



# COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, March 27, 2026

---

	<b>Pages</b>
1. Memorandum from the City of Welland re: Ward Boundary Changes - Resident Notification.	3 - 3
2. Memorandum from the City of Welland re: Sharing Information with Members of Council.	4 - 5
3. Memorandum from the City of Welland re: Clarification on Mayor and Councillors Expense Policy.	6 - 7
4. Letter from the Town of Lincoln re: Request to Extend Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties.	8 - 10
5. Letter from the City of Thorold re: Support for Winter Cold Weather Support Plan.	11 - 13
6. Letter from the Township of Greater Madawaska re: Postal Rates for Library Materials.	14 - 16
7. Letter from the Township of Greater Madawaska re: OCIF Extension and Review.	17 - 19
8. Letter from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan re: Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget).	20 - 22
9. Letter from the Municipality of South Huron re: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy.	23 - 25
10. Letter from the Municipality of South Huron re: Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment.	26 - 29
11. Letter from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent re: Food Insecurity Emergency Declaration.	30 - 32
12. Letter from the Town of Saugeen Shores re: Architectural Conservancy of Ontario include \$10M per year for HHH.	33 - 34
13. Letter from the City of Sarnia re: Strengthening Municipal Accountability and Public Trust (Bill 9).	35 - 36

14. Letter from the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands re: Tar and Chip.

37 - 37

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Mayor, Council and Residents**

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

**DATE: March 27, 2026**

**SUBJECT: Ward Boundary Changes – Resident Notification**

---

This memo is intended to advise Members of Council and residents regarding the city's upcoming notification to households affected by changes to ward boundaries.

On August 12, 2025, Welland City Council approved updates to the city's ward boundaries. As part of the implementation of these changes, the city will be issuing letters to all residents whose properties are located within areas impacted by the revised boundaries.

Residents affected by the ward boundary changes can expect to receive a letter in the mail by the end of April. The letter will confirm whether a resident's ward has changed and provide information on how the change will apply to the 2026 Municipal Election.

The updated ward boundaries will determine which ward representatives affected residents will vote for at the next municipal election, which is scheduled to take place on Monday, October 26, 2026.

Additional information, including updated ward maps and election-related details, will continue to be shared through the city's website and social media channels as the election approaches.

Residents with questions or who require assistance confirming their ward are encouraged to contact Legislative Services at 905-735-1700 or [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca).

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor, Council and Residents

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

**DATE:** March 27, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Sharing Information with Members of Council

---

The City of Welland encourages residents and community members to share information, ideas, and concerns with members of Council in a variety of accessible ways, on an ongoing basis.

### **Ways to Share Information With Council**

Members of the public may provide information to Council at any time by:

- Emailing all members of Council at [council@welland.ca](mailto:council@welland.ca)
- Submitting correspondence to the Clerk's Office at [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca), which will be appropriately managed and shared
- Contacting individual members of Council directly using the contact information available on the [city's website](#).
- Participating in Council or General Committee meetings in accordance with the City's procedural rules

These options remain available and are encouraged as the primary ways to communicate information with Council.

### **Sharing Materials Prior/During/After Council Meetings**

To support meeting safety, and the effective conduct of meetings:

- Members of the public may not circulate materials within the Chambers prior/during/after a meeting.
- Materials intended for Council may be provided in advance or submitted during a meeting by emailing [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca), or by providing hard-copy materials to Security for delivery to the Clerk's Office following the meeting.
- Materials received through the Clerk will be shared with Council electronically, as required and appropriate.

### **Our Commitment**

The city remains committed to open communication, transparency, and public engagement. These procedures are in place to ensure Council meetings remain safe, and effective, while maintaining clear and consistent ways for the public to share information with elected officials.

For questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca).

---

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: Mayor and Council**

**FROM: Jessica Ruddell, Chief Administrative Officer**

**DATE: March 27, 2026**

**SUBJECT: Clarification on Mayor and Councillors Expense Policy**

---

The purpose of this memo is to clarify the procedures and policy requirements related to the *Mayor and Councillors Expense Policy* ([FIN-001-0018](#)), specifically regarding budget allocations and the approval process for exceeding annual limits.

Under section 4.2(d) of the policy, Members of Council shall not exceed their annual budget allocation without obtaining the prior approval from the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). If Council members anticipate that their expenses will exceed the approved annual allocation in the operating budget, they are required to request approval in advance from the CAO. This ensures that any additional expenses can be accommodated within the corresponding Cost Centre.

For example, in 2024, there were three members of Council who exceeded their annual conference, convention and seminar allocation of \$5,000:

<b>Councillor Name</b>	<b>2024 Allocation</b>	<b>2024 Actuals</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Councillor Chiocchio	\$5,000	\$7,642	\$2,642
Councillor Setaram	\$5,000	\$6,960	\$1,960
Councillor Van Vliet	\$5,000	\$6,371	\$1,371

Note: Actuals rounded to the nearest dollar.

In these cases, the CAO reviewed the overall Cost Centre to confirm that sufficient funds were available. As a result, the total year-end actuals did not exceed the approved budget. Therefore, no Councillor contravened the policy.

Budgets are best estimates of organizational needs to deliver on its services and strategic priority objectives at the time they are set. Actual results are not expected to be exactly the same as budget. To be effective and efficient, policy must provide controls through review and approvals to manage the overall budget, but also allow management the flexibility to make decisions in-year to align with current needs and circumstances. This type of internal budget management, offsetting variances on different revenue and expense lines within a Cost Centre, is a standard practice across the City's operating budget. Should staff identify significant variances that require additional action, appropriate recommendations are proposed at that time.

To ensure transparency and public accountability for expenditures by the Mayor and Council, as well as all municipal revenues and expenses:

- A quarterly financial update is presented at Council and published in the Council agenda package.
- An annual report on Mayor, Council, and Board remuneration and expenses is presented at Council, posted on the City's website, and submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD.,  
BEAMSVILLE, ON L3J 1L3

905-563-2799

March 25, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL: [graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org](mailto:graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org)

Hon. Graham McGregor  
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
10215 Kennedy Rd. N  
Brampton, ON L6Z 0C5

**RE: Town of Lincoln Resolution – Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties**

Please be advised that Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Committee of the Whole Meeting held on March 23, 2026, passed the following resolution:

Resolution Number: PED-2026-22  
Moved by: Councillor Lynn Timmers

**WHEREAS** amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

**WHEREAS** the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

**WHEREAS** the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

**WHEREAS** many municipalities, including the Town of Lincoln, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Lincoln Heritage Advisory Committee, at its meeting of March 12, 2026, recommended that Council advocate to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Council of the Town of Lincoln endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Advisory Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and
2. The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and
3. This resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

**CARRIED**

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

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos  
Town Clerk

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

JK/dp

- c.c. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Niagara West Member of Provincial Parliament
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Community Heritage Ontario
- All Ontario Municipalities
- Manager of Planning and Development
- Chair of the Heritage Advisory Committee



March 25, 2026

**SENT ELECTRONICALLY**

To Niagara Region

**Re: 11.5 Memorandum CLK-C 6-2026 – Support for Winter Cold Weather Support Plan**

---

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold, at its meeting held on March 24, 2026, considered the aforementioned topic and passed the following resolution:

That Correspondence Item CLK-C 6-2026, being a memorandum from J. Letourneau, Legislative & Municipal Elections Coordinator, dated March 24, 2026, Respecting Support for Winter Cold Weather Support Plan, **BE RECEIVED**, and the following **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Corporation of the City of Thorold **SUPPORTS** the resolutions of the municipalities of Welland and Port Colborne regarding Winter Cold Weather Support Plan; and
2. That a copy of this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Niagara Region and Niagara Regional Municipalities.

Thank you,

Nicholas Debono  
City Clerk, City of Thorold

Appendix 1 CWCD 68-2026 - 2026-01-22 - Winter Cold Weather Response Plan Review

Appendix 2 CWCD 68-2026 - CPC Support Welland cold weather response

cc. Niagara Area Municipalities

January 22, 2026

SENT VIA EMAIL

Ann-Marie Norio  
Office of the Regional Clerk  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, PO Box 1042  
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ann-Marie Norio,

**Re: January 13, 2026 – WELLAND CITY COUNCIL**

At its meeting on January 13, 2026, Welland City Council passed the following motion:

"WHEREAS, Niagara Region is responsible for homelessness services, including the Winter Cold Weather Response Plan; and  
WHEREAS, public health guidance indicates that cold-related injury and hypothermia risk can occur at temperatures above freezing, particularly overnight, for individuals experiencing homelessness; and further  
WHEREAS, some municipalities trigger protective measures and shelter capacity earlier, including at or near 0 to -5 degrees, rather than waiting until colder thresholds such as -15 degrees.  
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF WELLAND COUNCIL formally requests Niagara Region Council to review and reconsider the temperature thresholds in its Winter Cold Weather Response Plan, including whether supports and shelter capacity should be triggered earlier to better reflect overnight exposure risks."

Yours sincerely,



**Tara Stephens**  
Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

c.c. - Niagara Municipalities



**PORT COLBORNE**

Legislative Services

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street  
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 • [www.portcolborne.ca](http://www.portcolborne.ca)

"

T 905.228.8031 F 905.834.5746

E [charlotte.madden@portcolborne.ca](mailto:charlotte.madden@portcolborne.ca)

February 24, 2026

**Sent via Email:** [Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca)

Ann-Marie Norio  
Office of the Regional Clerk, Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Issac Brock Way,  
P.O. Box 1042  
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

**Re: City of Port Colborne Supports the Resolution from the City of Welland regarding Winter Cold Weather Response Plan**

Please be advised that, at its meeting of February 10, 2026 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne passed the following motion:

That the correspondence from the City of Welland regarding Winter Cold Weather Response Plan Review be supported by Council; and

That the correspondence be referred back to staff to monitor for the Niagara Regional Council's response; and

That any updates or developments be brought back to Council.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Madden  
City Clerk

ec: Local Area Municipalities



Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.58-26  
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.  
 Seconded By: Councillor Tripp  
 Item No: 13.1

Description: Canada Post Rate Reductions for Libraries - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council support Resolution #2026-078 carried by the Council of the Township of Perry on February 18, 2026, calling upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials, and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Perry, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Services and Procurement Joel Lightbound, MP Cheryl Gallant, MPP Billy Denault, and all Ontario Municipalities for support.

**MAYOR**

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:  
 .....NA.....  
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),  
 abstained from discussion and did not vote



**The Corporation of the  
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

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

**Whereas** public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

**And whereas** interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

**And whereas** reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

**And whereas** recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

**Now therefore be it resolved that** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

**And that** Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;





Council Resolution Form

Date: 19 Mar 2026 No: Resolution No.59-26  
 Moved By: Councillor Thomson Disposition: CARRIED.  
 Seconded By: Councillor Popkie  
 Item No: 13.2

Description: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Extension - Motion brought forward by Councillor Thomson

**RESOLUTION:**

That Council support Resolution #7 carried by the Council of the Township of North Glengarry on February 23, 2026, calling for an extension and review of the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), and;

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of North Glengarry, the Premiere of Ontario Doug Ford, the Minister of Infrastructure Kinga Surma, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario Municipalities.

**MAYOR**

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....NA.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	___	___
T. Popkie	___	___
L. Thomson	___	___
R. Tripp	___	___
R. Weir	___	___

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:
.....NA.....
Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote

**CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY  
Council Meeting**

**Resolution #** 7

**Date:** Monday February 23, 2026

---

**Moved by:** Michael Madden

**Seconded by:** Carma Williams

**WHEREAS** the Township of North Glengarry acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—including roads, bridges, and water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality, and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities; and

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities; and

**WHEREAS** in 2022, the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026; and

**WHEREAS** fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials, and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt; and

**WHEREAS** predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance, and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs, and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of North Glengarry requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability, and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Township of North Glengarry calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics, and rural equity considerations.

**CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH GLENGARRY  
Council Meeting**

**Resolution #**

**Date:** Monday February 23, 2026

5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs, or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments, and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.

**FURTHER THAT** the Council of the Township of North Glengarry supports the September 29, 2025 resolution of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the October 20, 2025 resolution of the Municipality of South Huron, and the November 19, 2025 resolution of the Township of Pulsinch regarding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

**FURTHER THAT** this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**DEFERRED**



**MAYOR / DEPUTY MAYOR**

	<b>YEA</b>	<b>NEA</b>
<b>Deputy Mayor:</b> Carma Williams	—	—
<b>Councillor:</b> Jacques Massie	—	—
<b>Councillor:</b> Brian Caddell	—	—
<b>Councillor:</b> Jeff Manley	—	—
<b>Councillor:</b> Michael Madden	—	—
<b>Councillor:</b> Gary Martin	—	—
<b>Mayor:</b> Jamie MacDonald	—	—



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

March 23, 2026

Via Email: [mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca](mailto:mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca)

Rideau Lakes  
1439 County Road 8  
Delta, Ontario K0E 1G0

Dear Mayor Arie Hoogenboom:

**Re: Resolution - Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)**

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan at its meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026, passed the following resolution:

**R67-2026**

Moved by Councillor Terry Holmes  
Seconded by Councillor Mark Allen

That Council hereby supports the letter to Senator from Rideau Lakes regarding concerns with the Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget), as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to all parties listed on the original correspondence.

**CARRIED.**

Yours truly,  
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

Liz Ross  
Deputy Clerk

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada  
MP Emma Harrison  
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities

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



# Rideau Lakes

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

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom  
Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township  
[mayor@rideaulakes.ca](mailto:mayor@rideaulakes.ca)  
613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada  
All Members of Parliament  
All Provincial Cabinet Ministers  
MPP Steve Clark  
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

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

---

March 24, 2026

Via email: [stan.cho@pc.ola.org](mailto:stan.cho@pc.ola.org)

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming

6<sup>th</sup> Floor

438 University Ave.

Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

Dear Hon. Stan Cho,

**Re: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy**

---

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 Regular Council Meeting:

125-2026

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Ted Oke

**That South Huron Council supports the February 17, 2026 correspondence of the Township of McNab/Braeside regarding Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy; and**

**That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, Stan Cho, Lisa Thompson, MPP, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

[kwebster@southhuron.ca](mailto:kwebster@southhuron.ca)

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: MPP Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org); AMO, [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca) ; and all municipalities in Ontario.



Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 17, 2026 No: RESOLUTION - 56-2026  
 Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED  
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott Brum Item No: 14.2

Description: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

**RESOLUTION:**

**WHEREAS** Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

**WHEREAS** The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

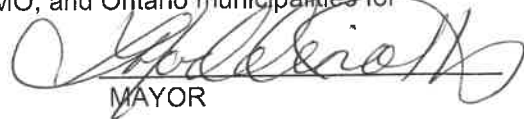
**WHEREAS** The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

**WHEREAS** Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

**WHEREAS** Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

  
MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:	_____		
		Yea	Nay
Mayor Lori Hoddinott	_____	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Scott Brum	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Kevin Rosien	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Robert Campbell	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Jill Campbell	_____	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),  
 abstained from discussion and did not vote



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON**

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

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

---

March 24, 2026

Via email: [trevor.jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:trevor.jones@pc.ola.org)

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
77 Grenville Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1B3

Dear Hon. Trevor Jones,

**Re: Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity**

---

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

126-2026

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

**That South Huron Council supports the February 26, 2026 correspondence of the Township of Papineau-Cameron regarding Ontario Veterinary College Enrollment Capacity; and**

**That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, Trevor Jones, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, Lisa Thompson, MPP, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, AMO, and all municipalities in Ontario.**

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator  
Municipality of South Huron  
[kwebster@southhuron.ca](mailto:kwebster@southhuron.ca)

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Victor Fedeli, [vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org](mailto:vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org); the Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn, [nolan.quinn@pc.ola.org](mailto:nolan.quinn@pc.ola.org); MPP Lisa Thompson, [lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org); Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, [admin@cvma-acmv.org](mailto:admin@cvma-acmv.org); AMO, [resolutions@amo.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@amo.on.ca); and all municipalities in Ontario.



## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0  
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072  
E-mail: [admin@papineaucameron.ca](mailto:admin@papineaucameron.ca) Website: [www.papineaucameron.ca](http://www.papineaucameron.ca)

---

February 26, 2026

The Ontario Veterinary College  
50 Stone Road East  
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

**RE: Ontario Veterinary College expansion of enrollment capacity**

---

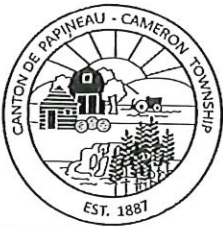
The Council of The Corporation of The Township of Papineau-Cameron met at their Regular Council Meeting on February 24, 2026 and passed the attached resolution 2026-50 that relates to the Ontario Veterinary College's enrollment capacity.

Yours truly,

Venessa Wilson  
Administrative Assistant

Encl: Resolution 2026-50, Township of Papineau-Cameron

Cc: The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association  
The Honorable Victor Fedeli, MPP, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade  
The Honorable Trevor Jones, MPP, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
The Honorable Nolan Quinn, MPP, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities



# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0  
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072  
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2026-50

MOVED BY:

*Shelley Belanger*

SECONDED BY:

*M Chenier*

WHEREAS large animal livestock owners in Northern Ontario have extremely limited access to large animal veterinary services;

AND WHEREAS the cost of large animal veterinary services in Northern Ontario is significantly higher due to long travel distances and the limited number of large animal veterinarians available to service the region;

AND WHEREAS it has come to the attention of the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township that three qualified individuals within our community have applied to the Ontario Veterinary College for large animal veterinary, but were denied admission due to limited enrollment capacity;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township formally requests that the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Veterinary College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, the Hon. Trevor Jones MPP Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Hon. Nolan Quinn MPP Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Ontario Municipalities for their consideration and support.

CARRIED:

*Robert Corriveau*  
(Mayor)

NOT CARRIED:

(Mayor)

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			

March 20, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Via email: [Pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:Pm@pm.gc.ca)

The Honourable Marjorie Michel  
Minister of Health  
Via email: [Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Via email: [Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Sylvia Jones  
Minister of Health  
Via email: [Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca](mailto:Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca)

Dear Prime Minister Carney, Minister Michel, Premier Ford and Minister Jones:

Re: Food Insecurity Emergency Declaration

The following motion was passed by Council declaring food insecurity an emergency in our community. This declaration reflects our growing concern about the impact of food insecurity on the health and well-being of residents across Chatham-Kent.

In passing this motion, we have joined other cities in Ontario who have declared food insecurity an emergency and hope it will initiate collaborative action and policy development at the provincial and federal levels of government.

“Whereas food insecurity is defined as, the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, a marker of material deprivation (poverty), and a serious public health problem because it increases the risk of non-communicable and infectious diseases, and premature death.

Whereas chronic stressors like disability, precarious work, and acute shocks like COVID-19, illness or eviction, make it more difficult to afford life’s basic needs and live free from poverty. Whereas income-based policies are necessary to effectively reduce household food insecurity, which Chatham-Kent Public Health reports is experienced by at least 1 in 5 households in Chatham-Kent. Whereas the income provided through provincial and federal programs has not kept up with rising costs of food, housing and other basic needs.

Cont’d...

Whereas Ontario Works rates have been frozen since 2018: the maximum single person monthly benefit for basic needs is \$343 and \$390 for shelter, totalling \$733 per month.

Whereas Chatham-Kent Public Health reports a single person on Ontario Works spends ~134% of their income on food and rent. Whereas the Municipality of Chatham-Kent provides programs and services that decrease the impacts of poverty and income inequality and provides participants with a better quality of life which can positively improve health and well-being.

Whereas the number of individuals using Chatham-Kent Outreach for Hunger has increased by ~38% from 2022 to 2024, from 2781 unique individuals in 2022, to 3752 unique individuals in 2024, with a ~51% increase in families with children.

Whereas the number of households using the food assistance program within the Village Pantry has increased by ~124%, from 76 unique households in 2022, to 170 unique households in 2024.

Whereas the number of meals served to under-housed people by Reach Out Chatham-Kent has increased by ~17% from 2022 to 2024, from 43,594 meals in 2022, to 51,313 meals 2024.

Whereas Hope Haven has already had 4000 more visits in 2025 compared to 2024.

Whereas poverty costs Ontario around \$27.1 – 33 billion dollars per year: justice system \$1.1 billion; health care \$3.9 billion; lost income \$19.4 – 25 billion; lost tax revenue \$2.7 – 3 billion.

Whereas the provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy's (Building a Strong Foundation for Success: Reducing Poverty in Ontario (2020-2025)) primary measure of success is that more social assistance recipients move into employment, despite people with employment income being one of the fastest growing groups at food banks.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's mission is to lead in the development of relevant policies and to advocate for our local food system, and values that all people should have physical and economic access to healthy, culturally diverse, local food.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 highlights the need to advocate for government-level policies that impact food systems, and specifically, to advocate for income-based solutions to food insecurity to provide families with more agency in food choices.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council support the advocacy of the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council by declaring food insecurity an emergency in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

Cont'd...

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government focus its upcoming 2026-2030 Poverty Reduction Strategy around reducing measures of material deprivation, such as food insecurity.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government immediately raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income for those living in poverty.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to increase the rates of income support programs to ensure they are adequate to address the basic needs of individuals and families.

And that Mayor and Council request that the Provincial and Federal Governments include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies. And that a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM), Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), all Ontario Municipalities, all Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, all federal party leaders, the Honourable M.P.P. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the Federal Minister of Health Marjorie Michel.”

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO  
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

C: All Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)  
Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM) Association of  
Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)  
Ontario Municipalities

March 23, 2026

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

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

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy  
Minister of Finance  
minister.fin@ontario.ca

The Honourable Graham McGregor, MPP  
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism  
graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org

**RE: Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding**

At the March 23, 2026, Regular Council meeting for the Town of Saugeen Shores, the attached motion was passed endorsing the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hailey Leigh-Mossley".

Hailey Leigh-Mossley  
Deputy Clerk  
Encl.

cc. MPP Lisa Thompson  
All Ontario Municipalities

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES

**MOVED BY:** C. Grace

**RESOLUTION NO:** 096-2026

**SECONDED BY:** M. Myatt

**DATE:** March 23, 2026

Whereas older buildings have inherent sustainability and provide economic, environmental and social benefits for Ontario communities; and,

Whereas re-use of existing buildings reduces the need for increased infrastructure that accompanies new builds such as sewer and water services, new roads and sidewalks; and,

Whereas re-use of existing building can reduce construction waste and extend the life expectancy of landfills; and,

Whereas keeping older buildings helps a community remain visually richer and enhances identity while building its tourism brand and appeal; and,

Whereas creating a new, application-based, matching grant program of \$10M/year, modelled on an existing Alberta program would incentivize owners and smaller developers to keep, fix and reuse heritage buildings to create new housing; and,

Whereas such a grant program would provide an alternative to the Ontario heritage property tax relief program, which has limited impact on developers and reduces municipal revenues; and,

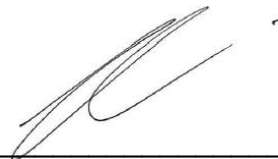
Whereas such a grant program would provide a simpler and more direct way for heritage building owners to fund renovations or conservation; and,

Whereas Ontario developers surveyed by the National Trust for Canada in 2014 ranked a heritage-revolving fund as their top incentive to encourage heritage development if:

- the grants are simple to apply for and to administer; and,
- the fund is large enough to meet at least 33% of the demand so that applicants have a reasonable chance of recovering the cost and effort of applying.

Therefore, be it Resolved That the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores endorse the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) Proposal to include \$10M per year in the 2026 provincial budget for Heritage Helping Housing (HHH) grant funding, and that this resolution be sent to the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, and MPP Lisa Thompson, and be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario.

- Carried
- Carried, as amended
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Referred
- Tabled
- Withdrawn



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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

March 25, 2026

**Re: Time-Sensitive: Strengthening Municipal Accountability and Public Trust (Bill 9)**

Dear Premier Ford,

When we met in Sarnia last August, we discussed Bill 9 and its intent to strengthen municipal accountability. At that time, I affirmed my support for the province's effort to move this legislation forward. The fundamental principles of Bill 9 are sound and provide an important foundation; however, the Bill requires a significant change before it becomes law.

The introduction of a standardized code of conduct and the proposed integrity commissioner reforms are positive and necessary steps forward. However, based on more than four decades of experience in municipal politics, I believe the Bill's greatest flaw lies in its mechanism for removing councillors in **serious cases of misconduct**. Requiring local councils to participate in the removal of a peer, particularly through unanimous agreement, places councils in an inappropriate and untenable position. On matters of serious contention, unanimity is rarely achievable, rendering the mechanism effectively futile. This approach undermines both fairness and public confidence and fails to provide municipalities with a meaningful ability to act in extreme cases.

In circumstances of this magnitude, decisions should not rest with a council. Instead, such matters should be heard and ruled upon by an independent, non-partisan authority, removed from local political dynamics and capable of making impartial determinations in the public's interest.

If the provincial government intends to maintain municipal councils' responsibility for adjudicating such decisions, the threshold for action must be revised. A two-thirds majority, or a simple majority of council excluding the subject member, would provide a more reasonable, fair, and workable standard.

This is a time-sensitive issue, and the need for action is becoming more urgent as municipalities continue to encounter situations they are powerless to address. Without meaningful change, the current conditions and lack of adequate protection will have a chilling effect on those considering public office at the municipal level. Capable, community-minded individuals may be discouraged from seeking election if there is no effective independent mechanism to address extreme misconduct, protect the integrity of council and the well-being of the community.

I am copying this letter to mayors and councils across Ontario in the hope that they will also raise their voices on this matter before the legislation is finalized, to ensure this serious flaw is addressed in what is otherwise an important and necessary piece of legislation for the Province of Ontario and its municipalities for the 2026-2030 council term of office.

Thank you for your consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns and possible paths forward at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mike Bradley  
Mayor, City of Sarnia



Cc: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
John Fraser, MPP, Interim Leader, Ontario Liberal Party  
Marit Stiles, MPP, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ontario NDP Party  
Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Mayor and Council for municipalities across Ontario  
Sarnia City Council  
Lambton County Council  
City of Sarnia Senior Management



Box 608, Little Current, POP 1K0  
705-368-3500

Please see below a Resolution passed by the Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands.

If your Council supports this motion please share with the appropriate Ministries and Organizations.

Thank You

**Resolution No. 75-03-2026**

Moved by: B. Wood

Seconded by: P. Aelick

**Whereas** the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, like many municipalities, utilizes chip-and-tar surface treatment on a significant portion of its road network; and

**Whereas** the Town has observed a substantial decrease in the length of time these treated roads remain in acceptable condition; and

**Whereas** the quality and durability of the oil used in the surface treatment appears to be a contributing factor; and

**Whereas** the Ministry of the Environment amended its regulations several years ago, permitting only lighter-grade oils for environmental considerations; and

**Whereas** the reduced durability of the lighter-grade product has resulted in more frequent resurfacing cycles and has consequently led to increasing maintenance costs;

**Now therefore be it resolved that** the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands respectfully requests that the Ministry of the Environment reconsider its decision regarding the lighter grade of oil, taking into account the increased number of applications required, as well as the associated additional time, energy, and financial burden placed on municipalities or develops a better alternative oil.

And Further that this motion be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, AMO, Good Roads, FONOM, MPP Bill Rosenberg, and all other municipalities.

Carried