



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, June 20, 2025

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Tara Stephens, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

DATE: June 20, 2025

SUBJECT: Update on Municipal Governance Legislation and Strong Mayor Framework

The Legislative Services Team is providing this update to inform Council of recent legislative developments related to municipal governance and accountability standards.

1. Proposed Legislation – Municipal Codes of Conduct

The Province has reintroduced legislation aimed at enhancing accountability and conduct standards for elected municipal officials. Key components of the proposed legislation include:

- **Standardized Code of Conduct Requirements:** Provisions to harmonize codes of conduct and investigation processes across Ontario municipalities.
- **Provincial Integrity Commissioner Oversight:** The legislation proposes a formal role for the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario in matters related to municipal codes of conduct and investigations.
- **Removal and Disqualification from Office:** Establishment of a legislative mechanism to remove and disqualify elected members of council or certain local boards for the most serious code of conduct violations.

Further details, including regulations and implementation timelines, are anticipated once the legislation progresses through the legislative process. The City Clerk's Office will monitor updates closely and report back as needed.

2. Strong Mayor Powers – Provincial Expansion

As of **May 1, 2025**, additional strong mayor powers have been extended to 169 municipalities.

- These powers are intended to support the Province's priorities in housing development, transit, and infrastructure delivery.

- The scope of these new authorities may include expedited decision-making tools for mayors on specific provincial priorities.

In response to sector feedback, the Province is being encouraged to develop training materials and implementation guidance for municipalities and elected officials. The Legislative Services Team will share any provincial resources when received in the future.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor, Council and Staff

FROM: Tara Stephens, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

DATE: June 20, 2025

SUBJECT: Legislative and Program Updates – Bills 46 & 10, and Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel

The Legislative Services Team is providing this update to keep Council informed of recent legislative changes and available programs that may impact municipal operations, service delivery, and public safety partnerships.

1. Bill 46 – *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025*

The provincial government recently introduced a new legislative package that includes several municipal sector initiatives:

- **Strong Mayor Framework:** Plans to review and potentially enhance the framework following its recent expansion to 170 municipalities.
- **Audited Financial Statements:** Proposed amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* and *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to allow for online publication of annual audited financial statements.
- **Access to Infrastructure Loans:** District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) would be eligible to apply for loans through Infrastructure Ontario to support local infrastructure development.
- **Landlord and Tenant Board Reform:** The Province will explore solutions to reduce delays and backlogs at the Landlord and Tenant Board.
- **Archaeological Assessment Streamlining:** Phased updates to assessment standards and guidelines to expedite reporting and review timelines.
- **Red Light Camera Programs:** Legislative changes to support easier establishment of red light camera programs by municipalities.
- **Community Safety Grant Access:** Improved access for small and mid-sized police services to apply for public safety funding.
- **Disability Benefit Exemptions:** Commitment to exempt the federal Canada Disability Benefit from being counted as income under ODSP, Ontario Works, and other provincial support programs.

- **Mining Act Review:** Expedited permitting processes and review of mining lease terms to support land development.
- **Clean Energy Financing Tools:** Exploring municipally-administered private financing options for clean energy projects as a voluntary tool to support economic and housing growth.
- **Carbon Management Framework:** A future framework will support industry in reducing its carbon footprint through innovation.
- **Blue Box Program Revisions:** Revisions aimed at reducing producer costs, improving data collection, and maintaining collection services for small businesses.

2. Bill 10 – *Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act, 2025*

Of particular municipal interest is **Schedule 8: Measures Respecting Premises with Illegal Drug Activity Act**, which may have operational impacts for municipalities as housing providers.

- The Act creates new responsibilities for landlords—residential and commercial—regarding illegal drug activity on their properties.
- Municipalities that provide community or supportive housing, or operate emergency shelters, may be subject to compliance with this legislation.
- While the intent is to protect tenants and reduce predatory activity, further guidance is expected. Staff will monitor for the development of regulations to ensure there are no unintended burdens placed on municipal housing providers.

3. Warrior Health Program – Support for Public Safety Personnel

The Province, in partnership with Wounded Warriors Canada, has launched **Warrior Health**, a new initiative to support the mental health of public safety workers and their families.

- Services include a mix of free and fee-for-service programs tailored to the needs of first responders and public safety personnel.
- A **grant funding stream** is available, with applications open until **June 27, 2025**.
- Additional program details will be shared at the upcoming municipal conference, with a focus on mental health, addictions, and housing support.

June 13, 2025

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Mr. Premier,

RE: Council motion passed June 10, 2025

Please be advised that on June 10, 2025 during a City Council meeting, Guelph City Council passed the following resolutions in regards to the Special Economic Zones Act, 2025.

Moved By: Councillor Caron
Seconded By: Councillor Goller

1. THAT the City of Guelph opposes provisions in Bill 5, particularly under Schedules 2 and 9, and provisions in Bill 17, that would diminish environmental protections or override municipal planning authority; and
2. THAT the City of Guelph call on the Province of Ontario to obey their own rule of law, to pursue housing, forestry, infrastructure and critical mineral development through policies that follow sound environmental planning principles, uphold the planning authority of local government, respect Indigenous treaty obligations, and protect vital ecological systems; and
3. THAT City of Guelph Council endorse the City's submissions regarding Bill 5 to ERO 025-0391 - Special Economic Zones Act, 2025 and ERO 025-0380 - Species Conservation Act, 2025 as posted in Information Items on May 23, 2025; and
4. THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Mike Schreiner, MPP for Guelph; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

Stephen O'Brien, General Manager, City Clerk's Office/City Clerk
Corporate Services. **City Clerk's Office**



T 519-822-1260 x 5644
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City Hall
1 Carden St
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T 519-822-1260
TTY 519-826-9771

Copy:

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal
Affairs and Housing

Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of
Environment, Conservation and Parks

Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic
Development, Job Creation and Trade

Mike Schreiner, MPP for Guelph

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

June 13, 2025

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of June 10, 2025 the following resolution regarding support of advocacy to the Federal Government for 'disability without poverty' was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-345

DATE: June 10, 2025

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS one in four Ontarians lives with a disability; and

WHEREAS the median household income in Prince Edward County (\$75K) is already well below both the Basic Living Income and the Ontario Median Household Income (\$84K); and

WHEREAS persons with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty and would already require an average of 30% more income just to reach the poverty line; and

WHEREAS the new federal benefit for people with disabilities (about \$200/month) and called the Canada Disability Benefit) is about to be rolled out; and

WHEREAS the Federal government has yet to exempt this new federal benefit from being considered income for federal tax purposes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Mayor be requested to communicate with Prime Minister Carney that the Council of the County of Prince Edward calls on the Government of Canada to commit to exempting the Canada Disability Benefit from income tax and work towards supporting Canadians with a disability to live without poverty;

THAT Prime Minister Carney be requested to publicly confirm his government's commitment to making that legislative change as soon as possible; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the federal Minister of Finance, the federal Minister of Health, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Victoria Leskie, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Branderhorst, and Adam Goheen, Interim CAO





June 11, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Sent Via Email

Re: Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025

Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, June 10, 2025,
passed the following resolution:

146/25

Moved by: Councillor Burns
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

"That the correspondence from the Township of The Archipelago regarding Bill 5,
Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025 be supported."

Carried.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of LaSalle's support of the above
matter.

Yours Truly,

Jennifer Astrologo
Director of Council Services/Clerk
Town of LaSalle
jastrologo@lasalle.ca

Encl.

cc: (via email)

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier of Ontario
Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
MPP Anthony Leardi
MPP Andrew Dowie
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 15.7.
Resolution Number 25-086
Title: Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Barton
Seconded by: Councillor Manners

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes significant changes to environmental legislation, including the replacement of the Endangered Species Act, 2007 with the significantly weaker Species Conservation Act, 2025, and would grant the Premier and Cabinet unprecedented powers to override provincial and municipal laws – including laws that protect public health, farmland, and the natural systems that safeguard communities from extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS The Township of The Archipelago's strategic priorities include protecting and preserving our unique and high-quality natural environment, and delivering municipal services in a responsible, sustainable, cost-effective, and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS The Township of The Archipelago supports the goals of responsible economic growth and increased housing supply; and

WHEREAS nature is not red tape – it is the economic driver of our region, and is central to Canadian culture, identity, and economy; protecting nature is essential for building resilient communities and upholding the sovereignty and stewardship of Indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 will undermine critical environmental, species, and heritage protection laws, introducing significant economic, environmental, social, and cultural uncertainty, endangering Ontario's 249 at-risk species, and potentially infringing on the legal and constitutional rights of the Ontario public – especially Indigenous communities that are disproportionately affected by such actions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of The Archipelago hereby

opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would undermine environmental safeguards, Indigenous rights, or local planning authority, and urge the Province to withdraw the Bill; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council urges the Province of Ontario to pursue housing and infrastructure development through policies that maintain robust environmental protections and respect local planning regimes; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier; The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka; The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); and all Ontario municipalities; Chief Adam Pawis, all Township of The Archipelago Ratepayer Associations; and to other environmental organizations.

Carried



June 6, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Legislative Building
Queens Park
TORONTO ON M7A 1A4
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

At the Municipality of Bluewater's regular Council meeting held on June 2, 2025, Council passed the following resolutions:

MOVED: Councillor Whetstone **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has designated Municipality of Bluewater as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,


WHEREAS the Municipality of Bluewater did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Bluewater Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Municipality of Bluewater from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron Bruce, all Ontario municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and the Association of Municipalities (AMO) for their awareness and support. **CARRIED**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexander". The first letter "A" is large and stylized, with a loop that extends upwards and to the left. The rest of the name is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chandra Alexander
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc:

Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce MPP

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)

Association of Municipalities (AMO)

All Ontario municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCGARRY
P.O. BOX 99
VIRGINIATOWN, ON. P0K 1X0
705-634-2145, Fax 705-634-2700

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR:

☒ Louanne Caza
☐ Elaine Fic
☐ Annie Keft
☐ Francine Plante
☐ Mayor Culhane

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR:

☐ Louanne Caza
☐ Elaine Fic
☐ Annie Keft
☒ Francine Plante
☐ Mayor Culhane

RESOLUTION # 204/2025

DATE : June 10, 2025

WHEREAS Canada and the United States have a shared history of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalition and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS newly elected President Donald trump has suggested that with the use of economics force such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States;

AND WHEREAS President Trump, has now imposed tariffs on imports from Canada that will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries;

AND WHEREAS federal and provincial leaders are encouraging Canadians to buy Canadian, at the same time as it seeks to remove inter-provincial trade barriers within Canada;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs and can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support Canadian businesses by their procurement of Canadian products and services;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have traditionally been prevented by trade agreements and legislation from giving preference to the purchase of Canadian products and services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McGarry categorically rejects any efforts by President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of

Canada, and we stand united with our provincial and federal leaders for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government;

AND FURTHER that Council endorses the federal and provincial call to action to buy Canadian and therefore remove any impediments to municipalities preferring to engage Canadian companies for products and services when appropriate and feasible;

AND FURTHER THAT Council encourages the provincial and federal governments to remove trade barriers between provinces in support of Canadian businesses;

AND FURTHER THAT the current purchasing policy be amended to integrate and address these concerns;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Timmins-James Bay MP Charlie Angus, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal association, Ontario Good Roads Association, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Municipalities in the District of Temiskaming.

Recorded vote requested by _____

	For	Against
✓ Councillor Louanne Caza		
Councillor Elaine Fic		
Councillor Annie Keft		
✓ Councillor Francine Plante		
Mayor Bonita Culhane		

I declare this motion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because:
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest *

Signature of Chair:

Bonita Culhane

* Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.



CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BLACK RIVER – MATHESON
367 FOURTH AVE, P.O. BOX 601, MATHESON, ON P0K 1N0
TELEPHONE (705) 273-2313 EMAIL : brm@twpbrm.ca WEBSITE: www.twpbrm.ca

Jon Pegg
Fire Marshal of Ontario
Office of the Fire Marshal
25 Morton Shulman Avenue
Toronto, ON M3M 0B1

June 10, 2025

Via Email: Jon.Pegg@ontario.ca

Dear Fire Marshal Pegg:

Subject: Request for Exemption to Proposed Mandatory Firefighter Certification Requirements (O. Reg. 343/22)

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson, I am writing to express our concerns regarding the mandatory firefighter certification requirements under Ontario Regulation 343/22.

At its meeting held on June 10th, Council passed the attached resolution formally opposing the implementation of these requirements. While we recognize and support the importance of firefighter training and safety, the regulation as it stands does not adequately reflect the operational realities of small, rural, and northern municipalities.

Communities such as ours rely heavily on volunteer and composite fire departments that already face critical challenges in recruitment, training accessibility, and financial capacity.

Specifically, we are burdened by:

- Geographic barriers and long travel distances to accredited training centres,
- Inconsistent access to instructors and scheduling options,
- Limited budgets and competing capital demands,
- Difficulty in retaining and replacing volunteers due to increased regulatory pressures.

Without additional support, flexibility, or exemption mechanisms, the implementation of O. Reg. 343/22 will severely compromise our ability to provide consistent, timely, and effective fire protection to our residents.

Accordingly, the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson respectfully requests that the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Ministry of the Solicitor General:

1. Defer full implementation of the certification regulation for rural and northern municipalities,
2. Provide exemptions or alternative compliance pathways tailored to the needs and limitations of small, remote fire services,
3. Increase funding and training supports for municipalities outside major urban centres.

We believe that a one-size-fits-all regulatory model will disproportionately and unfairly affect communities like ours. A more flexible, consultative approach is urgently needed. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We would welcome further discussion and are open to participating in any future consultations or working groups aimed at resolving these challenges collaboratively.

Sincerely,

Dave Dymont, Mayor

/hjl

On behalf of the Council of Black River-Matheson

Encl.: Resolution No.2025-214 – Council Opposition to O. Reg. 343/22

CC:

The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General – michael.kerzner@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario – premier@ontario.ca

John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming—Cochrane – jvanthof-co@ndp.on.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – amo@amo.on.ca

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) – admin@fonom.org

All Ontario Municipalities



Corporation of the Township of Black River - Matheson
367 Fourth Avenue
P.O. Box 601
Matheson, Ontario
P0K 1N0

ITEM # 2025-10.b)
RESOLUTION

DATE: June 10, 2025

2025-214

Moved by Councillor Steve Campsall
Seconded by Councillor Alain Bouchard

WHEREAS the Ontario government has enacted O. Reg. 343/22, establishing mandatory certification requirements for firefighters under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Township of Black River-Matheson acknowledges the importance of standardized firefighter training and safety;

AND WHEREAS these mandatory certification requirements pose significant challenges for small, rural, and northern municipalities due to limited financial and training resources, geographic barriers, and reliance on volunteer fire departments;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of these requirements without additional flexibility or support may negatively impact the Township's ability to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and provide adequate fire protection to its residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Black River-Matheson formally opposes the mandatory firefighter certification requirements as currently outlined in O. Reg. 343/22;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Premier of Ontario, MPP John Vanthof, the Fire Marshal, AMO, FONOM, and all Ontario municipalities

☒ CARRIED ☐ DEFEATED

CHAIR SIGNATURE

☐ Original ☐ Amendment ☐ Refer ☐ Defer ☐ Reconsider ☐ Withdrawn

Recorded Vote-TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERK ONLY

	YEAS	NAYS
Mayor Dave Dymant		
Councillor Allen		
Councillor Charbonneau		
Councillor Campsall		

Hongji Lei

Hong Ji Lei
Town Manager/Clerk



June 16, 2025

Re: Item for Discussion – Road Salt Usage

At its meeting of June 11, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-068, regarding Road Salt Usage, as follows:

“WHEREAS chloride concentrations have increased by at least 0.5 mg/L in 80 of 274 (29%) of the lakes sampled by the District of Muskoka between 2018 and 2022, and by 15-fold in Lake Muskoka since 1970;

AND WHEREAS Queen’s University scientist, Dr. Shelley Arnott, a leader in global research on the effects of road salt on lakes, has demonstrated that in Muskoka lakes, some important aquatic organisms are negatively affected at chloride exposure levels as low as 10 mg/L, far below the 120 mg/L long term or chronic exposure guideline;

AND WHEREAS roughly one quarter of lakes sampled by the District Municipality of Muskoka now have chloride levels above 10 mg/L;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge:

1. Commits to ongoing efforts toward the reduction of road salt as much as possible, while maintaining safety on roads, including public reporting on annual use, supporting local efforts to research the ongoing impacts of road salt, and assisting education efforts.
2. Urges the Province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially-endorsed standard Best Management Practices for snow and ice management on private lands; and to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems, drinking water and infrastructure from the impacts of salt pollution.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; the Attorney General of Ontario; the Muskoka-Parry Sound MPP; Conservation Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, the District Municipality of Muskoka; and other lower-tier municipalities in Muskoka.”

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

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

June 17, 2025

VIA EMAIL

Re: Advocacy for Increased Income Support Thresholds for Canadian Veterans

At its Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council ratified the following motion:

Resolution 2025-185

Moved by: Councillor Harper

Seconded by: Councillor Scott

WHEREAS the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury recognizes the selfless service and enduring sacrifices made by Canadian Armed Forces veterans in the defence of our country and values;

WHEREAS the 2021 Census, conducted by Statistics Canada, identified more than 460,000 veterans residing across Canada, a significant population segment deserving of comprehensive, accessible, and modernized federal support;

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) currently administers income support programs to assist veterans in need, including the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program;

WHEREAS the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program which was created in 2019—set at \$20,000 annually for a single-person household—fails to reflect today's economic reality, particularly in light of inflation, soaring housing costs, and the general increase in cost of living;

WHEREAS such low eligibility thresholds may disincentivize employment and community participation by penalizing veterans for earning beyond an outdated benchmark, thereby discouraging reintegration and contribution to civic life;

WHEREAS it is the duty of all levels of government to stand in unified support of our veterans and to advocate for policy changes that enable them to live with dignity and financial stability;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury formally calls on the Government of Canada and all federal parties to increase the eligibility threshold for the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) program from \$20,000 to no less than \$40,000 annually for a single-person household; and

THAT Council urges Veterans Affairs Canada to review all income support programs with the intent to modernize eligibility criteria in line with the current cost of living across Canada;

THAT this motion be formally endorsed and sent to:

- The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada;
- The Honourable Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs;
- The Honourable Andrew Scheer, Acting Leader of the Official Opposition
- Scot Davidson, Member of Parliament for New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury;
- All 444 municipalities across the Province of Ontario;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for broader distribution and endorsement; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be published on the Town's official website and communicated through the Town's official channels to raise awareness and gather public support.

Regards,



Tara Reynolds
Clerk, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
(905) 775-5366 Ext 1104
treynolds@townofbwg.com

CC: Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
Hon. Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs
Hon. Andrew Scheer, Acting Leader of the Official Opposition
Scot Davidson, MP New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury
All Ontario Municipalities
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

**Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting**



Resolution No. 274
Title: Notices of Motion
Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Moved by D. DeGenova
Seconded by J. Palmateer

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21:Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only;

AND WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks;

AND WHEREAS failure to include 'ineligible sources under the Ontario Regulation 391/21:Blue Box program is in essence a provincial tax on ineligible sources;

AND WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the cost which amounts to yet another provincial municipal download;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Tweed Council hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21:Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling product from all sources;

AND FURTHER THAT Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ric Bresse, Member of Provincial Parliament for Hastings-Lennox and Addington, Minister of Affairs and Housing, Rob Flack and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried



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

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

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

June 18, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of the
Environment, Conservation
and Parks
VIA EMAIL:
todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

MPP Joseph Racinsky
Wellington-Halton Hills
VIA EMAIL:
joseph.racinsky@pc.ola.org

RE: Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act 2025

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-167:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda item 6.9 and 6.10 be received for information; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of "Special Economic Zones" that may override local planning authority; and

Whereas the Township of Puslinch supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes; and



Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario's natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Puslinch:

- **Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;**
- **Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;**
- **Opposes the use of Bill 5 that may reduce a municipality's ability to enforce its local by-laws (planning and other affected by-laws);**
- **Opposes the potential use of Bill 5 to supersede Ministry jurisdiction to require proper approvals such as ARA licences or ECAs; and**
- **Opposes the potential use of Bill 5 to apply a SEZ to lands that are already licenced through provincial approvals such as an ARA licence or ECA to supersede requirements under those licenses or approvals.**
- **Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:**
 - 1. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario**
 - 2. The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing**
 - 3. The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks**
 - 4. MPP Joseph Racinsky**
 - 5. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**
 - 6. All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration.**
 - 7. All Conservation Authorities in Ontario**
 - 8. Conservation Ontario**

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

Monika Farncombe

From: Jennifer E. Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 9:50 AM
To: rob.flack@pc.ola.org; sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org; premier@ontario.ca; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
Cc: policy@amo.on.ca; Minister (MMAH); romachair@roma.on.ca; Alice Byl
Subject: Town of Shelburne - Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

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Good Morning

At the May 12, 2025, meeting of Shelburne Town Council, the following resolution was passed unanimously

Moved By: Councillor Len Guchardi
Seconded By: Councillor Lindsay Wegener

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority;

And Whereas the Town of Shelburne supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes;

And Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That Council for the Town of Shelburne:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Urges the Province to support municipalities through ensuring responsible growth through infrastructure projects designed to ensure protection of sensitive wildlife and natural resources;

And Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario,

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks,
- Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin–Caledon,
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
- All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration,
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario,
- Conservation Ontario

CARRIED; Mayor Wade Mills

Thank You

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Phone: 519-925-2600 ext 223 | Fax: 519-925-6134 | jwilloughby@shelburne.ca

Town of Shelburne | 203 Main Street East, Shelburne ON L9V 3K7

www.shelburne.ca



Resolution

Meeting Date: May 12, 2025

Resolution No. 2025-093

Moved: Councillor Prendergast

Seconded: Councillor Andrews

Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority; and

Whereas the Town of Orangeville supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes; and

Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for the Town of Orangeville:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
 - The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP for Dufferin–Caledon
 - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration.

Result: Carried Unanimously

NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Rewards St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Welland With \$6.8 Million From the Building Faster Fund

Second round of funding rewards Niagara Region cities for progress toward housing targets

June 18, 2025

[Premier's Office](#)

ST. CATHARINES — The Ontario government is awarding a combined total of nearly \$6.8 million to the cities of St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Welland through the second round of the Building Faster Fund, which provides funding to municipalities that achieve at least 80 per cent of their provincially designated housing targets. St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Welland broke ground on nearly 2,000 new homes in 2024.

As part of the Ontario government's record-breaking investments in housing-enabling infrastructure, this funding will help all three municipalities build more homes and community infrastructure while advancing the province's plan to protect Ontario by investing in infrastructure to support economic growth and keep workers on the job.

"We're working closely with Mayor Siscoe, Mayor Diodati and Mayor Campion, and with local leadership in municipalities across Ontario, to get more homes built faster," said Premier Doug Ford. "Today's investment is just the latest step we are taking to protect our workers and communities by supporting continued growth in the Niagara Region and across Ontario."

The municipalities being awarded through the Building Faster Fund are as follows:

- **St. Catharines — \$2,501,547 for achieving 85 per cent of its housing target**, breaking ground on 782 new housing units, approaching their provincial target of 917.
- **Niagara Falls — \$2,817,707 for achieving 116 per cent of its housing target**, breaking ground on 774 new housing units, exceeding their provincial target of 667.
- **Welland — \$1,467,045 for achieving 114 per cent of its housing target**, breaking ground on 408 new housing units, exceeding their provincial target of 358.

[Announced in August 2023](#), the Building Faster Fund is a three-year, \$1.2 billion program that is designed to encourage municipalities to speed up municipal approval processes and get more homes built faster. The fund rewards municipalities that make significant progress against their targets by providing funding for housing-enabling and community-enabling infrastructure. The province is also providing record funding to support housing-enabling infrastructure, including through the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund and the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program.

“Our government’s latest legislation is a key step forward in our plan to reduce delays, streamline approvals and build more homes — faster — in partnership with municipalities across Ontario,” said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. “Through the Building Faster Fund and our historic infrastructure investments, we’re partnering with local leadership to get more shovels in the ground and deliver the homes Ontario needs.”

The Ontario government is also helping to speed up the construction of new homes and infrastructure, including by streamlining development processes and reducing costs in close partnership with municipalities, through the [Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025](#).

Quick Facts

- On a year-to-date basis from January to May 2025, Ontario saw 6,977 rental starts, an increase of 25 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. This is the second-highest level of rental starts on record for this time of the year, after 2023.
- To help make way for more housing opportunities and support growing communities, the government is also extending the time that municipalities have to spend funds awarded through the Building Faster Fund to 2028.

Quotes

"We are grateful to the provincial government for supporting St. Catharines through the Building Faster Fund. This funding recognizes the strong progress we are making toward our ambitious housing goals. Our Council remains united and unwavering in its commitment to our housing pledge of 11,000 new homes, demonstrated by our unanimous vote in support of the plan and our continuous support for housing projects when they come forward. With continued partnership and momentum, we’re building a stronger, more inclusive city for everyone."

- Mat Siscoe
Mayor of St. Catharines

"This money will have a tremendous impact in our community! Niagara Falls has worked very hard to meet and exceed housing targets and this show of confidence from the Province means that we can invest in the infrastructure needed to continue to build more housing. This is a huge win for Niagara communities. Thank you!"

- Jim Diodati
Mayor of Niagara Falls

"We're grateful to Premier Ford and Minister Flack for this funding, which will allow us to expand and enhance our infrastructure to better support the costs associated with residential growth. It's essential that growth pays for growth, ensuring the burden doesn't fall on local ratepayers. By meeting and surpassing our growth targets, we became eligible for this support, and we appreciate the Ontario government's commitment in stepping up to assist."

- Frank Campion
Mayor of Welland

"We are keeping the hope of home ownership alive for young people across Ontario and in Niagara. Today's significant investment by our government in housing-enabling infrastructure for the cities of Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland will help the next generation in our region achieve the same dream of homeownership as the last."

- Sam Oosterhoff
MPP, Niagara West

Additional Resources

- [Ontario Launches Building Faster Fund and Expands Strong Mayor Powers](#)
- [Background: Municipal Housing Targets and Building Faster Fund](#)

Media Contacts

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Premier's Office
Hannah.Jensen2@ontario.ca

Alexandra Sanita
Minister Flack's Office
Alexandra.Sanita2@ontario.ca

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AMO
Education



The Value of Community Engagement

Insights and Approaches

June 25, 2025

10:00am-1:00pm

Virtual

This important workshop will help you demystify and better communicate a number of key municipal responsibilities to your community. Budget and strategic planning are great internal exercises, but there can be significant fallout if your constituents and community members don't understand their purpose or what goes into developing local plans and strategies. This session will explore the value of community engagement, the various approaches available, and how your leadership plays a pivotal role in making that engagement meaningful and effective.

[Register for Community Engagement today.](#)

Workshop Information:

[The Value of Community Engagement: Insights and Approaches](#): June 25, 10:00am – 1:00pm

- \$485 +HST per session (Individual registration only. For group rates, contact events@amo.on.ca)
- \$75 +HST cancellation fee

Contact: events@amo.on.ca

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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



June 11, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Sent Via Email

Re: Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025

Council of the Town of LaSalle, at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, June 10, 2025,
passed the following resolution:

146/25

Moved by: Councillor Burns
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Akpata

"That the correspondence from the Township of The Archipelago regarding Bill 5,
Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025 be supported."

Carried.

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of LaSalle's support of the above
matter.

Yours Truly,

Jennifer Astrologo
Director of Council Services/Clerk
Town of LaSalle
jastrologo@lasalle.ca

Encl.

cc: (via email)

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier of Ontario
Hon. Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
MPP Anthony Leardi
MPP Andrew Dowie
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 15.7.
Resolution Number 25-086
Title: Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025
Date: Friday, May 23, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Barton
Seconded by: Councillor Manners

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes significant changes to environmental legislation, including the replacement of the Endangered Species Act, 2007 with the significantly weaker Species Conservation Act, 2025, and would grant the Premier and Cabinet unprecedented powers to override provincial and municipal laws – including laws that protect public health, farmland, and the natural systems that safeguard communities from extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS The Township of The Archipelago's strategic priorities include protecting and preserving our unique and high-quality natural environment, and delivering municipal services in a responsible, sustainable, cost-effective, and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS The Township of The Archipelago supports the goals of responsible economic growth and increased housing supply; and

WHEREAS nature is not red tape – it is the economic driver of our region, and is central to Canadian culture, identity, and economy; protecting nature is essential for building resilient communities and upholding the sovereignty and stewardship of Indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS Bill 5 will undermine critical environmental, species, and heritage protection laws, introducing significant economic, environmental, social, and cultural uncertainty, endangering Ontario's 249 at-risk species, and potentially infringing on the legal and constitutional rights of the Ontario public – especially Indigenous communities that are disproportionately affected by such actions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of The Archipelago hereby

opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would undermine environmental safeguards, Indigenous rights, or local planning authority, and urge the Province to withdraw the Bill; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council urges the Province of Ontario to pursue housing and infrastructure development through policies that maintain robust environmental protections and respect local planning regimes; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier; The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka; The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); and all Ontario municipalities; Chief Adam Pawis, all Township of The Archipelago Ratepayer Associations; and to other environmental organizations.

Carried