and improved customer service
- To support regional CAs throughout the transition, the province is providing annual funding to OPCA in the amount of \$3 million, beginning in 2026. This funding will be used by OPCA to support regional CAs as needed during transition. Post-transition, this annual funding will support OPCA to help regional CAs achieve improvements and program standards set by OPCA.

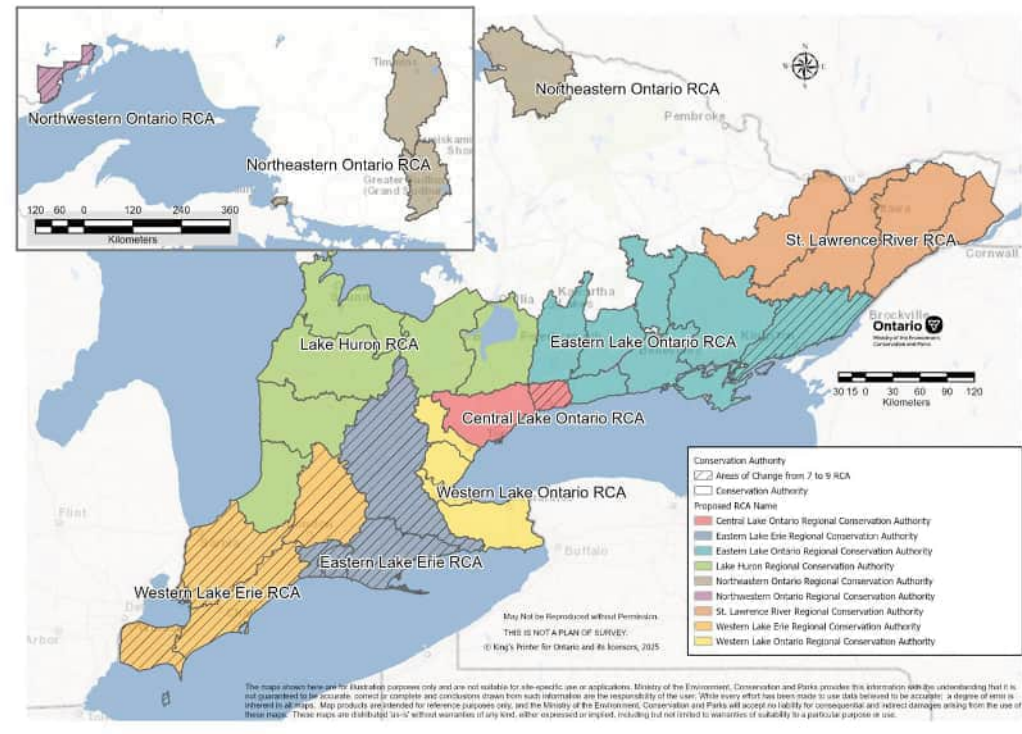
6. Regional CA boundaries

- The regional CA boundaries have been adjusted and refined (from 7 to 9). The feedback received during consultation directly informed the adjustments made to the final regional CA boundaries, which have been optimized to:
 - Accommodate areas with distinct geographies and development contexts
 - Balance differing priorities across rural, urban and northern areas
 - Better align with watersheds and with source protection regions

Proposed 7 Regional Conservation Authorities (RCA)



Final Optimized 9 Regional Conservation Authorities (RCA)



6. Regional CA boundaries: current corresponding CAs

Proposed Regional CAs	List of predecessor (i.e., existing) CAs being consolidated	
Central Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Lake Ontario CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toronto and Region CA
Eastern Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catfish Creek CA Grand River CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kettle Creek CA Long Point Region CA
Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cataraqui Region CA Crowe Valley CA Ganaraska Region CA Kawartha Region CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Trent RegionCA Otonabee Region CA Quinte Region CA
Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ausable Bayfield CA Grey Sauble CA Lake Simcoe Region CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maitland Valley CA Nottawasaga Valley CA Saugeen Valley CA
Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mattagami Region CA Nickel District CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Bay Mattawa CA Sault Ste. Marie Region CA
Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakehead Region CA 	
St. Lawrence River Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mississippi Valley CA Raisin Region CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rideau Valley CA South Nation River CA
Western Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essex Region CA Lower Thames Valley CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Clair Region CA Upper Thames River CA
Western Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit Valley CA Halton Region CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamilton Region CA Niagara Peninsula CA

7. Regional CA Governance

- Consistent with previous commitments and feedback heard, regional CAs will continue to be municipally governed organizations.
- Under our plan, participating municipalities that are responsible for appointing members (i.e. “the board”) and for paying CA levies would be at the upper-tier (i.e., regional municipalities and counties) and single-tier levels (e.g. cities, towns etc.) This change would mean that lower-tier municipalities (e.g. towns and townships, etc.) within a county would no longer be participating municipalities, as is currently the case where there is a county as the upper-tier municipality.
- Rules for how members are to be selected would be set out in regulation based on each participating municipality's percentage of the population in the regional CA's jurisdiction . Small municipalities are ensured representation by requiring that each participating municipality appoint at least one member. Rules for the number of members may also include:
 - Capping the total number of members on a CA board.
 - Limiting any one municipality's number of members (e.g., to 5) to ensure balanced representation.
- Following the municipal elections on October 26, 2026, newly-elected upper tier municipal councils would select the first members (i.e., “board”) for the new regional CAs prior to the targeted amalgamation date.

7. Regional CA Governance: CAs and municipalities

Regional consolidation of CAs would result in a reduction in the number of municipalities that belong to multiple CAs. This would empower Ontario's CAs in delivering more consistent, more efficient, and more cost-effective outcomes for the communities they serve.

	Current State Regions, single-tier, lower-tier	Consolidated Regions, counties, single-tier	% Change
Number of CAs	36	9	75.0%
Municipalities part of 1 CA	126	57	54.8%
Municipalities part of ≥ 2 CAs	60	16	73.3%
Municipalities part of ≥ 3 CAs	19	4	78.9%
Municipalities part of ≥ 4 CAs	3	1	66.7%
Municipalities part of ≥ 5 CAs	2	0	100%

- Note: Municipalities and associated numbers represent 'participating municipalities' for CAs both in the current state and once consolidated. There is no change in the total number of municipalities that are within a CA's jurisdiction.

7. Regional CA Governance: Watershed Councils

Watershed Councils

- In response to feedback that emphasized the need for regional CAs to continue to rely on the deep local expertise, knowledge, and relationships built, the province plans to mandate that regional CAs create one or more local Watershed Councils to ensure watershed management continues to be informed by local knowledge and input.
- Watershed Councils would assist the CA in identifying local priorities for programs and services to ensure that local interests are considered as part the board's decision-making process.
- Specific requirements for membership composition of Watershed Councils may be set out in regulation (e.g., Indigenous representatives to enable considering Indigenous knowledge, as well as agriculture and development representation to consider other local watershed perspectives),

8. Transition process

Statutory Amalgamation

- With the proposed statutory amalgamation that would create the regional CAs, on the transition date, the former CAs would be amalgamated creating the regional CA ,and legal continuation is provided for:
 - All assets and liabilities of the predecessor CAs
 - All rights and obligations of the predecessor CAs
 - All partnerships, agreements and funding obligations of the predecessor CAs
 - Employees of the predecessor CAs (all rights, duties and liabilities)
 - Permit applications made before the transition date
 - Any hearings underway or hearing requests
- In other words, after the consolidation date, the new Regional CAs would replace the former CAs as legal entities. This approach is intended to avoid disruptions to existing partnerships and agreements with municipalities, Indigenous communities, or others.
- The amalgamation of the predecessor CAs in the new regional CAs would be governed by the *Public Sector Labour Relations Transition Act*, which sets out a clear, structured and neutral framework for dealing with labour relations issues following restructuring of public sector organizations (e.g. the need to rationalize bargaining units).



8. Transition process

To ensure service continuity and limit disruptions, and as informed by consultation feedback, under our plan OPCA will coordinate consolidation by establishing a transition committee and providing resources, tools and guidance to support transition efforts for each regional CA being consolidated.

Transition committees

- Transition committees for each regional CA would prepare for the amalgamation of the predecessor CAs into the new regional CA. Each predecessor CA will appoint one municipally elected member and its CAO or GM (or an alternate if they are not available) to the Transition Committee.
- OPCA will appoint a Project Executive to chair each Transition Committee and who would become the inaugural Chief Administrative Officer of the regional CA for up to 24 months.
- Committees would be dissolved following regional consolidation.

Transition plans

- With guidance from OPCA—including a transition playbook with templates and best practices—Transition Committees would develop and implement transition plans to guide each new regional CA through an orderly, step-by-step integration of its predecessor CAs across key functions such as HR, finance, assets, and IT.

8. Transition process

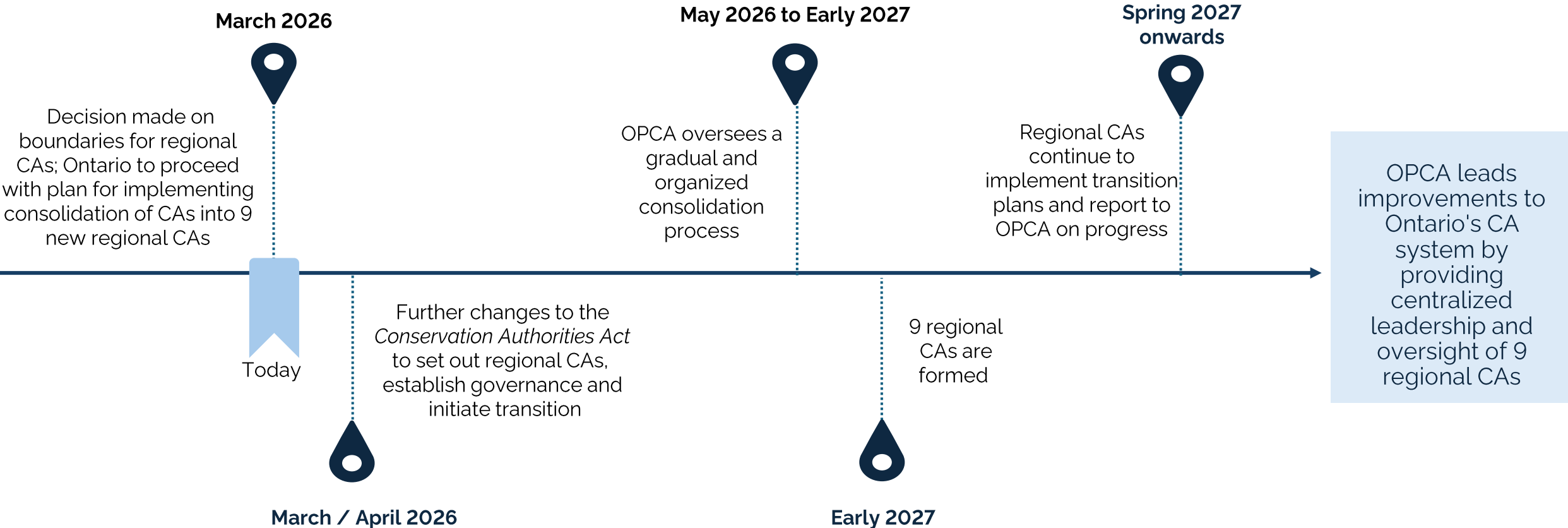
Temporary guardrails

- Our plan includes that temporary guardrails would be applied to extraordinary financial, asset, or employment decisions to mitigate risk and ensure a stable transition to the new regional structure and mitigate risk
- The Minister would be enabled to issue temporary directions to support an orderly CA consolidation. This is not intended to disrupt regular CA business and operations.
- For example, this power could be used to temporarily halt activities such as major land dispositions, significant procurements or material changes to management or organizational structures without review and authorization by the Agency or the Transition Committee.

2027 CA Budgets

- The minister would also be able to issue directions to manage the 2027 budget process for the 36 predecessor CAs, which could be used to provide clarity around timelines (e.g., direct that CA budgeting be completed by December 31, 2026 and levies be issued to the current participating municipalities).

8. Transition process: Timeline



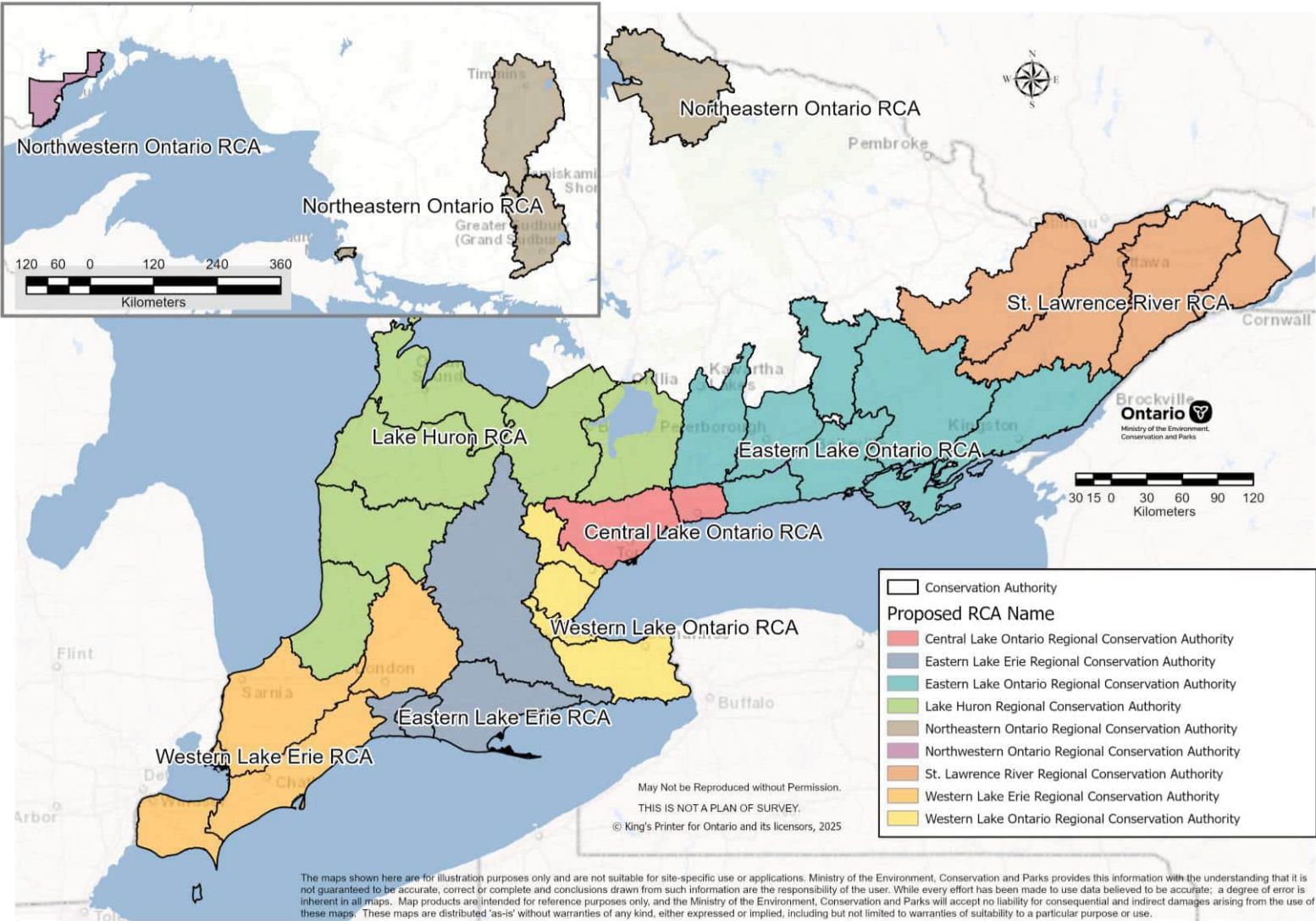
9. Next Steps

- In the coming weeks and months, the provincial government plans to:
 - Propose further amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) that, if passed, sets out the provincially led amalgamation of the 36 existing conservation authorities to create 9 regional CAs, including transitional governance and activities to be coordinated by the OPCA .
 - Invite you to technical briefings to provide further information on the next steps in the planned transition process.
 - Engage with CAs, municipalities, Indigenous communities and other interested partners to provide updates about the government's plans and consolidation.
 - Support the OPCA to coordinate transition planning for consolidation to take effect early 2027, with minimal disruptions/interruptions to CAs' services and staffing.
- The Office of the Chief Conservation Executive would lead CA transition activities as OPCA becomes fully operational. For questions regarding the plans for consolidation, please contact CCEO@ontario.ca.
- If you have questions about the planned legislative amendments and day-to-day CA business, please reach out to MECP staff via ca.office@ontario.ca.

10. Summary

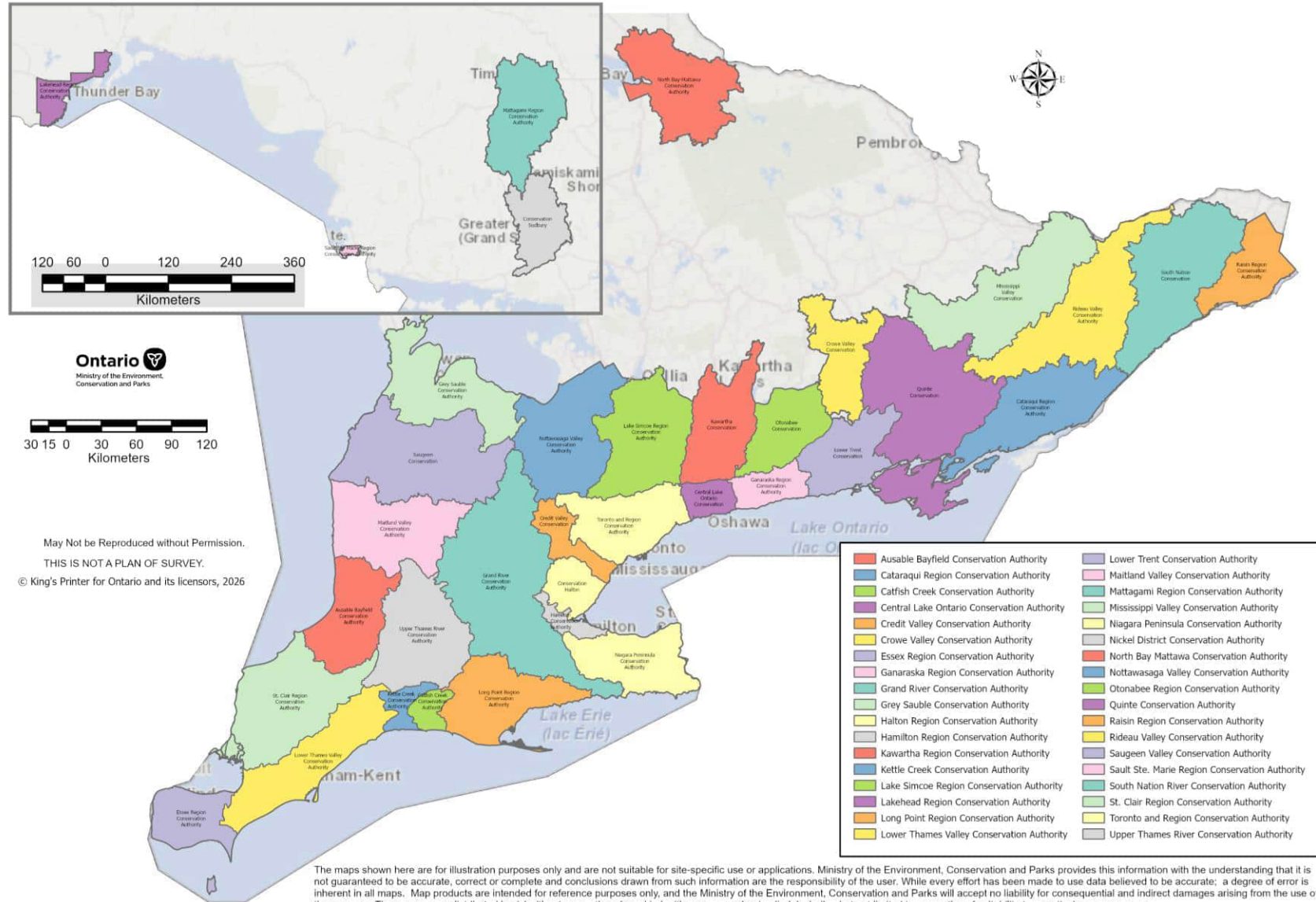
- Ontario's current CA system is fragmented, with inconsistent standards and timelines across 36 individual CAs that can slow down development approvals and risks hampering CAs' abilities to protect their communities from floods and other natural hazards.
- Since announcing our plan in fall 2025, we have consulted extensively. We listened and used this feedback to strengthen our plan, and we are now ready to move forward with plans to introduce amendments to the CAA that would set out and enable the consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs to create 9 consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs to create 9 new regional CAs, targeted to take effect in early 2027.
- With centralized leadership and independent oversight of CAs by the new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, Ontario's CA system will provide streamlined, consistent, and improved service delivery without any reduction in environmental standards. These changes will better position CAs to support needed housing and infrastructure projects more efficiently while continuing to protect communities from flooding and other natural hazards, fulfilling provincially mandated programs such as drinking water source protection under the *Clean Water Act*, and managing CA-owned lands and recreational trails so that Ontarians have access to local natural areas and outdoor activities.

Appendix: Boundaries for Ontario's 9 new regional CAs*



*Plan is for this to take effect in early 2027, subject to amendments being proposed to the *Conservation Authorities Act*

Appendix: Ontario's Current 36 CAs



The maps shown here are for illustration purposes only and are not suitable for site-specific use or applications. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks provides this information with the understanding that it is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct or complete and conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. While every effort has been made to use data believed to be accurate, a degree of error is inherent in all maps. Map products are intended for reference purposes only, and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will accept no liability for consequential and indirect damages arising from the use of these maps. These maps are distributed 'as-is' without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability to a particular purpose or use.



The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.2.
Resolution Number 26-039
Title: Request that the Minister of Education extricate the West Parry Sound municipalities from the Near North District School Board
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Sheard
Seconded by: Councillor MacLeod

WHEREAS the Town of Parry Sound, at its Regular Meeting held on November 18, 2025, requesting that the Minister of Education extricate the West Parry Sound Municipalities from the Near North District School Board, with a first preference to reinstate the former West Parry Sound District School Board, and a second preference to join the Simcoe Muskoka District School Board; and

WHEREAS the West Parry Sound Municipalities collectively support this initiative and wish to present a united position to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education; and

WHEREAS concerns have been raised regarding the underrepresentation of West Parry Sound trustees on the Near North District School Board despite the region contributing education levy revenues at a significantly higher proportion; ongoing governance issues within the Board; and the handling of the JK–12 school construction project affecting the West Parry Sound area; and

WHEREAS students residing in the Township of The Archipelago attend schools within the West Parry Sound family of schools for their elementary and secondary education; and

WHEREAS the residents of The Township of The Archipelago contribute more per household in education levies than any other municipality in the Districts of Parry District and North Bay, and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago wishes to support its students and families and calls upon the Minister of Education to address these long-standing concerns to ensure that students in West Parry Sound are not further disadvantaged;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago hereby supports the Town of Parry Sound's request to the Minister of Education to extricate the West Parry Sound municipalities from the Near North District School Board, with the sole preference to reinstate the former West Parry Sound District School Board; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Education Paul Calandra, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, the Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and MPP for Parry Sound Muskoka Graydon Smith, Chief Adam Pawis of Shawanaga First Nation, Chief Warren Tabobondung of Wasauksing First Nation, Mayors and Reeve of Parry Sound District, FONOM, AMO, OSUM and the Community Schools Alliance.

Carried



The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.11.
Resolution Number 26-048
Title: West Parry Sound Health Centre - MRI Machine
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Sheard
Seconded by: Councillor Cade Fraser

WHEREAS the Parry Sound District municipalities and institutions manage the delivery of key services with dramatic seasonal population increases from over 46,000 permanent residents to over 100,000 seasonal residents during peak months, aging population, and major northern highways through our territory; and

WHEREAS the West Parry Sound Health Centre (WPSHC) successfully underpins the municipalities of West Parry Sound and their residents with efficient and effective integrated medical services; and

WHEREAS the WPSHC is one of only five medium-sized hospitals in Ontario without a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) capability and missing a fundamental component of modern acute care; and

WHEREAS an in-hospital, fully provisioned diagnostic service provides a standard of safe, integrated, and predictable care for our rural, northern communities, and recognizes the additional pressure of major highway transportation routes throughout our district; and

WHEREAS in-hospital, fully provisioned MRI diagnostic service will attract first-rate medical resources to WPSHC; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is currently in the process of adding 50 new MRI machines to 43 hospitals across the province to address these gaps.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of The Archipelago (The Archipelago) supports the Province's consideration of funding an in-hospital MRI, fully integrated into the WPS healthcare system; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that The Archipelago asserts that the implementation of an integrated in-hospital MRI is the only financially responsible and safe model for rural and northern residents; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health for Ontario and Deputy Premier, the Honourable Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and MPP for Parry Sound Muskoka, Chief Adam Pawis of Shawanaga First Nation, Chief Warren Tabobondung of Wasauksing First Nation, Mayors and Reeve of Parry Sound District, FONOM, AMO, and OSUM.

Carried

Fw: Publication d'un avis modifié au titre de l'article 46 et d'un avis d'intention concernant le registre fédéral sur les plastiques / Publication of an Amended Section 46 Notice and Notice of Intent for the Federal Plastics Registry

From info <info@seguin.ca>
Date Mon 3/16/2026 4:06 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>



Township of Seguin
(705) 732-4300

From: FPR / RFP (ECCC) <FPR-RFP@ec.gc.ca>
Sent: March 16, 2026 3:38 PM
To: info <info@seguin.ca>
Subject: Publication d'un avis modifié au titre de l'article 46 et d'un avis d'intention concernant le registre fédéral sur les plastiques / Publication of an Amended Section 46 Notice and Notice of Intent for the Federal Plastics Registry

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[English follows](#)

Bonjour,

Le 14 mars 2026, le gouvernement du Canada a publié dans la Gazette du Canada, Partie I, un [Avis modifiant l'Avis relatif à la déclaration des résines plastiques et de certains produits en plastique pour le registre fédéral sur les plastiques pour 2024, 2025 et 2026](#). L'avis modifié reporte officiellement les dates limites de déclaration pour les phases 2 et 3 du registre fédéral sur les plastiques.

Les organisations sont tenues de continuer à déclarer les données de la phase 1 pour les années civiles 2024, 2025 et 2026, comme indiqué dans l'[Avis relatif à la déclaration des](#)

[résines plastiques et de certains produits en plastique pour le registre fédéral sur les plastiques pour 2024, 2025 et 2026](#). Cela signifie que les producteurs d'emballages, d'équipements électroniques et électriques, ainsi que de plastiques à usage unique ou jetables destinés au flux de déchets résidentiels doivent continuer à déclarer leurs données.

De plus, un [Avis d'intention de publier, en vertu de l'article 46 de la Loi canadienne sur la protection de l'environnement \(1999\), un avis relatif à la déclaration des résines plastiques et de certains produits en plastique pour le Registre fédéral sur les plastiques pour 2027, 2028 et 2029](#) a été publié dans la Gazette du Canada, Partie I. L'avis d'intention indique que la ministre de l'Environnement s'engage à publier un nouvel avis afin de poursuivre les activités de collecte d'informations pour le registre fédéral sur les plastiques pour les années civiles 2027, 2028 et 2029.

Pour participer aux consultations organisées par Environnement et Changement climatique Canada sur l'élaboration du nouvel avis, veuillez envoyer un courriel à RFP-FPR@ec.gc.ca en indiquant en objet : Consultation sur le nouvel avis du registre fédéral sur les plastiques pour les années de déclaration 2027, 2028 et 2029.

Pour plus d'informations, veuillez consulter la page Web du [registre fédéral sur les plastiques](#).

Cordialement,

Division des affaires réglementaires des plastiques/Direction générale de la protection de l'environnement

Environnement et Changement climatique Canada/Gouvernement du Canada

RFP-FPR@ec.gc.ca

Plastics Regulatory Affairs Division/Environmental Protection Branch

Environment and Climate Change Canada/Government of Canada

RFP-FPR@ec.gc.ca



Greetings,

On March 14, 2026, the Government of Canada published a [Section 46 Notice amending the Notice with respect to reporting of plastic resins and certain plastic products for the Federal Plastics Registry for 2024, 2025 and 2026](#) in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. The amended Notice formally postpones the reporting deadlines for Phases 2 and 3 of the Federal Plastics Registry.

Organizations are required to continue reporting Phase 1 data for the 2024, 2025, and 2026 calendar years, as outlined in the [Notice with respect to reporting of plastic resins and certain plastic products for the Federal Plastics Registry for 2024, 2025 and 2026](#). This means producers of packaging, electronics and electrical equipment, and single-use or disposable plastics destined for the residential waste stream must continue to report.

In addition, a [Notice of Intent to Issue a Notice Under Section 46 of the Act with Respect to Reporting of Certain Plastic Products For 2027, 2028, and 2029](#) has been published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I. The Notice of Intent states that the Minister of the Environment is committed to publishing a new Notice to continue information gathering activities for the Federal Plastics Registry for the 2027, 2028 and 2029 calendar years.

To participate in engagement opportunities with Environment and Climate Change Canada on the development of the new Notice, please email RFP-FPR@ec.gc.ca with the subject line: Consultation on FPR New Notice for Reporting Years 2027, 2028, and 2029.

For more information, please visit the [Federal Plastics Registry](#) webpage.

Kind regards,

Plastics Regulatory Affairs Division/Environmental Protection Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada/Government of Canada

RFP-FPR@ec.gc.ca

Division des affaires réglementaires des plastiques/Direction générale de la protection de l'environnement

Environnement et Changement climatique Canada/Gouvernement du Canada

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Sound-Muskoka

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The Honourable Joel
Lightbound, Minister of
Government
Transformation, Public
Works and Procurement

VIA EMAIL:
joel.lightbound@parl.gc.ca

Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP
Parry Sound-Muskoka

VIA EMAIL:
graydon.smith@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

March 17th, 2026

RE: Township of Puslinch Support Resolution No.2026-059 Regarding Consent item 6.7
Township of Perry Support Resolution Regarding Reduced Rate Distribution of Library
Resources

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on March 4th, 2026
considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2026-059:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

**That the Consent Agenda item 6.7 listed for March 4, 2026 Council meeting be received
for information; and**

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED



As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: All Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;



OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Phone: (807) 274-5323 | Fax: (807) 274-8479

Mailing Address: 320 Portage Avenue
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Email: town@fortfrances.ca

Website: www.FortFrances.ca

March 16, 2026

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is to formally inform you that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 9, 2026, the following oral motion was carried by Mayor and Council:

Oral Motion:

THAT Council provide a resolution of support for the City of Sarnia letter regarding Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability;

AND THAT the resolution of support be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities, the Honourable Doug Ford and all those cc'd in the City of Sarnia letter.

Mover: Kaleb Firth

Seconder: Bill Morrison Jr

Result: CARRIED

Thank You / Merci / Miigwech,

Ally Lewis
Deputy Clerk

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

February 19, 2026

Re: Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability

Dear Premier Ford,

I am writing to express concern regarding the province's current position that limits a mayor and council's ability to meaningfully reduce or amend police service budget proposals once they have advanced through local police governance structures.

Municipal leaders across Ontario are operating within an increasingly constrained fiscal environment. Escalating administrative costs, combined with sustained growth in police budgets, are placing significant pressure on municipal finances. Without the tools to influence or moderate these expenditures, municipalities are left financially vulnerable, undermining long-term stability and responsible budget planning.

Mayors and members of council are accountable to residents for overall municipal fiscal health. However, under the province's current interpretation, they lack sufficient authority to address one of the fastest-growing areas of local spending. This creates a clear imbalance in accountability, where elected leadership bears responsibility for budget outcomes without the ability to manage risk, respond to local conditions, or ensure alignment with broader municipal priorities.

You have recently noted that education costs have become unsustainable, and the Minister of Finance has expressed similar concerns regarding health care expenditures. Policing costs present the same challenge, with the added constraint that mayors are now unable to intervene. This limits a municipality's capacity to balance competing service demands, invest in preventative and social supports, and respond flexibly to emerging community priorities, including housing. Over time, this approach risks crowding out essential services and capital projects while placing increased pressure on taxpayers.

In Sarnia, veto authority was used for the first time, and only with respect to capital funding. The operational police budget, which has increased by 40% over the past four years, was left untouched. The mayoral veto removed a proposed \$5 million capital item that would have committed the municipality to a long-term financial obligation estimated to reach \$120 million. Allowing such exposure without intervention would have been fiscally irresponsible and inconsistent with the principles of responsible municipal governance. The existing building was reported to be suitable for upgrades and maintenance at a cost of approximately \$5 million; however, the Sarnia Police Board and Chief have insisted that the Cadillac of all buildings is required. Proceeding with this option would saddle the taxpayers with substantial long-term debt and sustained tax increases for decades to come.

After 21 years of carrying municipal debt, the City of Sarnia has just recently achieved the distinction of being one of the few debt-free cities in Ontario. Under the current framework, renewed debt will become unavoidable, with financial impacts extending to future generations.

While this issue may not yet have arisen in every municipality responsible for funding and overseeing its own police service, the experience in Sarnia illustrates a challenge that other mayors may reasonably face in future budget years. As policing and capital costs continue to escalate, circumstances will emerge where elected municipal leaders are required to intervene to protect long-term fiscal sustainability. This is a critical issue that warrants careful reconsideration. I have therefore copied Heads of Council for municipalities across Ontario to unite in encouraging an approach that better aligns accountability with decision-making and supports more sustainable municipal governance across Ontario.

Given the practical implications for municipal budget deliberations and fiscal planning, I believe this matter should be addressed in advance of the next municipal council taking office. I respectfully urge the province to engage with municipalities on this issue and to explore legislative or policy adjustments that would provide local elected leaders with the tools necessary to manage fiscal pressures responsibly, transparently, and in the best interests of their communities.

I appreciate your attention to this issue and look forward to the province's consideration of next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mike Bradley', written in a cursive style.

Mike Bradley
Mayor, City of Sarnia

Cc: The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Heads of council for municipalities across Ontario
Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton
Sarnia City Council

Encl.: [CBC News February 18, 2026 - Province tells Ontario mayors they can't use 'strong powers' on police budgets | CBC News](#)

[CTV News February 18, 2026 - Sarnia Police Board weighing options in efforts to build new headquarters](#)

255 Christina St N
Sarnia ON N7T 7N2

P: 519-332-0330 ext. 3312 F: 519-332-3995 mayor@sarnia.ca www.sarnia.ca

London

Province tells Ontario mayors they can't use 'strong powers' on police budgets

Finance expert says province needs to review fiscal relationship with municipalities to keep up with costs

Isha Bhargava · CBC News · Posted: Feb 18, 2026 5:00 AM EST | Last Updated: February 18



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Estimated 5 minutes



A file photo of a police officer walking in downtown Hamilton, Ont. (Bobby Hristova/CBC)

The Ontario government is reminding municipal leaders that they cannot use their provincially granted "strong mayor powers" to challenge or limit police budgets.

This comes two months after Sarnia's mayor vetoed his city's police budget request of \$5 million for a new police headquarters, in what's led to an ongoing battle over the city's police funding.

In a letter sent to mayors and police board chairs in January, the province reiterated that municipalities are required to provide police boards with "sufficient funding" to comply with the Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA).

"The Head of Council's strong mayor budget powers do not include the power to limit police service board budget increases or veto estimates submitted by police service boards," Solicitor General Michael Kerzner and Municipal Affairs Minister Rob Flack wrote in their Jan. 12 letter.

"Although municipalities are not required to adopt the board's estimates as submitted, they cannot approve or reject specific line items within the estimates."

- **Less than half of 'strong mayors' were using powers before Ontario expanded system: reports**

Municipal budgets include estimates of amounts required during the year and includes various boards, the letter explains. A police service board must submit their operating and capital costs to municipalities, which then establish the service's overall budget.

Premier Doug Ford's government created the strong mayor system in 2022 and it now applies to 216 mayors. The powers give the leaders control over appointments, the ability to hire and fire most city staff, vetoes over some council votes and the ability to pass some bylaws with support of only a third of council support.

'We can't chop public safety' says Premier

When asked by CBC about the issue of strong mayor powers relating to police budgets on Tuesday, Ford said investments in public safety need to be a top priority.

"We can't chop safety and protecting communities," Ford told reporters. "We need to make sure our priority is keeping our community safe because right now people don't feel safe. So we have to continue investing in our police, give them the tools they need to keep our community safe."

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley disagrees arguing the legislation prevents municipalities from balancing the needs of police and taxpayers. He said Sarnia police has received a 45 per cent operational increase over the last four years, and he only vetoed one capital spending item which the city cannot afford this year.



Sarnia's Mayor Mike Bradley says police budget increases in recent years have led to spending cuts in other city projects. (Facebook)

"The province has just wiped out our ability to control spending in our own communities. In most cases [police budgets] run from 30 to 40 per cent of the

municipal budget, so what the Ford government is saying is that councils and mayors cannot touch it," he said.

"So the message is, police boards who are unaccountable, can now just set the budget and the taxpayers have to pay. That's a pretty shocking statement from Queens Park."

Bradley argues he has supported increasing police budgets for frontline services, which have been substantial over the years and have led the city to cut back on spending for other projects.

In its letter, the province clarifies that there are dispute resolution mechanisms under the CPSA, namely arbitration, when a council disagrees with a police board's budget request.

Municipalities limited in challenging police budgets

However, proving a case against the police can be difficult for municipal councils who don't often have the capacity or technical knowledge to offer a challenge, said Nigel Bellchamber, a London, Ont., consultant specializing in municipal finances.

"It's a high bar that the municipality has to meet in order to succeed in an arbitration," he said, noting that municipalities are tasked with funding a variety of services whose costs outpace inflation.

"As a result, there are some significant challenges and tough decisions being made as to prioritizing capital expenditures in municipal budgets. So councils and municipal staff, whether you're in a strong mayor situation or not, they're all caught in a very difficult situation."



Nigel Bellchamber is a consultant in London, Ont., who specializes in municipal finances (Nigel Bellchamber/LinkedIn)

Bellchamber said the provincial and municipal fiscal relationship hasn't been properly reviewed in about 25 years and it needs to be revisited to respond to changing economic demands.

London's Mayor Josh Morgan agrees. His council approved a historic \$672-million investment in police spending during the last four-year budget, and while he's satisfied with the results of crime trending lower in the city, ballooning police budgets are a concern for municipalities, he said.

"Obviously when the largest portion of your budget is increasing by a fair amount, that's concerning in multiple ways," said Morgan.

"It's difficult for a municipality to shoulder all of the necessary investments in public safety that we need to make with all of the other things that we're obligated to do, and with the revenue streams we have available to us."

Morgan said it's important for municipalities to partner with provincial and federal governments to seek "broad-based, stable multi-year support for public safety funding."

In London's case, Morgan notes the police returned more than \$2.3 million to city coffers in the budget's first two years.

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Questions of 'strong mayor' veto powers remain after province attempts to clarify police budgets

By [Bryan Bicknell](#)

Published: February 18, 2026 at 5:14PM EST



The provincial government says municipalities can't use strong mayor powers to limit police budgets. CTV's Bryan Bicknell with local reactions.

The chair of the Sarnia Police Service Board says the board is still weighing options in its bid to build a new police headquarters.

The comments follow a letter from Ontario's Solicitor General to municipalities that mayors cannot use so-called strong mayor powers to challenge police budgets.

"We sent the letter to council requesting that the veto to be vetoed, basically, and that the five million [dollars] be added back into the budget," explained Board Chair Kelly Ash. "We are re-evaluating, looking to see what we can get accomplished with the funds that we do have, while still hoping that council does deliberate over the \$5 million so that we can get started."



Sarnia Police Board Chair Kelly Ash speaks to CTV News via Zoom on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

Late last year Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley vetoed the city's police budget request of \$5 million to begin work on a new police headquarters. Bradley insists he's not about to re-open the city budget.

"This idea that police boards now, without any accountability, they're not elected and they don't report to the public and you can't remove them, will now be able to say to any town, 'This is how much money we want each year, and govern yourself accordingly. You're going to have to find money or kill other projects that are really important to your community because we're number one,'" he said.

In London, the police budget has also been a sensitive item.



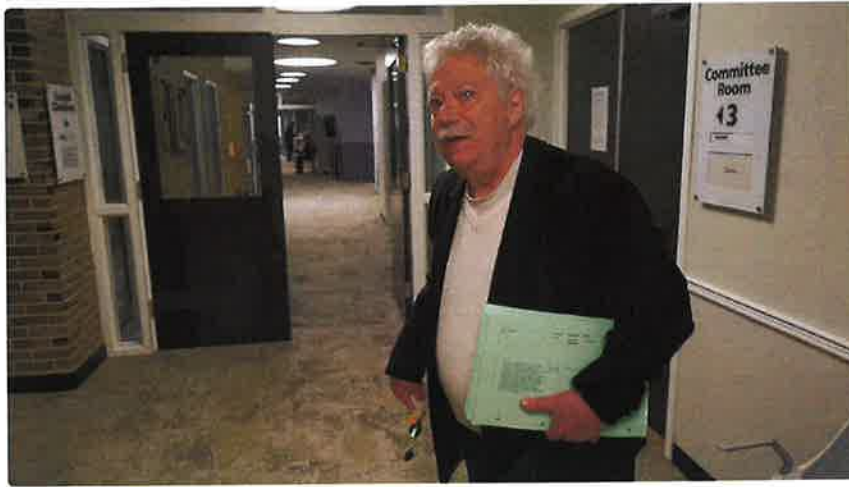
London, Ont. Mayor Josh Morgan speaks to CTV News on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

The most recent police budget passed two years ago in the city's four-year budget cycle increased police spending by \$672 million.

The London Police Service has since returned \$2.3 million in a bid to keep municipal property taxes at bay, explains London Mayor Josh Morgan.

"It's a pretty high bar to set for a municipality to not supply the budget, which is why my approach has been to work closely with the police board as a member of the board. And this board has returned dollars for the past two years," Morgan said.

Introduced in 2022 for Ontario's largest urban centres, strong mayor powers were expanded last year to include all 216 Ontario mayors. At least one legal opinion suggests this was when questions of interpretation began to arise.



London, Ont. Coun. Sam Trosow speaks to CTV News on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

London Coun. Sam Trosow is a retired Western University law professor. He believes the strong mayor legislation was rushed.

"I think if it was the intention of the legislature to categorically exempt police services matters from the act they would have or they should have said so. And they probably rushed this through so quickly, maybe they didn't even bother to think about it," he explained.

"But I think that the mayor of Sarnia is within his rights to challenge this part of the budget," Trosow said.



Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley speaks to CTV News via Zoom on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

Related Stories

- > ['We need to do it, and soon': Sarnia Police Services Board launches renewed effort to move forward with new headquarters](#)
- > [Sarnia police headquarters funding reduced by city council](#)
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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 - 030

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: March 17, 2026

Councillor	G. ASHFORD	___	___
Councillor	J. BELESKEY	___	___
Councillor	P. BORNEMAN	___	___
Councillor	B. KEITH	___	___
Councillor	D. McCANN	___	___
Councillor	C. McDONALD	___	___
Mayor	J. McGARVEY	___	___

MOVED BY:

EA

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: DEFEATED: Postponed to: _____

Whereas Magnetawan First Nation (MFN) has expressed concerns with the Highway 69 Expansion running directly through Magnetawan Reserve #1, with no confirmation yet by the Ontario Government to negotiate an existing land claim;

Now therefore the Town of Parry Sound requests that the Provincial Government clarify its intentions with respect to the land claim and resolving the issue of additional MFN lands being taken for the expansion of Highway 69; and

That this resolution be sent to Premier Ford, Minister of Transportation, MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Graydon Smith, West Parry Sound Area Municipalities, the municipalities of Killarney, French River and the City of Greater Sudbury, and the First Nations of Magnetawan, Henvey Inlet and Shawanaga.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey

March 17, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education
5th Floor
438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

via email: premier@ontario.ca
minister.edu@ontario.ca

RE: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance

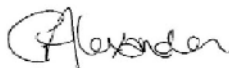
Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra,

At their regular scheduled meeting of March 16, 2026, Council of the Municipality of Bluewater received correspondence from Michael Bannerman, Board of Trustees Chair for the Avon Maitland District School Board regarding the potential changes to the English Public School Board Governance and passed the following resolution:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Walden
THAT Council of the Municipality of Bluewater supports the Avon Maitland District School Board in their request to the Government of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education, MPP Lisa Thompson all Ontario municipalities. **CARRIED.**

Sincerely,



Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO/Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

Encl: Letter from Avon Maitland District School Board Trustee Chair

cc: Michael Bannerman, Chair, Board of Trustees
MPP Lisa Thompson
All Ontario Municipalities



March 2, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier's Office
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

And

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Education, Ministry of Education
315 Front Street West, 14th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 0B8

Re: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance

Dear Premier Doug Ford and Minister Paul Calandra,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board, I am writing to respectfully request that the Government of Ontario undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards.

Recent public statements indicating that the Ministry is considering eliminating the role of democratically elected English public school trustees have generated significant concern among school boards, families, and communities across the province. Trustees serve as an essential democratic link between local communities and the public education system. Any proposal to fundamentally alter or remove this role would represent a major shift in the governance of education in Ontario and warrants careful study, thoughtful analysis, and open dialogue.

Given the magnitude of this potential change, we respectfully ask the government to clearly demonstrate how it has arrived at its current thinking. Specifically, we request that the Ministry make public the research, evidence, data analysis, policy reviews, stakeholder input, and performance evaluations that have informed its consideration of altering or eliminating the role of elected trustees. Transparency regarding the rationale, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of this proposal is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring informed dialogue.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board believe that decisions of this significance must be supported by transparent research and meaningful engagement with stakeholders. We respectfully request that the government initiate a formal consultation process that includes school boards, parents, educators, students, First Nations representatives, and the broader public. Such a process would help ensure that any future governance model is grounded in evidence and reflects the needs and priorities of Ontario's diverse communities.

As a board serving a large and predominantly rural geographic area, we also wish to emphasize the critical importance of the democratically elected trustee role in ensuring that rural perspectives are represented in education decision-making. Trustees provide an essential local voice for communities whose priorities and challenges may differ significantly from those experienced in larger urban centres. Issues such as student transportation, long travel distances, rural school viability, access to programming, and community connectivity are often best understood by locally elected representatives who live and work in those communities. Preserving avenues for rural representation helps ensure that provincial education policies reflect the realities of students and families across all regions of Ontario.

We are also concerned that removing English public school trustees could have unintended consequences for representation and accountability within the system. In many boards, legislated First Nations representation and student trustees play an important role in ensuring diverse voices are heard in decision-making. The loss of elected trustees could impact these mechanisms that currently provide important perspectives at the governance table.

We are aware that the Waterloo District School Board has written to the Ombudsman's Office to request an investigation into the fairness, transparency, and accountability of the process used to implement changes to the school board governance model, and we are in full support of this request.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board remain committed to working collaboratively with the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Government of Ontario to support a strong, transparent, and responsive public education system. We believe that transparency, evidence-based decision-making, and meaningful consultation will best serve students, families, and communities across the province.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in any consultation process or discussion regarding the future governance of Ontario's public education system.

Sincerely,



Michael Bannerman
Chair, Board of Trustees
Avon Maitland District School Board

cc: AMDSB Trustees
MPP Lisa Thompson
MPP Matthew Rae
Local Municipalities
Local Media Outlets
Ontario Public School Boards' Association and Member Boards
AMDSB Parent Involvement Committee
AMDSB Special Education Advisory Committee
AMDSB Parent Councils Chairs



March 17, 2026

RE: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

The Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 regular meeting:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only; and

WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include industrial, commercial, and institutional locations (IC & I) such as businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks; and

WHEREAS failure to include 'ineligible sources under the Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box program is in essence a provincial tax on ineligible sources; and

WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, processing of the recycling; and

WHEREAS changes may result in many small businesses and not-for-profit organizations losing access to comparable recycling services and force them to seek providers at a much higher cost than the previous services rendered through the Blue Box collection system; and

WHEREAS the rising costs of collection of recycling for industrial, commercial and institutional recycling may lead to the abandonment of recycling entirely, increasing environmental damage; and

WHEREAS landfilling needs throughout the Province of Ontario are already at capacity in many communities; and

WHEREAS The Municipality of Bluewater has approximately 150 or more "non-eligible" sources that will not be provided service from the Producer Responsibility Organization;

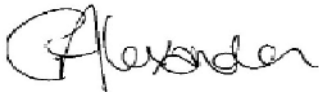
NOW THEREFORE the Municipality of Bluewater Council hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from small businesses and not-for-profit organizations within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

FURTHER THAT Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the local MPP for Huron-Bruce.

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'A'.

Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

March 13, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026 the following resolution regarding OPP - Sustainable Police Services Funding was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-111

DATE: **January 29, 2026**

MOVED BY: **Councillor Roberts**

SECONDED BY: **Councillor Hirsch**

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are required to maintain a police service or detachment board; and

WHEREAS policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of rising costs to implement provincial mandates;

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has asserted that the fiscal framework enabling municipalities provided critical policing and public safety services is broken, and AMO requests an urgent update of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship;

WHEREAS double digit increases in municipal annual Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) budgets are unsustainable, especially as Ontario municipal police services tackle provincial responsibilities such as mental health, addictions, and homelessness challenges that place police resources under enormous financial strain;

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (the Act);

WHEREAS the costs of other measures such as providing provincial court security are increasing and are not part of providing core, adequate and effective municipal policing; and

WHEREAS rural municipalities are especially negatively impacted by these developments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward (Council) requests that the Province provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act and not general increases to police budgets; and

THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to expeditiously review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities, so that communities with changing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and

THAT this resolution of Council be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch



March 13, 2026

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Request for a Comprehensive Review of the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework

Please be advised that at its meeting held on March 9, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 41-26:

Whereas current provincial–municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining the Town of Whitby’s economic prosperity and the quality of life of its residents;
Whereas nearly one third of all municipal spending in Ontario is directed toward services in areas of provincial responsibility, with expenditures outpacing provincial contributions by approximately \$4 billion annually;

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has emphasized that the ongoing requirement for municipalities to fund provincial responsibilities—such as social housing, health related capital obligations, and social services—results in at least \$1.5 billion annually in net municipal expenditures for social housing alone, a problem unique to Ontario;

Whereas municipalities are further required to contribute 10% of capital funding for new provincial hospitals, diverting local revenue away from essential municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipal revenue sources, primarily property taxes, do not grow at the same rate as the economy or inflation, yet municipalities—including the Town of Whitby—are responsible for managing major growth related infrastructure such as roads, transit, water, sewer, fire, and parks;

Whereas only 34 cents of every residential property tax dollar collected in Whitby remains with the Town, while 55 cents flows to the Region of Durham and 11 cents to school boards;

Whereas AMO has highlighted that provincial housing related revenues—including \$5.8 billion in Land Transfer Tax revenues in 2021/22, which exceeded the provincial budget plan by \$2 billion, as well as billions in HST revenue from new home construction—are not currently shared with municipalities, despite being generated by housing activity that requires significant local infrastructure investment;

Whereas AMO has stated that allocating a portion of these housing related provincial revenues to municipalities would provide a predictable, growth linked revenue stream necessary to support housing targets and the expansion of critical public infrastructure;

Whereas AMO has cautioned that proposals to reduce or limit development charges shift costs away from growth and onto existing property taxpayers, threatening the ability of municipalities to finance essential infrastructure, given that most municipal reserves are already allocated to specific projects or required for responsible asset management practices; and,

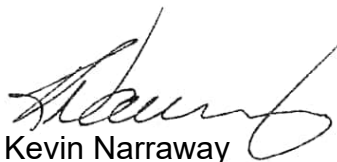
Whereas municipal staff have already identified \$2.5 million in expenditure reductions for 2026 and continue to identify efficiencies through the ongoing 2026 Core Services Review.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. The Council of the Town of Whitby once again calls upon the Province of Ontario to work collaboratively with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) to undertake a comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review to modernize and realign the provincial–municipal fiscal framework, ensuring that municipal revenues are aligned with the actual costs of today’s service delivery and growth;
2. The Town of Whitby requests that this review specifically address the \$4 billion annual gap where municipal property taxes are currently used to fund provincial responsibilities, including social housing, health, and transit, and further evaluate:
 - the \$1.5 billion annual municipal burden created by the provincial download of social housing costs;
 - the requirement for municipalities to fund 10% of provincial hospital capital projects; and,
 - the opportunity to allocate a portion of provincial Land Transfer Tax and HST revenues generated by housing activity to municipal infrastructure supporting growth.

3. The Province be urged to establish a predictable, housing linked revenue stream for municipalities that reflects the economic, social, and infrastructure demands associated with growth, including addressing the financial impacts of changes to development charges; and,
4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to:
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health;
 - The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
 - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure;
 - The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
 - Lorne Coe, MPP (Whitby);
 - The Region of Durham;
 - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
 - The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM); and,
 - All Ontario Municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905.430.4300.



Kevin Narraway
Sr. Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk
clerk@whitby.ca

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca
F. Wong, Commissioner of Financial Services/Treasurer - wongf@whitby.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health -
Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance - minister.fin@ontario.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing -
minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure -
Minister.MOI@ontario.ca

The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social
Services - MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Lorne Coe, MPP (Whitby) - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org

Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham -
clerks@durham.ca

Lindsay Jones, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
(AMO) - ljones@amo.on.ca

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – info@fcm.ca

All Ontario Municipalities



March 11, 2026

RE: 2025 Food and Housing Affordability Data

At the Township of Carling's Regular Meeting of Council held on March 10, 2026 Council passed the following resolution:

26-020.7

**Moved by Councillor Wing
Seconded by Councillor Doubrough**

WHEREAS improved financial stability allows municipal residents to participate, contribute and invest in their local economies and communities;

AND WHEREAS poverty puts additional pressure on municipalities, who are responsible for delivering necessary public and social services to support residents who are struggling with the consequences of inadequate income;

AND WHEREAS income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts on physical and mental health;

AND WHEREAS the 2025 North Bay Parry Sound food affordability results show that households reliant on social assistance do not have enough money for the costs of living;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling supports efforts to raise awareness about and work to reduce poverty, homelessness and food insecurity;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling endorse the recommendations from the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit and call on the Province of Ontario to increase Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs rates to reflect the costs of living and index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling provide correspondence of these resolutions to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, neighbouring municipalities, Graydon Smith MPP, Parry Sound –Muskoka, Scott Aitchison MP, Parry Sound –Muskoka, District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), Associations of

Municipalities of Ontario, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

Carried

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely



Mackenzie Taylor
Deputy Clerk

CC: North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
Municipalities in North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit District
Graydon Smith, Minister of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound –Muskoka
Scott Aitchison, Minister of Parliament for Parry Sound –Muskoka
District of Social Services Administration Board
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

March 20, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Via email: Pm@pm.gc.ca

The Honourable Marjorie Michel
Minister of Health
Via email: Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Via email: Premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
Via email: Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Carney, Minister Michel, Premier Ford and Minister Jones:

Re: Food Insecurity Emergency Declaration

The following motion was passed by Council declaring food insecurity an emergency in our community. This declaration reflects our growing concern about the impact of food insecurity on the health and well-being of residents across Chatham-Kent.

In passing this motion, we have joined other cities in Ontario who have declared food insecurity an emergency and hope it will initiate collaborative action and policy development at the provincial and federal levels of government.

“Whereas food insecurity is defined as, the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, a marker of material deprivation (poverty), and a serious public health problem because it increases the risk of non-communicable and infectious diseases, and premature death.

Whereas chronic stressors like disability, precarious work, and acute shocks like COVID-19, illness or eviction, make it more difficult to afford life’s basic needs and live free from poverty. Whereas income-based policies are necessary to effectively reduce household food insecurity, which Chatham-Kent Public Health reports is experienced by at least 1 in 5 households in Chatham-Kent. Whereas the income provided through provincial and federal programs has not kept up with rising costs of food, housing and other basic needs.

Cont’d...

Whereas Ontario Works rates have been frozen since 2018: the maximum single person monthly benefit for basic needs is \$343 and \$390 for shelter, totalling \$733 per month.

Whereas Chatham-Kent Public Health reports a single person on Ontario Works spends ~134% of their income on food and rent. Whereas the Municipality of Chatham-Kent provides programs and services that decrease the impacts of poverty and income inequality and provides participants with a better quality of life which can positively improve health and well-being.

Whereas the number of individuals using Chatham-Kent Outreach for Hunger has increased by ~38% from 2022 to 2024, from 2781 unique individuals in 2022, to 3752 unique individuals in 2024, with a ~51% increase in families with children.

Whereas the number of households using the food assistance program within the Village Pantry has increased by ~124%, from 76 unique households in 2022, to 170 unique households in 2024.

Whereas the number of meals served to under-housed people by Reach Out Chatham-Kent has increased by ~17% from 2022 to 2024, from 43,594 meals in 2022, to 51,313 meals 2024.

Whereas Hope Haven has already had 4000 more visits in 2025 compared to 2024.

Whereas poverty costs Ontario around \$27.1 – 33 billion dollars per year: justice system \$1.1 billion; health care \$3.9 billion; lost income \$19.4 – 25 billion; lost tax revenue \$2.7 – 3 billion.

Whereas the provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy's (Building a Strong Foundation for Success: Reducing Poverty in Ontario (2020-2025)) primary measure of success is that more social assistance recipients move into employment, despite people with employment income being one of the fastest growing groups at food banks.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's mission is to lead in the development of relevant policies and to advocate for our local food system, and values that all people should have physical and economic access to healthy, culturally diverse, local food.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 highlights the need to advocate for government-level policies that impact food systems, and specifically, to advocate for income-based solutions to food insecurity to provide families with more agency in food choices.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council support the advocacy of the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council by declaring food insecurity an emergency in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

Cont'd...

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government focus its upcoming 2026-2030 Poverty Reduction Strategy around reducing measures of material deprivation, such as food insecurity.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government immediately raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income for those living in poverty.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to increase the rates of income support programs to ensure they are adequate to address the basic needs of individuals and families.

And that Mayor and Council request that the Provincial and Federal Governments include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies. And that a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM), Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), all Ontario Municipalities, all Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, all federal party leaders, the Honourable M.P.P. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the Federal Minister of Health Marjorie Michel.”

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

C: All Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM) Association of
Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)
Ontario Municipalities

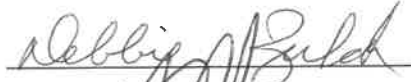


CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

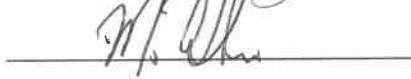
DATE: March 17, 2026

RESOLUTION No. 26-117.
AGENDA ITEM No. 19.1.

Moved by:



Seconded by:



Whereas municipal public works employees and contracted service providers are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, bridges, drainage systems, and winter maintenance operations that are essential to public safety and emergency response; and

Whereas during significant weather events and emergencies, these workers act as frontline responders, ensuring routes remain open for ambulances, fire services, police, school transportation, and the travelling public; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are reporting an increase in harassment, threats, intimidation, and dangerous interference from members of the public directed at municipal workers and subcontractors while they perform their duties; and

Whereas these behaviours have included verbal abuse, threats of violence, obstruction of equipment, and actions that delay or disrupt winter maintenance and emergency response operations, placing workers and the broader public at risk; and

Whereas interference with municipal operations during storms and emergencies jeopardizes service levels, delays critical response times, and creates significant occupational health and safety risks; and

Whereas the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) has formally called on the Province of Ontario to strengthen legislative protections, enforcement support, and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal public works staff and contractors;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of <insert municipality name> supports the calls to action advanced by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to improve protections for municipal public works workers and subcontractors; and

Be it further resolved that the Province of Ontario be requested to introduce legislative and enforcement measures that:

- recognize municipal public works workers and contractors as essential service providers during declared significant weather events and emergencies;
- deter and penalize interference, threats, harassment, or obstruction of municipal operations; and
- provide clear direction and support to police services to proactively respond to these incidents;



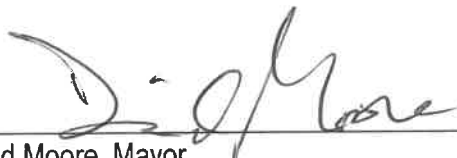
CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

And be it further resolved that a letter conveying Council's support for these measures be sent to:

- The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and neighbouring municipalities for their consideration.

Carried Defeated Deferred



David Moore, Mayor

DIVISION VOTE

	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councillor Morley Haskim	___	___	___	___
Councillor Mike Kekkonen	___	___	___	___
Councillor Nick Ryeland	___	___	___	___
Councillor Debbie Zulak	___	___	___	___
Mayor David Moore	___	___	___	___

SENT VIA EMAIL: info@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

March 23rd, 2026

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

RE: Letter of Support for the preservation of the Jones Island Rear Lighthouse

On behalf of the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Seguin, I am writing to express Council's support for preservation of the Jones Island Rear Lighthouse, a Recognized Federal Heritage Building and longstanding navigational landmark within the Georgian Bay region.

For more than 130 years, the lighthouse has served as a vital navigational aid and a valued symbol of our maritime heritage, recognized by residents, visitors, and tourism operators across the West Parry Sound area.

Council understands that the Canadian Coast Guard has announced plans to demolish the existing structure and replace it with a modular 80-foot metal tower. While we acknowledge the importance of safe navigation, Council shares community concerns that demolishing this historic structure would result in an irreversible loss and may not align with the spirit of the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act.

Council respectfully requests that demolition plans be paused to allow for meaningful public engagement and consideration of potential restoration options.

Respectfully,



Ann MacDiarmid
Mayor, Township of Seguin

cc: Lis McWalter via email mcwalter.lis@gmail.com
The Hon. Joanne Thompson, Minister of Fisheries via email DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

March 19, 2026

All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Correspondence, Town of Cobourg 'Elbows Up for Climate Action'

At a meeting held on March 18, 2026 Northumberland County Council approved the following Resolution # 2026-03-18-212 adopting the below recommendation from the March 2, 2026 Public Works Committee meeting

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Public Works Committee having considered correspondence from the Town of Cobourg regarding 'Elbows Up for Climate Action', recommend that County Council support the correspondence and send a copy of this resolution to all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2026-03-18-212

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at bennett@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tonia Bennett".

Tonia Bennett
Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By M. Martin

Agenda
Item 10

Resolution Number
2026-03-18- 212

Seconded By J. Logel

Council Date: March 18, 2026

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the six Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held March 2, 3 and 4, 2026), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

- Public Works Committee, Item 7.a, Correspondence, Brenda Quin 'Proposed Charge for all Yard Waste Delivered to Transfer Stations' – **Held by Deputy Warden Martin**
- Public Works Committee, Item 8.c, Report 2026-036 'RFQ 25-40 Demolition of 9 Second St., 109 Saskatoon Ave. and 120 Grand Rd. Campbellford Contract Award' – **Held for Administrative Reasons**
- Public Works Committee, Item 8.e, Engineering Department Quarter 4, 2025 Update – **Held by Deputy Warden Martin**
- Economic Development, Tourism, and Land Use Planning Committee, Item 7.c Correspondence, Alto 'Alto Corridor Map and Virtual Engagement'- **Held by Councillor Logel**
- Corporate Support Committee, Item 8.a, Corporate Services Report 2026-042, '2025 Council Remuneration Review- **Update- Held by Councillor Hankivsky**

And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote
Requested by _____
Councillor's Name

Carried  _____
Warden's Signature

Deferred _____
Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
Warden's Signature

Public Works Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: March 2, 2026

Agenda Item: 7.c

Resolution Number: 2026-03-02- 164

Moved by: B Crate

Seconded by: J Logel

Council Meeting Date: March 18, 2026

"**That** the Public Works Committee having considered correspondence from the Town of Cobourg regarding 'Elbows Up for Climate Action', recommend that County Council support the correspondence and send a copy of this resolution to all Ontario Municipalities."

Carried 
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
Committee Chair's Signature



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

City of Brantford
58 Dalhousie St.,
Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J2

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca

Sent via email
clerks@brantford.ca

December 24, 2025

RE: Correspondence from David Miller regarding Elbows Up for Climate Action Letter

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on November 26, 2025, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from C40 Centre for City Climate Policy and Economy regarding Elbows Up for Climate Action; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to send a copy of this resolution to all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Elbows Up For Climate Action

An open letter from Canada's local leaders

Messrs. Blanchet, Carney, Pedneault, Poilievre, Singh, and Ms. May:

We are mayors and councillors from across Canada, where we represent and serve millions of residents of all political backgrounds. Like so many of you, we are already feeling the effects of U.S. trade attacks in our communities through lost jobs, uncertainty for businesses, and increased costs of daily living.

Increasingly, we are also guiding our communities through another kind of crisis: recurring wildfires, floods, storms and deadly climate events. **We believe this is the moment for Canada to fight back, by investing in national projects that will connect and protect our country from the dual threats of tariffs and climate change.**

Leading through a climate emergency changes you. You can't witness elderly neighbours overheating in low-income apartments during a heat wave, and not recognize the critical role of well-insulated, affordable housing. You can't comfort people who have lost everything in floods and fires, and not wonder how we will afford to rebuild. You can't watch your kids and loved ones choke on toxic wildfire smoke without **knowing the time to act boldly on climate change is right now – because later is too late.**

Over the past decade, we've watched wildfires rip through nearly every part of our country. Just like you, we were stunned when Lytton disappeared off the map. Then parts of Halifax went up in flames. Last year, wildfires engulfed the iconic and beloved Jasper. What's next? Who's next?

We can't keep watching our homes, towns and forests burn to a crisp, and pretend the status quo is working or safe. We can't adapt our way out of this problem.

It is time for us to get to work. We are proposing five bold and achievable ideas the next federal government can implement as soon as it is elected, to tariff-proof our economy and create a jobs boom in every community:

- **create a national East-West-North clean electric grid**, delivering affordable energy to urban, rural and Indigenous communities across the country;
- **build a national high-speed rail network**, and extend it with locally-made electric buses to reach every community in this country;
- **build at least two million non-market, energy-efficient homes**, creating more affordable, transit-linked communities;
- **make our homes and buildings warmer in winter, cooler in summer** with retrofits and heat pump installations across the country, that will cut energy bills and pollution;
- **.... and fund a national resilience, response and recovery strategy** so our communities can prepare for the climate disasters we know are coming, respond when they hit, and rebuild afterwards.

These projects would create hundreds of thousands of good local jobs in cities, rural and Indigenous communities, using Canadian steel, aluminum and lumber. They would bolster our economy and make daily life safer and more affordable for all of us. We *can* afford to pay for them now: by redirecting billions of dollars in fossil fuel subsidies, and strengthening the polluter pays principle, for example.

This is the kind of action that this moment calls for. That is why it has been so disappointing to hear voices following Donald Trump's lead and using this crisis to revive long-dead and unpopular pipeline projects. Let's be honest: new pipelines require massive public handouts, trample on Indigenous sovereignty, and mean more climate disasters hitting our cities and towns in years to come.

As local leaders, we know that whatever their political backgrounds, our constituents are worried about the same things: good jobs; a safe and affordable place to live; and confidence that their leaders have a plan for the next crisis we face, whether a climate disaster – or an economic sucker punch from our closest ally.

We are facing a growing climate threat, and an attack on our economic sovereignty. We can and must take them both on at once. This federal election, let's put our elbows up for climate action, and commit to truly national projects to protect and connect our country.

Signed

Councillor Neville Abbott, **Lions Bay**
Councillor Samantha Agtarap, **Port Moody**
Conseiller Francis Allaire, **Blainville**
Councillor Phil Allt, **Guelph**
Conseiller Pierre-Luc Arseneault, **Chandler**
Councillor Jordan Back, **North Vancouver**
Councillor Adam Baden-Clay, **Antigonish County**
Councillor Lori Baldwin-Sands, **St. Thomas**
Conseillère Anne Barabé, **Boucherville**
Former Mayor Lisa Barrett, **Bowen Island**
Councillor Dale Bass, **Kamloops**
Councillor Haley Bateman, **Niagara**
Councillor Jeff Bateman, **Sooke**
Mairesse Évelyne Beaudin, **Sherbrooke**
Councillor Scott Beaver, **St. Mary's**
Councillor Donna Bell, **Sechelt**
Councillor Nancy Bepple, **Kamloops**
Mayor Andrew Black, **Tantramar**
Mayor Merlin Blackwell, **Clearwater**
Conseiller Loïc Blancquaert, **Saint-Lambert**
Councillor Gabrielle Blatz, **Wetaskiwin**
Conseiller Jacques Bouchard, **Saint-Jérôme**
Councillor Phil Brennan, **Severn**
Conseillère Gabrielle Brisebois, **Montmagny**
Councillor Riley Brockington, **Ottawa**
Mayor Alan Brown, **Butternut Valley**
Councillor Don Brown, **View Royal**
Councillor Matthew Brown, **Kaslo**
Mayor Vickey Brown, **Cumberland**
Councillor Jo-Dee Burbach, **Stratford**
Councillor Guy Burry, **Muskoka Lakes**
Councillor Sue Cairns, **Kimberley**
Councillor Ruby Campbell, **New Westminster**
Councillor Leanne Caron, **Guelph**
Deputy Mayor Marty Carr, **Ottawa**
Councillor Erin Caton, **Guelph**
Deputy Mayor Godwin Chan, **Richmond Hill**
Councillor Debbie Chapman, **Kitchener**
Mayor Scott Christian, **Region of Queens**
Councillor Karen Cilevitz, **Richmond Hill**

Former Mayor Charlie Clark, **Saskatoon**

Mayor Lucas Cleveland, **Cobourg**

Conseiller Jean Cloutier, **Deschambault-Grondines**

Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton, **Courtenay**

Mayor Spencer Coyne, **Princeton**

Conseillère Catherine Craig-St-Louis, **Gatineau**

Councillor David Croal, **Gibsons**

Conseiller Alvaro Cueto, **Longueuil**

Maire Martin Dampousse, **Varenes**

Councillor Tom Davis, **St. John's**

Councillor Tobin Day, **Georgian Bluffs**

Councillor Lisa Deacon, **Russell Township**

Conseiller Etienne Decelles, **Sainte-Angèle-de-Monnoir**

Councillor Matt Dell, **Victoria**

Councillor Kacy DeLong, **District of Lunenburg**

Conseillère Anik Des Marais, **Gatineau**

Conseillère Alicia Despina, **Québec**

Councillor Sean Devine, **Ottawa**

Mayor Corrie DiManno, **Banff**

Councillor Deborah Doherty, **Collingwood**

Mayor Rob Douglas, **North Cowichan**

Councillor Nadia Dubyk, **Grey Highlands**

Conseiller Étienne Dupuis, **Crabtree**

Councillor Hilary Eastmure, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Alison Evans, **Pitt Meadows**

Area Director Andrew Fall, **qathet Regional District**

Councillor Jay Fallis, **Orillia**

Councillor Jon Farmer, **Owen Sound**

Councillor and Islands Trustee Sue Ellen Fast, **Bowen Island**

Councillor Ryan Fequet, **Yellowknife**

Councillor David Ferreira, **London**

Councillor Jane Fogal, **Halton Hills**

Mayor Adrian Foster, **Clarington**

Deputy Mayor Sarah Fowler, **Tahsis**

Councillor Skylar Franke, **London**

Councillor Danielle Fraser, **Westville**

Councillor David Froh, **Regina**

Councillor Pete Fry, **Vancouver**

Area Director Justine Gabias, **Halfmoon Bay**

Councillor Nora Gambioli, **District of West Vancouver**

Councillor Chantal Garneau, **Halton Hills**

Councillor Amit Gaur, **Parksville**

Conseillère Mélodie Georget, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Maire Paul Germain, **Prévost**

Councillor Ben Geselbracht, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Derek Giberson, **Oshawa**

Councillor Cindy Gilroy, **Winnipeg**

Conseillère Christine Gingras, **Plessisville**

Councillor Angela Girard, **North Vancouver**

Councillor Rodrigo Goller, **Guelph**

Councillor Robin Goodfellow-**Baikie, North West River**

Councillor Steve Gray, **Metchosin**

Councillor Lauren Greenlaw, **Squamish**

Councillor Alison Gu, **Burnaby**

Maire Pierre Guénard, **Chelsea**

Maire Marc-André Guertin, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Councillor Wendy Hall, **Jasper**

Councillor Danika Hammond, **New Denver**

Mayor Jennifer Handley, **Nanton**

Councillor Colby Harder, **Langford**

Councillor Jimmy Hassan, **Kingston**

Former Mayor Lisa Helps, **Victoria**

Councillor Erin Hemmens, **Nanaimo**

Councillor Bonnie Henderson, **Stratford**

Former Mayor Brad Henderson, **Saint Andrews**

Councillor Tasha Henderson, **New Westminster**

Deputy Mayor Benjamin Hendriksen, **Yellowknife**

Mayor Greg Henley, **Oxford**

Councillor Linda Heshka, **Melville**

Councillor Doug Hillian, **Courtenay**

Councillor Claire Holloway Wadhvani, **Port Hope**

Councillor Jenn Houghtaling, **Cumberland County**

Conseiller David Huggins-Daines, **Sainte-Adèle**

Mayor Armand Hurford, **Squamish**

Mayor Michael Hurley, **Burnaby**

Mayor Richard Ireland, **Jasper**

Councillor Trina Isakson, **Powell River**

Councillor Chris Istace, **North Cowichan**

Former Mayor Don Iveson, **Edmonton**

Conseillère Rita Jain, **Chelsea**

Councillor Michael Janz, **Edmonton**

Councillor Laine Johnson, **Ottawa**

Mayor Patrick Johnstone, **New Westminster**

Councillor Evan Jolicoeur, **Courtenay**

Councillor Christopher Justice, **North Cowichan**

Mayor Todd Kasenberg, **North Perth**

Councillor Theresa Kavanagh, **Ottawa**

Councillor Jonathan Kerr, **Comox**

Councillor Susan Kim, **Victoria**

Mayor Peter Koetsier, **Township of Georgian Bay**

Mayor Sean Krausert, **Canmore**

Councillor Cameron Kroetsch, **Hamilton**

Mayor Dan Kutcher, **Summerside**

Councillor Johanna Kwakernaak, **Berwick**

Conseiller Dominic Labrie, **Chelsea**

Councillor Joy Lachica, **Peterborough**

Councillor Michel Lalonde, **Champlain**

Maire Guillaume Lamoureux, **La Pêche**

Conseiller Jérémy Laplante, **Paspébiac**

Conseillère Julie Lavoie, **Beloil**

Councillor Casey Law, **New Denver**

Mayor Andrew LeBlanc, **Riverview**

Conseiller Joey Leckman, **Prévost**

Conseillère Line Légaré, **Saint-Adolphe-d'Howard**

Councillor Jeff Leiper, **Ottawa**

Conseiller Martin Leprohon, **Saint-Basile-le-Grand**

Conseillère Laure Letarte-Lavoie, **Sherbrooke**

Councillor Rik Logtenberg, **Nelson**

Mayor Adam Lordon, **Miramichi**

Councillor Joel Loughead, **Grey Highlands**

Councillor Gord Lovegrove, **Kelowna**

Councillor Amy Lubik, **Port Moody**

Area Director Patti MacAhonic, **Fraser Valley Regional District**

Conseillère Cecilia Macedo, **Laval**

Councillor Kate MacNaughton, **Prince Edward County**

Councillor Leah Main, **Silverton**

Councillor Lucy Maloney, **Vancouver**

Councillor Paul Manly, **Nanaimo**

Councillor John Manuel, **Golden**

Mairesse Maude Marquis-Bissonnette, **Gatineau**

Mairesse Marie-Andrée Mauger, **Verdun, Montréal**

Area Director Robyn Mawhinney, **Strathcona Regional District**

Councillor Brian Mayes, **Winnipeg**

Councillor Reid McAlpine, **Markham**

Mayor Dorothy McCabe, **Waterloo**

Councillor Melanie McCollum, **Courtenay**

Councillor Ian McGrath, **Truro**

Councillor Cat McGurk, **Yellowknife**

Councillor Jessica McIlroy, **North Vancouver**

Councillor Tom McLennan, **Yellowknife**

Area Director Donna McMahon, **Sunshine Coast Regional District**

Conseillère Robin McPherson, **St. Catharines**

Councillor Jennifer Meilleur, **Comox**

Councillor Shawn Menard, **Ottawa**

Conseillère Kim Méthot, **Saint-Basile-le-Grand**

Former Mayor, David Miller, **Toronto**

Mayor Nicole Minions, **Comox**

Councillor Cathy Moore-Coburn, **Georgian Bluffs**

Mayor Andy Morel, **Rossland**

Conseiller David Morin, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Councillor Wendy Morin, **Courtenay**

Councillor Lenore Morris, **Whitehorse**

Trustee Deb Morrison, **Islands Trust**

Councillor Joy-Anne Murphy, **Camrose**

Area Director Alison Nicholson, **Cowichan Valley Regional District**

Councillor Katrina Nightingale, **Pemberton**

Councillor Troy Nixon, **Fernie**

Councillor Vincent Noël, **La Prairie**

Conseiller Jérôme Normand, **Montréal**

Councillor Lukas Oakley, **County of Brant**

Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, **St. John's**

Councillor Sean Orr, **Vancouver**

Councillor Lisa Osanic, **Kingston**

Conseiller Keith Page, **Nelson**

Councillor Aaron Paquette, **Edmonton**

Councillor Jasmin Parker, **Saskatoon**

Conseillère Valérie Patreau, **Outremont, Montréal**

Local Trustee Laura Patrick, **Salt Spring Island / Islands Trust**

Conseillère Véronique Payette, **Crabtree**

Councillor Leslie Payne, **Nelson**

Councillor Elizabeth Peloza, **London**

Councillor Kourtney Penner, **Calgary**

Councillor Gord Perks, **Toronto**

Councillor Liz Petrie, **Goderich**

Councillor Chris Pettingill, **Squamish**

Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff, **Saanich**

Councillor Stéphanie Plante, **Ottawa**

Mairesse Valérie Plante, **Montréal**

Councillor Catherine Pope, **North Vancouver**

Maire Jacques Poulin, **Fossambault-sur-le-Lac**

Councillor Matt Rodrigues, **Waterloo**

Councillor Sherri Rollins, **Winnipeg**

Councillor Erin Rutherford, **Edmonton**

Councillor Bridget Ryan, **Erin**

Councillor Maita Santiago, **Burnaby**

Councillor Dianne Saxe, **Toronto**

Councillor Ken Sentance, **Thorold**

Councillor Margo Sheppard, **Fredericton**

Conseillère Julie Simoneau, **La Prairie**

Councillor Anne Skipsey, **Qualicum Beach**

Councillor Alison Smith, **Lunenburg**

Councillor Evan Spencer, **Calgary**

Councillor Tony St-Pierre, **Sooke**

Mayor Michelle Staples, **Duncan**

Councillor Wendy Stephen, **Kingston**

Councillor Dan Stevens, **Chase**

Councillor Anne Stevenson, **Edmonton**

Former Mayor Kennedy Stewart, **Vancouver**

Councillor Jenna Stoner, **Squamish**

Councillor Stephanie Stretch, **Kitchener**

Councillor Jenny Tan, **Maple Ridge**

Councillor Keren Tang, **Edmonton**

Councillor Kyle Tapper, **Mackenzie**

Councillor Alvin Tedjo, **Mississauga**

Councillor Daniel Tetrault, **Burnaby**

Conseiller Jonathan Théorêt, **Chertsey**

Councillor Troy Therrien, **Cumberland**

Conseillère Natacha Thibault, **Otterburn Park**

Conseillère Isabelle Thibeault, **Mont-Saint-Hilaire**

Councillor Dave Thompson, **Victoria**
Councillor Jeremy Thorne, **Riverview**,
Area Director Roger Tierney, **Regional District of Central Kootenay**
Councillor Senos Timon, **Saskatoon**
Deputy Mayor Nathan Townend, **Loyalist Township**
Councillor Brandon Tozzo, **Kingston**
Maire Mathieu Traversy, **Terrebonne**
Councillor Sam Trosow, **London**
Conseiller Alexandre Turcotte, **Otterburn Park**
Conseiller Benjamin Turcotte, **Val-d'Or**
Conseillère Elizabeth Ulin, **Montreal West**
Councillor Tony Valente, **North Vancouver**
Conseillère Stephanie Valenzuela, **Montreal**
Councillor Penny Varney, **Gravenhurst**
Mairesse Mélanie Villeneuve, **Otterburn Park**
Conseiller Christopher von Roretz, **Dorval**
Councillor Mary Wagner, **Langford**
Councillor Tim Wake, **Bowen Island**
Councillor Courtney Walcott, **Calgary**
Councillor Nick Ward, **Cumberland**
Conseiller Alexandre Warnet, **Laval**
Councillor Pat Warren, **Kawartha Lakes**
Mayor Bob Wells, **Courtenay**
Councillor Courtney Wentzell, **Region of Queens**
Mayor David West, **Richmond Hill**
Deputy Mayor Ghislaine Wheaton, **St. Stephens**
Councillor Laura White, **Halifax**
Councillor Howard Williams, **Wolfville**
Councillor Pam Wolf, **Region of Waterloo**
Councillor Michael Wolfe, **Richmond**
Councillor Sean Wood, **Parksville**
Councillor Theresa Wood, **District of Invermere**
Councillor Jesse Wright, **District of Mackenzie**
Councillor Julie Wright, **Waterloo**
Councillor Keith Yacucha, **Langford**
Councillor Shanon Zachidniak, **Regina**
Councillor Margaret Zwart, **Clarington**



Join Us





THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 - 026

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO	DATE: March 17, 2026
Councillor G. ASHFORD	___	___	MOVED BY: 
Councillor J. BELESKEY	___	___	
Councillor P. BORNEMAN	___	___	SECONDED BY:  GA
Councillor B. KEITH	___	___	
Councillor D. McCANN	___	___	
Councillor C. McDONALD	___	___	
Mayor J. McGARVEY	___	___	

CARRIED: **DEFEATED:** **Postponed to:** _____

The Council of the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports the Township of The Archipelago's Resolution 26-026 which formally requests that the Province of Ontario maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities; and

That Council does not support the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and area municipalities for information and support.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey



The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.4.
Resolution Number 26-026
Title: Request to Province to maintain local, independent, municipality governed watershed-based conservation authorities
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026

Moved by: Councillor MacLeod
Seconded by: Councillor Cade Fraser

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has long demonstrated a strong and unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, watershed protection, and the preservation of its globally significant Georgian Bay shoreline, wetlands, forests, and inland waters for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities play a critical role in watershed-based resource management, natural hazard prevention, and environmental protection through local, independent, and municipally governed organizations; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed changes to Conservation Authority boundaries and governance, including the creation of an “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority,” as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

WHEREAS the Township of The Archipelago has received a number of resolutions from municipalities expressing concerns with, and not supporting, the proposed changes to Conservation Authority structures and boundaries;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago formally requests that the Province of Ontario maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based Conservation Authorities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council does not support the proposed “Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration as outlined in Environmental Registry Notice 025-1257; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment,

Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Premier of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and area municipalities for information and support.

Carried

Fw: 2026 Ontario Senior of the Year / Prix ontarien de la personne âgée de l'année

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Sun 3/22/2026 9:48 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>

From: Ontario Honours And Awards (MCM) <OntarioHonoursAndAwards@ontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2026 5:37 PM
Subject: 2026 Ontario Senior of the Year / Prix ontarien de la personne âgée de l'année

(Un message en français suivra)

**Ministry for Seniors
and Accessibility**

Minister

College Park
777 Bay Street
5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1S5

March 2026,

Dear Mayor, Reeve and Members of Council:

I am writing to invite you to [nominate](#) an exceptional local senior for the 2026 Ontario Senior of the Year Award.

This award provides each municipality the opportunity to honour one outstanding senior for their contributions to enriching the social, cultural, and civic life of their community.

The deadline for nominations is April 15, 2026.

For more information on how to submit a nomination online, please visit the [Ontario Senior of the Year](#) webpage. Once your nomination is submitted, a personalized certificate with your nominee's name will be sent to you. I encourage you to present this certificate to your nominee in June during Seniors Month.

The Ontario government is proud to celebrate Seniors Month with municipalities across the province. Seniors generously give their time, knowledge and expertise making Ontario the best

**Ministère des Services aux
aînés et de l'Accessibilité**

Ministre

College Park
777, rue Bay
5e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1S5



place in this country to live and work. It is important to take the time to celebrate our older population and acknowledge their invaluable contributions.

If you have any questions regarding the 2026 Ontario Senior of the Year Award, please contact Ontario Honours and Awards at OntarioHonoursAndAwards@ontario.ca.

Thank you for supporting the civic engagement of your local seniors.

Sincerely,



Raymond Cho
Minister for Seniors and Accessibility

**Ministry for Seniors
and Accessibility**

Minister

College Park
777 Bay Street
5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1S5

**Ministère des Services aux
aînés et de l'Accessibilité**

Ministre
College Park
777, rue Bay
5e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1S5



Mars 2026

Monsieur le Maire/Madame la Mairesse, Préfet/ Préfète et Membres du Conseil :

Je vous écris pour vous inviter à [soumettre une candidature](#) pour le Prix ontarien de la personne âgée de l'année 2026.

Ce prix donne à chaque municipalité l'occasion d'honorer une personne âgée exceptionnelle de sa localité pour les contributions qu'elle a apportées à l'enrichissement de la vie sociale, culturelle et civique de sa communauté.

La date limite de soumission des candidatures est le 15 avril 2026.

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements concernant la façon de soumettre une candidature en ligne, veuillez visiter la page Web du [Prix ontarien de la personne âgée de l'année](#). Une fois que vous aurez soumis une candidature, un certificat personnalisé avec le nom de votre candidat(e) vous sera envoyé. Je vous encourage à le présenter à votre candidat(e) en juin pendant le Mois des aînés.

Le gouvernement de l'Ontario est ravi de célébrer le Mois des aînés avec les municipalités de toute la province. Les personnes âgées ont généreusement donné leur temps, leurs connaissances et leur expertise pour faire de cette province le meilleur endroit au pays où vivre et travailler. Il est important que nous prenions le temps de célébrer nos aînés et leurs précieuses contributions.

Si vous avez des questions au sujet du Prix ontarien de la personne âgée de l'année 2026, veuillez communiquer avec l'Unité de la reconnaissance des bénévoles à l'adresse suivante : OntarioHonoursAndAwards@ontario.ca

Merci d'avance pour votre soutien à l'engagement civique de vos aînés locaux.

Sincèrement,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond Cho". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Raymond Cho
Ministre des Services aux aînés et de l'Accessibilité



Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.58-26
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.
 Seconded By: Councillor Tripp
 Item No: 13.1

Description: Canada Post Rate Reductions for Libraries - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

RESOLUTION:

That Council support Resolution #2026-078 carried by the Council of the Township of Perry on February 18, 2026, calling upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials, and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Perry, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Services and Procurement Joel Lightbound, MP Cheryl Gallant, MPP Billy Denault, and all Ontario Municipalities for support.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:
NA.....
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),
 abstained from discussion and did not vote



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Joel Lightbound, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement, Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka, Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities for support.

Carried: Defeated:


Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
Council	For	Against
Councillors Jim Cushman		
Joe Lumley		
Margaret Ann MacPhail		
Paul Sowrey		
Mayor Norm Hofstetter		



Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.59-26
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.
 Seconded By: Councillor Popkie
 Item No: 13.2

Description: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Extension - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

RESOLUTION:

That Council support Resolution #7 carried by the Council of the Township of North Glengarry on February 23, 2026, calling for an extension and review of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of North Glengarry, the Premiere of Ontario Doug Ford, the Minister of Infrastructure Kinga Surma, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: NA..... Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote
--

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution # 7

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

Moved by: Michael Madden

Seconded by: Carma Williams

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—including roads, bridges, and water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality, and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities; and

WHEREAS in 2022, the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026; and

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials, and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt; and

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance, and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs, and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing; and

WHEREAS the Township of North Glengarry requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability, and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Township of North Glengarry calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics, and rural equity considerations.

**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY
Council Meeting**

Resolution #

Date: Monday February 23, 2026

-
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs, or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
 6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments, and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of North Glengarry supports the September 29, 2025 resolution of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the October 20, 2025 resolution of the Municipality of South Huron, and the November 19, 2025 resolution of the Township of Pulsinch regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

FURTHER THAT this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

DEFERRED



MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR

Deputy Mayor: Carma Williams
Councillor: Jacques Massie
Councillor: Brian Caddell
Councillor: Jeff Manley
Councillor: Michael Madden
Councillor: Gary Martin
Mayor: Jamie MacDonald

YEA

NEA



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

March 23, 2026

Via Email: mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca

Rideau Lakes
1439 County Road 8
Delta, Ontario K0E 1G0

Dear Mayor Arie Hoogenboom:

Re: Resolution - Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan at its meeting on March 16th, 2026, passed the following resolution:

R67-2026

Moved by Councillor Terry Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Mark Allen

That Council hereby supports the letter to Senator from Rideau Lakes regarding concerns with the Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget), as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to all parties listed on the original correspondence.

CARRIED.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

Liz Ross
Deputy Clerk

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
MP Emma Harrison
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097
rideaulakes.ca

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township
mayor@rideaulakes.ca
613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada
All Members of Parliament
All Provincial Cabinet Ministers
MPP Steve Clark
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

March 24, 2026

Via email: trevor.jones@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness

11th Floor

77 Grenville Street

Toronto, ON M7A 1B3

Dear Hon. Trevor Jones,

Re: Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

126-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

That South Huron Council supports the February 26, 2026 correspondence of the Township of Papineau-Cameron regarding Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, Trevor Jones, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, Lisa Thompson, MPP, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org; the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, nolan.quinn@pc.ola.org; MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, admin@cvma-acmv.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; and all municipalities in Ontario.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
E-mail: admin@papineaucameron.ca Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

February 26, 2026

The Ontario Veterinary College
50 Stone Road East
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

RE: Ontario Veterinary College expansion of enrollment capacity

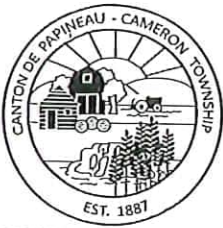
The Council of The Corporation of The Township of Papineau-Cameron met at their Regular Council Meeting on February 24, 2026 and passed the attached resolution 2026-50 that relates to the Ontario Veterinary College's enrollment capacity.

Yours truly,

Venessa Wilson
Administrative Assistant

Encl: Resolution 2026-50, Township of Papineau-Cameron

Cc: The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
The Honorable Victor Fedeli, MPP, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
The Honorable Trevor Jones, MPP, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
The Honorable Nolan Quinn, MPP, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: **February 24, 2026**

RESOLUTION NUMBER: **2026-50**

MOVED BY:

Shelley Belanger

SECONDED BY:

M Chenier

WHEREAS large animal livestock owners in Northern Ontario have extremely limited access to large animal veterinary services;

AND WHEREAS the cost of large animal veterinary services in Northern Ontario is significantly higher due to long travel distances and the limited number of large animal veterinarians available to service the region;

AND WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township that three qualified individuals within our community have applied to the Ontario Veterinary College for large animal veterinary, but were denied admission due to limited enrollment capacity;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township formally requests that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, the Hon. Trevor Jones MPP Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Hon. Nolan Quinn MPP Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Ontario Municipalities for their consideration and support.

CARRIED:

Robert Corriveau
(Mayor)

NOT CARRIED:

(Mayor)

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			

COPY



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

March 24, 2026

Via email: stan.cho@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

6th Floor

438 University Ave.

Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

Dear Hon. Stan Cho,

Re: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting:

125-2026

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Ted Oke

That South Huron Council supports the February 17, 2026 correspondence of the Township of McNab/Braeside regarding Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, Stan Cho, Lisa Thompson, MPP, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca ; and all municipalities in Ontario.



Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 17, 2026 No: RESOLUTION - 56-2026
 Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott Brum Item No: 14.2

Description: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

WHEREAS The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

WHEREAS The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

WHEREAS Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

WHEREAS Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

	Yea	Nay
Mayor Lori Hoddinott	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Scott Brum	_____	_____
Councillor Kevin Rosien	_____	_____
Councillor Robert Campbell	_____	_____
Councillor Jill Campbell	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: _____
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

March 25, 2026

Re: Time-Sensitive: Strengthening Municipal Accountability and Public Trust (Bill 9)

Dear Premier Ford,

When we met in Sarnia last August, we discussed Bill 9 and its intent to strengthen municipal accountability. At that time, I affirmed my support for the province's effort to move this legislation forward. The fundamental principles of Bill 9 are sound and provide an important foundation; however, the Bill requires a significant change before it becomes law.

The introduction of a standardized code of conduct and the proposed integrity commissioner reforms are positive and necessary steps forward. However, based on more than four decades of experience in municipal politics, I believe the Bill's greatest flaw lies in its mechanism for removing councillors in **serious cases of misconduct**. Requiring local councils to participate in the removal of a peer, particularly through unanimous agreement, places councils in an inappropriate and untenable position. On matters of serious contention, unanimity is rarely achievable, rendering the mechanism effectively futile. This approach undermines both fairness and public confidence and fails to provide municipalities with a meaningful ability to act in extreme cases.

In circumstances of this magnitude, decisions should not rest with a council. Instead, such matters should be heard and ruled upon by an independent, non-partisan authority, removed from local political dynamics and capable of making impartial determinations in the public's interest.

If the provincial government intends to maintain municipal councils' responsibility for adjudicating such decisions, the threshold for action must be revised. A two-thirds majority, or a simple majority of council excluding the subject member, would provide a more reasonable, fair, and workable standard.

This is a time-sensitive issue, and the need for action is becoming more urgent as municipalities continue to encounter situations they are powerless to address. Without meaningful change, the current conditions and lack of adequate protection will have a chilling effect on those considering public office at the municipal level. Capable, community-minded individuals may be discouraged from seeking election if there is no effective independent mechanism to address extreme misconduct, protect the integrity of council and the well-being of the community.

I am copying this letter to mayors and councils across Ontario in the hope that they will also raise their voices on this matter before the legislation is finalized, to ensure this serious flaw is addressed in what is otherwise an important and necessary piece of legislation for the Province of Ontario and its municipalities for the 2026-2030 council term of office.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns and possible paths forward at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mike Bradley
Mayor, City of Sarnia



Cc: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
John Fraser, MPP, Interim Leader, Ontario Liberal Party
Marit Stiles, MPP, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ontario NDP Party
Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Mayor and Council for municipalities across Ontario
Sarnia City Council
Lambton County Council
City of Sarnia Senior Management

Fw: Unfreeze Ontario - The Cost of Inaction

From Craig Jeffery <cjeffery@seguin.ca>
Date Wed 3/25/2026 1:29 PM
To Donna McLeod <dmcleod@seguin.ca>
Cc Michele Fraser <mfraser@seguin.ca>

 2 attachments (2 MB)

CDN_PT_Ontario Property Tax Reform_v9.pdf; Motion to Reassess - Unfreeze Ontario.docx;

From: Pamela Scanlon <Pamela.Scanlon@Ryan.com> on behalf of Paul Sullivan <Paul.Sullivan@Ryan.com>
Sent: March 25, 2026 12:50 PM
Cc: Pamela Scanlon <Pamela.Scanlon@ryan.com>
Subject: Unfreeze Ontario - The Cost of Inaction

You don't often get email from paul.sullivan@ryan.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon,

My name is Paul Sullivan and I am partner with Ryan. My role in the firm is to advocate on behalf of taxpayers to ensure fairness and equity through good tax policy. The frozen assessment roll in Ontario is hurting all types of businesses throughout our communities.

Please see attached background article as well as a proposed motion for Mayor and Council.

We hope you will pass a motion to this effect and contribute to making Ontario fair and competitive for all businesses. This is an urgent matter as Government must direct MPAC to create a 2027 Assessment Role in the near future. It would be anticipated that taxpayers would receive their new assessment in November.

Yours truly,

Paul Sullivan
Principal, Practice Leader Advocacy and Tax Policy Canada
Ryan ULC
2500 – 320 Granville Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1S9

604.331.7300 Direct / 604.341.3270 Mobile
Ryan.com/Canada



Ontario's Tax Freeze: Costing Jobs, Raising Prices

Unfair property tax policies are placing a hidden tariff on consumers, driving up the cost of goods and putting immense pressure on small businesses. Local retailers, the backbone of our communities, are overtaxed, threatening jobs and economic stability across Ontario.



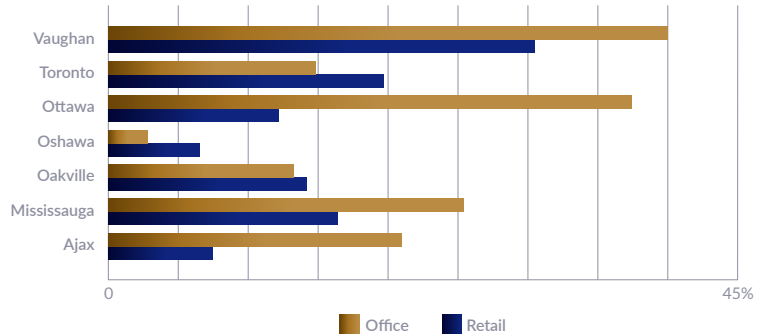
Who's Bearing the Hidden Consumer Tariff in Ontario?

Local Businesses, Unfairly Taxed

Unfair taxation is placing a hidden burden on local communities across Ontario. Independent businesses are overtaxed, driving up prices for consumers and putting jobs and livelihoods at risk. Residents are paying the price while trying to support their local retailers.

Residents want to support local businesses but are facing higher prices due to an outdated tax system that favors large properties. This province-wide issue is putting undue pressure on communities and demands immediate action.

Median Overtaxation



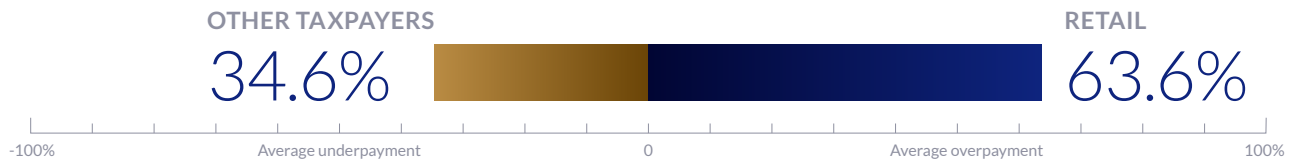
Retail and Office Tenants Overpay While Others Get a Pass

Ontario's outdated assessed values are putting jobs and local businesses at risk. Retail and office tenants are taxed based on inflated values, while other businesses get a pass—leaving everyday residents to make up the difference through higher prices.

It's time to reassess and restore fairness.



% Under/Over Taxation

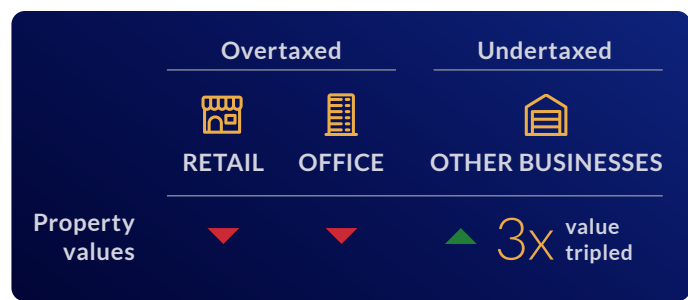


Assessed Value as % of Sale Price



Property Taxes Out of Sync with Reality

Ontario's property tax system is out of sync with market reality. Retail and office properties have declined in value, yet remain overtaxed, while other businesses—whose values have tripled—are undertaxed.



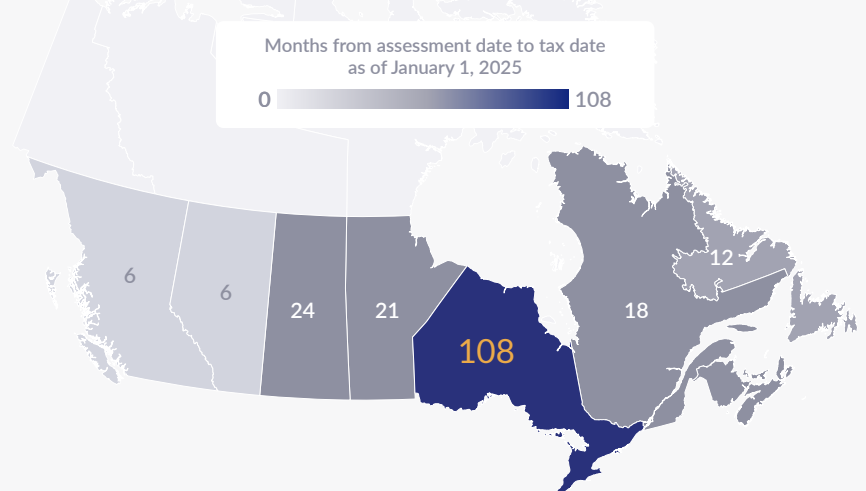
Without reassessment, struggling retail and office sectors face rising costs, lower occupancy, and mounting pressure.

The Only Province Without Reassessment Since the Pandemic

Ontario is the only province that hasn't reassessed property values since the pandemic. As of January 1st 2025, Ontario taxes were based on values that are 108 months in the past, while in the rest of Canada assessed values are 6-24 months in the past.

Regular reassessments give businesses the stability to plan and invest. Without it, struggling sectors like retail and office face uncertainty and discouraging costs.

How out of date are Ontario assessments?



It's Time to Reassess and Restore Fairness

Reassess Ontario's Properties:
Support Local Jobs and Economic Balance

Learn more at ryan.com



We kindly request that that Council call on the Government of Ontario to promptly move to update property assessments in the Province.

The following resolution has been drafted for Council's consideration at its next meeting:

- **WHEREAS** a well-functioning and up-to-date assessment system supports strong communities and makes the province an attractive place to invest; and
- **WHEREAS** property assessments in Ontario have not been updated in over a decade, making them the most outdated in Canada, while provinces such as Alberta and British Columbia update assessments annually to reflect current market conditions; and
- **WHEREAS** the prolonged pause in the reassessment cycle has created significant distortions in assessed values, resulting in inequities among property classes; and
- **WHEREAS** outdated assessments negatively impact investment decisions, economic competitiveness, municipal planning, and disproportionately affect independent small businesses; and
- **WHEREAS** reassessments are designed to be revenue neutral for the municipality, ensure fairness in taxation, maintain public confidence in the property tax system, and support long-term municipal financial planning; and
- **WHEREAS** a coalition of municipalities, chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, small businesses, and major property owners have called upon the Government of Ontario to update property assessments;
- **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of **[Name of Municipality]** hereby calls upon the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Finance to direct the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation to promptly resume the regular property assessment cycle; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation for their consideration and timely action.



Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

March 23, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance
minister.fin@ontario.ca

The Honourable Graham McGregor, MPP
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org

RE: Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding

At the March 23, 2026, Regular Council meeting for the Town of Saugeen Shores, the attached motion was passed endorsing the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding.

Sincerely,

Hailey Leigh-Mossley
Deputy Clerk
Encl.

cc. MPP Lisa Thompson
All Ontario Municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES

MOVED BY: C. Grace

RESOLUTION NO: 096-2026

SECONDED BY: M. Myatt

DATE: March 23, 2026

Whereas older buildings have inherent sustainability and provide economic, environmental and social benefits for Ontario communities; and,

Whereas re-use of existing buildings reduces the need for increased infrastructure that accompanies new builds such as sewer and water services, new roads and sidewalks; and,

Whereas re-use of existing building can reduce construction waste and extend the life expectancy of landfills; and,

Whereas keeping older buildings helps a community remain visually richer and enhances identity while building its tourism brand and appeal; and,

Whereas creating a new, application-based, matching grant program of \$10M/year, modelled on an existing Alberta program would incentivize owners and smaller developers to keep, fix and reuse heritage buildings to create new housing; and,

Whereas such a grant program would provide an alternative to the Ontario heritage property tax relief program, which has limited impact on developers and reduces municipal revenues; and,

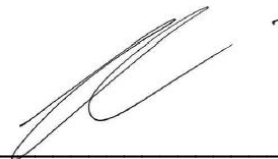
Whereas such a grant program would provide a simpler and more direct way for heritage building owners to fund renovations or conservation; and,

Whereas Ontario developers surveyed by the National Trust for Canada in 2014 ranked a heritage-revolving fund as their top incentive to encourage heritage development if:

- the grants are simple to apply for and to administer; and,
- the fund is large enough to meet at least 33% of the demand so that applicants have a reasonable chance of recovering the cost and effort of applying.

Therefore, be it Resolved That the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores endorse the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding, and that this resolution be sent to the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and MPP Lisa Thompson, and be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario.

- Carried
- Carried, as amended
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Referred
- Tabled
- Withdrawn



Mayor

[Draft] Fw: Notice - Annual Vegetation Management Program

From

 2 attachments (606 KB)

CN Right-Of-Way Vegetation Management 2026.pdf; Vegetation_ 5.44x10.714 _ON_2026.pdf;

From: CN Public Inquiry Line <CONTACT@cn.ca>
Sent: March 26, 2026 1:31 PM
To: Jason Inwood <jinwood@seguin.ca>
Subject: Notice - Annual Vegetation Management Program

You don't often get email from contact@cn.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)
Notice - Annual Vegetation Management Program



Dear Mr. Inwood,

At CN, we are committed to operating a safe and efficient railway while fostering trust and collaboration with the communities we serve. As part of this commitment, we are reaching out to inform you of our upcoming vegetation management activities in your area, scheduled to take place between April and October 2026. You can find a regularly updated schedule at www.cn.ca/vegetation.

Vegetation management is a crucial component of railway safety and regulatory compliance. In accordance with Transport Canada's requirements, our program helps mitigate potential risks to railway operations. By proactively managing vegetation, we enhance safety for both rail operations and the surrounding communities.

For more details, please find enclosed a letter, which provides additional insights into the program. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best regards,



CN Public Inquiry line

T: **1-888-888-5909**

E: contact@cn.ca



Box 8100
Montréal, Québec Canada
H3C 3N4

Boite 8100
Montréal, Québec/Canada
H3C 3N4

March 26, 2026

RE: CN RIGHT-OF-WAY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Dear Mayor,

At CN, we are committed to operating a safe and efficient railway while fostering trust and collaboration with the communities we serve. As part of this commitment, we are reaching out to inform you of our upcoming vegetation management activities in your area, scheduled to take place between April and October 2026. You can find a regularly updated schedule at www.cn.ca/vegetation.

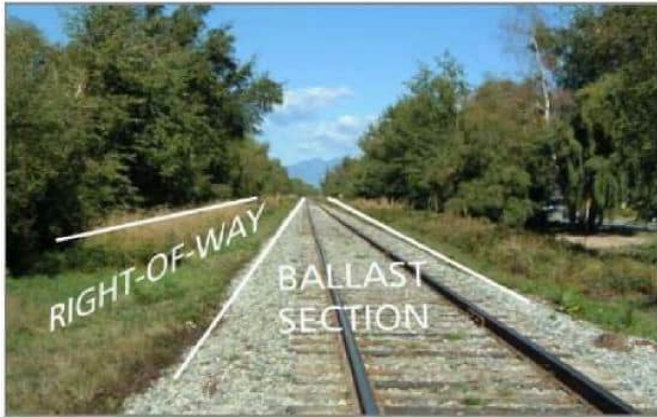
Vegetation management is a crucial component of railway safety and regulatory compliance. In accordance with Transport Canada's requirements, our program mitigates potential risks to railway operations. By proactively managing vegetation, we enhance safety for both rail operations and the surrounding communities.

Management Strategies

CN manages vegetation using both chemical and mechanical methods to ensure regulatory compliance and maintain safe railway operations. We are sensitive to concerns your community may have regarding chemical vegetation management and at CN, we strive to safeguard our neighbouring communities and the environment.

The track infrastructure is composed of two main sections, the 24-foot ballast section (which is primarily gravel and supports the track structure) and the right-of-way portion (which is the area outside of the ballast section to the CN property boundary).

The 24-foot ballast section and the areas around signals and communications equipment that are critical for safe railway operations will be managed using chemical methods. Application in these safety critical areas is done by spray trucks or spray trains with downcast nozzles that spray a short distance above the ground surface with shrouded booms, specially designed to limit the chemicals from drifting. The right-of-way section is maintained using mechanical control methods such as mowing, or brush cutting and may be chemically treated to control noxious or invasive weeds or brush in localized areas.



CN has retained professional contractors qualified to undertake this work. They are required to follow all laws and regulations that apply to CN. In addition, the contractors will ensure that vegetation control is performed with consideration of the environment and in accordance with the highest industry standards.

Inquiries

Should your community have any noxious weed management requests, we ask that you contact CN's Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or fill out the form at www.cn.ca/vegetation before June 1, 2026 with the specific information and location. CN will make every effort to include those locations as part of our 2026 Vegetation Management Program. All notices sent after the above-mentioned date will be included in the 2027 Vegetation Management Plan.

We look forward to working with you and answering any questions you may have regarding our vegetation control activities in your community.

Please find attached the notices CN is publishing in local papers to advise the public. We would kindly ask that you post copies on your community's website and at City Hall or other central locations for a wider distribution.

For any questions or more information, please contact the CN Public Inquiry Line by telephone at 1-888-888-5909, or by email at contact@cn.ca.

Please also find a list of FAQs regarding the program that may be of further assistance at www.cn.ca/vegetation.



ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Each year, CN is required to manage vegetation on its right-of-way. Managing this vegetation contributes to mitigating fire risks and enhances the efficiency of inspection of track infrastructure.

The spray program is not being done for aesthetic reasons.

To ensure safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional (Davey Tree Expert Company of Canada, Ltd., 1-800-465-6367) will apply herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 24-foot graveled area/ballast). Product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

CN may use the following products:

Product Name	Active Ingredient	Pest Control Product Act #
Arsenal Powerline	Imazapyr	30203
Aspect	Picloram, 2,4-D	31641
Clearview	Aminopyralid, Metsulfuron-Methyl	29752
Credit Xtreme	Glyphosate	29888
Detail	Salflufenacil	32773
Esplanade	Indaziflam	31333
Garlon RTU	Triclopyr	29334
Garlon XRT	Triclopyr	28945
Gateway (Adjuvant)	Paraffinic Oil	31470
Hasten (Adjuvant)	Methyl & ethyl oleate	31760
Milestone NXT	Aminopyralid	28517
Navius Flex	Aminocyclopyrachlor, Metsulfuron-Methyl	30922
Overdrive	Diflufenzopyr, Dicamba	30065
Telar XP	Chlorsulfuron	30036
Torpedo EZ	Flumioxazin, Pyroxasulfone	33872
Vision Max	Glyphosate	27736

CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the province within which they are applied. The program is expected to take place from April to October 2026.

All CN land is private property, accessible to CN employees and approved contractors only.

Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation for more information or to make an inquiry, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or 1-888-888-5909.



Box 608, Little Current, POP 1K0
705-368-3500

Please see below a Resolution passed by the Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands.

If your Council supports this motion please share with the appropriate Ministries and Organizations.

Thank You

Resolution No. 75-03-2026

Moved by: B. Wood

Seconded by: P. Aelick

Whereas the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, like many municipalities, utilizes chip-and-tar surface treatment on a significant portion of its road network; and

Whereas the Town has observed a substantial decrease in the length of time these treated roads remain in acceptable condition; and

Whereas the quality and durability of the oil used in the surface treatment appears to be a contributing factor; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Environment amended its regulations several years ago, permitting only lighter-grade oils for environmental considerations; and

Whereas the reduced durability of the lighter-grade product has resulted in more frequent resurfacing cycles and has consequently led to increasing maintenance costs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands respectfully requests that the Ministry of the Environment reconsider its decision regarding the lighter grade of oil, taking into account the increased number of applications required, as well as the associated additional time, energy, and financial burden placed on municipalities or develops a better alternative oil.

And Further that this motion be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, AMO, Good Roads, FONOM, MPP Bill Rosenberg, and all other municipalities.

Carried