



# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, May 1, 2026

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Stephanie Bellissimo, Records and Information Management Coordinator, Legislative Services

**DATE:** May 1, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Bill 97 and Changes to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)

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*Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026* (“Bill 97”), received Royal Assent on April 24, 2026. It makes changes to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56 (the “MFIPPA”) and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. F.31 (the “FIPPA”), including new freedom of information deadlines, new procedural tools, and significant new privacy obligations.

The changes outlined below relate to *MFIPPA* and are grouped into changes to the Freedom of Information (“FOI”) process and new privacy obligations. The FOI process changes come into effect on July 1, 2026. The new privacy obligations come into effect on January 1, 2027.

### CHANGES TO FOI PROCESS

#### 1. Adopting Business Day Deadlines

One of the most significant operational changes is the move from calendar days to business days.

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Previous</b>	<b>New</b>
Decision letter	30 days	<b>45 business days</b>
Transfer/Forward requests	15 days	<b>15 business days</b>
Affected Person (AP) Response Deadline	20 days (after AP notice)	<b>20 business days</b> (after AP notice)
Period to Consider AP Reps	10 days (after above)	<b>10 business days</b> (after above)
Appeal period	30 days	<b>30 business days</b>

In practical terms, the basic deadline for many requests, now 45 business days, will be approximately twice as long as under the current system of 30 calendar days.

## **2. Second Time Extensions**

Under the amended legislation, institutions may now issue a second time extension under limited circumstances, including:

- With the consent of the requestor
- Where the number of responsive records is significantly more than initially identified
- Where certain unforeseeable circumstances arise: the unavailability of knowledgeable employees, or additional consultations becoming necessary

### **3. Staged Access Plans**

A new procedural tool allows institutions to divide large or complex requests into stages where responding all at once would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the institution, or where other prescribed circumstances apply. A staged access plan must:

- Divide the request into categories of records
- Identify the areas of the institution to be searched
- Set out a schedule for decisions and disclosures

Requestors must respond to a staged access plan within 30 days, failing which the request may be deemed abandoned.

### **4. Cybersecurity records exclusion**

Bill 97 introduces a new *MFIPPA* exclusion for certain municipal cybersecurity-related records under the *Enhancing Digital Security and Trust Act, 2024*, S.O. 2024, c. 24, Sched. 1 (Bill 194), including cybersecurity contact information, assessments, and records whose disclosure could compromise the City's cybersecurity.

### **5. Other Legislative Changes**

Bill 97 introduced several other reforms, including:

- Codifying the institution's obligation to assist requestors in formulating valid requests
- Removing the concept of Personal Information Banks from the legislation
- Updating the definition of "record" to explicitly include data stored in digital or other electronic forms

## NEW PRIVACY OBLIGATIONS

### 1. Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs)

Before collecting personal information, institutions will be required to prepare a privacy impact assessment (PIA). The PIA must identify potential privacy risks and document how those risks will be mitigated, ensuring that privacy considerations are built into programs, services, and systems at the outset.

### 2. Privacy Breach Reporting

Institutions will also be required to:

- Report certain privacy breaches to the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, and
- Notify affected individuals if there is a real risk of significant harm.

Institutions must also maintain records of all privacy breaches and include this information in their annual report to the Commissioner.

## DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE

Legislative Services will lead the implementation of the *MFIPPA* changes by updating FOI procedures to reflect new business-day timelines, second time extensions, and staged access plans.

In advance of the January 1, 2027, effective date for the new privacy provisions, Legislative Services will develop processes and tools to support privacy impact assessments and enhanced privacy breach reporting and recordkeeping. Staff training and awareness activities will be undertaken to ensure consistent and compliant application of the amended legislation. If you or members of the public have any questions, contact [foi@welland.ca](mailto:foi@welland.ca).

April 17, 2026

**Subject: Niagara Region Waste Strategy: Council Approval**

Dear Municipal Councillors,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Niagara Region Council approved the [Niagara Region Waste Strategy – Beyond Waste: Our vision for what's next](#) (the Strategy), establishing a 25-year framework (2026 to 2051) to guide improvements in waste diversion, system efficiency, environmental performance, and long-term sustainability.

The Strategy outlines 23 action items, emphasizing affordable and practical initiatives, while prioritizing resources where they will have the greatest impact. Initial implementation activities are already underway, and progress on targets will be reported regularly on the Region's website. To ensure the Strategy remains relevant, it will be reviewed every five years through a formal process, or sooner if significant legislative or regulatory changes, new technologies, or program changes impact implementation.

Public consultation was a key driver in the development of the Strategy, and Niagara Region thanks residents and participants, including local area municipal staff and councillors, for contributing their time, insights, and perspectives, helping to shape the Strategy.

We are pleased to share this update with you. For more information about the Strategy, please visit <http://niagararegion.ca/future-of-waste>.

Sincerely,



Catherine Habermebl (she/her)  
Director, Waste Management Services  
Public Works, Niagara Region  
Phone: 905.980.6000, ext. 3204  
Email: [catherine.habermebl@niagararegion.ca](mailto:catherine.habermebl@niagararegion.ca)

*Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Regional Municipality of Niagara stands with all Indigenous peoples, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.*





The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

<b>Resolution # RC26077</b>	<b>Meeting Order: 6</b>
<b>Moved by:</b> 	<b>Seconded by:</b> 

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Wawa acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—including roads, bridges, 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, material, 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 Municipality of Wawa 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 Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa 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.

Page 2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

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 five percent (5%) 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 Municipality of Wawa supports the April 15, 2026 resolution of the Township of Shuniah regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

**FURTHER THAT** this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	<b>MAYOR AND COUNCIL</b>	<b>YES NO</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann	
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato	

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.**

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL



# Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

April 24, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario),  
Honourable Trevor Jones (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness),  
Honourable Todd McCarthy (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks),  
Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing),  
Honourable Victor Fedeli (Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade),  
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills  
Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South),  
Ontario Federation of Agriculture,  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,  
All Municipalities in Ontario

## Re: Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025

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At a meeting held on April 15, 2026 Northumberland County Council approved the following Resolution # 2026-04-15-251 adopting the below recommendation from the April 1, 2026 Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee meeting.

**Moved by** Councillor Olena Hankivksy

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee receive the correspondence from Township of North Dumfries regarding 'Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025', for information; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council support the correspondence."

Council Resolution # 2026-04-15-251

**Carried**

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

Sincerely,



Tonia Bennett  
Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk  
Northumberland County

# Council Resolution

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Moved By O. Hankivsky

Agenda Resolution Number  
Item 10.a 2026-04-15- 251

Seconded By J. Logel

Council Date: April 15, 2026

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the six Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held March 30, 31 and April 1, 2026), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

- Social Services Committee, Item 9.a, 310 Division Street Community Liaison Committee Meeting - Minutes – 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

Carried  \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

Deferred \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

## Economic Development, Tourism, & Land Use Planning Committee Resolution

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**Committee Meeting Date:** April 1, 2026

**Agenda Item:** 7.b

**Resolution Number:** 2026-04-01- 241

**Moved by:** C. C. C.

**Seconded by:** Osbander

**Council Meeting Date:** April 15, 2026

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"**That** the Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee receive the correspondence from Township of North Dumfries regarding 'Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025', for information and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council ~~receive~~ <sup>support</sup> the correspondence ~~for information.~~"

**Carried**   
Committee Chair's Signature

**Defeated** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**Deferred** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature



*The TOWNSHIP of*  
**NORTH DUMFRIES**

106 Earl Thompson Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, flowing style.

Ashley Good, Clerk  
Township of North Dumfries  
519-632-8800 ext. 122  
[agood@northdumfries.ca](mailto: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](http://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*

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



# Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

April 24, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario),  
Honourable Todd McCarthy (Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks),  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),  
Circular Materials Ontario,  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Correspondence, Regional Municipality of York  
'Circular Materials Ontario'**

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At a meeting held on April 15, 2026 Northumberland County Council approved the following Resolution # 2026-04-15-251 adopting the below recommendation from the March 30, 2026 Public Works Committee meeting.

**Moved by** Councillor Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Public Works Committee receive the correspondence from the Regional Municipality of York regarding 'Circular Materials Ontario', for information; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council:

- Support the correspondence and call upon the Province of Ontario to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) and its contractors provide fair, consistent and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario; and
- Request the province to establish, enforce and publicly report on consistent province wide standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times and contractor performance; and

- Direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable, Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honourable Todd J., McCarthy (Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Circular Materials Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2026-04-15-251

**Carried**

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

Sincerely,



Tonia Bennett  
Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk  
Northumberland County

# Council Resolution

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Moved By O. Hankivsky

Agenda Resolution Number  
Item 10.a 2026-04-15- 251

Seconded By J. Logel

Council Date: April 15, 2026

**"That** Council adopt all recommendations from the six Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held March 30, 31 and April 1, 2026), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

- Social Services Committee, Item 9.a, 310 Division Street Community Liaison Committee Meeting - Minutes – 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

Carried  \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

Deferred \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_  
Warden's Signature

## Public Works Committee Resolution

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**Committee Meeting Date:** March 30, 2026

**Agenda Item:** 7.a

**Resolution Number:** 2026-03-30- 224

**Moved by:** J. Logel

**Seconded by:** B. Crato

**Council Meeting Date:** April 15, 2026

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"That the Public Works Committee receive the correspondence from the Regional Municipality of York regarding 'Circular Materials Ontario', for information; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council:

- Support the correspondence and call upon the Province of Ontario to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario (CMO) and its contractors provide fair, consistent and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario; and
- Request the province to establish, enforce and publicly report on consistent province wide standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times and contractor performance; and
- Direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable, Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honourable Todd J., McCarthy (Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Circular Materials Ontario and all Ontario Municipalities."

**Carried** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**Defeated** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**Deferred** \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

**From:** [Regional.Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Regional Council Decision - Circular Materials Ontario  
**Date:** March 6, 2026 8:12:57 AM

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You don't often get email from regional.clerk@york.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION:** External E-Mail

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

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The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1  
O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300 | [christopher.raynor@york.ca](mailto:christopher.raynor@york.ca) | [york.ca](http://york.ca)

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



United Counties of  
**Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry**

**RESOLUTION**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Guindon

**RESOLUTION NO** 2026-69

**SECONDED BY** Councillor St. Pierre

**DATE** April 20, 2026

WHEREAS housing affordability remains a critical issue in Ontario and across Canada, with the national average home sale price at approximately \$675,000, making homeownership increasingly difficult for first-time buyers; and

WHEREAS under the current Ontario *Land Transfer Tax* regime, first-time home buyers may receive a rebate of up to \$4,000 toward provincial land transfer tax, which fully offsets the tax only on homes valued up to approximately \$368,000, a level substantially below the current average home price; and

WHEREAS at a home purchase price of \$675,000, the provincial land transfer tax before any rebate can exceed \$8,000, meaning that even with the current maximum \$4,000 rebate first-time buyers must pay a significant tax burden at closing that undermines housing affordability; and

WHEREAS the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry acknowledges and applauds recent efforts by the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada to improve housing affordability, including measures to reduce or rebate GST/HST on new housing construction and purchases; and

WHEREAS the majority of first-time homebuyers in Ontario purchase resale homes rather than newly constructed units; and

WHEREAS the vast majority of residential real estate transactions in Ontario, including both resale and new homes, are subject to provincial Land Transfer Tax, meaning that enhancements to the Land Transfer Tax rebate would provide broader and more immediate financial relief to first-time homebuyers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry formally requests that the Province of Ontario consider amending the *Land Transfer Tax Act* to:

1. Increase the value threshold at which the first-time home buyer rebate fully offsets provincial Land Transfer Tax to a level that reflects current housing market realities (for example, to no less than \$675,000, aligning with the 2025 national average home price); and

2. Increase the maximum rebate amount available to first time home buyers accordingly (such as to a minimum of \$8,000, or a proportional figure tied to the new threshold) to meaningfully reduce upfront tax costs for first-time purchasers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT such amendments be designed to enhance housing affordability and access to homeownership for first-time buyers in urban, suburban, and rural communities alike; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for consideration and advocacy.

CARRIED                     
  DEFEATED                     
  DEFERRED




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WARDEN

Recorded Vote:	
Councillor Bergeron	_____
Councillor Broad	_____
Councillor Densham	_____
Councillor Fraser	_____
Councillor Guindon	_____
Councillor Lang	_____
Councillor MacDonald	_____
Councillor McDonald	_____
Councillor McGillis	_____
Councillor St. Pierre	_____
Councillor Williams	_____
Warden Landry	_____



Office of the City Clerk, City Hall  
500 George Street North  
Peterborough, Ontario  
K9H 3R9

April 24, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada;  
Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Jobs and Families and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario;  
MP Emma Harrison;  
Paul Thompson, Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development;  
Rob Wright, Deputy Minister of Labour and Associate Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development;  
Cliff Groen, Associate Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development;  
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario;  
Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;  
MPP Dave Smith;  
Daniele Zanotti, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services;  
Cordelia Clarke Julien, Assistant Deputy Minister Social Assistance Program Branch;  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM);  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Subject: Guaranteed Basic Income Resolution**

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on March 30, 2026, is forwarded for your consideration.

**WHEREAS:**

- 1. Poverty and income insecurity continue to negatively impact the health and well-being of residents in Peterborough and across Ontario;**
- 2. Municipal governments bear significant costs from the downstream effects of poverty, including increased demand for social services, emergency shelters, and community programs;**
- 3. Evidence from the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (2017–2019) and comparable programs demonstrated meaningful improvements in health, housing stability, and food security among participants;**



City of  
Peterborough

4. A Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) requires collaboration between the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to design, fund, and implement effectively; and
5. Municipalities, as the order of government closest to residents, are well-positioned to advocate for income security policies that reflect local needs.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Council urges the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada to collaborate on the design, funding, and implementation of a Guaranteed Basic Income for all Canadian residents;
2. Council calls upon the Province of Ontario to reinstate a basic income pilot with a view to province-wide implementation; and
3. The Clerk be directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Prime Minister of Canada, our local MPP and MP, relevant federal and provincial Ministers, AMO and FCM, and to share it with all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kennedy".

John Kennedy  
City Clerk

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles  
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

**Agenda Number:** 4.4.1.  
**Resolution Number** 2026-074  
**Title:** Correspondence - Otonabee-South Monaghan - Resolution Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (BillC-15 Budget)  
**Date:** April 15, 2026

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**Moved by:** Councillor Laframboise  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Lachance

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution Number R67-2026 passed on March 16, 2026 by the Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan regarding the Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget); AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada; all Member of Parliament; all Provincial Cabinet Ministers; our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and all Ontario Municipalities.**

**CARRIED**

  
MAYOR



# *The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan*

March 23, 2026

Via Email: [mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca](mailto: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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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

Email: [deputy-clerk@osmtownship.ca](mailto:deputy-clerk@osmtownship.ca) Telephone: 705.295.6852 Facsimile 705.295.6405  
P.O. Box 70 20 Third St Keene, ON K0L 2G0  
Visit our website at [www.osmtownship.ca](http://www.osmtownship.ca) or follow us on Twitter @OSMTownship



# Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0  
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097  
[rideaulakes.ca](http://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](mailto: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

April 28, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Via Email

**Re: Protecting Students – School Bus Stop-Arm Camera**

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday April 20, 2026, adopted Resolution No. 2026-0070 regarding Protecting Students – School Bus Stop-Arm Camera.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2026-0070.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP, Dipl.M.A.  
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation  
Joseph Racinsky, MPP Wellington – Halton Hills  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Halton District School Board  
Halton Catholic District School Board  
Conseil scolaire Viamonde  
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir  
All Ontario municipalites



THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2026-0070  
Title: Protecting Students – School Bus Stop-Arm Camera  
Date: April 20, 2026  
Moved by: Councillor J. Brass  
Seconded by: Councillor M. Kindbom

Item No. 12.1

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**WHEREAS** the safety of children travelling to and from school is a fundamental priority for the Town of Halton Hills;

**AND WHEREAS** illegal passing of stopped school buses continues to occur in Ontario, placing children at serious and preventable risk;

**AND WHEREAS** stop-arm camera systems improve driver compliance, support enforcement, and enhance accountability through reliable video evidence;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town of Halton Hills has consistently advocated for stronger school bus safety measures, including Council support in 2017 for a pilot initiative with Halton Regional Police to collect data on stop-arm violations, a March 25, 2019 resolution supporting the continued placement of school bus cameras, and a July 10, 2023 resolution, calling for provincial action to require stop-arm cameras on school buses and fund their implementation;

**AND WHEREAS** despite this longstanding advocacy, illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a persistent safety concern, demonstrating the need for stronger and more consistent province-wide action;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities and school boards require modern enforcement tools, clear provincial rules, and equitable access to safety technology in order to protect students in communities of all sizes;

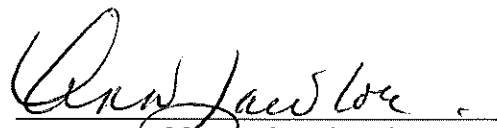
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Halton Hills reaffirms its longstanding support for enhanced school bus safety measures, including stop-arm camera systems;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council reiterates and strengthens its previous requests to the Province of Ontario to take decisive action on this matter;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Province of Ontario be requested to:

- a. mandate the installation of stop-arm camera systems on all school buses operating in Ontario;
- b. provide full or substantial funding support, together with a standardized provincial implementation framework, to enable municipalities and school boards to deploy this technology effectively and consistently; and
- c. fully implement and standardize enforcement mechanisms, including the administrative monetary penalty framework and related regulations, to support compliance and effective enforcement across Ontario;

**AND FURTHER THAT** staff be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, MPP Joseph Racinsky, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local school boards, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Ann Lawlor

April 28, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Via Email

**Re: Request for review of Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework**

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday April 20, 2026, adopted Resolution No. 2026-0071 regarding Request for review of Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2026-0071.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP, Dipl.M.A.  
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Region of Halton MPPs  
Region of Halton  
City of Burlington  
Town of Milton  
Town of Oakville  
All Ontario municipalities



THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2026-0071

Title: Request for review of Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework

Date: April 20, 2026

Moved by: Councillor J. Brass

Seconded by: Councillor C. Somerville

Item No. 12.2

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**WHEREAS** municipalities, including the Town of Halton Hills, play a critical role in delivering essential services and infrastructure that support growing and evolving communities;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities are increasingly contributing to areas that intersect with provincial responsibilities, such as housing, social services, and certain capital obligations, placing additional pressure on property tax-based revenue systems;

**AND WHEREAS** municipal revenue tools, particularly property taxes, are limited in their ability to keep pace with growth, inflation, and the expanding expectations placed on local governments;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town of Halton Hills continues to invest in critical infrastructure, including roads, water, stormwater, emergency services, and recreation, to support both existing residents and future growth;

**AND WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities have identified opportunities to better align municipal funding tools with the realities of modern service delivery and growth pressures;

**AND WHEREAS** ensuring long-term financial sustainability for municipalities is essential to maintaining service levels, supporting housing targets, and protecting affordability for residents;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Town of Halton Hills respectfully requests that the Province of Ontario, in collaboration with AMO, FCM and other municipal partners, undertake a comprehensive review of the provincial–municipal fiscal framework, with a view to strengthening long-term sustainability and alignment of responsibilities;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this review considers opportunities to:

- better align funding responsibilities with service delivery expectations;
- explore sustainable, growth-related revenue tools that reflect the demands placed on municipalities; and
- support a funding framework that enables municipalities to accommodate growth while protecting affordability for residents;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Province be encouraged to continue working collaboratively with municipalities to ensure that funding frameworks become responsive to community needs and evolving growth pressures;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Minister of Finance; The Honourable Minister of Infrastructure; AMO; FCM; The Region of Halton MPP's and MP's; Halton area Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Ann Lawlor



MUNICIPALITY OF SHUNIAH

# COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Date: Apr 28, 2026

Resolution No.: 186-26

Moved By: [Signature]

Seconded By: [Signature]

THAT Council of the Municipality of Shuniah receives and supports the February 5, 2026 correspondence from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) re: Requesting Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns;

AND THAT this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Infrastructure, MPP Lise Vaugeouis, MPP Kevin Holland, AORS, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), The Thunder Bay District Municipal League (TBDML), and All Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried

Defeated

Amended

Deferred

[Signature]  
Signature

Municipality of Shuniah, 420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7A 1X8



Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise an urgent health and safety concern that is increasingly placing municipal workers and subcontractors at risk while they maintain the critical infrastructure our communities rely on every day.

While the Occupational Health and Safety Act establishes important protections against workplace hazards, it does not adequately address a growing and very real threat: unsafe working conditions created by interference, harassment, and dangerous actions from members of the public.

Through consultations with AORS members across the province, we are hearing consistent and deeply troubling examples of escalating behaviour directed at municipal workers - particularly winter maintenance operators. These are not isolated incidents, but a pattern that is becoming increasingly normalized during significant weather events. Examples reported to AORS include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snow plow and refusing to get off until the operator agreed to plow his road next.
- Two municipal staff members being confronted, accosted, and aggressively yelled at in public - one at a gas station and another while simply standing in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions that were not even under that municipality's jurisdiction, as well as a mailbox that had been struck.
- A voicemail left by a resident threatening to shoot a municipal plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident angry about snow at the end of their driveway jumping in front of an active plow and refusing to move. The plow was delayed for over an hour during a major snow event, placing service levels and the municipality's overall emergency response at risk. The situation was only resolved once supervisors and by-law officers arrived on scene.

These incidents represent only a small sample of what municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are experiencing across Ontario. What was once limited to disgruntled complaints has escalated into direct threats, physical interference, and dangerous confrontations that place workers, subcontractors, and the public at risk. This issue is becoming a systematic threat to municipal service delivery and is only amplified during significant weather events.

Municipal workers and their contracted partners are responsible for maintaining roads, bridges, sidewalks, and other essential services - often in extreme weather and high-risk environments. When these workers are threatened or obstructed, it becomes not only a workplace safety issue, but a broader public safety concern. In some cases, conditions have become so unsafe that

municipal staff and subcontractors have walked off job sites, jeopardizing timely service delivery during critical events.

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

- Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, when a municipality declares a Significant Weather Event, municipal winter maintenance vehicles and operators - including subcontractors working on behalf of municipalities - should be afforded enhanced protection, with interference or obstruction treated with the same severity as interference with police, fire, or paramedic services.
- Establish clear public-safety interference provisions, similar in intent to Ontario's Slow Down, Move Over legislation, that recognize the essential role of municipal roadside workers.
- Consider adopting provisions similar to Manitoba's recently passed Bill 38, an amendment to their Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2026, which requires motorists to maintain a minimum distance of 30 metres behind snowplows where speed limits are 80 km/h or lower, and 100 metres where speed limits exceed 80 km/h.

These changes would provide clarity, deterrence, and enforceability—sending a strong message that interference with municipal workers performing essential services will not be tolerated. Just as Ontario protects first responders from obstruction during emergencies, we must extend similar protections to the public works professionals who keep our communities safe, connected, and functioning.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns further and to collaborate on legislative solutions that better protect municipal workers and subcontractors while strengthening public safety across the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

Walid Abou-Hamde, Ontario Road Builders' Association Chief Executive Officer



Solicitor General of Ontario Michael Kerzner  
George Drew Building, 25 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise serious concerns regarding the safety of municipal workers and subcontractors who are increasingly facing harassment, threats, and dangerous interference from members of the public while delivering essential municipal services - particularly during winter maintenance and emergency operations.

Across Ontario, municipal public works teams are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure that residents depend on every day, including roads, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage systems. During significant weather events, these workers are frontline responders, ensuring emergency vehicles can travel safely and that communities remain connected and accessible. However, the behaviour directed at them has escalated well beyond routine complaints and has become a direct threat to both worker safety and public safety.

Through consultations with AORS members province-wide, we continue to receive troubling reports that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. These include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snowplow and refusing to get off until the driver agreed to plow his road next.
- Two staff members confronted and aggressively accosted in public - one at a gas station and another while simply waiting in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions and a mailbox strike that were not even related to that municipality.
- A voicemail threatening to shoot a plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident jumping in front of an active plow during a major snow event and refusing to move, delaying operations for over an hour and jeopardizing service levels and overall emergency response.

These examples represent only a small sample of the experiences municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are facing across the province. What was once occasional frustration has escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, and direct interference with equipment and operations.

Equally concerning is that municipalities do not always receive consistent enforcement support when these incidents occur. We have heard directly from members who contacted the Ontario Provincial Police for assistance and were advised that, unless a physical assault had already taken place, the situation was "not a police matter." Waiting until a worker has been physically harmed before intervention is neither preventative nor acceptable.

This gap leaves municipalities and workers vulnerable and sends an unintended message that threatening or obstructive behaviour toward municipal staff carries little consequence. It also places supervisors and by-law officers in situations that may exceed their authority or capacity to manage safely.

We believe a proactive and coordinated response is needed. Municipal workers and their subcontractors should not have to choose between their personal safety and providing critical services during storms and emergencies.

We respectfully ask that the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police take a clear and strong stance that interference, threats, and harassment directed at municipal public works staff will not be tolerated. Specifically, we would welcome:

- Clear direction and guidance to police services, including the OPP, that threats, intimidation, and obstruction of municipal workers performing essential duties warrant timely enforcement and support.
- Recognition that interference with winter maintenance and emergency public works operations presents a broader public safety risk, not merely a municipal operational issue.
- Enhanced coordination between municipalities and local police services during significant weather events and emergency responses to ensure worker safety and continuity of service.
- Consideration of legislative or policy tools that provide stronger deterrence and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal staff and contractors.

Municipal public works professionals are essential workers. They keep roads open for ambulances, fire trucks, school buses, and the travelling public. Their safety should be treated with the same seriousness as that of other frontline responders.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns and explore practical steps to ensure consistent enforcement support and stronger protections for municipal workers across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued leadership in public safety.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)  
Premier Doug Ford



Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. David Piccini  
Ministry of Labour,  
Immigration, Training and Skills  
Development  
Via Email:  
[david.piccini@pc.ola.org](mailto:david.piccini@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0  
[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor  
General of Ontario  
Via Email:  
[michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org](mailto:michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org)

Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of  
Emergency Preparedness and  
Response  
Via Email:  
[jill.dunlop@pc.ola.org](mailto:jill.dunlop@pc.ola.org)

RE: Township of Puslinch Support Resolution No.2026-113 Regarding Consent item 6.12  
Township of Oro-Medonte support Association of Ontario Road Supervisors Health and Safety  
Request

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2026-113:**

Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the Consent Agenda items listed for April 15, 2026 Council meeting be received for  
information with the exception of 6.12; and**

**Whereas the Township is experiencing similar issues 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, Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation, Hon. Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure, Doug Downey, MPP Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS), Members of Oro-Medonte Council



**The Corporation of the  
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: April 29, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 168

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

**WHEREAS** municipal workers and contractors play a critical role in maintaining essential infrastructure and ensuring public safety, particularly during significant weather events;

**AND WHEREAS** there has been a documented increase in incidents involving harassment, threats, and dangerous interference with municipal workers across Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) has formally requested provincial legislative amendments to strengthen protections for these workers;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of Oro-Medonte has passed a resolution supporting these requests, which has been endorsed by other municipalities including the Township of East Zorra-Tavistock;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby supports the AORS request for provincial legislation amendments to enhance protections for municipal workers and contractors;

**AND THAT** the Province of Ontario be urged to:

- Implement stronger legislative measures addressing interference with municipal workers;
- Enhance protections during declared Significant Weather Events;
- Improve enforcement and coordination with police services;



**From:** Ministerial Correspondence Unit - Mailout <[Ministerial.CorrespondenceUnit-Mailout@justice.gc.ca](mailto:Ministerial.CorrespondenceUnit-Mailout@justice.gc.ca)>

**Sent:** April 27, 2026 1:08 PM

**To:** Kate Lavell <[kate.lavell@welland.ca](mailto:kate.lavell@welland.ca)>

**Subject:** Correspondence from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

**Welland Security Warning:** This is an external email. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you are sure they are safe!

Dear Ms. Stephens:

Thank you for your correspondence, sent on behalf of the Welland City Council, concerning the creation of a publicly accessible sex offender registry. Please excuse the delay in responding.

At the outset, I appreciate the time you have taken to share the Council's concerns about community safety and the desire to have access to information to help protect families.

As you know, Canada currently operates sex offender registries that are designed primarily as investigative tools for police. The National Sex Offender Registry and Ontario's Sex Offender Registry both require certain offenders to register with police so that law enforcement authorities can more effectively investigate and prevent sexual offences. While they are not publicly accessible, these registries provide police with timely access to location and identifying information about registered offenders.

I note your concerns regarding broader public access to registries to enhance transparency and empower communities to remain vigilant. This is an issue that has been considered carefully by governments and courts. In Canada, registries have historically been structured as law enforcement tools rather than public notification systems to balance several factors, including investigative effectiveness, privacy rights, and rehabilitation objectives.

Recognizing the strong public interest in protecting children from the most dangerous offenders, the Parliament of Canada enacted the *High Risk Child Sex Offender Database Act*, which came into force on December 31, 2024. The Act established a [new publicly accessible federal database](#) that allows Canadians to view information about individuals designated by police as high-risk child sex offenders who pose an ongoing

risk to the public. The database is intended to provide communities with access to information about the most serious cases while maintaining the overall structure of the existing police-based registries that support investigations and supervision.

It may also interest you to know that on December 9, 2025, I introduced in the House of Commons Bill C-16, the *Protecting Victims Act*, which is one of the most consequential reforms of the *Criminal Code* in a generation to protect victims and survivors, and to keep children safe from predators.

The Bill would make the following changes to better protect children:

- Strengthening mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs) for predators who possess or access child sexual abuse and exploitation material, including restoring at least a dozen MMPs for a range of child sexual offences that were previously struck down by courts. These changes would ensure that those who prey on children face prison time for the most heinous crimes imaginable.
- Cracking down on online sextortion by creating new offences that prohibit threatening to distribute child sexual abuse and exploitation material and distributing bestiality depictions, which are known to be used to manipulate children for sexual purposes, and by strengthening Canada's ability to prosecute predators who sexually exploit children abroad.
- Changing the limitation period for the prosecution of offences under the *Mandatory Reporting Act* from 2 to 5 years to give law enforcement and prosecutors the tools they need to stop these crimes and bring perpetrators to justice. Online platforms would also be required to preserve data longer, from 21 days to one year.
- Expanding existing child sexual offences prohibiting invitation to sexual touching and sexual exploitation to protect children from individuals who may invite or incite them to expose their sexual organs for a sexual purpose.
- Improving victims and survivors' access to information about their case and making testimonial aids more accessible. These changes would help victims feel safer in court, reduce trauma, and ensure they are treated with dignity throughout a process they should never have to endure.

This proposed legislation is the latest in a series of reforms to strengthen community safety and Canada's justice system. For more information about Bill C-16, you may wish to visit the [Department of Justice Canada website](#).

Thank you once again for taking the time to share the views expressed by the Welland City Council. Please be assured that protecting communities and supporting victims remain core priorities for the Government of Canada.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C., M.P.

Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

April 30, 2026

**RE: Oxford County Resolution re: Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS)  
Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety**

At its meeting held April 8, 2026, Oxford County Council passed the following Resolution:

Moved By: Phil Schaefer  
Seconded By: Mark Peterson

Resolved that Correspondence Item 7.1 on the Open meeting Agenda of April 8, 2026 be received;

And further, be it resolved that Oxford County Council supports the resolution from Township of Oro-Medonte regarding the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors request for Provincial Legislation Amendments to strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors.

And that a copy of this Resolution be sent to:

1. The Premier of Ontario
2. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
3. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response
4. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
5. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation
6. MPP Ernie Hardeman
7. Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
8. Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS)
9. Ontario municipalities

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Enclosed herein you will find a copy of Correspondence Item 7.1 (Township of Oro-Medonte) from the April 8, 2026 Agenda for ease of reference.

Thank you,



Lindsey A. Mansbridge  
County Clerk

March 13, 2026

Hon. David Piccini  
Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 University Ave  
Toronto ON M7A 1T7

**Re: Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns**

Dear Minister Piccini,

At its meeting of Council on March 11, 2026, the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte received correspondence from Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) regarding the above-mentioned request for support.

The Township of Oro-Medonte fully supports AORS in their request, as our staff have, on numerous occasions, been subjected to abusive and aggressive behaviour from members of the public. We respectfully request your support in advancing measures that will strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors. With provincial partnership, municipalities can better safeguard the individuals who work tirelessly to maintain critical services and keep our communities functioning safely.

Sincerely,



Mayor Randy Greenlaw

Cc: Premier Doug Ford  
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario  
Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation  
Hon. Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure  
Doug Downey, MPP Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS)  
Ontario Municipalities  
Members of Oro-Medonte Council



Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise an urgent health and safety concern that is increasingly placing municipal workers and subcontractors at risk while they maintain the critical infrastructure our communities rely on every day.

While the Occupational Health and Safety Act establishes important protections against workplace hazards, it does not adequately address a growing and very real threat: unsafe working conditions created by interference, harassment, and dangerous actions from members of the public.

Through consultations with AORS members across the province, we are hearing consistent and deeply troubling examples of escalating behaviour directed at municipal workers - particularly winter maintenance operators. These are not isolated incidents, but a pattern that is becoming increasingly normalized during significant weather events. Examples reported to AORS include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snow plow and refusing to get off until the operator agreed to plow his road next.
- Two municipal staff members being confronted, accosted, and aggressively yelled at in public - one at a gas station and another while simply standing in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions that were not even under that municipality's jurisdiction, as well as a mailbox that had been struck.
- A voicemail left by a resident threatening to shoot a municipal plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident angry about snow at the end of their driveway jumping in front of an active plow and refusing to move. The plow was delayed for over an hour during a major snow event, placing service levels and the municipality's overall emergency response at risk. The situation was only resolved once supervisors and by-law officers arrived on scene.

These incidents represent only a small sample of what municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are experiencing across Ontario. What was once limited to disgruntled complaints has escalated into direct threats, physical interference, and dangerous confrontations that place workers, subcontractors, and the public at risk. This issue is becoming a systematic threat to municipal service delivery and is only amplified during significant weather events.

Municipal workers and their contracted partners are responsible for maintaining roads, bridges, sidewalks, and other essential services - often in extreme weather and high-risk environments. When these workers are threatened or obstructed, it becomes not only a workplace safety issue, but a broader public safety concern. In some cases, conditions have become so unsafe that

municipal staff and subcontractors have walked off job sites, jeopardizing timely service delivery during critical events.

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

- Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, when a municipality declares a Significant Weather Event, municipal winter maintenance vehicles and operators - including subcontractors working on behalf of municipalities - should be afforded enhanced protection, with interference or obstruction treated with the same severity as interference with police, fire, or paramedic services.
- Establish clear public-safety interference provisions, similar in intent to Ontario's Slow Down, Move Over legislation, that recognize the essential role of municipal roadside workers.
- Consider adopting provisions similar to Manitoba's recently passed Bill 38, an amendment to their Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2026, which requires motorists to maintain a minimum distance of 30 metres behind snowplows where speed limits are 80 km/h or lower, and 100 metres where speed limits exceed 80 km/h.

These changes would provide clarity, deterrence, and enforceability—sending a strong message that interference with municipal workers performing essential services will not be tolerated. Just as Ontario protects first responders from obstruction during emergencies, we must extend similar protections to the public works professionals who keep our communities safe, connected, and functioning.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns further and to collaborate on legislative solutions that better protect municipal workers and subcontractors while strengthening public safety across the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

Walid Abou-Hamde, Ontario Road Builders' Association Chief Executive Officer



Solicitor General of Ontario Michael Kerzner  
George Drew Building, 25 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise serious concerns regarding the safety of municipal workers and subcontractors who are increasingly facing harassment, threats, and dangerous interference from members of the public while delivering essential municipal services - particularly during winter maintenance and emergency operations.

Across Ontario, municipal public works teams are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure that residents depend on every day, including roads, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage systems. During significant weather events, these workers are frontline responders, ensuring emergency vehicles can travel safely and that communities remain connected and accessible. However, the behaviour directed at them has escalated well beyond routine complaints and has become a direct threat to both worker safety and public safety.

Through consultations with AORS members province-wide, we continue to receive troubling reports that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. These include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snowplow and refusing to get off until the driver agreed to plow his road next.
- Two staff members confronted and aggressively accosted in public - one at a gas station and another while simply waiting in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions and a mailbox strike that were not even related to that municipality.
- A voicemail threatening to shoot a plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident jumping in front of an active plow during a major snow event and refusing to move, delaying operations for over an hour and jeopardizing service levels and overall emergency response.

These examples represent only a small sample of the experiences municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are facing across the province. What was once occasional frustration has escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, and direct interference with equipment and operations.

Equally concerning is that municipalities do not always receive consistent enforcement support when these incidents occur. We have heard directly from members who contacted the Ontario Provincial Police for assistance and were advised that, unless a physical assault had already taken place, the situation was "not a police matter." Waiting until a worker has been physically harmed before intervention is neither preventative nor acceptable.

This gap leaves municipalities and workers vulnerable and sends an unintended message that threatening or obstructive behaviour toward municipal staff carries little consequence. It also places supervisors and by-law officers in situations that may exceed their authority or capacity to manage safely.

We believe a proactive and coordinated response is needed. Municipal workers and their subcontractors should not have to choose between their personal safety and providing critical services during storms and emergencies.

We respectfully ask that the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police take a clear and strong stance that interference, threats, and harassment directed at municipal public works staff will not be tolerated. Specifically, we would welcome:

- Clear direction and guidance to police services, including the OPP, that threats, intimidation, and obstruction of municipal workers performing essential duties warrant timely enforcement and support.
- Recognition that interference with winter maintenance and emergency public works operations presents a broader public safety risk, not merely a municipal operational issue.
- Enhanced coordination between municipalities and local police services during significant weather events and emergency responses to ensure worker safety and continuity of service.
- Consideration of legislative or policy tools that provide stronger deterrence and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal staff and contractors.

Municipal public works professionals are essential workers. They keep roads open for ambulances, fire trucks, school buses, and the travelling public. Their safety should be treated with the same seriousness as that of other frontline responders.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns and explore practical steps to ensure consistent enforcement support and stronger protections for municipal workers across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued leadership in public safety.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)  
Premier Doug Ford