



# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, March 22, 2024

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Tara Stephens, City Clerk

**DATE:** March 22, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Private Mailboxes for Councillors

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This memo fulfills the motion passed by Welland City Council on January 9, 2024, which is as follows:

“THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND requests staff investigate installing private mailboxes at the Civic Square for members of council to access their mailboxes after business hours.”

Staff have investigated the installation of a locker unit with dedicated compartments for each councillor. Staff have determined an appropriate model, which will be located near the security desk, ensuring accessibility during after-hours periods. Each compartment will be equipped with a combination lock unique to each councillor, providing security and confidentiality for their correspondence.

The selected locker unit will have compartments large enough to accommodate small packages and legal-sized documents. This ensures that councillors can receive a wide range of mail items securely. The estimated cost for implementing the private mailbox system, including shipping, is \$1,800. This cost covers the procurement of the locker unit, installation, and customization of combination locks for each compartment.

The locker unit will be strategically placed near the security desk for added convenience and security. Access to the unit will be available during specified hours by entering the building through the library doors.

- Monday to Thursdays: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Fridays: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Saturday and Sundays: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For access to the mailboxes outside of the hours listed above, councillors may contact Security for assistance.

This central location will enable councillors to access their designated compartments effortlessly during after-hours periods. By placing the locker unit in close proximity to the security desk, councillors can conveniently retrieve their mail items without any inconvenience or delay. This arrangement aims to streamline the process of accessing mail, allowing councillors to efficiently manage their correspondence while accommodating their busy schedules. The mailboxes are scheduled to be installed and operational by the end of April 2024.

Members of council have the option to have their councillor packages delivered by By-law Enforcement Officers or pick them up at their convenience. If any council member wishes to discontinue receiving their package deliveries, they may reach out to the City Clerk.



Hon. David Piccini  
Minister of Labour,  
Immigration, Training and  
Skills Development  
117 Peter St.  
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5  
VIA EMAIL:  
[David.Piccini@pc.ola.org](mailto:David.Piccini@pc.ola.org)

Hon. Vic Fedeli  
219 Main St. E  
North Bay, ON P1B 1B2  
VIA EMAIL:  
[Vic.Fedeli@pc.ola.org](mailto:Vic.Fedeli@pc.ola.org)

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

March 14, 2024

Association of Ontario Road  
Supervisors (AORS)  
VIA EMAIL:  
Email: [admin@aors.on.ca](mailto:admin@aors.on.ca)

Association of Municipalities  
of Ontario (AMO)  
VIA EMAIL:  
[amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

RE: 6.6 Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-066:**

Moved by Councillor Bailey and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.1.6 and 6.6 listed for FEBRUARY 28, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas the Township recognizes that public works departments are responsible for a number of skilled tasks such as proper forestry techniques, welding and metal fabrication, heavy equipment mechanics, and general carpentry skills;

That The Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution by the Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training and in addition, it would be ideal to consider all aspects of a public works department when advocating for government funded training opportunities.



**CARRIED**

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

February 13, 2024

The Honourable David Piccini  
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
[Minister.MLITSD@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.MLITSD@ontario.ca)

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

**RE: Municipal Equipment Operator Course**

Dear Minister Piccini,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2024, the council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

**AND WHEREAS**, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

**AND WHEREAS**, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

**AND WHEREAS**, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

**THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Municipality of Powassan supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

**AND THAT**, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator

Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

**AND THAT**, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli, and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

If you have any questions regarding Resolution 2024-43, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allison Quinn  
Clerk  
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
AMO  
All Municipalities in Ontario



VIA EMAIL:  
All Ontario municipalities

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

March 14, 2024

RE: 9.3.1 Report ADM-2024-010 Enbridge Gas Follow-Up

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-072:** Moved by Councillor Goyda and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That Council receives report ADM-2024-010 regarding the follow-up to the Enbridge Gas Presentation on February 7, 2024; and

Whereas access to natural gas is important to residents and businesses in our community for affordability and reliability; and

Whereas the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas 2024 rebasing application, issued on 21 December 2023, has concerning implications including putting into question the future access to natural gas that support of economic development, affordable housing growth, and energy reliability in communities such as the Township of Puslinch; and

Whereas Ontario is growing and access to affordable energy to support this growth for homes and businesses is crucial, and is a measured approach to energy transition as not having access to natural gas will stifle economic growth and put housing and energy affordability at risk; and

Whereas delivery rates for electricity in rural areas are significantly more costly than delivery rates in urban centres creating an inequity for those living in rural areas; and





Whereas Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024, if passed, would reverse a December 2023 decision by the OEB that requires consumers to pay the cost of connecting a new home to natural gas infrastructure up front instead of over a period of 40 years; and

Whereas Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024, if passed, would increase the OEB's Leave to Consult threshold from \$2 million to \$10 million, requiring that fewer energy projects would need OEB orders to construct a new pipeline resulting in project streamlining and focusing OEB approvals on larger, more complex projects;

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That the Township of Puslinch supports Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024; and
2. That the Township of Puslinch supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition; and
3. That the Township of Puslinch recognizes that there may not be enough electricity available to replace the energy provided by natural gas and meet the increased demand from electrification; and
4. That Natural gas must continue to play an integral role in meeting the energy needs of Ontario; and
5. That the Township of Puslinch supports the need for equitable electricity delivery rates in rural areas and natural gas offers an affordable option for these rural areas at this time; and
6. That the Township of Puslinch supports the work the Government of Ontario has done to date, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's call for a clear policy on the role of natural gas to secure access to affordable energy; and
7. That this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy, Hon. MPP Arnott, Hon. MPP Rae, all Ontario municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in



Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and submitted to [municipalaffairs@enbridge.com](mailto:municipalaffairs@enbridge.com); and further

That Council direct staff to consult with Enbridge Gas on the next steps associated with commencing the Community Natural Gas Expansion Program in Puslinch subject to the passing of Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024.

**CARRIED**

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

CC:  
Premier of Ontario, Hon. Doug Ford,  
Minister of Energy, Hon. Todd Smith  
Hon. MPP Arnott,  
Hon. MPP Rae,  
All Ontario municipalities

March 14, 2024

**Re: Item for Discussion – Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework**

At its meeting of March 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-053, regarding Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework, as follows:

“WHEREAS the current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge calls on the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

1000 Taylor Court  
Bracebridge, ON  
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264  
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262  
public works fax: (705) 645-7525  
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); the Muskoka and Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

## Economic Development Brief

March 15, 2024

### Statistics and Trends

#### Labour force conditions

Labour force conditions (unadjusted) in Niagara and Ontario continued to weaken in February 2024; however, most of the changes were attributable to seasonal factors.

Month-over-month data from January to February 2024 show the following:

- Population: Niagara increased by 0.3% (1,100 people), while Ontario increased by the same rate.
- Labour force: Niagara decreased by 1.8% (4,200), while Ontario remained the same.
- Employment: Niagara decreased by 2.5% (5,400), while Ontario decreased by 0.4%.
- Unemployment rate: Niagara increased by 0.7% to 8.0%, while Ontario increased by 0.3% to 6.1%.
- Participation rate: Niagara decreased by 1.3% to 59.6%, while Ontario decreased by 0.3% to 64.2%.

The labour force characteristics indicate a consistent slowing of Niagara's economy with Niagara being impacted disproportionately more than Ontario.

### Economic Development Updates

#### Province rewards Welland with \$1.72 million for exceeding 2023 housing targets

The City of Welland has received \$1.72 million in funding from Ontario's Building Faster Fund after surpassing its 2023 housing target, with 868 new housing units breaking ground last year, exceeding the target by 176%. This funding, part of a \$1.2 billion program aimed at addressing the housing supply crisis, rewards municipalities for meeting or exceeding their housing targets and supports housing-enabling infrastructure.

#### St. Catharines rewarded with over \$2.3 million for progress toward 2023 housing targets

The Province announced \$2,355,390 in funding for St. Catharines through the Building Faster Fund due to the City's progress in meeting its 2023 housing target, with 648 new housing units initiated last year. This funding, part of a \$1.2 billion program aimed at addressing the housing supply crisis, rewards municipalities for meeting or exceeding their housing targets and supports housing-enabling infrastructure.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

**Project Arrow 2.0 information session hosted by Welland economic development office**

The City of Welland, in collaboration with the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association (APMA) of Canada, launched Project Arrow 2.0 at an information session held at Welland City Hall, aiming to address challenges within the electric vehicle sector through innovation and multi-sector collaboration. This initiative aims to serve as a dynamic hub for industries, academic institutions, and municipalities to drive advancements in electric vehicles, drawing diverse representatives from various sectors to foster resilience and discuss the project's goals and objectives. Welland's commitment to pioneering solutions in the electric vehicle sector, exemplified by Project Arrow 2.0, underscores the city's dedication to facilitating opportunities and shaping sustainable transportation in collaboration with APMA and other stakeholders.

**City of Welland launches commercial filming platform**

Welland is positioning itself as a hub for the film industry, with plans to streamline the permit and insurance process through new commercial filming guidelines. These guidelines were introduced during a recent council meeting, aiming to attract more production companies to the area by highlighting incentives and providing a centralized point of contact for filming inquiries. While some councillors expressed interest in developing stricter policies, city officials emphasized the need to start with guidelines to maintain flexibility and encourage growth in the industry.

**Vineland pear variety launching soon in the Canadian market**

Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, in collaboration with Washington State's Stemilt Growers LLC, is set to launch a new pear variety, HW624, across Canada, offering a firm and sweet flavor with a distinctive rosy, yellow-green skin. This variety, developed by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and brought to market through Vineland's horticultural innovation process, has been identified as a desirable choice by both consumers and growers. The collaboration between Vineland and Stemilt aims to benefit Canadian pear growers by introducing a cultivar that is both grower-friendly and appealing to consumers, marking a significant innovation in the pear category.

**\$400 million development proposed for Lincoln**

A \$400 million development project, Lincoln Lakeview, including a hotel, event center, commercial, and residential buildings, has been proposed for 10 acres of land on the east side of Ontario Street and North Service Road in Beamsville near the QEW. The project, presented during the Town's Committee of the Whole meeting, features various amenities such as a park, recreational trail, and improved pedestrian access, with plans for residential units subject to zoning approval and potential inclusion of affordable housing. The development aims to commence construction on the hotel and event center in the near future, with the entire project potentially spanning a decade.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

**St. Catharines developing Municipal Development Corporation Implementation Plan**

Work is now getting underway after Council approved the proposed public consultation strategy for the new Municipal Development Corporation on Monday February 12, 2024. Approved in principle in 2023, the new Municipal Development Corporation is set to advance and unlock additional value to the community from the City's surplus real estate assets. The corporation has been approved for funding under the federal government's Housing Accelerator Fund which awarded St. Catharines \$25.7 million. Staff are preparing a business case study in support of the new corporation along with an asset transfer policy to be implemented between the City of St. Catharines and a new Municipal Services Corporation early in 2024.

**Updated St. Catharines Strategic Plan**

The City of St. Catharines has unveiled its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, developed through consultations with Council and input from over 500 residents and businesses. The plan is structured around five pillars, Economic Prosperity, Social Well-being, Environmental Stewardship, Cultural Vibrancy, and Organizational Excellence, and lays the groundwork for priority setting, staff work plans, and budget allocation. Key initiatives, such as a Community Improvement Plan Review, Economic Development Strategy Implementation, and Housing Action Plan update, aim to propel St. Catharines towards its goals. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

**Azure Sustainable Fuels receives \$5 million for study to support SAF production in Port Colborne**

The federal government is allocating \$5 million to assist Azure Sustainable Fuels Corp. in conducting a FEED study for a sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) production facility in Port Colborne. This initiative, expected to create about 1,500 construction jobs and 150 full-time positions upon a positive Final Investment Decision, aims to commence construction post 2024, leveraging Canada's agricultural sector for SAF production. Azure's project is part of a broader effort to enhance Canada's clean fuel market, positioning the country as a significant player in reducing aviation sector emissions and meeting global CO2 reduction mandates.

**StormFisher Hydrogen secures \$4.65 million for clean fuels facility project in Thorold**

StormFisher Hydrogen Ltd. has secured a \$4.65 million grant from the federal government for its Thorold project, aiming to develop a \$200 million low carbon fuel production facility in Ontario. The facility, expected to produce renewable natural gas (RNG) equivalent to decarbonizing 16,000 homes and businesses, will leverage electrolysis to combine renewable electricity and biogenic carbon dioxide emissions. Collaborating with local partners like Bioveld Canada and the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority, StormFisher's project aligns with Canada's commitment to increasing clean fuel production capacity and achieving net-zero emissions.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

**CHAR Tech awarded \$5 million from Government of Canada**

CHAR Technologies has received a \$5.2 million contribution from the federal government's Clean Fuels Fund to enhance their Thorold facility for converting wood waste to biocarbon and renewable natural gas (RNG). This funding supports the expansion of CHAR Tech's operations across Canada, including new projects in Kirkland Lake, Saint-Félicien, La Sarre, and Drayton Valley, in addition to an existing project in Terrace, British Columbia. The investment is aimed at decarbonizing high-emission sectors, creating jobs, and promoting a low-carbon energy future, with support from various stakeholders, including Enbridge Gas and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

**CCOVI awarded \$2.4 million for grape and wine research**

Brock University's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute has received over \$2.4 million in funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Grapevine Certification Network to support three projects aimed at bolstering the sustainability and competitiveness of Canada's grape and wine industry. The funded research focuses on addressing challenges related to grapevine cold damage, trunk diseases, and wine production, with the goal of ensuring the sector's resilience against climate change impacts. This initiative, part of the \$10.9 million Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership AgriScience Cluster, underscores a collaborative effort between academia and industry to enhance the quality, sustainability, and economic growth of the Canadian grape and wine industry, which is a significant contributor to the national economy.

George Spezza, Ec.D., CEcD  
Director, Economic Development

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.



March 18, 2024

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

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Motion regarding solutions to resolve significant financial and budgetary pressures relating to infrastructure development, maintenance and repairs**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of March 12, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

**Resolution 2024-49**

Moved by Councillor Budarick  
Seconded by Councillor Parks

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has agreed to assume responsibility for the Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway from the City of Toronto, which will be uploaded to the Province of Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** like the City of Toronto, The Corporation of Loyalist Township and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario are experiencing significant financial and budgetary pressures including those related to infrastructure development, maintenance and repairs, and are seeking reasonable solutions to address the same while balancing their financial books;

**AND WHEREAS** the uploading of municipal highway infrastructure to the Province of Ontario or, alternatively, appropriately increasing the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to Ontario municipalities will assist municipalities in addressing such financial challenges;

**AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- a. The Province of Ontario:



- upload from local municipalities the responsibility of and costs associated with the continued construction, operation, and maintenance of major municipally-owned highways throughout the Province of Ontario to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation; or
  - alternatively, if uploading is not the preferred option of the Province and/or local municipality, to appropriately increase the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to municipalities so as to fairly and equitably allocate resources to Ontario municipalities.
- b. A copy of this resolution be circulated the Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Ontario Minister of Transportation; MPP Ric Bresee, Hastings, Lennox & Addington; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; all municipalities in Ontario.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne Kantharajah".

Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk

Cc: the Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Ontario Minister of Transportation  
Ric Bresee, M.P.P., Hastings, Lennox & Addington  
Association of Municipalities  
All municipalities in Ontario  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Budarick, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Parks, Loyalist Township

March 18, 2024

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

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Premier Ford,

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

At our regular meeting on March 12, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Loyalist passed the following:

**Resolution 2024-48**

Moved by Councillor Willis  
Seconded by Councillor Parks

**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, commercial farms 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;

**AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Loyalist hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;



**AND THAT** Council of The Corporation of Loyalist Township 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 Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings – Lennox & Addington, and to all Ontario municipalities.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Kantharajah".

Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk

AK/ch

cc: Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings – Lennox & Addington  
All Ontario Municipalities  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Parks, Loyalist Township

Resolution Number 2024-067

Title: Support Resolution: Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life

Date: Monday, March 18, 2024

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Moved by Councillor Jaworski

Seconded by Councillor Baugie

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

And whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

And whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

And whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges, like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers, and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

And whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

And whereas property taxpayers, including people on fixed incomes and small businesses, cannot afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

Be it resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to all the municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

TIED

DEFEATED

POSTPONED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Lachlan McDonald



Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP  
181 St. Andrew St. East  
2nd Floor, Fergus  
ON N1M 1P9

VIA EMAIL:

[ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org](mailto:ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org)

Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP  
180 Broadway 3rd Floor  
Suite A  
Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3

VIA EMAIL:

[sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

February 27, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
823 Albion Road  
Etobicoke, ON  
M9V 1A3

VIA EMAIL:

[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
and Housing

VIA EMAIL:

[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

RE: 6.3 The Association of Municipalities of Ontario Policy Update regarding Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 7, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2024-037:**

Moved by Councillor Bailey and  
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.3 listed for February 7, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and



WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and further

THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario ([premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ([minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)); the Minister of Finance ([minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.fin@ontario.ca)); the County Clerk, MPP Arnott, MPP Rae, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario ([amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)).

**CARRIED**

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





Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

CC: Association of Municipalities of Ontario ([amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)), MPP Matthew Rae  
[Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org](mailto:Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org), the Minister of Finance ([minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.fin@ontario.ca))

**Corporate Services**

January 26, 2024

**Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville, at its Regular Council Meeting held on January 22, 2024, approved the following resolution:

**WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and**

**WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and**

**WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and**

**WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and**

**WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and**

**WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and**

**WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income redistribution programs for those most in need; and**

**WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and**


**WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; now**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Orangeville requests the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and**

**FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion is sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; the MPP, Sylvia Jones; and all municipalities in Ontario.**

**Carried.**

Yours truly,



Raylene Martell  
Town Clerk

March 20, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Sent by email to: [Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org)

**Re: Operational Budget Funding**

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 19, 2024, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

**Resolution #: 2024-93**

**Moved by:** M. Wand      **Seconded by:** R. Hall

*That the council of the Municipality of Powassan supports the request of the Township of Amaranth calling upon the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.*

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allison Quinn  
Clerk  
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

March 12, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent by email to: [Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org)

**Re: Operational Budget Funding**

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 6, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

**Resolution #: 4**

**Moved by:** G Little

**Seconded by:** A. Stirk

Whereas all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes, and;

Whereas all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has recently received Provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion dollar operating shortfall and approximately \$12 million in Federal and Provincial funding for their Police operating budget, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Province, approximately 40% less than the average Dufferin rural municipal tax rate.

**Be it Resolved That** the Township of Amaranth call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

**CARRIED**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.

CAO/Clerk

C: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities

# The Corporation of the Town of Moosonee

P.O. BOX 727, MOOSONEE, ONTARIO, P0L 1Y0

## RESOLUTION 2024

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

NO. 2024- ~~46~~ 45

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

Councillor Theresa Chavez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Councillor Theresa Chavez	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Sheldon Ross	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor Sheldon Ross	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Diane Ryder	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor Diane Ryder	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Carman Tozer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor Carman Tozer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Wayne Taipale	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mayor Wayne Taipale	<input type="checkbox"/>

### MOTION:

**WHEREAS** Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

**WHEREAS** many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and

**WHEREAS** without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and

**WHEREAS** these essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training, and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required; and

**WHEREAS** in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Corporation of the Town of Moosonee Council request the Government of Canada to increase the tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers.

CARRIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED/DEFERRED UNTIL	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Declaration of Conflict of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

- Disclosed His/Her/Their Interest
- Vacated His/Her/Their Seat
- Deferred

DEPUTY CLERK  Shalom Capili

  
MAYOR – Wayne Taipale



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24067	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>M Hatfield</i>

**RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Municipality of St- Charles passed on February 21, 2024, regarding Guaranteed Livable Income attached hereto and;

**FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Service, Ryan Williams; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament, Carol Hughes, our local Member of Provincial Parliament, Michael Mantha and all Ontario Municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	<b>MAYOR AND COUNCIL</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 Opat		

**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 – MAURU O'NEILL
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Mauru O'Neill</i>

This document is available in alternate formats.



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24069	Meeting Order: 12
Moved by: <i>M Hatfield</i>	Seconded by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>

**RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Township of Amaranth passed on February 23, 2024, regarding pausing advancement on proposed highway 413 and redirect the appropriate \$8 billion cost for Highway 413 to support municipal infrastructure costs and housing construction initiatives, a copy of which is attached hereto and;

**FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Infrastructure, Kinga Surma, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities on Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield	YES	NO
<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
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

This document is available in alternate formats.





## Legislative Services

March 19, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Honourable and Dear Sir:

**Re: Support Town of Lincoln Resolution - Request Provincial Government to Support Increasing Funding for Public Libraries and Community Museums**

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of March 18, 2024 received and supported correspondence from the Town of Lincoln dated February 28, 2024 requesting the Provincial Government to support increasing funding for Public Libraries and Community Museums.

Attached please find a copy of the Town of Lincoln correspondence dated February 28, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter Todd,  
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk  
[ptodd@forterie.ca](mailto:ptodd@forterie.ca)  
PT-dlk

Attach.

c.c. The Honourable Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport [neil.lumsden@pc.ola.org](mailto:neil.lumsden@pc.ola.org)  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Local Area Municipalities  
Niagara Region  
All Ontario Municipalities



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD  
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1  
905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: [Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

**RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23  
Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

**WHEREAS** the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

**WHEREAS** libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to

consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

**WHEREAS** Cultural institutions, particularly museums, play a vital role in shaping and preserving our community's identity. They contribute to tourism, social participation, senior well-being, skill-building, and learning. As the largest government funder for most of Ontario's smaller museums, municipalities create value in their communities through the work of these institutions.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

**CARRIED**

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

[jkirkelos@lincoln.ca](mailto:jkirkelos@lincoln.ca)

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region  
Local Area Municipalities  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Council Members**

**Mayor Neil Nicholson**  
**Deputy Mayor Cathy Regier**  
**Councillors:**  
Mark Bell  
Michael Moore  
Chris Olmstead  
Connie Tabbert  
Joey Trimm

# Certified True Copy

Wednesday, March 20, 2024  
The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto On M7A 1A1

**Re: Resolution - Highway Infrastructure Request - County of Lambton**

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting of March 20, 2024, the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region adopted the following resolution:

**That Council of the Township of the Whitewater Region endorse the letter as presented from Lambton County Council regarding Highway Infrastructure.**

Carried - Resolution #2024-5084

(613) 646-2282



Sincerely,

P.O. Box 40,  
44 Main Street  
Cobden, ON  
K0J 1K0



Carmen Miller  
Clerk/CEMC

Attach: Lambton County Council Motion



whitewaterregion.ca





**Legal Services / Clerk's Department**

789 Broadway Street, Box 3000  
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

Telephone: 519-845-0801

Toll-free: 1-866-324-6912

Fax: 519-845-0818

February 23, 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Lambton County Council Motion**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of February 07, 2024, Lambton County Council Passed the following resolution:

#25: Ferguson/Bradley:

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has agreed to assume responsibility for the Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway from the City of Toronto, which will be uploaded to the Province of Ontario;

**WHEREAS** like the City of Toronto, The Corporation of the County of Lambton and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario are experiencing significant financial and budgetary pressures including those related to infrastructure development, maintenance and repairs, and are seeking reasonable solutions to address the same while balancing their financial books;

**WHEREAS** the uploading of municipal highway infrastructure to the Province of Ontario or, alternatively, appropriately increasing the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to Ontario municipalities will assist municipalities in addressing such financial challenges;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**


- a) That the Province of Ontario: (i) upload from local municipalities the responsibility of and costs associated with the continued construction, operation, and maintenance of major municipally-owned highways throughout the Province of Ontario to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation; or (ii) alternatively, if uploading is not the preferred option of the Province and/or local municipality, to appropriately increase the

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to municipalities so as to fairly and equitably allocate resources to Ontario municipalities.

- b) That a copy of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Sarnia-Lambton MPP, Bob Bailey; the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria; and the Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Doug Ford.

Carried.

Kind Regards,

DocuSigned by:  
  
5897867E2272445...

Olivia Leger

Clerk/County Solicitor

Encl #CC 04-10-24

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities  
Bob Bailey, M.P.P. Sarnia-Lambton Riding  
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sakaria, Ontario Minister of Transportation

March 20, 2024

Julie Kirkelos, Clerk  
Town of Lincoln  
4800 South Service Road  
Beamsville ON L0R 1B1

**SENT ELECTRONICALLY**

[jkirkelos@lincoln.ca](mailto:jkirkelos@lincoln.ca)

**Re: Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario**

Please be advised that at its meeting of March 19, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wainfleet passed the following motion:

“**THAT** Correspondence item C-2024-067 from the Town of Lincoln respecting Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario be received and supported.”

Should you have any questions, please contact me at [achrastina@wainfleet.ca](mailto:achrastina@wainfleet.ca) or 905-899-3463 ext. 224.

Regards,



Amber Chrastina  
Deputy Clerk

Cc: Premier of Ontario  
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Niagara West  
Local Area Municipalities



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD  
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1

905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: [Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

**RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

**WHEREAS** the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

**WHEREAS** libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to

consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

**WHEREAS** Cultural institutions, particularly museums, play a vital role in shaping and preserving our community's identity. They contribute to tourism, social participation, senior well-being, skill-building, and learning. As the largest government funder for most of Ontario's smaller museums, municipalities create value in their communities through the work of these institutions.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

**CARRIED**

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

[jkirkelos@lincoln.ca](mailto:jkirkelos@lincoln.ca)

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region  
Local Area Municipalities  
All Ontario Municipalities



**AMO**  
**Education**



## AMO Land Use Planning Training for Elected Officials

Local planning is dynamic and challenging. As an elected official you will often find yourself dealing with uncertainty and *complexity*.

As you have settled into your role as a municipal councillor, your understanding has grown on what is expected of you.

AMO's planning training supports its members in two important ways. Our ***Foundations in Planning*** builds foundational knowledge and insight into planning legislation and municipal requirements and roles.

Our ***Advanced Land Use Planning- A Deeper Dive*** training puts your foundational knowledge to test as you work through case studies and lessons learned to build your strategic management and decision making on local planning issues. This training is specifically designed to support Ontario's elected officials in strategic decision making and management of the many facets of land use planning.

AMO is encouraging its members to take advantage of this training to support in developing your understanding and skills as you explore the complexities of local land use planning.

For a full description, and to register visit [AMO Education](#).

### **Registration Information:**

#### ***Foundations in Planning***

**Dates:** **April 17, 2024 & October 22, 2024**

**Fee:** \$325 + HST\*\*

Limited to 30 participants (first come, first served)

\*\*A cancellation fee of \$75 applies.\*\*

***Advanced Land Use Planning- A Deeper Dive***

**Dates:** **April 18, 2024 & October 23, 2024**

**Fee:** \$375 + HST\*\*

Limited to 30 participants (first come, first served)

\*\*A cancellation fee of \$75 applies.\*\*

For questions, please reach out to [events@amo.on.ca](mailto:events@amo.on.ca)

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Inquires: [events@amo.on.ca](mailto:events@amo.on.ca)

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

<b>Resolution # RC24068</b>	<b>Meeting Order: 11</b>
<b>Moved by:</b> <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	<b>Seconded by:</b> <i>[Signature]</i>

**RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Town of Lincoln passed on February 28, 2024, regarding Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario, a copy of which is attached hereto and;

**FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Neil Lumsden, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities on Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
<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: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>MAYOR – MELANIE PILON</b>	<b>CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL</b>
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

This document is available in alternate formats.