



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, May 24, 2024

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

**FROM: Sherri-Marie Millar, P.Eng.
Director of Infrastructure Services/City Engineer**

DATE: Friday, May 24, 2024

SUBJECT: Emergency Purchase – Fire Station #3 Sanitary Servicing

This memorandum has been prepared to advise Council that emergency work in excess of \$75,000 was required on the Colbeck Drive sanitary sewer between Prince Charles Drive and Riverview Drive.

The sanitary sewer servicing Fire Station #3 located on Colbeck Drive experienced a structural failure rendering the station's lateral and thus the plumbing unusable. This station is staffed around the clock and therefore an immediate solution was necessary.

Recognizing that a new Fire Station #3 is under design for construction at a different location, it was decided to replace the servicing to the existing site in a manner that would support possible redevelopment and/or future sale of the property. To that end, the existing sanitary sewer main was extended on Colbeck Drive at a depth and size to maximize future servicing options.

The design and inspection of the project was performed by Infrastructure Services staff. Through an existing RFQ with the City of Welland an emergency contractor completed the underground construction at a cost of \$113,717.78 (incl. tax). The Finance Division will fund these works from the Water/Wastewater Reserves. Final asphalt restoration of the sewer trench will be completed under the 2024 Asphalt Patching program.



Township of Lucan Biddulph

270 Main Street
P.O. Box 190, Lucan, Ontario N0M 2J0
Phone (519) 227-4491; Fax (519) 227-4998

May 21, 2024

The Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Honourable Shelly Spence, Auditor General of Ontario

VIA Email to: minister.mecp@ontario.ca
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca
comments@auditor.on.ca

RE: Recommended Phase out of free water well testing in the 2023 Auditor General's Report

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2024 - 123

Moved by J. Hodgins

Seconded by A. Westman

WHEREAS the Ontario Auditor General's annual report on public health from December 2023 indicates that Public Health Ontario is proposing the phasing-out of free provincial water testing services for private drinking water; and

WHEREAS free private drinking water testing services has played a pivotal role in safeguarding public health, particularly in rural communities such as the Township of Lucan Biddulph; and

WHEREAS the removal of free private drinking water testing could lead to a reduction in testing, potentially increasing the risk of waterborne diseases in these vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the tragic events in Walkerton, Ontario underscored the critical importance of safe drinking water.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Township of Lucan Biddulph hereby requests that the Province reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing-out of free private drinking water testing services.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks, Minister of Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit, and MPP Elgin-Middlesex-London.

CARRIED

Please contact our office should you require any further information on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ron Reymer

Ron Reymer
CAO/Clerk

cc: MPP Rob Flack



May 21st, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Resolution – Request to the Province to Amend the Blue Box Regulation

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held April 23rd, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Summers

Seconded by Councillor Kelso

THAT, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution of the Town of Coburg regarding the request to the Province to amend the blue box regulation;

AND THAT, a copy of the support letter be sent to the Premier of Ontario, AMO and member municipalities.

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

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

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca
Town of Cobourg

Delivered via email
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

April 8, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the Township of Perry regarding a Request to the Province to
Amend the Blue Box Regulation

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on March 27, 2024, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Township of Perry regarding a Request to the Province to Amend the Blue Box Regulation for information purposes; and

FURTHER THAT Council support the recommendation of the Township of Perry and send a copy of the support letter to the Premier of Ontario, AMO and member municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Enclosure.

cc. AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



Township of Perry

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

PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

www.townshipofperry.ca

February 26, 2024

Via Email

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

Dear Premier Ford,

**RE: Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulation for
'Ineligible' Sources**

At their last regular meeting on Wednesday February 21, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following:

***"Resolution #2024-52
Moved by: Paul Sowrey
Seconded by: Jim Cushman***

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 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 should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue

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Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;

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 Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and to all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried."

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Beth Morton
Clerk-Administrator

BM/ec

c.c. Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
All Ontario Municipalities



May 1, 2024

Mayor Bryan Paterson
City Councillors
City of Kingston
216 Ontario Street
Kingston, Ontario K7L 2Z3

Dear Mayor Paterson and Councillors:

The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) understands that the City of Kingston has announced plans to require unsheltered homeless persons at Belle Park to dismantle their shelters and pack up their belongings during the day. I am writing to urge Kingston instead to adopt a human rights-based approach to respond to the issue of encampments.

The growing reality of encampments and unsheltered homelessness raises issues of public importance squarely within the OHRC's expertise. The OHRC has been [monitoring](#) Ontario municipalities' response to the crisis of unsheltered homelessness. The OHRC recognizes the challenges municipalities face in addressing intersecting needs related to housing and homelessness, mental health and substance use issues, and poverty. All levels of government share responsibility, but municipalities are often on the front lines of addressing these systemic social problems.

There are almost 1400 encampments across the province and that municipalities are not adopting a consistent response to this growing concern. Some municipalities are seeking to implement a respectful and compassionate human rights-based approach. Others have emphasized enforcement which can involve municipal officials or police removing people, seizing, or disposing of possessions.

Some municipalities, including Kingston have applied to the courts for orders allowing them to enforce by-laws prohibiting encamping. Notably when municipalities have done so, courts have found that if there are not enough accessible shelter beds, the state cannot prevent homeless people from building their own shelter on public land without violating their Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (*Charter*) right to life, liberty and security of the person. Courts have said that shelters are not truly accessible if they cannot accommodate couples, provide necessary services, accommodate mental and physical disability, or if they impose rules that cannot be followed due to addiction disabilities.

The OHRC is concerned that enforcing the daytime ban on camping could lead to breaches of the Ontario Human Rights Code and the *Charter*. Substantive equality means that municipalities must ensure their actions do not create or exacerbate disadvantage based on one or more prohibited grounds.

Demonstrating insufficient daytime shelter spaces is not the only way to establish discrimination. Adverse effects based on disability and sex, among other grounds, can result from having to take down shelters, pack up and store belongings or carry them around and then re-establish adequate shelter from the elements every night. Encampment residents, most of whom have physical, mental health and substance use disabilities, may suffer extreme hardship and increased risk of physical and psychological harm. If they cannot comply, they may be subjected to *Trespass to Property Act* notices, fines, and arrests.

Notably, enforcing the daytime ban may also make it very difficult for people to live in the encampment at all, effectively, resulting in forced evictions. Displacing persons to living conditions where they are more exposed to the elements or at increased risk because they cannot access healthcare, social and harm reduction services raises human rights concerns. Women and gender diverse persons experience challenges finding accessible and safe spaces and face heightened risks of gender-based harassment and violence if displaced from chosen communities where they feel safest.

Municipalities need to take extra measures to ensure that their response to homelessness reflects their duty to respect, protect and fulfill Indigenous peoples' distinct rights and a commitment to reconciliation. Indigenous peoples have rights under treaties, the Constitution and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)*. All encampments in Ontario are located on Indigenous peoples' traditional territories, engaging their distinct rights concerning land and self-determination. Also, Indigenous peoples are overrepresented among homeless people and more likely to be part of "outdoor" or "unsheltered" populations. Indigenous encampment residents and local Indigenous organizations, including those serving encampment residents or other unhoused residents in Kingston, must be meaningfully engaged in any measures regarding encampments. Actions that result in the forcible displacement of Indigenous persons in the absence of their free, prior, and informed consent violate *UNDRIP*.

In managing municipal parks and enforcing by-laws, municipalities are providing a service to the public. This public includes the unsheltered homeless population, as recognized in the [Kingston decision](#). Any health and safety issues with encampments should be based on objective evidence, and not stereotypes. Steps to address legitimate health and safety concerns should be humane and tailored so that any adverse impact affects the rights of encampment residents as minimal as possible.

The OHRC encourages all levels of government to work cooperatively with each other and affected stakeholders, including encampment residents, community agencies and Indigenous organizations, to determine how best to fulfil the urgent need for housing

and shelter services while addressing legitimate health and safety concerns. This approach will help governments meet their legal obligations.

The OHRC's [Human Rights Based Approach Framework](#) (HRBA Framework) helps those designing policies and programs meet these standards. Further guidance on how a human rights-based approach applies in the context of encampments has been provided by the [Federal Housing Advocate](#) and the [UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing](#). The federal government has recently released [Canada's Housing Plan](#) and announced funds to support human rights-based community action plans that commit to a housing-first approach to ending encampments, and include supportive and transitional housing, housing-focused services, and rent supplements specifically dedicated to individuals living in encampments or experiencing homelessness.

The OHRC understands that Kingston and municipalities across the province want all their residents to have affordable, accessible, and dignified housing. However, requiring encampment residents to remove their shelter and belongings during the day exacerbates their marginalization and makes it more difficult to achieve this essential goal. Thus, the OHRC joins many other concerned citizens and organizations in calling on Kingston to adopt a human rights-based approach which focuses on the needs of the encampment residents and supports them to permanently transition out of homelessness.

The OHRC hopes that this letter is useful as the City of Kingston takes a decision in this complex, difficult societal challenge. The OHRC welcomes the opportunity to discuss and provide more information about the HRBA Framework and how it can be applied to the needs of Kingston's unsheltered homeless population.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia DeGuire', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Patricia DeGuire
Chief Commissioner
Ontario Human Rights Commission

cc: President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario



City of Belleville

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
TELEPHONE 613-968-6481
FAX 613-967-3206

169 FRONT STREET
BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO
K8N 2Y8

May 16, 2024

Todd Smith, MPP
Prince Edward Hastings
5503 Hwy 62 S., Phase 1, Unit #4
Belleville, ON K8N 4Z7

via e-mail: Todd.Smithco@pc.ola.org

Ric Bresee, MPP
Hastings-Lennox&Addington
8 Dundas St. W
Napanea, ON K7R 1Z4

via e-mail: Ric.Bresee@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Smith and Minister Bresee:

**RE: City of Belleville Healthcare Resolution in Support of Family
Doctors
New Business
10. Belleville City Council Meeting, May 13, 2024**

This is to advise you that at the Council Meeting of May 13, 2024, the following resolution was approved.

“WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario is responsible for providing quality health care to all residents of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS, Family medicine is the backbone of the healthcare system and providing timely access to a primary health care provider for everyone in the Province is essential and should be the Provincial Government’s highest priority;

AND WHEREAS, the shortage of family physicians across the province has reached a crisis point where millions of Ontario residents do not have a family doctor and hospitals, emergency rooms and clinics are overloaded by the health care needs of Ontario residents;

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AND WHEREAS, studies have shown that without access to a primary care provider, patients end up with poorer health outcomes and it costs the health care system more;

AND WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario could address this issue quickly and efficiently by increasing wages paid to family physicians and lessening the administrative burden all family doctors face with managing practices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

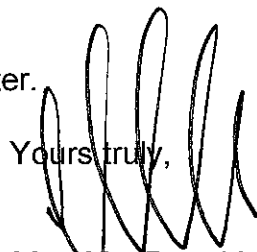
The Province of Ontario take immediate action to ensure family physicians are properly compensated with immediate fee increases and that the administrative burden now being experienced by family doctors be reduced so they have more time to see their patients;

AND FURTHER THAT, the City Clerk forward Council's resolutions resulting from Council's approval of these recommendations to premier Doug Ford, Health Minister Sylvia Jones, MPP Todd Smith, MPP Ric Bresee, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT Council request a direct response from the MPPs within 30 days."

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,



Matt MacDonald
Director of Corporate Services/City Clerk

MMacD/nh
Pc: Premier Doug Ford
Health Minister Sylvia Jones
AMO
Municipal Clerks of Ontario