



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, September 26, 2025

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

FROM: Andrea Daisley, Chief Human Resources Officer

DATE: Friday, September 26, 2025

SUBJECT: 2026-2027 Holiday Closure

Since 1993, City Hall operations have been closed between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. With advanced planning and early communication, this closure has consistently occurred with minimal disruption to city services and residents.

To continue this practice, City Hall will be closed from the close of business on Thursday, December 24, 2026, through to Friday, January 1, 2027. Regular business operations will resume on Monday, January 4, 2027. This represents a total closure period of six (6) business days.

This early notice allows for adequate planning to ensure the continuity of essential services and appropriate communication to both staff and the public.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day - closed	26
27	28 Boxing Day Observed - Closed	29 Closed	30 Closed	31 Closed	1 New Year's Day - Closed	

MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

Cc: CLT

FROM: Lina DeChellis, Director of Economic Development & Strategic Initiatives
Lisa Allen, Manager, Economic Development

DATE: September 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Quarterly Economic Development Brief

We are pleased to announce the release of the fifth issue of the *Economic Development Quarterly Brief* on September 24, 2025. Published on a quarterly basis, this report provides updates on recent investments in the city, highlights key community initiatives, and features a business spotlight section to showcase local achievements and emerging opportunities.

The publication schedule for the *Quarterly Brief* is as follows:

- **September 2025** (Current)
- **December 2025** (Upcoming)
- **March 2026** (Upcoming)
- **June 2026** (Upcoming)

We are excited to share this latest edition and remain committed to fostering Welland's economic growth.

Quick Facts

Average home price: (August 2025): \$512,900

Total Population: 63,874 (2024 post census annual population estimate – Stats Canada)

Total Building Permits Issued: 460 (as of August 2025)

Community Initiatives and Updates

Captains of Industry – Connecting Leaders, Driving Community Impact

The City of Welland's Economic Development department proudly hosted its annual Captains of Industry Golf Tournament and Social on June 25, 2025. This sold-out event brought together business leaders, community partners, and industry professionals for a day of networking, collaboration, and relationship building.

As one of Welland's signature events, the Captains of Industry tournament continues to provide a unique platform for forging meaningful connections while giving back to the community. With strong participation year after year, the tournament highlights the strength of Welland's business network and reinforces the city's commitment to fostering partnerships that support both economic development and local charitable initiatives.

Celebrating 40 Years of Venture Niagara – Building Partnerships, Fueling Growth

On June 26, 2025, Venture Niagara marks a remarkable milestone—40 years of service, impact, and community growth. Over the past four decades, Venture Niagara has evolved to meet challenges head-on, seize new opportunities, and play a pivotal role in driving the region's economic success.

Welland Economic Development was proud to attend this special celebration, joining regional partners, business leaders, and community stakeholders in recognizing Venture Niagara's enduring contributions. From the businesses financed and advised, to the collaborative initiatives supported across Niagara, the accomplishments of Venture Niagara reflect the power of partnership.

Welcoming Niagara’s New Physicians – Strengthening Community and Care

On July 2, 2025, Welland Economic Development was honoured to attend the Niagara Resident Doctor Welcome Dinner. This annual event warmly welcomed the newest group of physicians beginning their residencies across the Niagara Region, including those practicing in Welland.

The evening provided an opportunity to connect with emerging medical professionals, highlight the advantages of living and working in Niagara, and showcase the strong community support available to them. By engaging with the next generation of healthcare providers, Welland reinforces its commitment to fostering a vibrant, healthy, and well-supported community for residents and professionals alike.

Showcasing Welland at ICSC Local Toronto – Connecting with Retailers and Developers

On July 16, 2025, Welland Economic Development participated in ICSC Local Toronto. This dynamic networking event brought together retailers, commercial clients, and industry professionals to explore opportunities and foster new partnerships.

Welland’s presence at the event provided a valuable platform to showcase the city’s growth story, highlight available commercial opportunities, and connect directly with decision-makers in the retail and development sectors. By engaging in conversations with key stakeholders, Welland reinforced its position as a city on the rise—ready to welcome new businesses and support continued investment.

Niagara Regional Supercluster Summit 2.0 – Collaborating for a Stronger Future

On July 24, 2025, Welland Economic Development joined leaders from across the Niagara Region at the Niagara Regional Supercluster Summit 2.0. The summit brought together government representatives, industry stakeholders, and community partners to advance Niagara’s shared vision of becoming a world-class destination and economic supercluster.

With special guests including the Honourable Stan Cho, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, and the Honourable Sam Oosterhoff, Associate Minister of Energy and Intensive Industries, the event highlighted the significant progress made since the launch of the Uncork Ontario campaign and ongoing work with Deloitte.

Welland’s participation at the summit reinforced our city’s commitment to regional collaboration and economic leadership. The discussions provided valuable insights into how Niagara can continue to elevate tourism, attract investment, and create opportunities that benefit communities across the region.

GNCC Spotlight with Minister Vic Fedeli – Supporting Business and Growth

On July 30, 2025, Welland Economic Development staff participated in the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce's Spotlight event featuring the Honourable Victor Fedeli, Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade., the event provided an important platform for discussion on Ontario's economic landscape and opportunities for growth.

Minister Fedeli shared valuable insights on Ontario's economic outlook, key developments, and the provincial government's ongoing efforts to support businesses and organizations through both opportunities and challenges.

Welland's participation underscored our ongoing commitment to engaging in provincial dialogue, ensuring the interests of our business community are represented, and strengthening connections that foster investment and resilience across the Niagara Region.

Niagara Industrial Association – Building Connections in Industry

Welland Economic Development joined members of the Niagara Industrial Association for a Women in Industry networking event in early August.

The gathering provided the opportunity to strengthen connections, exchange ideas, and build relationships that support collaboration and growth within the region's manufacturing and industrial community. Welland's participation reflects our ongoing commitment to engaging with industry partners and fostering the networks that drive investment and opportunity.

Welland Economic Development, also participated in a joint venture on behalf of the Welland Canal Corridor group (partnership with the Cities of St. Catharines, Port Colborne and Thorold) by staffing a booth during the Niagara Industrial Association's 9th Annual Golf Tournament. This highly anticipated event brought together nearly 200 industry leaders, business partners, and community stakeholders for an afternoon of best practice sharing, networking, and relationship building.

Best Practice Exchange in Kitchener – Exploring Innovation Hubs

On August 3, 2025, Welland Economic Development staff visited the City of Kitchener to participate in an exchange of best practices and tour several of the region's leading innovation hubs. The visit highlighted Kitchener's award-winning service delivery models, startup incubators, and technology accelerators, providing valuable insights into how municipalities can foster innovation and economic growth.

The agenda included tours of Kitchener’s Service Centre, Velocity at the University of Waterloo, Communitech, the Kitchener Digital Lab, and the Waterloo Economic Development Corporation. Participants also engaged with Catalyst137, Catalyst Commons, and the Accelerator Centre, gaining first-hand exposure to world-class programming that supports entrepreneurs in sectors such as healthcare, life sciences, robotics, AI, and aerospace.

Welland’s participation in this knowledge exchange reflects our commitment to continuous learning and collaboration. By engaging with leading innovation ecosystems, we are better equipped to bring fresh ideas, partnerships, and strategies back to our community to support Welland’s growth and competitiveness.

Showcasing Welland – Best Practice Exchange with the City of Burlington

On August 14, 2025, the City of Welland proudly hosted representatives from the City of Burlington for an exchange of best practices and a guided tour of Welland’s ongoing development projects. The visit highlighted Welland’s strategic approach to growth, innovation, and investment attraction, while providing an opportunity to share insights and municipal strategies.

Through collaborative dialogue and on-site tours, Burlington leaders were able to see first-hand the transformative projects shaping Welland’s future and strengthening its position as a vibrant, growing community. The exchange emphasized the importance of municipal partnerships and knowledge sharing in advancing economic development across Ontario.

Brantford Economic Development Forum – Exploring History and Advancing Investment Readiness

On September 11th Welland Economic Development attended the Brantford Economic Development Forum, an event focused on downtown revitalization, municipal competitiveness, and strategies to attract private investment. The forum brought together municipal leaders, industry experts, and community partners to share insights and exchange best practices.

Welland’s participation reflected our ongoing commitment to learning from peers, aligning municipal practices with investor expectations, and applying best practices to strengthen Welland’s position as a competitive and investment-ready community.

2025 Economic Summit – Connecting GTA

On September 17, 2025, Welland Economic Development participated in the 2025 Economic Summit: Connecting GTA, a premier event bringing together municipal leaders, industry partners, and economic stakeholders from across the Greater Toronto Area and beyond. The summit

provided a high-level platform to discuss shared challenges, explore collaborative opportunities, and highlight regional strategies for investment, growth, and competitiveness.

Through keynote presentations, panel discussions, and networking sessions, participants gained valuable insights into emerging market trends, infrastructure priorities, and policy directions shaping the GTA's economic future. Welland's presence at the summit underscored our city's commitment to staying at the forefront of regional dialogue and ensuring that Welland's interests and opportunities are represented as part of the broader provincial and national economic landscape.

Engaging Niagara's Next Generation – GNCC Young Professionals Summit

On September 15, 2025, Welland Economic Development participated in the GNCC Young Professionals Summit. The summit brought together community leaders and young professionals to exchange ideas, share perspectives, and explore opportunities to strengthen Niagara as a vibrant and inclusive region.

Through interactive roundtables, keynote speakers, and networking sessions, the event created an open forum for honest discussion on what young professionals need to thrive, and how community leaders can help shape a region they are proud to call home. The afternoon concluded with a Community Organization Marketplace, connecting attendees with resources and initiatives that support engagement and growth.

Welland's participation emphasized our commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders and ensuring that their voices and ideas are included in building a prosperous future for Niagara.

Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce Fall Classic – Celebrating 50 years

On September 8, 2025, Welland Economic Development participated in the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce 50th Annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament with a hole activation at St. Catharines Golf & Country Club. This tournament is the largest business-to-business fall classic golf tournament in Niagara. This signature event brought together business leaders, community stakeholders and entrepreneurs from across the region for a day of networking, and relationship building.

Hosting an activation at this event enabled the Welland Economic Development team to engage with new contacts and foster existing relationships. Staff were able to exchange ideas and explore opportunities for collaboration. Welland's involvement showcases the strong strategic partnerships to our chambers of commerce and businesses across all industries that drive investment and growth across the region.

Engaging with Local Jobseekers – Welland Job Prep Hub: Building Confidence one Candidate at a Time

On September 15, 2025, Welland Economic Development in partnership with local employment agencies held an event that focused on providing access to valuable supports intended to support jobseekers through their career journey and included:

- Resume Review
- LinkedIn Profile Creation
- Professional Attire Closet
- Haircuts and Make-Up Services
- Professional Headshots
- Practice Interviews

This event supported 28 jobseekers and leveraged strategic partnerships with the Seaway Mall, CERF Niagara, Employment Solutions, Job Gym, Dermablend Professional, Hair Hunters, Cuts Plus, Paul Schmidt Photography and Yazz Dry Cleaners.

GNCC Spotlight with The Honourable Andrea Khanjin – Red Tape Reduction

On September 16, 2025, Welland Economic Development staff attended the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce's Spotlight event featuring the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Ontario Minister of Red Tape Reduction. This event brought together Canada's elected officials and the Niagara business community for a frank conversation and meaningful interactions and networking. Attendees were provided the opportunity to discuss regional economic issues, share insights and foster connection with policymakers.

Minister Khanjin spoke to an audience of local business leaders about the government's past and future work reducing the red tape that businesses face in Ontario. Members of the audience asked her about planning and permitting, provincial and municipal barriers, development, long timelines, and more.

Tracking Our Progress: Welland Shares Strategic Plan Updates

As part of our commitment to accountability and transparency, staff continue to advance the City's 2023–2026 Strategic Plan. Quarterly progress updates were provided in September and are now available on the public dashboard

<https://www.welland.ca/StrategicPlan/strategicPlanDashboard.asp>, highlighting the ongoing

work being done to achieve Council’s priorities and deliver meaningful results for the community.

Investing in Doctors. Delivering Care.

Welland’s Physician Recruitment Incentive Program has already brought 14 new physicians to the community; each receiving tailored support to open a practice or take over an existing one. These efforts have strengthened local healthcare access and ensured more residents can find care close to home. Two additional physicians are scheduled to begin in October, with another expected to start by the end of the year—bringing the total to 17 by year’s end.

This renewed investment highlights the city’s ongoing commitment to addressing healthcare needs and ensuring every resident has reliable access to family physicians within their own community.

New Business



**Welland's trusted space for support and healing
 19 East Main Street, Unit 10**

Sage Counselling Niagara has officially opened its doors in Welland, offering professional support services in a welcoming and compassionate setting. The practice provides individuals and families with tailored counselling options designed to promote mental well-being and personal growth. With a commitment to accessibility and care, Sage Counselling brings a trusted new resource to the community while maintaining a focus on comfort and confidentiality.



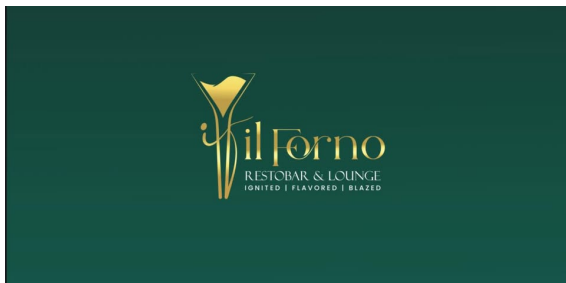
***Spice up your event, the Rasta & Mishie way
 35 Ontario Road***

Rasta & Mishie Catering and Events brings authentic, flavourful catering services to the Welland community, offering a fusion of Caribbean spices and comforting classics. Whether it's an intimate gathering or a large celebration, Rasta & Mishie promises tasty food, attentive service, and a memorable culinary experience.





Sweet moments, baked daily in Welland
208 King Street

Bomb Bish Bakery, located at 208 King Street in Welland, serves up award-winning butter tarts and handcrafted sweet creations made fresh daily. From custom cakes to indulgent treats, they bring flavour, quality, and a touch of joy to every bite.



Welland's oven-fired taste of Italy
128 East Main Street

Il Forno Restobar and Lounge offers authentic Italian baking and cuisine in Welland, bringing traditional wood-fired flavours and handcrafted recipes to every dish. Whether it's fresh bread, rustic pizza, or hearty pastas, Il Forno promises quality, warmth, and a taste of Italy right here at home.

	<p>La Gabella Deli 631 East Main Street</p> <p>La Gabella has recently been remodelled, bringing a refreshed look and welcoming atmosphere to Welland’s dining scene. Now open and serving the community, the restaurant blends comfort and quality, offering guests a new place to enjoy great food in a renewed setting.</p>
	<p>Food that moves with you, flavour that stay Various Locations</p> <p>VP Eats Food Truck serves up delicious eats on the go, bringing fresh, flavourful meals straight to the streets of Welland. With a mobile kitchen ready to roll, they’re all about convenience, taste, and community — perfect for those craving something tasty without the wait.</p>



Proudly joining Welland’s flavourful community
21 Seaway Drive

A new restaurant has joined Welland’s growing food scene, offering fresh flavours and a welcoming space for the community to enjoy. It’s an exciting addition that brings even more choice to local dining. Located in the parking lot of the Seaway Mall next to Mr. Mikes.



More space. More beauty. More Welland
150 Downs Drive

Dermablend has expanded its footprint in Welland, recently taking over the adjacent unit at 150 Downs Drive in the River Road & Downs Drive Industrial Park. This growth highlights the company’s continued success and reinforces Welland’s position as a hub for thriving industrial and commercial businesses.

Business Spotlight

Black Sheep Coffee Roasters, founded in 2015, has grown from a small local roaster into a Niagara-wide success story—and it all starts in Welland. Proudly based at 64 Niagara Street, Black Sheep recently celebrated 10 years in business, marking a decade of serving ethically sourced coffee and creating a welcoming gathering place for the community.

What began as a passion for quality coffee has developed into a recognized brand with a strong presence in Niagara's food and beverage scene. Supplying cafés, restaurants, and loyal retail customers, Black Sheep has carved out a reputation for consistency, craftsmanship, and community connection. Their beans, roasted on site in Welland, embody a balance of quality and care that keeps customers returning for more.

At the heart of Black Sheep's success is its ability to combine purpose with flavour. By forging direct relationships with farmers and prioritizing fair trade practices, the company ensures every cup tells a story of integrity and respect. Their continued growth and loyal following are proof that good business can also mean doing good.

Beyond roasting, Black Sheep's Niagara Street location serves as a hub for culture and conversation. It's a place where residents and visitors alike can connect over coffee, reinforcing Welland's reputation as a welcoming and dynamic community. With each new step forward, Black Sheep Coffee Roasters continues to demonstrate that big things can grow from local roots.





4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD.,
BEAMSVILLE, ON L3J 1L3
905-563-2799

September 24, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL: mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

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

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Bail Reform to Strengthen Community Safety

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council meeting held on September 22, 2025, endorsed the attached correspondence from the City of Thorold dated September 10, 2025, regarding Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry, and the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford, dated September 10, 2025, regarding Bail Reform, and passed the following motion regarding Bail Reform to Strengthen Community Safety:

Resolution Number: RC-2025-82

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Greg Reimer

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln shares in the grief, shock, and outrage of the City of Welland and all Niagara residents following the recent tragic and violent act that has shaken the community's sense of safety; and

WHEREAS municipalities are on the front lines of community safety, bearing the direct impact when criminal laws and justice systems fail to adequately protect residents from repeat violent offenders; and

WHEREAS the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford, has joined the call of the City of Welland by urging the Government of Canada to deliver urgent and lasting reforms to criminal laws and the bail system to ensure that violent offenders are not released back into communities where they pose ongoing risks to public safety as attached as Appendix 'A'; and

WHEREAS residents across Niagara and Ontario are calling for meaningful change to restore confidence in the justice system and provide stronger protections for vulnerable populations, particularly children; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Thorold, recognizing these same urgent concerns, has adopted the resolution attached as Appendix 'B', requesting that the Government of Ontario amend Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000 to permit public access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry, thereby empowering residents with information to take informed precautions while balancing transparency, safety, and individual privacy; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln stands in solidarity with the City of Welland and the City of Thorold and affirms that local voices must be amplified to all levels of government to ensure lasting reforms that prioritize community safety and justice.

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

1. Strongly support the call of the City of Welland and the Premier of Ontario for the Government of Canada to implement urgent reforms to criminal laws and the bail system, ensuring that repeat violent offenders are not released into communities where they may reoffend and endanger public safety; and
2. Endorse the resolution of the City of Thorold requesting that the Government of Ontario amend Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000 to allow public access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry, with appropriate safeguards to protect privacy while prioritizing community safety and the protection of children; and
3. Affirm that meaningful legislative reform at both the federal and provincial levels is urgently required to restore public trust, protect communities, and ensure that the justice system prioritizes victims and community well-being; and
4. Requests that a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, all Niagara-area Members of Parliament (MPs), all Niagara-area Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Regional Municipality of Niagara and all Niagara local municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

CARRIED

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

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

c.c. Premier of Ontario
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Attorney General of Ontario
Solicitor General of Ontario
Niagara MPs and MPPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities



Premier of Ontario
Premier ministre
de l'Ontario

Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Édifice de l'Assemblée législative
Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1A1

September 10, 2025

Mayor Frank Campion
City of Welland

Dear Mayor Campion:

I was horrified to learn about the disgusting assault of a young, innocent child that took place in your community during a recent home invasion. This scumbag deserves to rot in prison for the rest of their life. Our justice system must do everything possible to prioritize the safety of the public over criminals.

I want to thank you for your practical and common-sense proposals to reform Canada's broken bail system to ensure violent, repeat offenders remain behind bars. For our part, Ontario has and will continue to implement every measure possible to crack down on criminals and keep our streets safe. These include additional investments in police and correctional capacity, strengthened enforcement of bail requirements and stricter restrictions for sex offenders.

As you know, criminal law is a federal responsibility. Our government has both publicly and privately been pushing the federal government to get serious about strengthening bail requirements at every opportunity. I will continue to make the case for bail reform to Prime Minister Carney and his government, and I appreciate your support and collaboration as we do so.

Once again, please accept my thanks for your common-sense proposals. Violent and repeat criminals who commit disgusting, heinous crimes have no place on our streets or in our communities. My government will continue to do everything in our power to put criminals behind bars where they belong and keep our children and communities safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Ford'.

Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

c: The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General
The Honourable Zee Hamid, Associate Solicitor General
MPP Sam Oosterhoff



Thorold

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Nicholas Debono, City Clerk
3540 Schmon Parkway, P.O. Box 1044
Thorold, ON L2V 4A7

September 10, 2025

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

To All Concerned Organizations

Re: 14.3 Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry – City of Thorold Council Resolution

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold, at its meeting held on September 9, 2025, considered the aforementioned topic and passed the following resolution:

The Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

WHEREAS the current provisions of *Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry)*, 2000, restrict access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry to law enforcement agencies, limiting public awareness of individuals convicted of sexual offences living within their communities;

WHEREAS public access to information about registered sex offenders can empower City residents to take informed precautions to enhance community safety, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children;

AND WHEREAS transparency and access to information are key components of public safety policy, and a public version of the registry could balance safety and privacy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

1. That Council **FORMALLY REQUESTS** that the Government of Ontario amend Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000, to permit public access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry; and
2. That a copy of this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, all regional Members of Provincial Parliament, and Niagara region municipalities.

Thank you,



Nicholas Debono

City Clerk, City of Thorold

cc. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
All regional Members of Provincial Parliament

- Sam Oosterhoff
- Jennifer Stevens
- Wayne Gates
- Jeff Burch

Niagara Regional Municipalities

- Niagara Falls
- Port Colborne
- St Catharines
- Welland
- Grimsby
- Lincoln
- Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Pelham
- Wainfleet
- West Lincoln
- Fort Erie

Niagara Region





4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD.,
BEAMSVILLE, ON L3J 1L3
905-563-2799

September 24, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL: ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca

Region of Niagara
Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
Thorold, ON, L2V 4T7

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – “Elect Respect” Campaign

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on September 22, 2025, endorsed the attached correspondence from the Niagara Region, dated July 24, 2025, regarding the “Elect Respect” Campaign, with the following motion:

Resolution Number: RC-2025-75

Moved by: Councillor Greg Reimer; Seconded by: Councillor Tony Brunet

That Council support and endorse the resolution within the correspondence received regarding the “Elect Respect” Campaign.

CARRIED

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

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk
jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

- c.c. Niagara MPs and MPPs
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - Niagara Region
 - Ontario's Big City Mayors
 - Niagara Regional Police
 - Ontario Provincial Police
 - Royal Canadian Mounted Police
 - Local Area Municipalities

August 1, 2025

CL 11- 2025, July 24, 2025

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Motion Respecting “Elect Respect” Campaign

Regional Council, at its meeting held on July 24, 2025, passed the following motion:

WHEREAS democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community;

WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions;

WHEREAS Ontario’s municipally elected officials are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment;

WHEREAS social medial platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office;

WHEREAS better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables;

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario’s Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office;

WHEREAS in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and call on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct;

WHEREAS H.E.R. has launched a campaign called “Elect Respect” to promote the importance of a healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials that encourages individuals to participate in the political process; and

WHEREAS on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a non-partisan ‘Parliamentary Civility Pledge’ to encourage all parliamentarians to commit to end workplace harassment and increase civility on Parliament Hill, modelled after the pledge developed in Halton by representatives of H.E.R.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Niagara Regional Council **SUPPORTS** the 'Elect Respect' pledge and commits to:
 - a) Treat others with respect in all spaces; public, private, and online;
 - b) Reject and call out harassment, abuse and personal attacks;
 - c) Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks;
 - d) Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office;
 - e) Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats; and
 - f) Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct;
2. That Niagara Regional Council **CALLS** on elected officials, organizations, and community members to support the 'Elect Respect' campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca;
3. That a copy of this resolution **BE SENT** to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario's Big City Mayors, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Niagara's MPs and MPPs, Niagara Regional Police, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; and
4. That this resolution **BE SENT** to all of Niagara's local area municipalities with a request that their Councils pass a similar motion.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

:kl

CLK-C 2025-081

Distribution List:

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario's Big City Mayors
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Local Members of Parliament
Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Niagara Regional Police
Ontario Provincial Police
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Local Area Municipalities



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

September 22, 2025

SENT VIA E-MAIL

premier@ontario.ca

Attention: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

**RE: Resolution – Endorse City of Thorold Resolution Re: Publication of the
Sexual Offender Registry**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on September 22, 2025, passed the following resolution:

C-25-191

Moved: Councillor Baradziej

Seconded: Councillor Charrois

Resolved that Council vote to support the City of Thorold's resolution regarding the publication of the sexual offender registry.

The original resolution from the City of Thorold is attached to this letter for your reference. If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC:

Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario

Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario

Regional Municipality of Niagara

Local Area Municipalities

Local Area MPs

Local Area MPPs



September 10, 2025

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

To All Concerned Organizations

Re: 14.3 Publication of the Sexual Offender Registry – City of Thorold Council Resolution

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold, at its meeting held on September 9, 2025, considered the aforementioned topic and passed the following resolution:

The Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

WHEREAS the current provisions of *Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry)*, 2000, restrict access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry to law enforcement agencies, limiting public awareness of individuals convicted of sexual offences living within their communities;

WHEREAS public access to information about registered sex offenders can empower City residents to take informed precautions to enhance community safety, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children;

AND WHEREAS transparency and access to information are key components of public safety policy, and a public version of the registry could balance safety and privacy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

1. That Council **FORMALLY REQUESTS** that the Government of Ontario amend Christopher's Law (Sex Offender Registry), 2000, to permit public access to the Ontario Sex Offender Registry; and
2. That a copy of this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, all regional Members of Provincial Parliament, and Niagara region municipalities.

Thank you,



Nicholas Debono
City Clerk, City of Thorold

- cc. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
All regional Members of Provincial Parliament
- Sam Oosterhoff
 - Jennifer Stevens
 - Wayne Gates
 - Jeff Burch
- Niagara Regional Municipalities
- Niagara Falls
 - Port Colborne
 - St Catharines
 - Welland
 - Grimsby
 - Lincoln
 - Niagara-on-the-Lake
 - Pelham
 - Wainfleet
 - West Lincoln
 - Fort Erie
- Niagara Region



September 22, 2025

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

City of Hamilton
Haldimand County
Regional Municipality of Niagara
Local Area Municipalities

RE: Watershed Monitoring Technical Report 2024

At the NPCA's Full Authority Meeting held on September 19, 2025, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution No. FA-93-2025

Moved by: Robert Foster

Seconded by: Mark Tadeson

THAT Report No. FA-46-25 RE: Watershed Monitoring Technical Report 2024 **BE RECEIVED;**

AND THAT a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED to NPCA** watershed municipalities, Indigenous partners, local Public Health Units, Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

A copy of Report No. FA-46-25 has been attached for your convenience, and the NPCA Watershed Monitoring Technical Report can be found [here](#).

The Watershed Monitoring & Reporting team is available to present findings and best practices to support restoration efforts in the community. If Council or staff are interested in learning more about the results and supporting initiatives, please reach out via email at mdavis@npca.ca.

Sincerely,



Melanie Davis
Manager, Office of the CAO & Board
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

cc: Natalie Green, Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate Change
Joshua Diamond, Manager, Watershed Monitoring & Reporting

Report To: Board of Directors

Subject: Watershed Monitoring Technical Report 2024

Report No: FA-46-25

Date: September 19, 2025

Recommendations:

THAT Report No. FA-46-25 RE: Watershed Monitoring Technical Report 2024
BE RECEIVED;

AND THAT a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED** to NPCA watershed municipalities, Indigenous partners, local Public Health Units, Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

Purpose:

To provide an overview of the key findings presented in the Watershed Monitoring Technical Report 2024, which highlights Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority's (NPCA) environmental monitoring program, provides insight into the health of the watershed, and offers recommendations to improve environmental conditions.

Background:

For decades NPCA has led several monitoring initiatives across the watershed (e.g., surface water quality) and has become a trusted source of scientific information. As part of its commitments in the 2021–2031 Strategic Plan and with Board endorsement (through resolution FA-88-2024), NPCA launched its enhanced Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program (IWMP) in 2024 to improve and coordinate monitoring efforts across its watershed jurisdiction. The primary goal of the IWMP is to comprehensively assess the ecological health and resilience of the NPCA watershed through coordinated monitoring initiatives that support evidence-based conservation and watershed management strategies.

The IWMP is comprised of three core program areas: Long-Term Watershed Monitoring (i.e., surface water, groundwater, hydrometrics (water quantity), and terrestrial ecosystems), Corporate Support Services (monitoring for NPCA-specific needs), and Monitoring Service Provider (environmental monitoring services to its watershed partners such as

municipalities, provincial and federal agencies as well as private companies). Together, these components form a cohesive framework for delivering effective and integrated watershed monitoring across the NPCA's jurisdiction.

Discussion:

The 2024 Watershed Monitoring Technical Report provides a comprehensive overview of the most recent environmental monitoring results of the NPCA's IWMP. Data collected through the program informs watershed health assessments, identifies pollution sources, and supports flood forecasting. The complete report can be found on the NPCA's website: <https://npca.ca/watershed-health#water-quality-monitoring>

A summary of the findings for each of the core program areas is provided below. Appendix 1 *Watershed Monitoring: Highlights and Key Insights* is a plain-language summary of the report to further support information sharing with the community and other interested parties.

Long-Term Monitoring Program

Surface Water Quality Monitoring

NPCA monitors surface water quality monthly across 84 stations during the ice-free season, using chemical indicators such as chloride, nitrate, phosphorus, suspended solids, metals, and *E. coli* to calculate the Canadian Water Quality Index. In addition, benthic invertebrates are used as biological indicators of stream health due to their sensitivity to localized environmental conditions.

Monitoring results show that many watercourses in the Niagara Peninsula watershed exhibit poor or impaired water quality, primarily due to pollutants from both non-point sources (e.g., agriculture, septic systems, road salt) and point sources (e.g., urban stormwater runoff, combined sewer overflows). However, watercourses influenced by groundwater discharge, the Great Lakes, or located in well-forested areas, tend to have better water quality ratings.

Groundwater Quality Monitoring

NPCA collects groundwater quality data from 46 monitoring wells, including 15 wells from the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) and 31 NPCA-operated wells. These wells are distributed across the watershed to assess ambient conditions in various bedrock and overburden aquifers.

Monitoring results show that groundwater quality is highly variable, with some wells exceeding Ontario Drinking Water Standards. Most exceedances are attributed to naturally occurring geological conditions and have been investigated through MECP protocols, with notifications sent to the appropriate local Public Health Department. One monitoring well, however, showed elevated nitrate levels linked to anthropogenic sources. This exceedance has also been investigated by MECP and public health authorities. The required follow-up action, as part of the PGMN exceedance notification protocol, is for NPCA to continue

notifying the owner of the monitoring well about the ongoing or new groundwater quality exceedance.

Terrestrial Quality Monitoring

NPCA's newly developed terrestrial monitoring was implemented to assess ecological integrity across the watershed. In 2024, a statistical power analysis was conducted to guide the design of the program, ensuring appropriate sampling effort, time scale, and resource allocation. Forests, wetlands, and birds were identified as key components for long-term monitoring. Based on this analysis, NPCA initiated the first phase of its forest monitoring program, establishing 30 deciduous forest plots within its conservation areas (17 installed in 2024 and 13 added in 2025). These plots follow standardized Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network protocols to track forest health indicators such as species composition, tree health, regeneration, invasive species presence, and coarse woody debris. This data will support adaptive management and inform broader conservation planning across the watershed.

Hydrometric Monitoring

NPCA's Hydrometric Monitoring Program is a critical component of its watershed monitoring efforts, providing continuous data on surface water quantity and climate conditions. The program includes 21 water level stations, 7 flow stations, 11 precipitation stations, 7 wind stations, and 7 snow monitoring sites, with readings taken every 5 to 15 minutes or seasonally, as appropriate. This data supports NPCA's mandated Flood Forecasting and Warning function under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and *O. Reg. 686/21*, enabling timely flood messaging to municipalities and media when flooding is possible or imminent. These flooding advisories help local governments activate emergency response plans and protect public safety.

While hydrometric data is not included in the watershed monitoring technical report, real-time and historical streamflow and water level information is available through the NPCA's online Flooding and Stream Flow Monitoring portal at www.npca.ca/watershed-health#flooding-stream-flow-monitoring.

Corporate Support Services

The Corporate Support Services program area is comprised of several monitoring projects/programs that provide NPCA staff with crucial data to inform operational activities across multiple departments and divisions. The type and number of Corporate Support Services that the NPCA implements is dynamic and driven by its program and project needs.

In 2024, this program area included conservation area water quality monitoring, conservation area ecological studies, conservation area beach monitoring, and Lake Niapenco Perfluorinated Compound Monitoring.

Monitoring Service Provider

The IWMP's Monitoring Service Provider program area enables NPCA staff to respond to the needs of its watershed partners such as municipalities, provincial and federal agencies as well as private companies to provide high-quality, cost-effective environmental monitoring services. Through NPCA's dedicated team of experts specializing in hydrometric, groundwater, surface water, and terrestrial monitoring and trained to utilize state-of-the-art technologies, monitoring protocols, and data analyses, NPCA is readily equipped to provide environmental monitoring services for a variety of needs.

In 2024, NPCA provided monitoring services for the following projects: Hamilton International Airport Monitoring, Glanbrook Landfill Monitoring, and the Unrated Drain Classification Fish Sampling Program under the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Conclusion & Next Steps:

Overall, findings indicate that watershed health remains degraded due to historical impacts, but targeted restoration efforts—such as nutrient management, riparian buffer expansion, and forest cover enhancement—can help reverse these trends over time. To build on the progress made through the IWMP, NPCA will continue to invest in and expand its monitoring efforts to support watershed health and strategic priorities. Continued monitoring is essential to track progress, guide decision-making, and ensure alignment with provincial and federal water quality standards.

Key next steps include communicating with partners and other interested parties to share information about IWMP findings, maintaining long-term monitoring programs to ensure up-to-date data, continuing to enhance data management systems, and strengthening partnerships with internal and external stakeholders.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with the receipt of the Watershed Monitoring Technical Report for 2024. NPCA's Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program is included in the annual operating budgets.

Links to Policy/Strategic Plan:

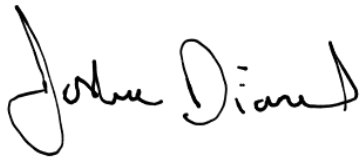
Goal 1.1: Support evidence-based decision-making for climate-resilient watersheds and shorelines.

Related Reports and Appendices:

Appendix 1: Watershed Monitoring: Highlights and Insights

Authored by:

Original Signed by:



Joshua Diamond, M.Sc. C.Tech.
Manager, Watershed Monitoring and Reporting

Reviewed by:

Original Signed by:

Natalie Green, M.Sc., PMP
Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate Change

Submitted by:

Original Signed by:

Leilani Lee-Yates, BES, MSPL.RPD, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

WATERSHED MONITORING: HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS

PROGRAM GOALS

Establish baseline conditions by understanding natural variability and ecological thresholds in the Niagara Peninsula watershed.

Assess temporal and spatial conditions of aquatic and terrestrial resources against established baselines.

Identify potential stressors and emerging threats for management through other programs.

INTERESTING FACT: Monitoring of aquatic bugs that live in the sediment as well as fisheries provide additional information about the biological condition waterbodies.

Surface Water

Surface water chemistry monitored monthly at 84 stations during the ice-free season. Using indicators like chloride, nitrate, phosphorus, suspended solids, metals, and E. coli, staff calculate the Canadian Water Quality Index to provide a standardized rating. This monitoring helps assess watershed health, identify pollution sources, and guide effective management and restoration.

- Most sites show poor water quality due to levels of phosphorus, E. coli, and chlorides.
- The best water quality is found in the Upper Twelve Mile Creek, one site in the Upper Welland River, and areas influenced by the Great Lakes.
- Areas with natural cover (e.g., forests, wetlands, riparian zones) generally have better water quality than those without.



771
Surface Water Samples Collected in 2024



29
Benthic Macro-Invertebrate Samples

Groundwater

Groundwater quality data is collected from 46 monitoring wells (15 from the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network and 31 operated by NPCA). This monitoring assesses conditions in bedrock and overburden aquifers, helping evaluate aquifer health, detect contaminants, and ensure safe groundwater for communities.

- Most groundwater monitoring stations meet Ontario Drinking Water Standards.
- Any exceedances are generally due to natural conditions (e.g., bedrock).
- One groundwater well in Pelham exceeds nitrate levels, likely due to human sources (e.g. fertilizer application).



52
Groundwater Samples Collected in 2024



2
Landowner Groundwater Wells Decommissioned

Terrestrial

NPCA's terrestrial monitoring program assesses ecological integrity through standardized forest plots, tracking forest health to support long-term conservation planning.

- Terrestrial monitoring is an enhanced program area with data collection initiated in 2025.
- Monitoring network established across the watershed, starting with 30 deciduous forest plots in conservation areas.
- Data will inform long-term watershed management.



30
Terrestrial Monitoring Forest Plots

Hydrometric

NPCA's hydrometric monitoring collects continuous water level and climate data to support flood forecasting and public safety across the watershed.

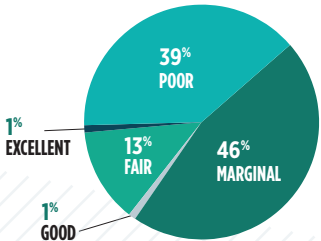
- Informs flood forecasting and warning across the watershed.
- Real-time and historical streamflow and water level data are available through NPCA's online Flooding and Stream Flow Monitoring portal.



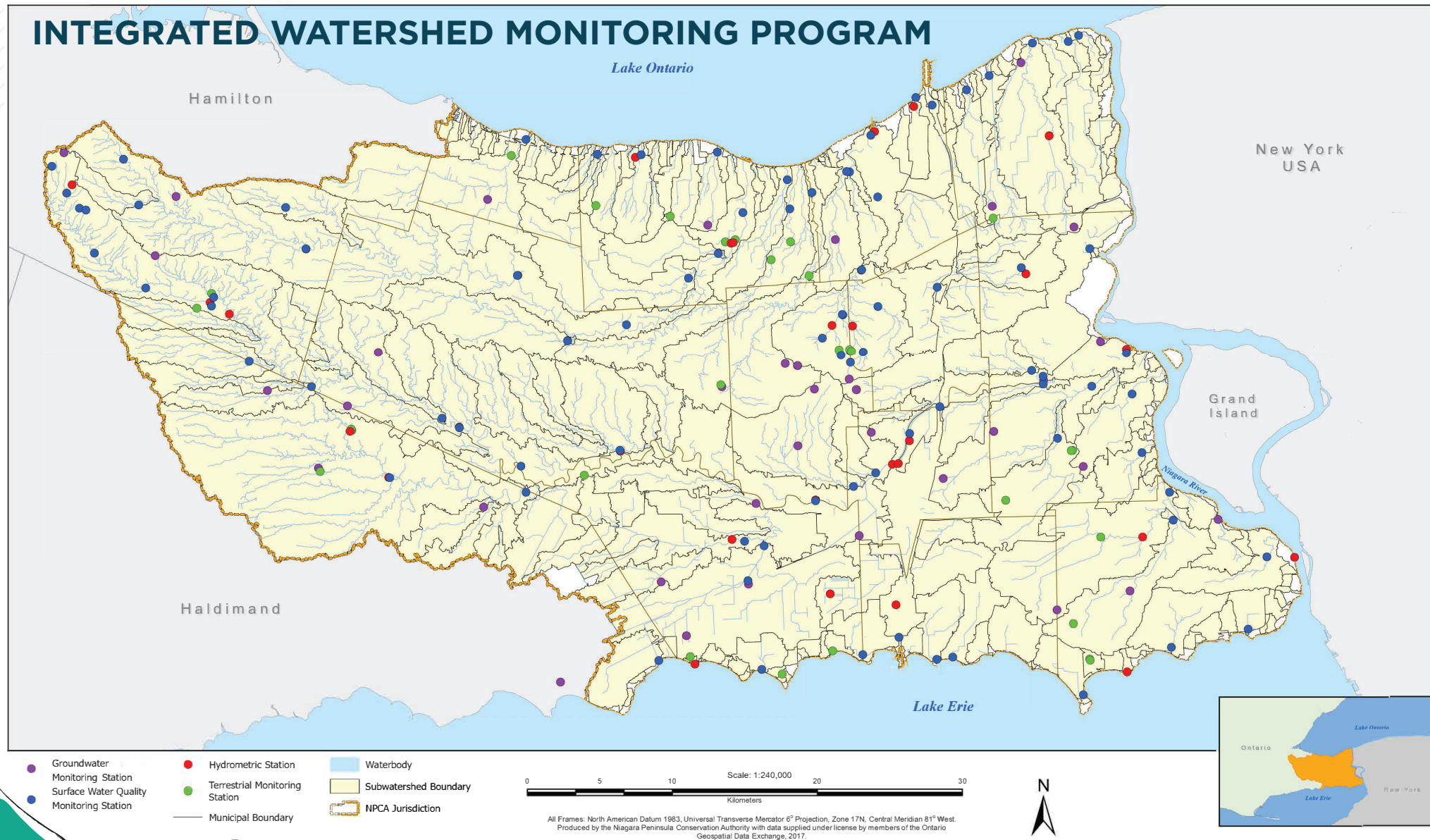
11
Flood Bulletins Issued

The State of Our Streams 2024:

Station Ratings by Percentage



INTEGRATED WATERSHED MONITORING PROGRAM



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Plant native vegetation
- Limit pesticide & fertilizer use
- Don't oversalt your driveway – a little goes a long way
- Pick up pet waste and dispose in the trash
- Regularly maintain your septic system
- Install rain barrels or rain gardens to conserve water
- Don't litter and properly dispose of household chemicals
- Volunteer with conservation activities

Report a problem

REPORTING POLLUTION: Contact MECP Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060 or online here: report-pollution.ene.gov.on.ca

FOR FISH DIE-OFF: Contact Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Fish Die-Off Hotline at 1-800-387-7011

Learn More

Full Technical Report – available on NPCA website
Data Requests – watershedmonitoring@npca.ca or scan below



3350 Merrittville Hwy #9, Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
npca.ca | watershedmonitoring@npca.ca
[@NPCA_Ontario](https://www.instagram.com/NPCA_Ontario)

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF DRYDEN

MOVED BY: Price

DATE: 22-Sep-25

SECONDED BY: Kiewning

RESOLUTION NO.: 14

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of The City of Dryden respectfully urges the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Education, to incorporate mandatory water safety and Swim-to-Survive training into the elementary school curriculum for all Ontario students; and

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Minister of Education of Ontario, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities, with a request for their endorsement.

RECORDED VOTE			DECLARATION UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT Councillors who have declared an interest, abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.	
Council	Yes	No		
Councillor C. Kiewning				
Councillor B. Latham				
Councillor M. MacKinnon				
Councillor R. Noel				
Councillor M. Price			Disposition of Resolution (Check One)	
Councillor B. Tardiff				
Mayor J. Harrison				
TOTALS			Carried X	Defeated

MAYOR: Harrison



TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH

30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach
Ontario, Canada L9Z 1A1
Tel (705) 429-3844
mayor@wasagabeach.com

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

September 19, 2025

To: All Ontario Municipal Councils

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Ontario Municipal Councils,

RE: Resolution from the Town of Wasaga Beach – Letter of Support for Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach, during their September 11, 2025, Council meeting, and at the request of the Municipality of Tweed, passed the following resolution regarding Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario.

That the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach supports the Municipality of Tweed's correspondence titled "Collaborative Action on Sustainable Waste Management in Ontario"; and

That this Council urges the Government of Ontario to:

1. Establish a provincial working group consisting of representatives from municipalities, the Provincial and Federal governments, and manufacturing/industry partners;
2. Commit to exploring and implementing clean incineration technologies, enhancing recycling programs, and adopting other innovative waste management strategies;
3. Take immediate steps to reduce the environmental impact of waste disposal across Ontario in a manner that is equitable, efficient, and future-focused;

And further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- Premier Doug Ford;
- The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;
- Leaders of the opposition parties;
- Local MPP(s);
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
- The Municipality of Tweed; and
- The County of Simcoe

Your favorable consideration of this matter is appreciated.



TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH

30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach
Ontario, Canada L9Z 1A1
Tel (705) 429-3844
mayor@wasagabeach.com

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Should you have any questions, please contact me at mayor@wasagabeach.com or (705) 429-3844 ext. 2225.

Sincerely,

Brian Smith
Mayor, Town of Wasaga Beach

/mps

cc: Premier Doug Ford;
The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;
Leaders of the opposition parties;
Local MPP(s);
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
The Municipality of Tweed; and
The County of Simcoe

September 24, 2025

To: The Right Honourable Mark Carney

Subject: Urgent Appeal Regarding Canada Post Labour Dispute and Impact on Municipal Communications

Dear Mr. Carney

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Bonfield, I am writing to express our concern regarding the ongoing labour dispute between Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), which remains unresolved despite months of negotiations.

As you are aware, CUPW has suspended the delivery of flyers nationwide in an effort to encourage Canada Post to return to the bargaining table. While we respect the rights of workers to collectively bargain, this suspension has had a significant impact on businesses, non-profit organizations, and municipal governments, limiting our ability to communicate essential information to our residents.

The Township of Bonfield, like many rural municipalities, has limited internet connectivity and relies heavily on Canada Post for the distribution of newsletters and other important communications. The interruption in mail services directly affects our capacity to keep residents informed on municipal matters, emergency notifications, and other critical community information.

Therefore, be advised that the Council of the Township of Bonfield:

1. Urges the Canadian Union of Postal Workers and the Federal Government to promptly return to the negotiating table; and
2. Calls upon CUPW to reconsider the suspension of flyer deliveries, including municipal communications, to ensure the continued dissemination of critical community information.

A copy of this resolution has been sent to the Nipissing–Timiskaming MP, Pauline Rochefort, Nipissing MPP, Vic Fedeli, Canada Post, the CUPW President, FONOM, and AMO.

Small Community. Big Heart



We respectfully request your attention to this matter to help facilitate a timely resolution, ensuring that municipalities like Bonfield can continue to effectively communicate with their residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andrée Gagné". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Andrée Gagné
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Bonfield



BONFIELD TOWNSHIP

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CLERK

365 HIGHWAY 531

BONFIELD ON P0H 1E0

Telephone: 705-776-2641 Fax: 705-776-1154

Website: <http://www.bonfieldtownship.com>

Email: deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

September 23rd, 2025

Motion 5

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

WHEREAS the labour dispute between Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) remains unresolved despite months of negotiations; AND WHEREAS CUPW has suspended the delivery of flyers nationwide in an effort to bring Canada Post back to the bargaining table; AND WHEREAS this suspension significantly impacts businesses, non-profit organizations, and municipal governments, limiting their ability to communicate essential information; AND WHEREAS many rural municipalities, including the Township of Bonfield, have limited internet connectivity and rely heavily on Canada Post for the distribution of newsletters and other important communications to residents; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Bonfield:

1. Urges the Canadian Union of Postal Workers and the Federal Government to promptly return to the negotiating table; and
2. Calls upon CUPW to reconsider the suspension of flyer deliveries, which includes municipal communications, to ensure the continued dissemination of critical community information

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Right Honourable Mark Carney, Nipissing Timiskaming MP, Pauline Rochefort, Nipissing MPP, Vic Fedeli, Canada Post, CUPW President, FONOM, and AMO.

Carried

DIVISION VOTE

FOR

Donna Clark

Jason Corbett

Steve Featherstone

Dan MacInnis

Narry Paquette

AGAINST

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest/Conflict of Interest

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of Resolution No.5 of the Township of Bonfield's Regular Council Meeting of September 23rd, 2025, and which Resolution is in full force and effect.

Andrée Gagné

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 4.3.
Resolution Number 2025-223
Title: Resolutions of Support for Correspondence
Date: September 17, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution No. 2025-279 passed on August 12, 2025 by the City of North Bay and supports Resolution #173-08-2025 passed on August 19, 2025 by the Municipality of Assiginack, regarding making the NORDS Pilot Program permanent;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of Northern Development; the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Minister of Infrastructure; the Minister of Natural Resources; our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



The Corporation of the
City of North Bay
200 McIntyre St. East
P.O. Box 360
North Bay, Ontario
Canada P1B 8H8
Tel: 705 474-0400

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
Direct Line: (705) 474-0626, ext. 2522
Fax Line: (705) 495-4353
E-mail: veronique.hie@northbay.ca

August 13, 2025

Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Northern Development
Suite 400
160 Bloor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2E6

Dear Hon. Greg Rickford:

This is Resolution No. 2025-279 which was passed by Council at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

Resolution No. 2025-279:

"Whereas the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) pilot program was introduced to help Northern Ontario municipalities address infrastructure pressures resulting from natural resource sector activities;

And Whereas the program has been well received and has allowed municipalities, such as the City of North Bay, to strategically accumulate multi-year allocations in order to support large-scale infrastructure initiatives critical to community development and economic growth;

And Whereas the City of North Bay recognizes the importance of modern, safe, and efficient infrastructure to support economic growth and industrial competitiveness;

AND WHEREAS the Seymour Street Widening project from Station Road to Wallace Road, including a signalized intersection, is a critical continuation of the intersection improvement at Hwy 11/17 and Seymour Street, directly supporting a high-value industrial zone;

And Whereas this arterial corridor enables key sectors such as mining, forestry, construction, and manufacturing to receive and ship goods efficiently, impacting markets provincially and beyond;

And Whereas the updated total Seymour Street Widening project budget of approx. \$11 million includes contributions from multiple funding programs such as NORDS (\$2 million) and OCIF (\$4,259,448).

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the City of North Bay strongly urges the Government of Ontario to make the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program a permanent fixture of its support to Northern municipalities;

And Further Be It Resolved That the Province consider expanding program eligibility to recognize the significant impact that agricultural equipment and operations have on municipal infrastructure, particularly in rural communities;

And Further Be It Resolved That the Council of the City of North Bay formally supports the principle of stacking (accumulating) funding from multiple grant and infrastructure programs to advance strategic capital works, such as the Seymour Street Widening project, and requests continued flexibility from higher levels of government to enable effective financial planning and timely delivery of large-scale municipal infrastructure initiatives;

And Further Be It Resolved That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Northern Development, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Natural Resources, Nipissing MPP Victor Fedeli, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and all Northern Ontario municipalities for their awareness and support."

Yours truly,



Veronique Hie
Deputy City Clerk

VH/ck

cc: Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Minister of Infrastructure
Minister of Natural Resources
Nipissing MPP, Victor Fedeli
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
Northern Ontario Municipalities



The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Northern Development
Suite 400
160 Bloor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2E6

Re: NORDS Pilot Program

Dear Honourable Greg Rickford,

At its regular meeting held on August 19, 2025, the Council of the Township of Assiginack passed the following resolution expressing support for making the NORDS pilot program permanent:

Resolution #173-08-2025 – R. Maguire – J. Bowerman

WHEREAS the City of North Bay has circulated their letter to the Province requesting the NORDS pilot program to become a permanent funding opportunity for Northern municipalities and to expand the criteria to include agricultural equipment impact on roads;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Assiginack Council agrees and provides their support of this request.

Carried.

The NORDS program provides essential support for maintaining and improving infrastructure that is critical to Northern municipalities. Making this program permanent and expanding its criteria would ensure that rural and agricultural communities can manage the increasing strain on local roads caused by agricultural and heavy equipment.

We respectfully urge the Province to consider making the NORDS program a permanent funding initiative and thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Stasia Carr'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stasia Carr
Clerk
Township of Assiginack



Date: September 15, 2025

Resolution No. COU-2025-30

Moved By: Councillor Wheeldon

Seconded By: Councillor Rowley

Whereas Canadian governments at all levels are structured by and derive their legitimacy from democratic principles, practices, and norms;

And Whereas many countries around the world are experiencing increased political polarization and hostility, shifts toward authoritarianism, and the undermining of democratic norms;

And Whereas incivility and hostility increasingly define the political sphere in Canada at every level of government, but particularly in systems with political parties;

And Whereas this hostile political climate drives lower democratic participation, including low voter turnout and fewer and less diverse political candidates, resulting in a lopsided and unhealthy democracy;

And Whereas poor political health undermines the ability of democratic institutions to exercise effective leadership and overcome the unprecedented challenges of the 21st century;

And Whereas elections are one of the most central and participatory parts of Canadian democratic systems;

And Whereas numerous studies, including those by Parliamentary committees, have identified our First Past the Post electoral system as driving increasing polarization and declines in voter participation, and have recommended some form of proportional representation;

And Whereas electoral reform enjoys broad public support, with a majority of polling respondents who identify with every major party supporting change in the way that they vote;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Municipality of Brighton call upon the provincial and federal governments to enact electoral reform, adopting proportional systems in which every vote counts and polarization is diminished, in order to safeguard and empower Canadian democracy;

11.1

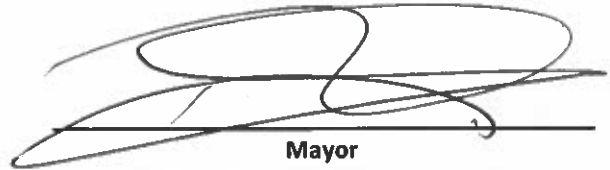
And Be It Further Resolved that this motion be circulated to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

☒

OR Defeated

☐


Mayor

Recorded Vote		For Clerks Use Only			
Recorded vote called by: _____					
	For	Against	Abstain	Absent	COI
Mayor Brian Ostrander					
Deputy Mayor Ron Anderson					
Councillor Anne Butwell					
Councillor Hannah MacAusland					
Councillor Emily Rowley					
Councillor Jeff Wheeldon					
Councillor Bobbi Wright					
Total					
Carried <input type="checkbox"/>		Defeated <input type="checkbox"/>		Clerk's Initials <input type="text"/>	

11.1.



MUNICIPALITY OF
SHUNIAH

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 295-25

Date: Sep 23, 2025

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____

THAT Council hereby receives and supports the resolution from Perry regarding Increased Income Support Thresholds for Veterans;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Minister of Veterans Affairs Jill Mcknight, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Bloc Quebecois Yves-Francois Blanchet, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay Superior-North Patty Hajdu, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario Municipalities;

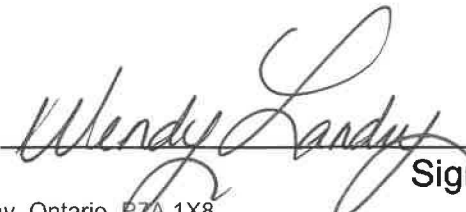
AND THAT the same be filed in the Clerk's Office.

☒ **Carried**

☐ **Defeated**

☐ **Amended**

☐ **Deferred**



Signature

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



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: September 3, 2025

Resolution No.: 2025- 310

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas the Township of Perry 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 Corporation of the Township of Perry 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;
- Scott Aitchison, Member of Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka;
- 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;

Carried:  Defeated: _____


Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

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

Resolution Page
Regular Council Meeting



Agenda Number: 9.1.1.
Resolution Number :
Title: H.E.R Elect Respect Campaign
Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Halls
Seconded by: Councillor Banfield

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council of the Township of East Garafraxa do hereby support the Town of Orangeville resolution regarding the Elect Respect Campaign.

CARRIED

Council Resolution

Council Meeting Date: July 14, 2025

Letter of Support for H.E.R. Elect Respect Campaign

Council Resolution: 2025-140

Moved: Mayor Post

Seconded: Councillor Andrews

WHEREAS democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community;

AND WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's municipally elected officials are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment;

AND WHEREAS social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office;

AND WHEREAS better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office;

AND WHEREAS in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and called on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct;

AND WHEREAS H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called Elect Respect to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials that encourages individuals to participate in the political process;

AND WHEREAS on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a non-partisan "Parliamentary Civility Pledge" to encourage all parliamentarians to commit to end workplace harassment and increase civility on Parliament Hill, modelled after the pledge developed in Halton by representatives of H.E.R.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Orangeville Council supports the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online,
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks,
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks,
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office,
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats, and
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct.

AND THAT Orangeville Council calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect campaign and sign the online pledge at www.electrespect.ca.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario's Big City Mayors, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, relevant MPs and MPPs, Regional Police, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Result: Carried Unanimously

September 25, 2025

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Delivered by email
resolutions@amo.on.ca

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 23, 2025
Member Motion 8.9.1 - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Elect Respect Campaign Support

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 23, 2025, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas a healthy democracy thrives when all individuals can participate safely, equitably, and meaningfully in public life; and

Whereas Aurora, like many municipalities across Ontario, is witnessing an erosion of civil discourse and growing hostility in the political arena, both in person and online; and

Whereas elected officials at all levels, particularly women and those from equity-deserving communities, are experiencing increased threats, harassment, and toxic engagement that deter civic participation; and

Whereas social media platforms, while powerful tools for engagement, have contributed to a climate of disrespect and polarization that discourages individuals from seeking or maintaining public office; and

Whereas inclusive and respectful governance results in better decision-making and stronger representation, especially when voices of diverse genders, identities, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, ages, and abilities are present at municipal council tables; and

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), through its Healthy Democracy Project, has identified troubling trends of voter apathy and a declining interest in running for municipal office; and

Whereas in 2024, a group of female elected officials from Halton formed H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives), launching the Elect Respect campaign to advocate for respectful political engagement and safe, inclusive workplaces; and

Whereas on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a national Parliamentary Civility Pledge, inspired by the work of H.E.R., to promote respectful conduct among elected officials;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora Council endorses the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:

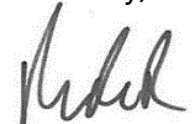
- **Treating all individuals with respect in every setting; public, private, and digital;**
- **Speaking out against harassment, intimidation, and personal attacks;**
- **Keeping debate focused on ideas and public policy, not individuals;**
- **Fostering an environment where people of all backgrounds feel safe and supported in seeking and holding public office;**
- **Urging relevant authorities to ensure the safety and protection of elected officials facing threats or abuse;**
- **Demonstrating leadership through integrity, accountability, and mutual respect among colleagues and constituents; and**

2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora encourages other municipalities, elected officials, organizations, and residents to support the Elect Respect initiative and sign the pledge at www.electrespect.ca; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario's Big City Mayors, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), York Region, York Regional Police, and all Ontario municipalities.

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond

Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Sandra Cobena, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Costas Menegakis, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
The Regional Municipality of York
York Regional Police
All Ontario Municipalities



8. Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 9, 2025

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Weese

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting Report of September 23, 2025, and the Audit Committee Meeting Report of June 24, 2025 (Item 9), be received and the recommendations carried by the Committees approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.2.2, 8.5.2, and 8.7.1, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Absent (1): Councillor Gaertner

Carried (6 to 0)

8.9 Member Motions

8.9.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Elect Respect Campaign Support

Whereas a healthy democracy thrives when all individuals can participate safely, equitably, and meaningfully in public life; and

Whereas Aurora, like many municipalities across Ontario, is witnessing an erosion of civil discourse and growing hostility in the political arena, both in person and online; and

Whereas elected officials at all levels, particularly women and those from equity-deserving communities, are experiencing increased threats, harassment, and toxic engagement that deter civic participation; and

Whereas social media platforms, while powerful tools for engagement, have contributed to a climate of disrespect and polarization that discourages individuals from seeking or maintaining public office; and

Whereas inclusive and respectful governance results in better decision-making and stronger representation, especially when

voices of diverse genders, identities, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, ages, and abilities are present at municipal council tables; and

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), through its Healthy Democracy Project, has identified troubling trends of voter apathy and a declining interest in running for municipal office; and

Whereas in 2024, a group of female elected officials from Halton formed H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives), launching the Elect Respect campaign to advocate for respectful political engagement and safe, inclusive workplaces; and

Whereas on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a national Parliamentary Civility Pledge, inspired by the work of H.E.R., to promote respectful conduct among elected officials;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora Council endorses the Elect Respect pledge and commits to:
 - Treating all individuals with respect in every setting; public, private, and digital;
 - Speaking out against harassment, intimidation, and personal attacks;
 - Keeping debate focused on ideas and public policy, not individuals;
 - Fostering an environment where people of all backgrounds feel safe and supported in seeking and holding public office;
 - Urging relevant authorities to ensure the safety and protection of elected officials facing threats or abuse;
 - Demonstrating leadership through integrity, accountability, and mutual respect among colleagues and constituents; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora encourages other municipalities, elected officials, organizations, and residents to support the Elect Respect initiative and sign the pledge at www.electrespect.ca; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario's Big City Mayors, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM),

local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), York Region, York Regional Police, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried